

MALTA

Malta has received funding since entering the EU and EEA in 2004. For the period 2009-2014, Malta has been allocated €4.5 million; up from €3.6 million over the previous five-year period. Projects may be implemented until 2016.

KEY AREAS OF SUPPORT

- › Strengthening oil spill prevention and response
- › Raising awareness on water consumption
- › Improving correctional services for young offenders
- › Strengthening civil society
- › Strengthening local government
- › Conserving World Heritage

BILATERAL COOPERATION

As a coastal and oil-rich nation, Norway has valuable expertise in preparing for and handling oil spills. The Norwegian Coastal Administration cooperates closely with Maltese authorities to further reduce the island's vulnerability to contamination.

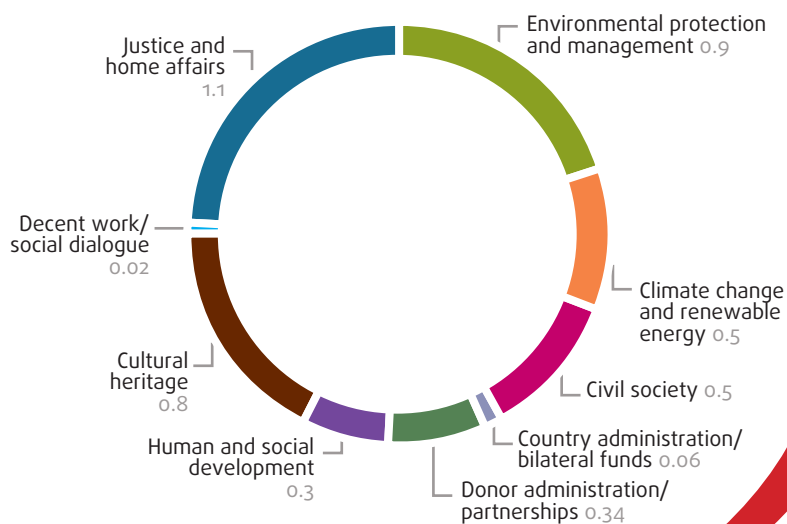
Norwegian public bodies are cooperating in other key areas of support. Malta is aiming to reform its local and regional administration. To facilitate this process, Maltese authorities exchange experience with organisations such as the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities. Innovation Norway is involved in efforts to promote decent work and tripartite dialogue. The Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Service is participating in the correctional services programme.



EEA GRANTS	€2.9 M	TOTAL FUNDING	
NORWAY GRANTS	€1.6 M	€4.5 M	
		Malta	EU-28
GDP per capita in PPS (EU=100)		86	100
Economic growth (% change on previous year)		2.9	0.1
Unemployment rate (%)*		5.9	10.2
Youth unemployment rate (%)*		12.7	22.2
Public debt (% of GDP)		73	85.4
Gender pay gap (%)		5.1	16.4
At-risk-of-poverty rate (%)		24	24.5
Human development index*		22 (EU-28 ranking)	
Corruption perception index		19 (EU-28 ranking)	

Sources: Eurostat, UNDP, Transparency International
All data is from 2013 except where * indicates 2014

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDING (€ MILLION)



The EEA and Norway Grants provide €1.8 billion in funding to 150 programmes in 16 beneficiary countries. EEA Grants €993.5 million (Norway 95.8%, Iceland 3.0%, Liechtenstein 1.2%). Norway Grants €804.6 million, financed by Norway alone.

IN FOCUS

SAFEGUARDING THE COAST AGAINST OIL SPILLS

One quarter of the world's oil tankers pass the Maltese coastline. They pose a major environmental threat to the island in the event of a leakage. An oil spill would not only be catastrophic for the environment, but also severely damaging for Malta's tourism industry – a vital part of the Maltese economy.

The Grants previously helped establish a containment and clean-up system for major oil spills and continue to back efforts to reduce Malta's vulnerability to oil contamination. One of the core aims is to protect the maritime habitat from the harmful effects of a potential oil spill.

IMPROVING CONDITIONS FOR YOUNG OFFENDERS

The Grants support efforts to improve correctional services in several countries. The aim is to support reforms that raise compliance standards in regard to international human rights. Much is at stake when a young person is imprisoned; in later life, persistent young offenders have greater problems for example with unemployment, substance abuse and depression. This vulnerable group needs targeted, special attention in order to avoid a possible life-long criminal career.

The Grants support the renewal of the Centre of Residential Restorative Services in Malta. Support includes training for staff dealing with young offenders.

Read more about all the programmes:
www.eeagrants.org/malta

Programme	Partner(s)	Grant (€ million)
Correctional services	Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Service	1.1
Integrated marine and inland water management		0.9
Adaption to climate change	Norwegian Coastal Administration	0.5
NGO Fund		0.5
Capacity building and institutional cooperation	Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe	0.3
Decent work and tripartite dialogue	Innovation Norway*	0.02
Cultural and natural heritage		0.8

*Programme Operator

■ EEA Grants ■ Norway Grants



The Grants are continuing to help Malta protect its maritime habitat from the effects of a potential oil spill.