



MALTA

“ A promising new period. ”

SKOP

Main trends

Although reported ODA expenditure has increased over the past year, the ODA/GNI percentage has seen a very slight decrease due to a more marked increase in GNI. Multilateral expenditure has decreased by 10% compared to 2022, while the increase in bilateral spending is attributed to a 19.6% increase for IDRC.

Malta's support for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) has continued and has been strengthened. This can be seen through the collaboration with the Islands and Small States Institute at the University of Malta. Besides the scholarship scheme, collaboration in diplomacy efforts in support of SIDS has intensified while technical assistance projects (e.g. in water conservation in the Caribbean) have also started.

Some of Malta's embassies (such as those in North Africa, the Middle East, Ghana and Ethiopia) are now able to allocate small funding amounts to projects implemented at the grassroots level.

Government's relationship with civil society

Communication with civil society has been re-established and the tone of the discussions has seen a marked improvement. However, there is no structured approach to maintaining a regular dialogue and consultation has been limited.

It is worth noting that discussions to allocate a fund for an annual call for projects submitted by Maltese NGOs (in partnership with southern CSOs) were underway in 2023 and this was issued in 2024. Although the amount is still a fraction of pre-2019 calls, this bodes well for the coming years as the Development Unit has stated its commitment to engage in more regular dialogue with the sector.

Reported ODA: EUR 45.2 million

0.26% GNI (↓ from 0.28% in 2022)

Non-inflated ODA: EUR 4.6 million

0.03% GNI (↓ from 0.06% in 2022)

Total inflated ODA: EUR 40.9 million

90% of total



The Maltese government should:

- Improve aid effectiveness by ensuring predictability and multiannual programming for the funds allocated to high quality poverty eradication projects proposed by Maltese CSOs and by raising awareness of the development impact of Maltese CSOs.
- Support CSOs in increasing their capacity to implement and monitor projects that are fully focused on the LNOB principles and give them the right to propose development projects that address the rights and needs of those most at risk in ODA recipient countries.
- Engage with Maltese civil society and development stakeholders in an assessment of the Maltese ODA programme and policy, to evaluate and reform the geographical and thematic focuses as well as their effectiveness.