



Malta.
A Regional Centre
for Strategic Investment
and Doing Business.



MALTAENTERPRISE

Located in the centre of the Mediterranean, the Maltese Islands have been traditionally known for their thriving tourism industry. Their strategic location, a clear political commitment to ensure sustainable economic development and the islands' highly qualified workforce, have ensured that the Maltese Islands' become increasingly respected in the areas of trade and investment.

In recent years, Malta has demonstrated both economic resilience as well as an ability to thrive. In fact, Government has developed a clear strategy for sustainable economic development through Vision 2015 and Beyond, identifying key sectors with high growth potential and the way in which Government plans to support their consolidation and success. These sectors include, but are not limited to, advanced manufacturing, life sciences (including the biotechnological, pharmaceutical and chemical industries), transport and advanced logistics, tourism, international education services, information and communication technology (including digital games development), financial services and creative industries.

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

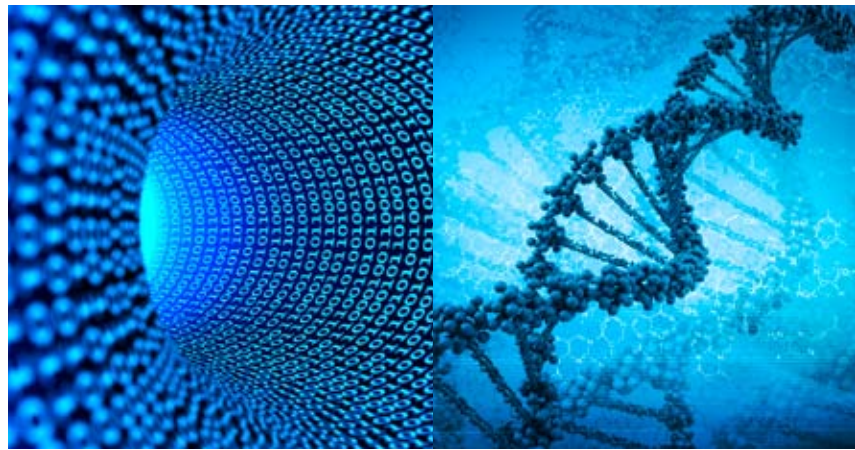
As an island with no natural resources to speak of with the exception of its workforce, Malta has moved from low-end manufacturing to high value-added operations over the last twenty years. Today, the industry is focused on high-end manufacturing such as precision engineering and electronics, pharmaceuticals and medical devices.

Close to 3,000 manufacturing and distribution companies operate in Malta, employing around 15 per cent of the labour force. The industry is made up of market leaders in high-tech production with a strong international reputation, transforming the islands into a centre of manufacturing excellence in the Mediterranean. Among those that have made Malta their home one can find important names such as Methode Electronics, Trelleborg and Abertax Quality.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Malta is one of the fastest growing financial services centres in the world. Financial services and financial intermediation account for approximately 12% of GDP and this figure is expected to double within the next decade. The country also provides a high level of tax efficiency thanks to a full imputation system as well as double taxation treaties with over 58 countries worldwide.

In addition, the country is also a highly attractive jurisdiction for the establishment of international structures of corporate holdings, having been very active in the area of fiduciary duties, especially those arising from the creation of trusts and foundations. Hedge fund licences have increased substantially, from four in 2004 to 400 today. In the current





Birgu Waterfront



Mellieha



Malta FreePort



Hal Safi Aviation Park

challenging economic and financial climate being faced by many European countries, the islands offer both opportunities as well as security for those seeking to enter the insurance sector.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

In recent years, Malta's ICT industry went through a period of consolidation that resulted in an impressive expansion of the sector. With an approximate investment of €300 million, TECOM Dubai's Smart City project has certainly placed Malta on the map within the global ICT arena.

Malta can boast one of the most sophisticated and reliable ICT infrastructures in Europe; the islands have a great ability to provide qualified manpower at all levels, while at an academic level, hundreds of graduates in various ICT disciplines graduate from Malta's academic and training institutions on an annual basis.

TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Maritime

Malta's strategic location has meant that it has fast become one of the most important logistics centres within the region. An excellent infrastructure and port facilities for cargo and passenger transport have also contributed to the recognition of Malta as a leading logistics hub on the international level.

In fact, the islands are connected to over 165 ports on all continents and can boast the largest ship registry within the European Union, as well as one of the largest worldwide. The Malta Freeport is the third largest logistics centre in the Mediterranean region, handling 2.3 million TEUs annually and ranking among the 12 major European ports.

Aviation

Malta's award-winning international airport has regular and direct flights to major cities in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. The airport is located just 6km from the Freeport and only 15 minutes from the main industrial and commercial centres.

In addition, the country has invested €17 million in the Safi Aviation Park, a new aviation park of 200,000 square metres with direct access to the airport's runways and housing an aircraft servicing cluster.

LIFE SCIENCES: BIOTECHNOLOGY, PHARMACEUTICAL AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES

The Government of Malta is investing heavily to create an ideal environment for companies operating within the life sciences sector.

The BioMalta Campus, Malta's life sciences centre, is one of the latest developments within this ambitious project which will enable the creation of a research, development and innovation cluster on the islands. The project is being developed by Malta Enterprise in collaboration with the University of Malta and the national hospital, Mater Dei. With an investment of around €38 million, the project is strongly supported by fiscal and financial incentives and training aids that will be of great interest to companies that are active within the industry.



SmartCity

Why Malta?

Top 10 reasons to invest here

- Pro-business government with access to decision makers
- Sound economy
- Political and social stability
- Highly skilled English-speaking workforce
- International financial centre
- Excellent ICT infrastructure
- Advantageous corporate tax system
- Strong work ethic and high productivity levels
- Easy access to, and strong diplomatic and trade relations with, North Africa and the Middle East
- Safe and pleasant lifestyle

Interesting to Know...

- More than 200 foreign companies have already invested in Malta and are operating in the country
- Lufthansa, HSBC, Banif, Baxter, Combino Pharm, ST Microelectronics and Playmobil are just a few of the international companies operating successfully in Malta
- Malta is the only country in the European Union with a full imputation tax system
- There are 58 double taxation treaties in place between Malta and third countries
- Malta has the largest ship register in the European Union
- Malta is fast becoming a leading global financial services centre
- The new aviation park is set to establish Malta as a leader in the aircraft maintenance industry

Malta Enterprise - Your one stop to investing and doing business in Malta

If you are wondering about the opportunities and the business environment in Malta, Malta Enterprise is the place to start. Our mission is directed towards seeking potential investors while encouraging existing ones to grow and internationalise their business out of Malta. Due to the Island's geo-strategic location, we also work hard to establish Malta as a trading-hub either for extra-EU companies to gain foothold into Europe or for European countries to establish a near-shoring hub for business in North Africa and the Near East.

Who are we?

Malta Enterprise is the national economic development agency responsible for promoting and facilitating international investment in the Maltese Islands by offering investors excellent business opportunities and tailored services. The Malta Enterprise network operates in various countries around the globe, with offices or representations in embassies and consulates in Europe, North Africa, the Middle East, Asia, the United States and Australia. The Corporation also coordinates initiatives to promote the Islands' economic growth attractiveness.

INCENTIVES AND INVESTMENT ASSISTANCE

Malta offers excellent investment packages developed to ensure that companies have a greater chance of success. The main incentives include:

1. Financial Instruments.

- Soft loans
- Loan guarantees
- Interest rate subsidies (bringing rates down to between 1 and 3.5%)

2. Investment Aid.

Companies operating in certain key sectors can benefit from tax credits on capital expenditure and human resources. Investment assistance is calculated on the cost of tangible and intangible assets of an initial investment project or the value of employment generated.

3. R&D&I Programmes.

Malta offers various incentives and assistance options to encourage innovative companies to invest in R&D projects. Such projects are eligible for tax credits on industrial research, experimental development and registration of intellectual property, and in the case of inter-regional collaboration, could also benefit from co-financing assistance.

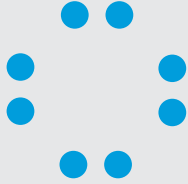
4. Employment and Training.

Incentives to support companies hire new employees and train their staff are also available, including:

- Incentives for job creation for new graduates and unemployed persons, including those who fall within the 'disadvantaged' and 'disabled' categories.
- Training assistance through the provision of scholarships for employees.



Malta



Flexible. Effective.
Innovative. Creative.
Stable. Adaptive.
Efficient. Supportive.

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