

Information Session

Common Agricultural Policy – Strategic Plan 2023-2027

Intervention 73.4 - Off-Farm Productive Investments



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SCOPE

The call is open for **Off-Farm Investment** related to:

- ✓ processing and/or development;
- ✓ enhancing of market orientation and increasing competitiveness, including greater focus on research, technology and digitalisation; as well as
- ✓ improving farmers bargaining position in the supply chain.

The Objective of Intervention 73.4 is to support farmers and processors in the development of new products, covering the entire territory of Malta. Investments supported should result in **demonstrable benefits to Maltese agricultural producers (with regards to INPUT).**

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Support under this intervention is available to:

- ✓ Farmers, whether natural (self-employed) or legal persons
- ✓ Groups of farmers, including inter alia partnerships, cooperatives
- ✓ Other businesses/public entities/land managers active in the sectors of agricultural or rural business processing/marketing/development of Annex I products as an input.

ANNEX I PRODUCTS

Support shall be provided for off-farm investments that transform Annex 1 products into other Annex I products.

The main tools used to determine if a product is an Annex I product to the Treaty or not are:

- Annex I to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:12012E/TXT&from=EN>
- Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013, establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products and repealing Council Regulations (EEC) No 922/72, (EEC) No 234/79, (EC) No 1037/2001 and (EC) No 1234/2007
- Uktradeinfo ICN database: <https://www.uktradeinfo.com/find-commodity-data/>

ELIGIBLE ACTIONS

- ✓ **Processing of an agricultural product:** any operation on an agricultural product resulting in a product which is also an agricultural product, except on-farm activities necessary for preparing an animal or plant product for the first sale.
- ✓ **Development of an agricultural product:** refers to adding value to agricultural products, improving quality beyond standards, applying new production methods or improving product presentation.
- ✓ **Shops:** support for shops that are part and parcel of the processing and/or development plant. Interventions are linked to shops marketing Annex I products only.

ANNEX 1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Processing and development of Annex 1 agricultural products: Input – Output

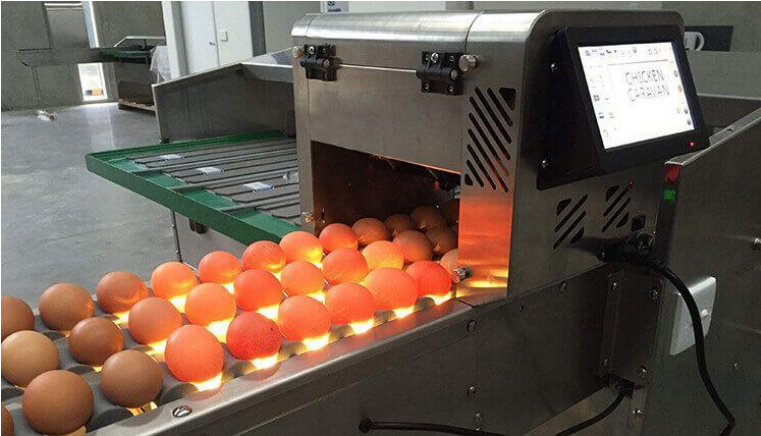


ELIGIBLE ACTIONS

- ✓ The construction, acquisition, including the leasing leading to a purchase obligation at the end of the contract, or improvement of immovable property (purchasing of land, leasing and acquisition – up to 10% of the total eligible expenditure)
- ✓ The purchase or lease-purchase of new machinery and equipment (including investments related to energy efficiency/generation); and
- ✓ Shops intrinsically linked to the supported processing and/or development plant. Shops shall be part and parcel of the processing and/or development plant in order to be considered for support under this intervention and shall be limited to shops marketing Annex 1 products only. Sales from such shops will be aimed at direct selling to the final consumer.

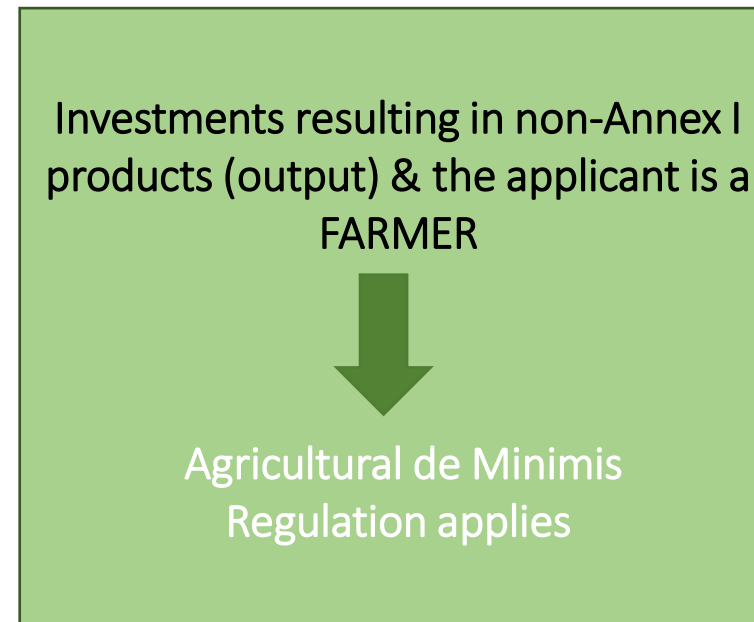
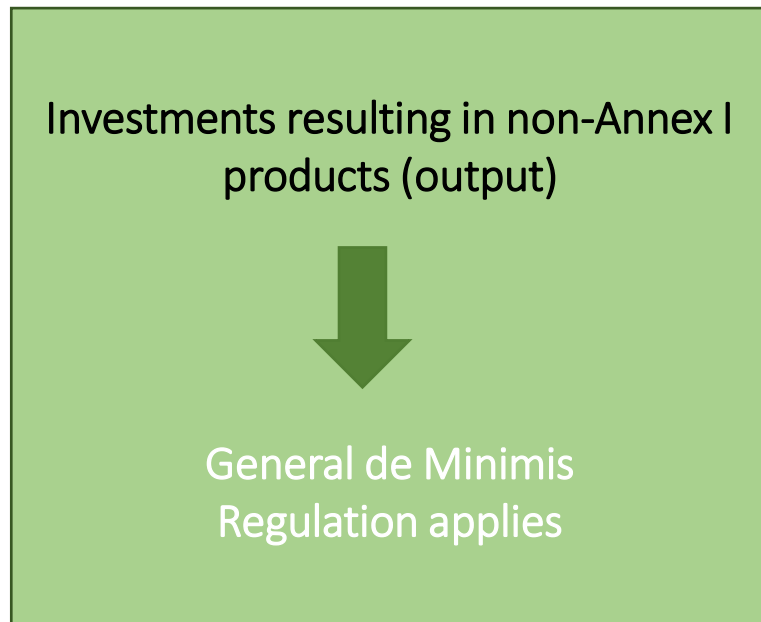



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NON-ANNEX 1 AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

Investments that transform Annex 1 products into non-Annex 1 products are eligible, however these will be subject to State Aid parameters following the applicable De Minimis Regulation. In cases where there is Annex 1 products resulting into non-Annex 1 products, the below applies:



Declarations are needed as supporting documents – can be found on the fondi.eu website

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is considered eligible for reimbursement only if it has been incurred **after the 27th October 2023.**

The following type of expenditure is considered eligible under I73.4:

- ✓ Construction, acquisition, leasing and/or improvement of immovable property (purchasing of land, leasing and acquisition – up to 10% of the total eligible expenditure);
- ✓ Purchase or lease-purchase of new machinery and equipment (including investments related to energy efficiency)
- ✓ Feasibility studies, acquisition of patent rights and licences
- ✓ Intangible investments such as copyrights, trademarks or processes;

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- ✓ General costs such as architects, engineers and consultation fees (up to a max of 15% of the total eligible project costs);
- ✓ Publicity costs (*Awareness Campaigns*) that go over and above the mandatory obligations listed in the Visual Identity Guidelines and is identified as a main implementation step for reaching a specific objective and/or contributing to a project's output and results (refer to National Eligibility Rules Rule 5 for more details);
- ✓ Shops linked to the supported processing and/or development plant and which are aimed at direct selling to the final consumer; and
- ✓ Indirect Costs of 7%.

INDIRECT COSTS - OVERHEADS

Text from the National Eligibility Rules

Overheads, also known as indirect costs or overhead expenses, are the ongoing expenses incurred by a business or organisation that are not directly attributable to a specific project or activity but without which a project cannot be implemented. These costs are necessary for the functioning and implementation of the EU-funded project.

In line with Article 54 (a) of Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, a 7% flat rate based on the eligible direct costs shall be applied to projects financed under BMVI, ISF, EMFAF, ERDF, CF, JTF and EAFRD.

INELIGIBLE ACTIONS

Any actions that are not in conformity to applicable environment, planning and agricultural legislation and/or policy and not in line with the scope of off-farm productive investments as outlined in Malta's CSP, shall be considered as ineligible for funding.

Processing activities cannot relate to on-farm preparation of an agricultural product for first sale.

INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- ✓ Simple replacement investments
- ✓ The purchase of agricultural production rights, payment entitlements, livestock, annual plants, and their planting
- ✓ Other costs connected with the leasing contract, such as lessor's margin, interest refinancing costs, overheads, and insurance charges.
- ✓ Shops and marketing elements that are not part of a processing and/or development plant supported under the CAP SP
- ✓ Shops selling non-Annex I products
- ✓ Publicity and Dissemination Criteria (that are obligatory by the CAP-SP)
- ✓ Project Management Costs

INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

- ✓ Second-hand machinery and/or equipment
- ✓ Statutory fines and penalties
- ✓ In kind contributions
- ✓ Transaction costs
- ✓ Costs related to extension of warranty, preventive maintenance, commissioning of works, planning application fees, and insurance charges.

The list above is not to be considered as non-exhaustive and the MA may update this list from time-to-time. Where in doubt, it is advised to speak to the Managing Authority.

CHANGE REQUESTS

Projects with a grant value of equal or less than EUR100,000 shall be limited to two (2) change request submissions, whereas projects with a grant value of more than EUR100,000 but less than or equal to EUR200,000 shall be limited to three (3) change request submissions. The limit of change request submissions applies for the entire duration of the project. For the avoidance of doubt, the limitation is subject to the number of submissions and not the amount of changes requested per submission. Furthermore, the limitation still applies in case the MA rejects the request in part or in its entirety.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- ✓ Project Details
- ✓ Objectives and needs to be addressed
- ✓ Contributions of the project towards the Farm to Fork strategy
- ✓ Readiness
- ✓ Risks
- ✓ Equal Opportunities
- ✓ Sustainable Development

Link: [Microsoft Word - EAFRD Selection Criteria CAP SP 23-27 v.1.2 \(fondi.eu\)](#)

OTHER INFO

Maximum Duration: 24 months

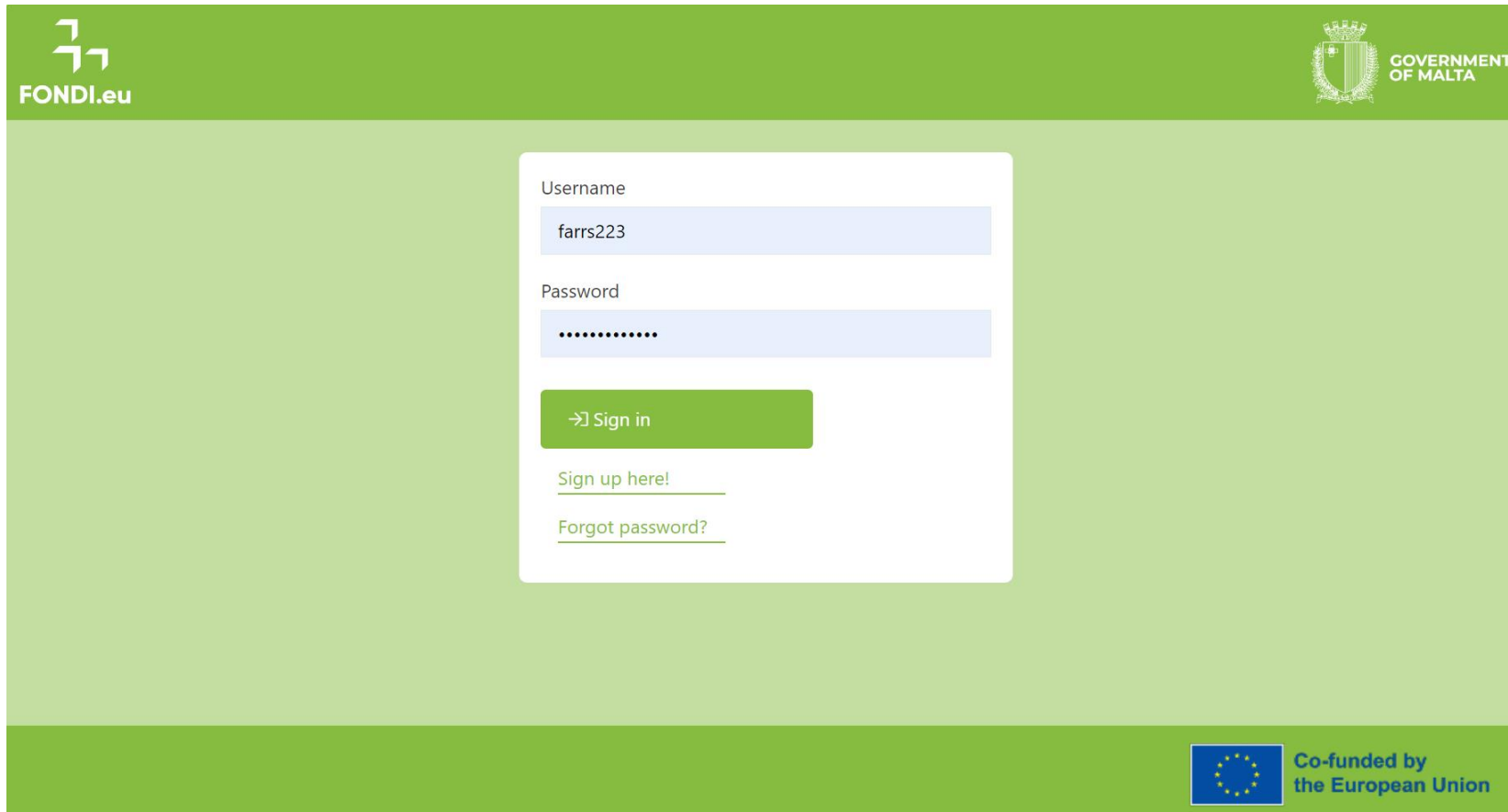
Total Budget: 6.6M Euros

Grant Support Rate: 50% (grant capping will apply for projects under De Minimis Rules)

Deadline: 29th March 2024 at noon

APPLICATION FORM

IACS <https://iacs.gov.mt.abacogroup.eu/customerportal/login>



The screenshot shows the login interface for FONDI.eu. The page has a green header with the FONDI.eu logo on the left and the Government of Malta logo on the right. The main content area is a light green background with a white login form in the center. The form contains two input fields: 'Username' with the value 'farrs223' and 'Password' with masked characters. Below the fields is a green 'Sign in' button with a right-pointing arrow. Underneath the button are two links: 'Sign up here!' and 'Forgot password?'. The footer of the page is green and features the European Union flag logo and the text 'Co-funded by the European Union'.

APPLICATION FORM

Activate online account

Welcome to the account activation page.

If you do not have an account with Front Office ARPA, you must first contact the Front Office on 2292 6148 and open an account.

If you are already registered with Front Office ARPA, please insert your log-in information (this may be your ID Card/ VAT Number) and your mobile number. Press the 'Generate a new verification code' button to receive by SMS a new verification code. If you have already received an SMS containing a verification code please press the 'I already have a verification code' button.

If you have forgot your log-in information please contact the Front Office.

Generate a new verification code

I already have a verification code

APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal

	Programme	Intervention	Description	Batch		Deadline
<input type="radio"/>	CAP - Strategic Plan 2023-2027	173.3	173.3 - Off-Farm Investments Infrastructure	1		29 March 2024
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	CAP - Strategic Plan 2023-2027	173.4	173.4 - Off-Farm Productive Investments	1		29 March 2024

All data and documents will be treated as confidential, however, certain information may be shared with other competent authorities when deemed necessary for verification purposes. Personal data will be handled in accordance with EU Regulation 2018/17252 to ensure compliance with the principles of transparency, proportionality, impartiality and legality. All submitted project proposals will be acknowledged. Applicants are to note that no applications will be accepted after the stipulated deadline

I agree to terms and conditions

◀ Back

Start Application ▶



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APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal - DRAFT

173.4 | Off-Farm Productive Investments | 285874 | CSP/2023/173.4/01

Intervention : Off-Farm Productive Investments

Batch : 1

Application Number : 285874

Project Details



Sector and Type of Activity



Line Items



Form B - Question



Supporting Documentation



Declarations



APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal - DRAFT

173.4 | Off-Farm Productive Investments | 286295 | CSP/2023/173.4/01

Project Details

* Project Title

* Project duration in months

Lead Applicant

Category

Nature of Activity / Business

Details Applicant



Search Person



APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal - DRAFT

173.4 | Off-Farm Productive Investments | 286295 | CSP/2023/173.4/01

8.2 Sector and Type of Activity

Tick all relevant sectors related to the intervention:

Sector

Livestock sector

- Yes
 No

Crop Sector

- Yes
 No

Mixed Sector

- Yes
 No

Non-agricultural sector

- Yes
 No

Type of Activity

Field crops

APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal - DRAFT

I73.4 | Off-Farm Productive Investments | 286295 | CSP/2023/I73.4/01

Project Costs - Line Items

Type of Investment ? × ☰

Locality × ☰

Item Description

Quotations List +

Quotation Reference

Final eligible amount Exc. VAT

Final eligible VAT amount

Final eligible amount Incl. VAT

! No data found

APPLICATION FORM

Type of Investment ×

Code	Description
SP0088	Purchasing Of Immovable Property
SP0108	Awareness Campaign
SP0090	Building Of New Premises
SP0091	Refurbishing Of Existing Facilities
SP0092	It Equipment And Software
SP0093	Processing Line
SP0094	Grading Line
SP0095	Packaging Equipment
SP0096	Cold Rooms
SP0097	Chillers
SP0098	Slaughterhouse
SP0099	Olive Press

Project Proposal - DRAFT

173.4 | Off-Farm Productive Investments | 286295 | CSP/2023/173.4/01

Project Costs - Line Items

Line Item	Type of Investment	Item Description	Quotations No.	Locality	Amount Excl. VAT	VAT Amount	Amount Incl. VAT
17469	Processing Line	Conveyor Belt	1	MOSTA	EUR 10,000.00	EUR 0.00	EUR 10,000.00
Total amounts					EUR 10,000.00	EUR 0.00	EUR 10,000.00

APPLICATION FORM



1. Actions linked to the Investment

Processing of an agricultural product: any operation on an agricultural product resulting in a product which is also an agricultural product, except on-farm activities necessary for preparing an animal or plant product for the first sale.

- Yes
 No

Development of an agricultural product: refers to adding value to agricultural products, improving quality beyond standards, applying new production methods or improving product presentation.

- Yes
 No

Marketing: support for shops that are part and parcel of the processing and/or development plant. Interventions are linked to shops marketing Annex I products only.

- Yes
 No

1.1. Inputs – Outputs i

Nature of Inputs

Annex I Chapter No.

CN Code

Description of CN Code

APPLICATION FORM

Nature of Outputs

Annex I Chapter No.

CN Code

Description of CN Code

1.2. Use of Non-Annex 1 products

Will the project be using Non-Annex I products as part of the input within the processing operation, in view that these are necessary for processing reasons (e.g. additives)? 

- Yes
- No

APPLICATION FORM

In the plan below provide a description of:

2. Project Details (as per selection criteria)

Project Idea and Description

(a) Proposed actions and investments to be carried out (15 marks)

(b) Mention any actual or potential innovative / use of state-of-the-art technology to be used in the project (3 marks) and/or partnership with other actors (2 marks)

(c) The information here also contributes to the selection criterion 'Contribution towards Results' (15 marks) where the result of the project is to also be assessed on qualitative contribution.

Max 500 words.

This section should include a brief description of the project idea, giving reasoning behind the investments.

Include information how the project will enhance/result in the adoption of innovation/use of state-of-the-art technology in the sector. Also state whether the applicant will have partnership with other actors.

Objectives and needs to be addressed (tick at least one SO and identify needs accordingly (15 marks)

SO2 – Enhance market orientation and increase farm competitiveness, both in the short and long term, including greater focus on research, technology and digitalisation.

Yes

No

SO3 – Improve the farmers' position in the value chain.

Yes

No

APPLICATION FORM

– Contribution of the project towards the Farm to Fork Strategy (15 marks)

Ensuring sustainable food production, including shift to organic farming

Yes

No

Ensuring food security

Yes

No

Stimulation sustainable food processing, wholesale, retail, hospitality and food services practices

Yes

No

Promoting sustainable food consumption and facilitating shift to healthy, sustainable diets

Yes

No

Reducing food loss and waste

Yes

No

Combating food fraud along the food supply chain

Yes

No

Research, innovation, technology and investments

Yes

No

Advisory services, data and knowledge sharing, and skills

Yes

No

Add any other information as deemed necessary

APPLICATION FORM



Readiness

Readiness refers to level of preparedness of the project to proceed with implementation, such as quotations having already been gathered, necessary permits (where applicable) obtained or in the process of seeking such permits etc. Note this section contributes directly to the ranking criteria as outlined in the guidelines. **(5 marks)**

Planning and Environmental Permits

Do any of the activities envisaged within the operation require a planning or an environmental permit?

- Yes
 No

Has PA permit application been submitted?

- Yes
 No

If Yes, please provide PA Case Number or Tracking Ref. Number:

PA/XXXXX/XX

TRK/XXXXX/XX

APPLICATION FORM

Risks

Any adverse event which may impinge on the smooth and efficient implementation of the project must be identified at this stage. These events will impose a risk on the project. The applicant is to explain risks associated with the project vis-a-vis financial, implementation, capacity, legal, logistical and procurement risks. Provide the mitigation and/or preventive measure, as well as the actions to be taken in case of an adverse event. By assessing risks, one is not looking to avoid it, but rather, to understand the nature of the risk, be reassured that the applicant takes steps to minimise the risk and has options to deliver at least part of the part, should something happen to affect of the projects.

What are the critical risks, uncertainties, or difficulties relation to the implementation of your project, and your measures/strategy for addressing them?

Max 150 words List risk type, description and mitigation measures

APPLICATION FORM

Sustainability

For the purpose of this application form, sustainability will be evaluated on the below sub-criteria **(20 marks)**

Equal Opportunities

The project will facilitate the increased participation of:

Women

- Yes
 No

Young farmers (under 41 years of age)

- Yes
 No

Young Persons (under 41 years of age)

- Yes
 No

Other minorities

- Yes
 No

Explain how the project will facilitate the increased participation of women, young farmers, young persons, other minorities, and ensuring equal opportunities (5 marks)

Max 50 words

APPLICATION FORM

Sustainable Development

Applicants are required to demonstrate that they have considered sustainable development areas at all stages of their projects and how contribution will be mainstreamed throughout the projects' aims and operations. (15 marks)

Tick if the project contributes to the following actions:

Actions that reduce ammonia emissions

- Yes
 No

Actions that promote animal welfare

- Yes
 No

Actions that promote circular economy

- Yes
 No

Actions that target the use of anti-microbials

- Yes
 No

Adoption/facilitating the adoption of agricultural practices which are deemed as contributing towards enhanced sustainability

- Yes
 No

APPLICATION FORM

6. Supporting Documentation¹

6.1 Supporting documentation required with regards to the applicant.


The applicants will be advised further, during the evaluation process, with regards to the submission of any necessary clarifications/documents required.

A soft copy of **all** documents are to be uploaded.

Supported documents are to be individually presented and adequately titled for ease of reference.

Yes

No

Tax Compliance Certificate² - A certificate issued not earlier than **three (3) months** from the date of the application, by the Office of the Commissioner for Revenue (CfR) confirming that the Applicant has submitted all returns and has no pending liabilities with CfR; or can otherwise provide official CfR documented evidence that an applicant is  honouring an agreement for settling any outstanding amounts

Yes

No

NA


Applicable for Self-Employed:

The Income Tax Returns for the last two (2) years including profit and loss statements and RA1- Agriculture Produce


Yes

No

NA

(Applicable for private companies) 

Audited financial statements of year n-1 and n-2³. If n-1 year audited accounts are not available, the applicant is to submit management accounts.

Notes 

This can be retrieved from: <https://cfr.gov.mt/en/eServices/Pages/IRD-Services-Online-Individual-Taxpayers.aspx>

Documents should be labelled for ease of reference e.g. Tax Compliance Certificate

APPLICATION FORM

Project Proposal - DRAFT

I73.4 | Off-Farm Productive Investments | 286295 | CSP/2023/I73.4/01

Declarations

The Applicant is requested to read through the below statements and confirm that the Applicant will abide with the stipulated declarations. If the information is found to be false or deliberately misleading, any EU Funds awarded may be withdrawn and any funds paid may be recovered from the Applicant organisation completing this form. These obligations shall be considered binding upon signing of the Grant Agreement if the application is approved for co-financing.

I declare that the entries in this Declaration form, the details in the whole Application Form which is being submitted and any other annexes enclosed are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct.

- Yes
 No

I confirm that access will be allowed to the sites which fall within the scope of this project, to any authorized person for the purpose of carrying out an inspection in order to verify the accuracy of the information in this application and subsequent submissions.

- Yes
 No

I will follow the set procedures by the Managing Authority with regards to any proposed changes to the project.

- Yes
 No

I confirm that the proposed project is not directly affected by a reasoned opinion by the Commission in respect of an infringement under Art 258 TFEU that puts at risk the legality and regularity of expenditure or the performance of operations.

- Yes
 No

I declare: - to be fully compliant with the eligibility criteria set out in the call; - to have the financial and operational capacity to carry out the proposed project.

- Yes
 No

I confirm that I am not aware of any reason why the project may not proceed or be delayed and the commitment can be made within the timescales indicated in the guidelines to which this project relates. I acknowledge that the application will be subject to regular monitoring/auditing/evaluations and undertake to keep records for this purpose in line with instructions received from the MA and ARPA and as described in and any manuals and guidance provided by the MA/ARPA/other stakeholders, as applicable.

- Yes
 No

I declare that this project is not being supported through other EU and/or National Funding nor have I presented, for the same project, other applications for public aid. I will abide by the principle of good governance and with the spirit of the Public Procurement Regulation on matters related to procurement as applicable.

- Yes
 No

I declare that the Applicant and/or project partners are not in an exclusion situation in accordance with Art 136(1) and Art 141(1) of 2018/1046 Financial regulation and CPR Art 73 (2)(f)

CONTACT US

AGRI Managing Authority

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Email: fondi.eu@gov.mt

Servizz Ewropej f' Malta

Tel: 2779 7300

Email: info.sem@gov.mt

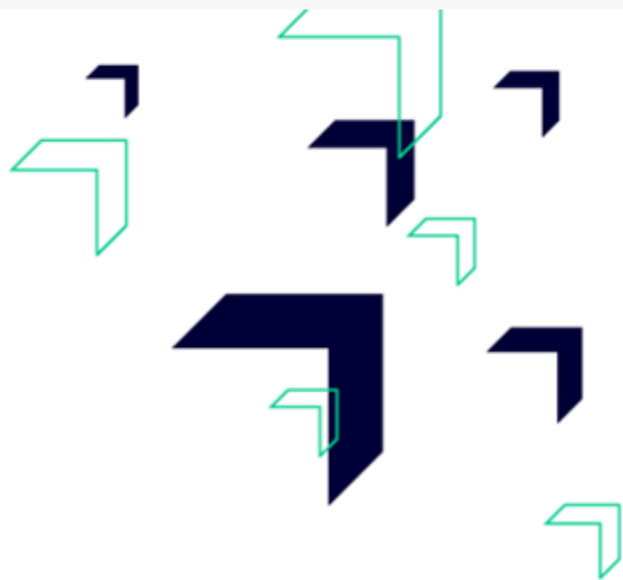


GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA



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Thank you !



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Information Session

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Assisting stakeholders in accessing European Funds

Inform & Engage Stakeholders



- Information & outreach
- One-to-one meetings
- Information sessions
- Training sessions

Support Stakeholders



- Project Development & Writing

- Project Implementation

Project Development & Writing



- Defining the problem
- Compiling the needs analysis
- Identifying the Aim & Objectives
- Identifying the Results & Impact
- Planning a good dissemination plan

Project Implementation



- Understanding the terms and conditions of the grant agreement
- Information on procurement procedures
- Assistance with project reporting
- Facilitate communication between Fund Operator and Beneficiary

Project Implementation Resources

<https://sem.gov.mt/information/information-documents>

Information Documents

The following is a list of documents providing information about various aspects of project implementation

Downloads	
Communication in EU Funded Projects	Download
The Grant Agreement	Download
Procurement in EU Funded Projects - Frequently Asked Questions	Download
Retention of Documents in EU Funded Projects	Download
Managing Changes during the Implementation of EU Funded Projects	Download
Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement	Download

Contact Details



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Thank You

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