

Youth Guarantee 2.0

Youth Guarantee 2.0

POLICY INSTRUMENT

 Malta

Description

Country

 **Malta**

Focus area

KEY TRAINING POLICY MEASURE

The Youth Guarantee scheme is an EU-funded project, developed for young people aged 15 to 25, and which consists of four education and employment related initiatives: the NEET Activation Scheme II, SEC Preventive Classes, MCAST Preventive Classes, and the ICT Summer Courses. Based on preventive and assistive measures, each opportunity is designed to help young people continue their education, or increase their chances of finding satisfaction and success in the world of work.

Link

<https://jobsplus.gov.mt/schemes-jobseekers/youth-guarantee-scheme>

Implementation level

NATIONAL

Legal base

As a European Social Fund Project, it is implemented within the context of the laws regulating the European Structural and Investment Funds.

Starting period

The initiative commenced in 2015 and is expected to be brought to an end in 2022.

Perspective

Yes - the project falls under Malta's Operational Programme II of the European Structural and Investment Funds, more specifically under Priority Axis 1 which seeks to invest in the employability and adaptability of human capital.

Policy area

EDUCATION

TRAINING

EMPLOYMENT

Funding

FUNDED BY THE EU

Part-financed by the European Social Fund

Skill mismatch

Skill mismatch target

UNDERQUALIFICATION (INDIVIDUALS' QUALIFICATIONS/CREDENTIALS ARE BELOW THEIR JOB'S NEEDS)

SKILL GAPS (WORKER'S SKILLS ARE BELOW THE LEVEL OF PROFICIENCY REQUIRED BY THEIR EMPLOYERS AND JOBS)

Skills matching focus

MATCH YOUNG GRADUATES' SKILLS TO LABOUR MARKET

Not necessarily graduates, but the project's target group comprises of young people aged 15 to 25 who require support in continuing their education, or in increasing their chances of finding satisfaction and success in the world of work.

Skills delivered

BASIC LITERACY AND NUMERACY SKILLS

BASIC DIGITAL SKILLS

GENERAL EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS (TEAM WORKING, COMMUNICATION, ETC.)

JOB SEARCH SKILLS

CAREER MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Methods

Methods

EXPERT PANELS

In line with the Partnership principle, a project steering committee brings together different stakeholders including the Department of Lifelong

Learning, the General Workers Union, Agenzija Zghazagh, the Maltese National Youth Council (KNZ), the Malta Chamber of SMEs (formerly known as GRTU), The Gozo Business Chamber and the Malta Chamber of Commerce, Enterprise and Industry.

REAL-TIME LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION (E.G. BIG DATA ANALYSIS OF JOB ADVERTISEMENTS, CVS)

Jobsplus is Malta's Public Employment Service, formerly known as the Employment and Training Corporation. It is therefore the primary source of real-time labour market information and utilises this in implementing the Youth Guarantee 2.0 Project.

Use of skills intelligence

Based on trends and statistics linked to the Maltese labour market, Jobsplus employs the Youth Guarantee 2.0 to assist 15-25 year olds: in completing their SEC/Ordinary Level Examinations or their Vocational Education Examinations or their ICT/ECDL Assessments or else in Equipping themselves with soft-skills relevant to the Industry, followed by a period of work exposure or further education.

DESIGNING TRAINING PROGRAMMES TO ACTIVATE UNEMPLOYED

INFORMING CAREER-MAKING DECISIONS OF STUDENTS

INFORMING JOB-SEARCH DECISIONS OF UNEMPLOYED

Stakeholders

Main responsible body

NATIONAL PES
Jobsplus

Other involved organisations

NATIONAL MINISTRY
Ministry for Finance and Employment - Involved in this scheme through the strategic direction it provides to Jobsplus.

Beneficiaries

The Youth Guarantee 2.0 Project provides a tailor-made service to young people aged between 15 and 25, equipping them with the right tools to strengthen their educational background and successfully launch themselves into the world of work.

YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING THE TRANSITION FROM EDUCATION INTO WORK

YOUNG PEOPLE WITH LOW LEVELS OF BASIC SKILLS /EARLY LEAVERS FROM EDUCATION OR TRAINING

Sustainability

Success factors The success rate of the initiative is on the rise, particularly due to the input of the consultative committee which reviews the efficacy of schemes, the outreach initiatives which have brought the project closer to both the target group (youths) but also to Guidance Teams and Vocational Institutions, and the fact that all applications may now be accessed digitally.

Barriers The project team is aware that it needs to constantly monitor and update its offerings, to always provide better market-driven training modules to its target group.

Monitoring and evaluation There is regular and systematic monitoring across all activities of the Youth Guarantee 2.0 project. This includes: monitoring visits (announced & unannounced), in-depth evaluations and surveys, as well as standard monitoring operating procedures. These processes are all in line with the guidelines provided by the European Social Fund. OPII Annual Implementation Reports shed light on running schemes - the most recent reports may be accessed from here: <https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/Operational%20Programmes/Useful%20Links%20and...>

Updates Initially, the Youth Guarantee project adopted a 'one size fits all' strategy. Following extensive research with participants, it was deemed that this original strategy was not working for everyone; each participant is different, and the activities needed to reflect that. The present-day project therefore ensures that participants receive a tailor-made service, with support based on their needs.

YES

Effectiveness "The implementation of the Youth Guarantee scheme in Malta is well advanced and remains effective in terms of timeliness of offers, sustainability of outcomes, and quality of services delivered. Progress has been made in reducing the number of NEETs, but outreach has been recognised as a challenge. Malta has put in place several measures to reach out to a higher number of NEETs. The strong preventative approach used by Malta is in principle preferable to ex-post activation. However, Youth Guarantee coverage remains low and there is scope to step up and strengthen the measures aimed at reaching and supporting those facing multiple barriers and at further addressing the large group of early school leavers". More information: 'Youth Guarantee Country by Country - Malta', published in October 2020.

Sustainability Combating unemployment - particularly amongst youth - will always be a crucial priority for each EU Member State. With global uncertainty, an on-going pandemic and an increasingly competitive job market, it has never been more important for individuals to equip themselves with solid skills and experiences. Consequently, there is clear indication that this project will be sustained.

Other instruments in Malta

- [Construction Industry Skill Card](#)
n/a
- [Investing in Skills](#)
n/a
- [National Skills Council](#)
National Skills Council
- [Skills Development Scheme](#)
Skills Development Scheme
- [Training Pays Scheme](#)
Training Pays Scheme