

# **Operational Programme II Cohesion Policy 2007-2013**

***Empowering People for More Jobs and a Better Quality of Life***

**Annual Implementation Report 2011**

**Monitoring Committee**

**24 May 2011**

## Overview

- Achievement and Analysis of the progress
- Progress in Programme Implementation
- Further Information on Implementation
- Financial information
- OP towards Lisbon Objectives
- Information required by Article 10 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006
- Compliance with Community Law
- Significant problems encountered and measures taken to overcome them
- Monitoring by the Managing Authority
- Evaluation
- Implementation by Priority
- Information and Publicity

## *Summary of the main achievements*

- 19 newly operations approved
- Increase of over €32 million in Commitment
- Increase of over €17 million in Contracting
- Increase of over €13 millions in Payments
- Increase of over €12 million in Verifications and Certifications
- Increase of over €5 millions in Payment received

### **More than 27,000 individuals participating in ESF funds activities**

N+3 for 2011

Target: €10.5 million (EU Share)

Achieved: €15.6million (EU Share)

## ***Achievements and Analysis of the progress Selection of Operations***

- **Evaluation of proposals submitted under Call 6 and 7 launched in 2010**
- **Tailor made Pre-Announcement issued on 1st December 2011 on the upcoming calls for project proposals under:**
  - a) **Priority Axis 2**
  - b) **Priority Axis 3**
  - c) **Priority Axis 4**

## ***Achievements and Analysis of the progress (cont.)***

### ***Selection of Operations***

#### **Operations Selected**

Calls launched in 2010	Call 6		Call 7	
	Priority Axis 1	Priority Axis 3	Priority Axis 2	Priority Axis 4
Projects submitted	15	19	12	16
Indicative Allocation	€ 10 Mil	€ 20 Mil	€ 10 Mil	€ 13.5 Mil
Value of submitted projects	€28Mil	€22Mil	€12 Mil	€7 Mil
Project Selection Outcome				
Projects Approved	4	8	4	3
Projects indicative value	€10.2 Mil	€13.5Mil	€7.7Mil	€1.1Mil

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## ***Achievements and Analysis of the progress (cont.) Selection of Operations***

### **Pre-Announcement**

Priority Axis	Focus Areas ( <i>actions</i> ) Priority	Financial Threshold €
PA 2	<u><i>Continuous Training and Education</i></u>	4Mil
PA 3	<u><i>Female participation in the labour market</i></u>  <u><i>Addressing labour market distortions and ensuring that work pays</i></u>	7.5 Mil
PA 4	<u><i>All Focus Areas</i></u>	7.5 Mil

## ***Achievements and Analysis of the progress (cont.) Selection of Operations***

### **Operations Selected – Aid Schemes**

<b>Demand Driven Aid Scheme</b>	<b>TAF</b>	<b>EAP</b>
	<b>Priority Axis 2</b>	<b>Priority Axis 3</b>
<b>No. of Approved Applications (2011 only)</b>	1110	1094
<b>Value of Applications Approved</b>	€3,708,559	€6,698,529

## ***Implementation by Priority Axis***

### **Priority Axis 1 - *Improving Education and Skills:***

<b>2011 - Financial Progress</b>				
<b>PA Allocation</b>	<b>Total No of Projects</b>	<b>Commitments <i>(Public eligible)</i></b>	<b>Contracts <i>(Public eligible)</i></b>	<b>Payments <i>(Public eligible)</i></b>
<b>€37,400,000.00</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>€36,585,378</b>	<b>€21,804,745</b>	<b>€13,495,513</b>



## Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)

### Priority Axis 1 – Progress in achieving the programme indicators

2011 - Progress on Indicators		
Output Indicator	Target	Result
1. Number of persons participating in further or higher education & training programmes	2,000	389
2. Number of persons participating in S&T or ICT in further or higher education & training programmes	600	1879
3. Number of persons participating in S&T or ICT capacity building education & training	250	92
4. Number of S&T or ICT actions/studies/campaigns/research activities carried out	10	5
5. Number of persons trained through capacity building courses	750	1692
6. Number of persons trained through supplementary courses, modules or credits for better skills matches	3000	4166
7. Number of actions supporting educational quality, relevance, structures, systems, campaigns and research	20	11
Result Indicators	Target	Result
1. % of participants gaining a further or higher education & training qualification	75%	10%
2. % of participants gaining a further or higher education & training qualification in S&T or ICT	75%	90%
3. % of participants gaining a qualification/certification in capacity building education/training	80%	26%
4. % of participants gaining a qualification/certification	80%	83%

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## *Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)*

### **Priority Axis 2 - Investing in Employability and Adaptability of the Workforce**

<b>2011 - Financial Progress</b>				
<b>PA Allocation</b>	<b>Total No of Projects</b>	<b>Commitments</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Payments</b>
<b>€30,995,000.00</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>€28,329,903</b>	<b>€15,412,971</b>	<b>€5,489,289</b>

## *Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)*

### *Priority Axis 2 – Progress in achieving the programme indicators*

<b>2011 - Progress on Indicators</b>		
<b>Output Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. Number of persons trained/supported	45,000	34,082
2. Number of actions supporting educational structures, systems, campaigns and research	5	0
3. Number of undertakings supported	700	2,448
<b>Result Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. % of participants in employment or further study 6 month after receiving assistance	20%	47%
2. % of participants gaining a qualification/certification	60%	66%
3. % of participants gaining a qualification/certification	60%	32%

## *Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)*

### *Priority Axis 3 - Promoting an equal and inclusive labour market*

<b>2011 - Financial Progress</b>				
<b>PA Allocation</b>	<b>Total No of Projects</b>	<b>Commitments</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Payments</b>
<b>€36,900,000</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>€29,903,045</b>	<b>€14,755,012</b>	<b>€5,249,500</b>

## Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)

### Priority Axis 3 – Progress in achieving the programme indicators

2011 - Progress on Indicators		
Output Indicator	Target	Result
1. Number of actions supporting a lifecycle approach to work	10	0
2. Number of women trained/supported	2000	571
3. Number of families benefiting from childcare	1600	0
4. Number of vulnerable persons trained/supported	6500	9302
5. Number of persons trained capacity building courses	600	312
6. Number of studies, actions, campaigns, research activities carried out	10	9
7. Number of civil society projects	50	3
Result Indicators	Target	Result
1. % of participants in employment or further study 6 months after receiving assistance	20%	5%
2. % of participants gaining a qualification/certification	50%	18%
3. % of vulnerable persons in employment or further study 6 months after receiving assistance	20%	56%
4. % of participants in capacity building gaining a qualification/certification	80%	43%

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## *Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)*

### **Priority Axis 4 - *Strengthening of institutional and administrative capacity***

<b>2011 - Financial Progress</b>				
<b>PA Allocation</b>	<b>Total No of Projects</b>	<b>Commitments</b>	<b>Contracts</b>	<b>Payments</b>
<b>€21,405,000</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>€8,907,426</b>	<b>€3,052,184</b>	<b>€1,481,194</b>

## ***Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)***

### ***Priority Axis 4 – Progress in achieving the programme indicators***

<b>2011 - Progress on Indicators</b>		
<b>Output Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. Number of persons participating in training in a year	4000	2418
2. Number of studies/ actions/campaigns/ research activities carried out	30	2
3. Number of projects supporting partnership	7	2
<b>Result Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. % of participants gaining a qualification/certification	80%	38%
2. % increase in the technical capacity (secretariat) at MCESD to support Council (and sub-committees) in reaching informed opinions in policy issues	50%	57%

## *Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)*

### Priority Axis 5 – Technical Assistance

2011 - Financial Progress				
PA Allocation	Total No of Projects	Commitments	Contracts	Payments
€5,064,705	1	€5,064,705	2,858,217	€1,075,008



## ***Implementation by Priority Axis (cont.)***

### **Priority Axis 5 – Progress in achieving the programme indicators**

<b>2011 - Progress on Indicators</b>		
<b>Output Indicator</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. Number of persons trained	350	245
2. Number of evaluations carried out	4	1
3. Number of publicity measures undertaken	15	22
4. Number of studies/research activities carried out	5	1
<b>Result Indicators</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Result</b>
1. Reaching N+3/N+2 targets	80%	100%

# Programme Implementation

## Assistance by Target Group – Annex XXIII

2011		People Entering		People Leaving	
		Total	Women	Total	Women
<b>Status in the Labour Market</b>	Total Number of participants	27757	11976	22505	9007
	Employed	12404	6199	10605	4875
	Self Employed	986	238	904	216
	Unemployed	7619	2092	7558	2075
	Long Term Unemployed	2759	631	2848	653
	Inactive	7734	3685	4342	2057
	Inactive in Education and Training	3429	1552	566	146
<b>Age</b>	Young People (15-24 years)	9683	4450	5651	2472
	Older Workers (55-64 years)	2200	760	2063	679
<b>Vulnerable Groups</b>	Minorities	0	0	0	0
	Migrants	746	186	748	201
	Disabled	778	202	695	181
	Other Disadvantaged People	4738	2112	1372	458
<b>Education Attainment</b>	Primary or Lower secondary education (ISCED 1 & 2)	16759	5955	14163	4742
	Upper Secondary education (ISCED 3)	4118	2263	3511	1752
	Post-secondary non-tertiary education (ISCED 3)	2104	1145	1401	675
	Tertiary Education (ISCED 5 & 6)	4776	2613	3430	1838

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## *Financial Information*

	<b>Total ESF OP Allocation</b>	<b>Committed</b>	<b>Contracted</b>	<b>Paid</b>
As at end of 2010	€131,764,705	76.628.205	40.073.613	13.564.557
As at end of 2011		108,790,457	57,880,170	26,790,504
Increase in %		42%	44%	93%

## Financial Information (cont.)

2011 - Interim Payments			
Summary - Verified, Certified and received	Verified by MA (Public share €)	Certified by CA (Public share €)	Received from EC in (EU share €)
ESF – January	3,294,424.98	3,295,251.48	2,800,963.79
ESF – April	1,860,607.19	1,860,607.19	1,581,516.10
ESF – July	2,374,468.59	2,374,468.59	2,018,298.33
ESF - September	4,606,963.12	4,606,963.12	3,915,918.65
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,136,463.88</b>	<b>12,137,290.38</b>	<b>10,316,696.87</b>

## ***Further Information on Implementation***

### **Capacity within Stakeholders**

- **Strengthening Administrative Capacity**

#### **Changes within the MA**

- New Head of the MA
- OP II unit registered a net increase of one (1) FTE, although this was off-set within the organisation by reductions in the horizontal units.

#### **Changes within the Stakeholders**

- There were only minor changes in terms of capacity in the main stakeholders

## *Further Guidance on Implementation (cont.)*

### **Capacity Building / Training**

- A selection of Capacity Building/ Training provided

Training	Participants	N. of Participants
The Assurance Model & Modification to Article 55	MA	5
The Line Ministries' Role on Monitoring and Public Procurement'	Line Ministries	19
Induction Training for New Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries	10
Public Relations	MA	6
Document Retention and Basic Principles of Control: Preparing for a Spot Check	MA	19
Project Progress Report Template	NGOs,LCs, LMs	17
SFD-Train-the-Trainer Programme	SFD Trainers	33

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## ***Problems encountered and Measures taken***

### **1. Project Selection Process**

- **Lengthy process due to :**
  - Fragmentation of projects
  - Availability of Committee Members
- **Mitigation Measures:**
  - Increase the number of PSC Members
  - Introduction of a *quorum* for PSC sessions
  - Changes in working methods

## *Problems encountered and Measures taken (cont.)*



### **2. Public Procurement Process**

- **Main Issues:**
  - Delays in the vetting process prior to launch
  - A considerable amount of unsuccessful tendering (administratively and financially non-compliant bids) and/ or lack of bidders
  - Delays in the vetting of the evaluation reports
  - Delays due to appeals as well as the lengthy preparation of contracts.
- **Mitigation Measures:**
  - Measures to reduce the number of tenders refused on administrative grounds
  - Information sessions for potential bidders
  - Launch of a full e-tendering solution





## *Problems encountered and Measures taken (cont.)*

### 3. Payments

- **Main Issues:**

- Fragmentation of payments
- Voluminous paperwork
- Time-consuming verifications by the IB
- Time-consuming verifications by the MA

- **Mitigation Measures:**

- Consolidate, where possible, implementation of a number of contracts
- Simplification of processes related to Aid Schemes
- Reduction of delays between verifications and certification by CA to EC
- Training and continuous support and assistance provided to Beneficiaries by the stakeholders

## *OP towards Lisbon Objectives*

- 82% of the OP allocation is committed towards Lisbon earmarked categories
- Current earmarked commitments for Lisbon Agenda (Community amount) sums up to €81, 842,251 , which is equivalent to 89% of the Programme's commitment

**OP contribution towards ESF Horizontal Themes**  
**Article 10 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1081/2006**

Objective	Projects contributing to this theme	Example of activities proposed under new projects
<b>Gender Mainstreaming</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Positive discrimination to female applicants in the selection criteria</li> <li>•Encouraging contractors to have a gender equality policy or sign a statement of commitment towards equality</li> </ul>
<b>Migrants</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Job start workshop that was carried out with young migrants from the Marsa Open Centre,</li> <li>•Assistance in the form of living arrangements as well as ordinary level training in Maltese, English and computer skills</li> </ul>
<b>Minorities &amp; Disadvantaged groups</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Provision of specialized training to people working or interested in working with people with visual impairment</li> <li>•The enhancement of employability and productivity of prisoners</li> </ul>

## OP contribution towards ESF Horizontal Priorities

Objective	Projects contributing to this theme	Example of activities proposed under new projects
<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of environmental themes as part of the curriculum of a number of courses</li> <li>• Provision of a distance learning</li> </ul>
<b>Equal opportunities</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equal opportunities clauses in tenders / contracts</li> <li>• Provision of training to educators in the field of diversity training</li> </ul>
<b>Partnership</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaboration between partners in drafting of the programme of activities to be delivered and on the actual provision of training</li> </ul>
<b>Innovative Activities</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The use of Interactive Whiteboards and E-Learning platform</li> </ul>
<b>Transnational Actions</b>	√	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange of best practice in educational field</li> <li>• Job shadowing and study visits with foreign partner</li> </ul>

## *ESF programmes: Coherence and Concentration*

<b>Contribution of the newly approved projects to NRP 2008-10 Themes</b>	
Unlocking Business Potential	√
Investing in Knowledge and Innovation	√
Investing in People and Modernising Labour Markets	√
<b>Contribution of projects to the CSGs and IEGs</b>	
Attract and retain more people in employment and modernise social protection systems	√
Increasing investment in human capital through better education and skills	√
Improve adaptability of workers and enterprises and the flexibility of the labour market;	√
Administrative Capacity	√

## ***Monitoring by the Managing Authority***

- **SFD 2007-2013**
- **Day-to-Day**
- **Project Progress Reporting (99 reports)**
- **Ministerial Project Steering Committees (23 sessions)**
- **Intermediate Bodies Steering Committees (2 meetings)**
- **Intermediate Bodies Network ( 2 meetings)**
- **High Level Meetings (26 projects reviewed)**

## ***Evaluation***

- **Mid-Term Evaluation:**
  - Final evaluation reports for both OPs were submitted to the MA on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011
  - Findings and recommendations were presented to the MC in May 2011
  - Revised reports taking into consideration the MC comments received
- **Revision of the Evaluation Plan**
- **Submission of the Cohort Study's Inception Report**
- **Design of the tender dossier for the combined Thematic Evaluation**

## ***Information and Publicity***

**The MA continued implementation and monitoring of the Communication Plan and in 2011 amended the Communication Plan in order to:**

- align the pace of programme implementation to the timing of campaigns/actions; and
  - improve the monitoring systems
- 
- **The final set of changes were presented to the October 2011 MC.**



## Annual Event

- The Annual Event 2011, titled **Rotta:EU07-13** was held on Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 November 2011.
- Six bus tours were organised in Malta and Gozo around a number of selected projects.
- **Rotta:EU07-13** provided the public a first hand opportunity to experience and find out more about the benefits of Cohesion Policy 2007-2013 in Malta and Gozo.

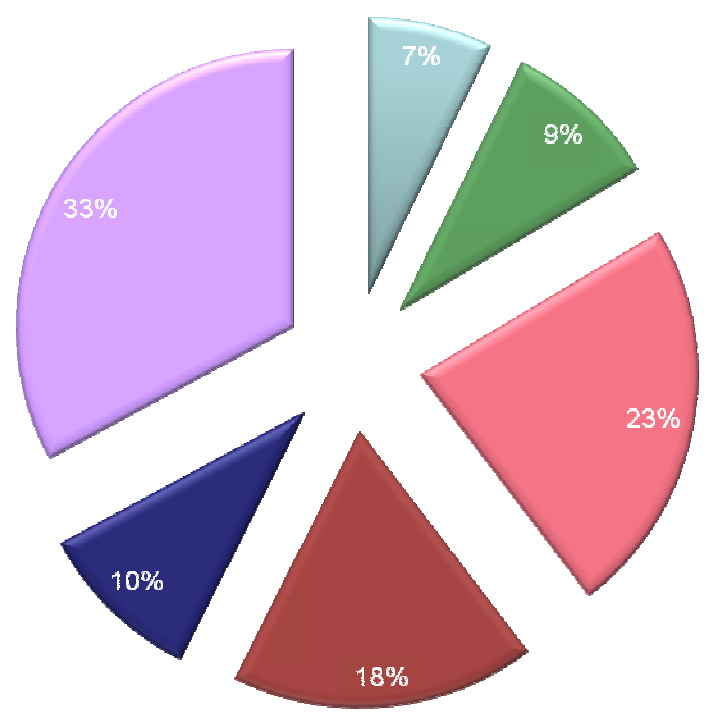
### Rotta: EU 07-13

*Ninvestu fil-futur tiegħek*

The event had 5 themes:  
Education; Employment  
and Training; Science and  
Technology; Social  
Inclusion and Social  
Dialogue

## Annual Event

■ Gozo A ■ Gozo B ■ Malta A ■ Malta B ■ Malta C ■ Malta D



400 people participated to one of the 12 tours organised

Highlights:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tk7gex5vUZ0>

Documentary:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mf7\\_J34MZsU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mf7_J34MZsU)



## ***Information and Publicity (cont.)***

- **Other information and publicity measures to promote OP II included:**
  - Launch of pre-announcement and holding of briefing session
  - Information and Publicity Networks
  - Website and Social Network Page
  - Branded promotional items were procured as giveaways to be distributed during events, meetings and information sessions

## *Information and Publicity (cont.)*

### **Information and Publicity by Intermediate Bodies in 2011**

- **ETC promoted activities through**
  - Publicity in media and Websites
  - Marketing and information measures with potential Beneficiaries.
  - Playing a role in annual Event
  - Under TAF there were 5 information sessions
  - Under EAP there were adverts and TV spots.

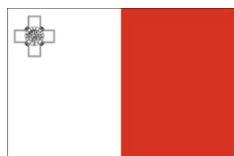
## ***Concluding Remarks***

**In 2011 there were:**

- 62 mainstream projects and 2 Aid Schemes under implementation;
- 83% of the Programme Committed;
- More than 2,200 Enterprises benefitting from Aid Schemes;
- More than 27,000 individuals benefitting from actions under OP II;
- Exceeded N+3 target by almost 50%;



**Thank you!**



**Operational Programme II – Cohesion Policy 2007-2013**  
***Empowering People for More Jobs and a Better Quality of Life***  
Event part-financed by the European Union  
**European Social Fund (ESF)**  
Co-financing rate: 85% EU Funds; 15% National Funds



***Investing in your future***

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