1. **BASIC INFORMATION**

1.1. **Project Number:** Project 04  
of the 2002 National Pre-accession Programme for Malta

1.2. **Twinning Number:** MT2002/IB-AG-04

1.3. **Title:** Capacity Building in Malta - Viticulture Unit

1.4. **Sector:** Agriculture

1.5. **Location:** Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Malta

2. **OBJECTIVES**

2.1. **Overall Objective**

To strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in Viticulture.

2.2. **Immediate Objectives**

- To set up an efficient Viticulture Unit within the Department of Agriculture with respect to its organisational structure and human resources to be able to implement and monitor the *acquis* with particular emphasis on plantings, the vineyard register, market measures and oenological practices.

- To prepare and execute a strategy for gathering information on the local viticultural conditions as required by the vineyard register.

- To establish the best suited grapes and the best vineyard management techniques for the production of quality fresh table grapes over a longer period of the year.

- To develop an educational campaign to support farmers in the reconversion and renewal processes of existing vineyards and instruct wine growers and producers on viticultural practices.
2.3. **Accession Partnership and NPAA priority**

*Accession Partnership*

Continue preparations for implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy and rural development policies.

*NPAA*

A new Wine Act in line with EU legislation and, in particular, Regulation EU 1493/1999 has been drafted and will be enacted by the end of 2001.

3. **DESCRIPTION**

3.1. **Background and Justification**

A Viticulture and Oenology Unit has always existed within the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries. During the last twenty years a decrease in scientific staff has limited the functionality of the unit and has led to a subsequently low output. In view of the new Wine Act governing wine production potential the Government of Malta is seeking to strengthen the Viticulture Unit. The latter will be responsible for the implementation of the new laws, which are in line with EU regulations, and the relevant areas of the Acquis. To this purpose key people have already been identified to work within the unit and the Government is committed to strengthen the unit.

*The Vineyard Register*

- **At Present**

  The vineyard register currently contains information about the area under vine in the different localities of the Maltese Islands. It also contains a list of vine varieties that have been identified during the surveys carried out.

- **Twinning**

  This twinning project will be used to identify additional information that should be included in the vineyard register. It will also provide a strategy for the collection of data with regards to:
  - the General information on the area;
  - the definition of the Macro-climate;
  - the characteristics of the vineyards;
  - the cultivation methods and type of mechanisation used;
  - the type of plant protection being utilised;
  - the Socio-Economic aspects of Maltese viticulture;
  - a complete inventory of all winegrape varieties to establish the authorised and recommended varieties
3.2. Linked Activities

- A study to ascertain the competitiveness of the wine industry in Malta is being carried out by the Institute for the Promotion of Small Enterprise (IPSE). The first draft has been completed and is being reviewed.

- During the year 2000, the National Statistics Office in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture within the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries carried out a survey of the area used for vine cultivation, taking into account the variety of vines and their age. This survey, which will be conducted annually, will be the basis of Malta’s submission to the EU’s Annual Survey of wine production.

- Within the Viticulture Unit, two field workers are to be recruited at middle management level.

- One Scientific Officer is to be recruited prior to the start of the project within the Viticulture Unit as a Viticulturist; suitable premises for The Viticulture and Oenology Unit have been identified by the Malta Government. Extensive refurbishment and preparation of identified premises in view of project will be carried out during 2001 and 2002 at an estimated cost of 500,000 Euros allocated from Malta national budget.

- A new Wine Act, in line with EEC Council Regulation 1493/99, replacing the existing Wine Act of 1969 has passed through all the stages in parliament and will be adopted by the fourth quarter of 2001.

- Subsidiary legislation under the Product Safety Act (Cap.427) to provide for quality and marketing standards for wine and wine products will be adopted and will enter into force by the second quarter of 2002. The Producers’ Organisation Act to enable producers to have access to market intervention and to submit proposals for multi-annual operational programmes for improving production and marketing will also be enacted by the second quarter of 2002.

3.3. Results

- Strategy for Viticulture Sector in place.

- Identification of the necessary measures required for the upgrading of existing vineyards, renewal of old vines and varietal reconversion.

- Identification of the vine varieties grown in Malta for quality wine production and quality table grape production either through DNA profiling or magnetic resonance.

- Laboratory equipped with microvinification facility to assess grape quality factors and determine the best suited vine varieties for quality wine production set up.
– An experimental station with different varieties of vines for the purpose of research associated with viticulture set up.

– Equipment required for the setting up of the viticultural laboratory purchased.

– Trained trainers in viticulture and laboratory procedures and a long-term training strategy developed.

– Trained officials for the upkeep of the viticulture register and to provide extension services.

– Compilation of an updated vineyard Register as required by EC Regulation 2392/86.

– Pesticide and fertiliser programs to conform with CoGAP set up to produce optimal yields of quality grapes with limited environmental impacts.

– Information seminars and training workshops to inform wine growers and producers on viticulture and vine behaviour in a hot, dry climate.

3.4. **Activities**

Successful implementation of this project anticipates twinning assistance from an EU Member State for a one-year period. The selected PAA should have extensive theoretical and practical experience in the field of viticulture. The advisor will be expected to offer his/her service until the local counterparts have been trained to take over the project.

Other short-term experts will support him/her as necessary.

More specifically this project will:

– Assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in identifying measures to upgrade and enhance the sector involved.

– Assist the MAF in drawing up a strategy for the sector in line with Malta’s Rural Development Plan which is expected to be completed by the end of 2002.

– Compile a list of authorised and recommended vine varieties for the production of marketable quality wines while preserving the genetic biodiversity of the indigenous varieties.

– Identify the means required to upgrade vineyards with the introduction of good viticultural techniques and modern management practices.

– Determine the best suited vine varieties for quality wine production and quality table grape production.

– Provide assistance in the setting-up of a laboratory.
– Determine specifications and purchase equipment including the microvinification equipment necessary for the determination of the best-suited varieties to be grown under local conditions.

– Train one official from the Viticulture Unit by means of internships and short courses in a Member State in the modern aspects of viticultural practices including pruning, grafting, fertilisation, disease control and selection of vine varieties.

– Assist in the drawing up of on-going training strategies for current and future field and laboratory officers.

– Provide assistance in the setting up of a register of vineyards and growers.

– Assist in the setting up of an experimental station having an experimental vineyard to conduct research associated with viticulture.

– Advise and ensure that the implemented system satisfies the requirements and common rules for direct support schemes and other schemes under Council Regulation 1493/1999 with regards to reconversion and planting rights and under other Council Regulations, as well as the adoption of measures under the Rural Development Regulation.

– Set out pesticide and fertiliser use programs to conform with the Code of Good Agricultural Practice being set up with the objective of minimising environmental impacts and protect consumers.

– Hold information seminars and training workshops for winegrowers and producers.

3.5. **Equipment**

Equipment for the setting up of a laboratory will be required. The equipment will include the following:

– Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer for metal ion analysis
– Microwave digester
– FOSS Infra-Red Winescan analyser
– Autoclaves
– Water still and de-ioniser
– Microvinification unit
– Refractometers and tensiometers
– Microscopes for microbiological analysis
– Reagents
– Glassware
4. **INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK**

- The Department of Agriculture within the Ministry for Agriculture and Fisheries will be responsible for implementing the Acquis in this area. Presently, the Department has at hand a vine register in line with the requirements of the Acquis.

- The Malta Standards Authority will be responsible for establishing quality and marketing standards for wine and wine products and for labelling and controlling geographical designations.

- The Consumer and Competition Division within the Ministry for Economic Services will be responsible for the inspection of wine and oenological practices and for designating an accredited laboratory for the testing of the quality of alcohol and spirits imported in Malta.

- A Wine Regulation Board will be set up to advise in the making of policies regulating the viticultural and oenological sector, develop regulations made under the Wine Act, provide with technical, scientific, legal and other advice in the field of wine and wine related products, participate in research, surveys, programmes, and other activities as may be deemed necessary.

- A Producers’ Organisation Act is being drafted. This will enable producers to have access to market intervention aid to put into operation production programmes and market strategies.

5. **DETAILED BUDGET (EUROS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>EU Support (Indicative Values in Euros)</th>
<th>National Co-financing</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investment Support</td>
<td>Institution Building</td>
<td>Total EU (IS+IB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institution building</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Microvinification Unit</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Viticulture laboratory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Microbiology laboratory</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6. **IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

6.1. **Implementing Authority**

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Malta,
Barriera Wharf,
Valletta, Malta CMR 01

Contact Persons:

- Mr. George Carbone, Project Manager, Wine,
  Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries,
  Barriera Wharf, Valletta CMR 01, Malta
  Tel: 00356 225236
  Fax: 00356 248602
  e-mail: george.carbone@magnet.mt

- Mr. Randall Caruana, Scientific Officer,
  Department of Agriculture,
  Ghammieri, Marsa, Malta
  Tel: 00356 25904120
  Fax: 00356 236176

6.2. **Twinning**

The project will require a PAA in post for 12 months supported by STEs.

6.3. **Non-standard aspects**

None.

6.4. **Contracts**

The Twinning Covenant will represent the main contract for the project, which covers the costs of the PAA and short-term experts.

Any other contracts for supplies, works and services will be concluded in accordance with the procedures laid down in the “Practical guide to EC external aid”.

7. **IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**

**Start of tendering/call for proposals:** April 2002

**Start of project activity:** June 2002

**Project completion:** December 2004
8. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

The Ministry of Agriculture is an equal opportunity employer.

9. **ENVIRONMENT**

Vineyards contribute to Malta’s environment and landscape providing greenery during the hot and arid summer months. Vines also assist in preventing soil erosion particularly in slopes. Good vineyard management would help in the control of pesticide and fertiliser use, thus protecting the water table and the environment.

10. **RATES OF RETURN**

Not applicable.

11. **INVESTMENT CRITERIA**

11.1. **Catalytic effect**

The Pre-Accession funds will help in the strengthening of capacity in the Wine Sector in order to continue preparations for implementation of the Common Agricultural Policy and rural development policies.

11.2. **Co-finance**

National co-finance contributions will primarily cover refurbishment of premises to be used for Viticulture unit.

11.3. **Additionality**

Not applicable.

11.4. **Readiness**

A new Wine Act in line with EU legislation will be enacted by end 2001. A building for Viticulture Unit has been identified, refurbishment will be completed by 2002.

11.5. **Sustainability**

Relevant government policies ensure sustainability. The operational costs will be met out of public funds.

11.6. **Competition**

Services and equipment will be procured in line with the relevant regulations.
12. CONDITIONALITY

Sufficient managerial and technical human resources allocated to the Viticulture and Oenology Unit.

ANNEXES

I Logframe planning matrix
II Implementation time schedule
III Cumulative contracting and disbursement schedule
# ANNEX I

## LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR VITICULTURE PROJECT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Nber: Project 04 of the 2002 National Pre-accession Programme for Malta</th>
<th>Contracting Period Expires: 30 April 2004</th>
<th>Disbursement Period Expires: 30 April 2005</th>
<th>Total Budget: 750,000</th>
<th>EU Contribution: 500,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### INTERVENTION LOGIC (Project structure)

#### WIDER OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the Viticulture Sector.

#### IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES

- To set up an efficient and fully-equipped Viticulture Unit within the Department of Agriculture;
- To prepare and execute a strategy for gathering of information on the local viticultural conditions;
- To establish the best suited grapes and the best vineyard management techniques for the production of quality fresh table grapes;
- To instruct grape growers and wine producers on viticulture through development of educational campaign.

### OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS

- Viticulture Sector compliant with EU regulations and rural development plans.

### SOURCES OF VERIFICATION

- EU Commission documents
- EU Regular Reports
- Statistical reports

### ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS

- Co-ordination between local Authorities
- Deployment of human resources

- Provisions of new Wine Act in line with EU legislation and EU Regulation 1493/1999 enforced;
- Wine growers and producers made aware of viticulture practices;

- EU Regular Reports
- Departmental Report

- Availability of expertise
- Availability of human and financial resources
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INTERVENTION LOGIC (Project structure)</th>
<th>OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS</th>
<th>SOURCES OF VERIFICATION</th>
<th>ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Measures to upgrade and enhance Wine Sector identified;</td>
<td>Better management of the implementation process;</td>
<td>Commission evaluation reports.</td>
<td>Provision of the necessary inputs to deliver required activities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategy for Viticulture Sector drawn up;</td>
<td>Laboratory functional;</td>
<td>Regular reports</td>
<td>Co-operation of all Stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan for the renewal of old vines and varietal reconversion;</td>
<td>Equipment in use;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best suited vineyard management strategy for quality wine and table grape production implemented;</td>
<td>Training programmes are developed for all officers concerned;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory and experimental station set up;</td>
<td>Register of vineyards and growers up to date;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equipment for laboratory in place and operational;</td>
<td>Awareness on the controlled use of pesticides and fertilisers;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Official trained in viticulture;</td>
<td>Attendance of wine growers and producers for seminars and workshops;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training strategies for field and laboratory officers prepared;</td>
<td>First research project planned and underway</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Register of vineyards and growers set up;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticide and fertiliser programs to conform with CoGAP set up;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information seminars and training workshops held.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERVENTION LOGIC (Project structure)</td>
<td>OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS</td>
<td>SOURCES OF VERIFICATION</td>
<td>ASSUMPTIONS AND RISKS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACTIVITIES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in identifying measures to upgrade and enhance the Viticulture Sector;</td>
<td>Report identifying measures to upgrade and enhance Viticulture Sector drawn up; Viticulture Sector strategy in place; Good viticulture techniques and modern management practices introduced; Equipment purchased; 1-2 trained trainers Programme of seminars and workshops drawn up.</td>
<td>Tender documents. Evaluation reports.</td>
<td>Availability of financial and human resources Provision of technical expertise.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist the MAF in drawing up a strategy for the Viticulture Sector in line with Malta’s rural development plan;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Develop a plan for the upgrade of vineyards;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Advise on best suited vine varieties for quality wine-grape and table grape production;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist in the setting-up of the laboratory;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Procurement of equipment already identified and other equipment still to be identified for laboratory;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Training of 1 scientific officer on viticulture practices;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist in the drawing-up of training strategies for field and laboratory officers;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist in the setting up of register of vineyards and growers;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist in the setting up of an experimental station;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Advise and ensure that implemented system is in line with Council Regulation 1493/1999 and Rural Development Regulation;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− To set out pesticide and fertiliser use programs to conform with Code of Good Agricultural Practice;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>− Assist in the organisation of seminars and training workshops for wine growers and producers.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ANNEX II**

**IMPLEMENTATION TIME SCHEDULE**

**VITICULTURE PROJECT**

Project 04 of the 2002 National Pre-accession Programme for Malta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All components</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D: DESIGN  
T: TENDERING AND CONTRACTING  
I: IMPLEMENTATION  
C: CLOSURE
## ANNEX III

### CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENTS

#### SCHEDULE OF EU FUNDING

**VITICULTURE PROJECT**

Project 04 of the 2002 National Pre-accession Programme for Malta

(Euros ‘000)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONTRACTED</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISBURSED</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>