

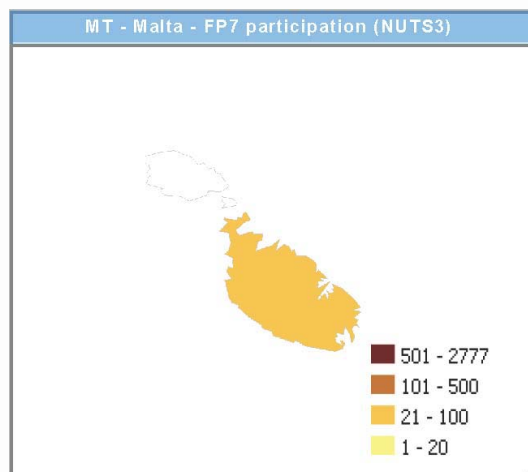


HORIZON 2020

MALTA



In spite of the economic crisis, public expenditure on R&D in Malta is growing. This is evidence of the government's commitment to increasing Malta's R&D intensity from its current level of 0.54% (2009) to its 2020 target level of 0.67%. Progress towards the R&D intensity target will depend on resource concentration and specialisation within key sectors. In this context, Malta's National Research and Innovation strategy has identified four key sectors: ICT, health and biotechnology, energy and environmental technologies, and value-added manufacturing and services.



A specificity of Malta's economic system is its organisation around the service sector and the domination of enterprises with less than ten employees. An incentive package to support industrial R&D has been put in place and a new Life Sciences Centre, which will provide technical support and R&D facilities for companies specialising in areas related to Life Sciences, will be fully operational by the end of 2013.

A challenge for Malta will be to build up its R&I capacity and in particular to put in place effective measures to ensure a sufficient supply of human resources with adequate competences and skills, supported by stronger links between the public and private sectors.

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Innovation Union Scoreboard position	20 out of 27
R&D intensity target	0.67%
Number of eligible proposals	547 in response to 294 FP7 calls for proposals
Number of applicants	623 (0.20% of EU-27)
Success rate (EU-27 =21,5%)	19.4%
Rank in number of participants signed contracts (EU-27):	27
Rank in budget share (EU-27)	28
Top collaborative links	ES, UK, IT, DE, FR
Total Population & EU 27 Population Share	417617 (0.1% of EU-27)