



**GOVERNMENT  
OF MALTA**

MINISTRY FOR THE ECONOMY,  
EUROPEAN FUNDS AND LANDS

PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT  
FOR EUROPEAN FUNDS

## **BUSINESS ENHANCE GRANT SCHEMES**

Date: 08/08/2022



# Measures and Support Division

The Measures and Support Division administers the Business Enhance Grant Schemes for enterprises, which include:

- ERDF grant schemes; and
- Grant schemes under two investment reforms of the Recovery and Resilience Plan for Malta.

The focus of today's presentation shall be on the **RRP grant schemes**.

Main points re these grant schemes:

- Implementation of schemes shall be through a series of competitive calls.
- 3 calls opened on 1<sup>st</sup> July and will close at noon of 30 September 2022.
- Investments are to be concluded within 24 months from Grant Agreement.



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# Recovery and Resilience Facility

## Renovation of private sector buildings for retrofitting and energy efficiency

- Objective - to improve energy efficiency, reduce energy demand, lower carbon emissions and limit energy waste through the retrofitting of private sector buildings.
- Scheme budget allocation is €20M.
- Scheme shall target existing building stock, not the construction of new buildings.
- Target group – all enterprises (apart from exclusions)
- Aid will be granted under Art 38 of the General Block Exemptions Regulation (GBER)



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# Recovery and Resilience Facility

## Renovation of private sector buildings for retrofitting and energy efficiency

- Maximum grant - €300 per m<sup>2</sup> (capped at €1M per undertaking).
- Aid intensity for investments in Gozo – Small/Micro 55%; Medium 45%; Large 35% (investments in Malta have a 5% lower aid intensity for each bracket).
- Actions that reduce the energy for heating, cooling, ventilation, hot water and lighting. Investment in renewables is not eligible.
- Each project needs to reduce the primary energy demand (PED) by **at least 30%**.
- **At least 70% (by weight)** of the non-hazardous construction and demolition waste generated on site shall be prepared for re-use, recycling and other material recovery.



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# Recovery and Resilience Facility

## Digitalisation of the private sector - SME Digitalisation Grant Scheme (€5M)

- Objective - to support businesses to invest in digitalisation to enhance their operations and explore new business opportunities.
- Target group – SMEs (including micro and self-employed) in different economic sectors (including wholesale and retail, tourism and manufacturing)
- Maximum grant - €50,000 per beneficiary (aid granted under *de minimis* State Aid)
- Aid intensity for investments in Gozo – 60%; (investments in Malta - 50%).
- Actions - IT hardware, software (both custom and off-the-shelf) and digital solutions (incl. cloud, cyber security, networking, analytical tools, etc.)



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# Recovery and Resilience Facility

## Digitalisation of the private sector - Digital Intensification Grant Scheme (€10M)

- Objective - to support investments in digital technologies and related processes in the enterprise, and to aim to reach the digital transformation goals of the enterprise.
- Target group – SMEs and Large enterprises with a focus on tourism and manufacturing sectors
- Maximum grant - €200,000 per undertaking (aid granted under Art. 14 GBER)
- Aid intensity for investments in Gozo – 35% Small/Micro; 25% Medium; 15% Large (investments in Malta lower % depending on assisted and non-assisted areas).
- Actions - Hardware, software and other digital solutions to improve efficiency, productivity and customer experience. Significant operation technologies (OT), such as track and trace solutions and digital twinning.



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# Do No Significant Harm Principle (DNSH)

- Confirm that the planned investment respects the conditions of the Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle in line with Article 17 of Regulation 2020/852.
- Four of the six environmental objectives have been identified that require a substantive assessment (depending for which scheme):
  - Climate change mitigation*
  - Climate change adaptation*
  - Transition to a circular economy including waste prevention and recycling*
  - Pollution prevention and control*
- Applicants are asked to confirm that the investment shall not lead to an adverse impact or significant inefficiencies, etc. (To this effect applicants are to answer 'no' to the respective questions in the application form and are to provide an explanation to determine that the actions respect and fulfil the specific Do No Significant Harm criterion.)



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## Planning for your application (*always refer to specific Guidance Notes*) –

- Identify the potential investment to be considered

### For **Retrofitting applications** -

- Obtain an Energy Performance Certificate
- Secure a statement by a warranted Architect or Engineer to determine compliance of the building
- Provide a statement from a warranted Architect or Engineer to list the interventions being proposed and the projected reduction in Primary Energy Demand achievable through the proposed interventions

### For **Digital Intensification applications** -

- Develop a Process and Systems Review





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## Planning for your application (*always refer to specific Guidance Notes*) –

- Get the necessary market testing
- Obtain the necessary Compliance Certificates
- Prepare the Financial Statements (*as applicable*)
- Obtain necessary Permits (*where applicable*)
- Secure evidence of private match financing
- Get the NACE Code confirmation
- Provide a GANTT Chart or a Schedule of Works
- Have in hand any other supporting documentation (*as applicable*)
- Ensure that application is complete, and that all necessary documentation has been uploaded with application

## ERDF Grant Schemes

There are 6 ERDF Grant Schemes which at present have open calls, as follows:

Cut-off dates for submission of applications are set at noon of -

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start-up Investment Grant Scheme</li> <li>SME Growth Grant Scheme (2<sup>nd</sup> Issue)</li> <li>SME Diversification and Innovation Grant Scheme</li> <li>SME Internationalisation Grant Scheme</li> </ul>	-	31 Aug	-	30 Sept
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SME Consultancy Services Grant Scheme</li> <li>e-Commerce Grant Scheme</li> </ul>	12 Aug	31 Aug	16 Sept	30 Sept



Operational Programme I - European Structural and Investment Funds 2014-2020  
 "Fostering a competitive and sustainable economy to meet our challenges"  
 Aid Schemes part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund  
 Co-financing rate: 80% European Union; 20% National Funds



## Pertinent documents to refer to –

- Guidance Notes
- Notes to Applicants
- Sample Application Form
- Guidelines for Implementation

All these documents and other relevant information such as the link to the online application form may be accessed from <https://businessenhance.gov.mt/>



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