



# Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility Specific Support to Malta

## Kick off meeting

Marnix Surgeon, deputy Head of Unit  
Unit G1 'ERA and country intelligence'  
European Commission, DG RTD

18 July 2019



# Horizon 2020 Policy Support Facility

- Launched in 2015
- With the objective to help MS/AC "to improve the design, implementation and evaluation of R&I policies"
- Through mobilising high-level expertise and supporting evidence-based policy-making



# PSF Services



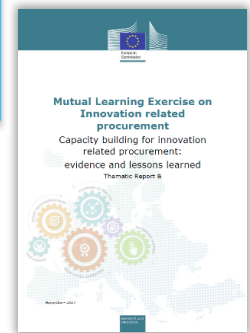
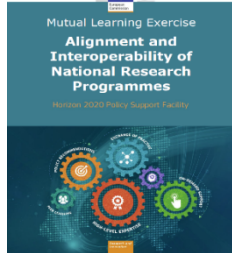
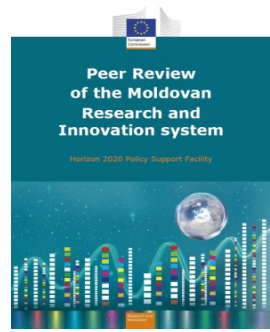
8 Peer Reviews of National R&I Systems

14 Specific Supports to Countries



12 Mutual Learning Exercises

PSF Knowledge Centre



Research and Innovation



## PSF Specific Support to countries

Aims at providing a set of **concrete recommendations** on how to tackle a specific R&I policy challenge and how to implement the accompanying reforms

## Key success factors

- High-level country commitment and full engagement of national administration
- Optimal timing in policy cycle
- High-quality experts, with willingness/openness to understand country's specificities ("from analysis towards understanding")
- Clear understanding of country needs, from the start
- Early mobilisation and involvement of stakeholders in the country
- Tailor-made, targeted recommendations

# A Team Work

## Maltese authorities

Johann Caruana	Director - Policy, Strategy and Internationalisation Unit, MCST
Ramona Saliba Scerri	Deputy Director – Policy, Strategy and Internationalisation, MCST
Richard Blundell	Strategy & Policy Executive – Policy, Strategy and Internationalisation, MCST
Jennifer Cassingena Harper	Consultant - Policy, Strategy and Internationalisation Unit, MCST

## PSF Expert Panel and Support Team

Niels Stern	Chair
Daniel Spichtinger	Rapporteur
Robert van der Vooren	Expert
Natalia Manola	Expert
Elma Dujso	Background report author
Petra Kennedy	EC Co-ordinator Officer
Andrea Grisilla	Project Manager, Technopolis

# Methodology

## Phase 1: **DESIGN and PREPARATION**

Selection of experts

Roadmap

Collection of background data and reports

Engagement of all relevant stakeholders



## Phase 2: **ANALYSING and UNDERSTANDING**

Background analysis: Background Report;

First country visit: assessment -> draft recos

Documents provided by the country  
authorities

Second country visit: feedback



## Phase 3: **REPORTING**

Discussion of draft Specific Support report  
with national authorities of the host  
country

Final report with recommendations  
Dissemination event: presentation to all  
relevant stakeholders



# Final Report

- Executive summary with key overarching policy messages
- Structure aligned to focus areas
- Evidence-based limited set of operational recommendations
- Rationale for the recommendations should be made explicit, in a very clear manner: logical flow from the diagnosis
- Case studies/country boxes (good practice examples)
- More detailed guidance in annexes



# Focus areas

## ***1. Definition of the vision, goals and scope of the National Open Access policy:***

- establishment of the type of research information, data and results to be made accessible
- consideration of the cut-off date for data
- identification of changes required in the national legislation

## ***2. Clarification of the requirements for implementation of the OA policy, including the setting-up of the required infrastructure and resources and the means for supporting and ensuring timely compliance:***

- construction of implementable guidelines on the setting-up of a national platform and repository, its governance, the investments involved and linking with European and international platforms
- identification of sub-optimalities in the resources
- identification of issues related to the FAIR use of data
- establishment of any required capacity building measures
- elaboration of an approach to engage Maltese stakeholders

# Indicative timeline

Background report	end August
1 <sup>st</sup> country visit	2-3-4/10/2019
1 <sup>st</sup> draft report	beginning November
Working meeting in Bxl	November
2 <sup>nd</sup> country visit	11-12/12/2019
Working meeting in Bxl	January 2020
Review of final draft report by EC and MT authorities	February 2020
Final validation of report by EC	March 2020
Dissemination event in Malta	April 2020 (first half?)



**Thank you**

**contact: [RTD-PSF@ec.europa.eu](mailto:RTD-PSF@ec.europa.eu)**

**<https://rio.jrc.ec.europa.eu/en/policy-support-facility>**