



**Rural Development Programme for Malta  
European Agricultural Funds for Rural Development  
(E.A.F.R.D) 2007-2013**



**State of Play  
Malta's Rural Development Programme  
2007-2013**

**Donald Aquilina- *Sen. Agricultural Officer*  
Rural Development Department ~ Managing Authority**

# Programme Overview



- RDP was approved by Commission on the 19<sup>th</sup> December 2007;
- The programme covers 7 years from 2007 till 2013 although payments can continue till 2015;
- The budget for the RD programme amounts to 100 Million Euros of which 76 Million Euros are EAFRD funds whilst 24 Million Euros are Government of Malta funds.

# Programme Structure



Based on 5 Axis ~

- **Axis 1-** Improving the Competitiveness of the agricultural sector;
- **Axis 2-** Improving the environment and the countryside;
- **Axis 3-** Improving the quality of life in rural areas;
- **Axis 4** – LEADER initiative;
- **Axis 5** – Technical Assistance.

# **Actions under specific Axis**



## **Axis 1**

- Promoting knowledge & human potential;
- Restructuring and promotion of innovation;
- Improving the quality of agricultural production & products;
- Transitional measures like the setting up of Producer Groups.

# Actions under specific Axis



## Axis 2

- Area based payments in relation to Less Favoured Areas and;
- Agri-environmental payments (*9 sub-measures*).

# **Actions under specific Axis**



## **Axis 3**

Promotion of the multi-functionality assets in Rural Areas linked with sustainable activities linked to:

- Environment;
- Rural Heritage.

# **Actions under specific Axis**



## **Axis 4**

- Building local Capacity;
- Improve local Governance;
- Mobilise rural actors;
- Develop potential of rural areas.

## **Axis 5**

- Technical assistance – funding of activities needed to ensure the required capacity to deliver successfully the implementation of the RDP

# Implementation to date ~

## Axis 2 - Measures 212 & 214



- Launching of **Measure 212** – Less Favoured Areas in March 2008 with the closing date set for May 2008;
- a second call was carried out in March-May 2009.
- in 2008 a total of 5,878 applications logged for M 212
- circa 9010 Ha of land claimed
- in 2009 a total of 5,940 applications where submitted
  
- Launching of **Measure 214** – Agri-Environmental Measures in March 2008 with the closing date set for May 2008;
- 9 sub-measures;
- in 2008 a total of 1,838 applications where submitted;
- in 2009 a total of 2,122 applications where presented.



## Axis 1 - Measure 121~

# Modernisation of Agricultural Holdings



- Call was launched for all three sub-measures on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2008 with the closing date set for 30<sup>th</sup> January 2009;
- A total of 357 applications were submitted:
  - 138 applications from the livestock sector; and
  - 219 from the crop production sector.
- Closing of eligibility checks;
- Selection Committee.

# Measures launched in March 2009



## ➤ **Axis 1:**

- Measure 114 – *Use of Farm Advisory Services (No applications);*
- Measure 115 – *Setting up of Farm Advisory Services (5 applications);*
- Measure 123- *Adding Value to Agricultural Products (29 applications);*

## ➤ **Axis 3**

- Measure 313 – *Encouragement of Tourism Activities (44 applications);*
- Measure 323 – *Conservation and upgrading of the Rural Heritage (37 applications);*
- Measure 341 – *Skills acquisition, animation and implementation (4 applications).*

## State of Play of Measures (March 2009)



- M 114 – closed - *2<sup>nd</sup> call being planned;*
- M 115 – Administrative checks completed and proposals being vetted by Selection Committee;
- M 123 – Administrative checks ongoing;
- M 313 – Administrative checks ongoing;
- M 323 – Administrative checks ongoing;
- M 341 – Selected 3 Public Private Partners and Contracts signed with Beneficiaries.

# Planned Measures



- Another **5** measures are being concluded for launching in the following weeks;
- **Measure 124** – Cooperation for the development of new products, processes and technologies in the agriculture and food sector;
- **Measure 125** – Infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture;
- **Measure 132** - Participation of farmers in food quality schemes;
- **Measure 133** – Information and promotion activities;
- **Measure 142** – Setting up of Producer Groups.

# Measures to be rolled out



- **Axis 1** ~ Measure 111 – Training, information and diffusion of Knowledge (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009)
- **Axis 2** ~ Measure 214 – Support for the conservation of genetic resources (3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2009)
- **Axis 4** ~ Measure 41- Implementation of the Local Development Strategies (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010)
- Measure 421- Inter-territorial & Transnational cooperation (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010)
- Measure 431- Running costs, acquisition of skills and animation (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2010)

# Technical Assistance (Axis 5)



- Ex-post evaluation of 2004-2006 RDP;
- On going evaluation of RD;
- Contracted the services of Exodea Europe Consulting Ltd;
- Building capacity build up of the Managing Authority and Paying Agency;
- Development of Software to cater for the RD measures;
- Publicity and Information booklets/ Applications and Guidelines;
- Seminars.

# National Rural Network



- Launching date 1<sup>st</sup> July;
- Defining action plan;
- List of activities.

# Programme Budget 2007-2013

<b>Axis</b>	<b>Total Public €</b>	<b>EAFRD Contribution (%)</b>	<b>EAFRD Amount €</b>
Axis 1	34,280,000	75	25,710,000
Axis 2	25,025,000	80	20,020,000
Axis 3	32,986,667	75	24,740,000
Axis 4	3,875,000	80	3,100,000
Technical Assistance	4,084,473	75	3,063,355
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>100,251,140</i></b>		<b><i>76,633,355</i></b>



## For further Info:



- Rural Development Department,  
Block A, Government Farm, Ghammieri, Marsa.
- Tel: 25904 188/269
- Email: [rdd.mrra@gov.mt](mailto:rdd.mrra@gov.mt)

**Thank you**