



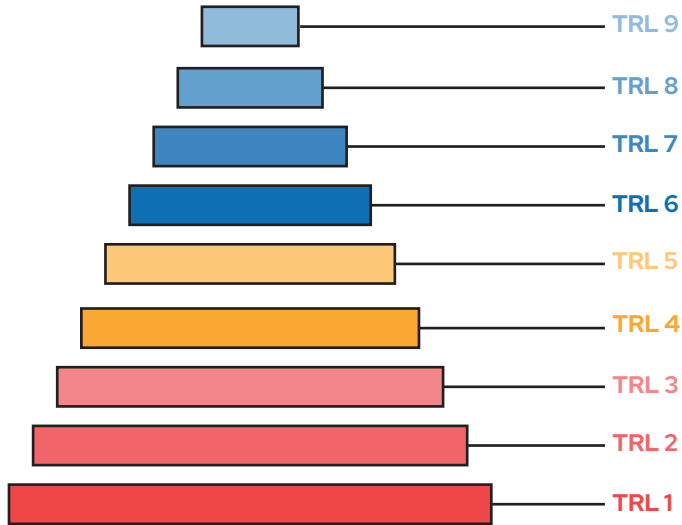
XJENZA
MALTA

Funding Programmes

R&I Unit

Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

Funding schemes within the R&I Unit span across both early stage and applied research, thus targeting research between TRL 1 – TRL 8.



TRL 9

System Proven in an Operational Environment

TRL 8

System Completed & Qualified

TRL 7

System Prototype Demonstrated in the intended Environment

TRL 6

Technology Demonstrated in a Relevant Environment

TRL 5

Technology Validated in a Relevant Environment

TRL 4

Technology Validated in a Lab

TRL 3

Experimental Proof of Concept

TRL 2

Technology Concept Formulation

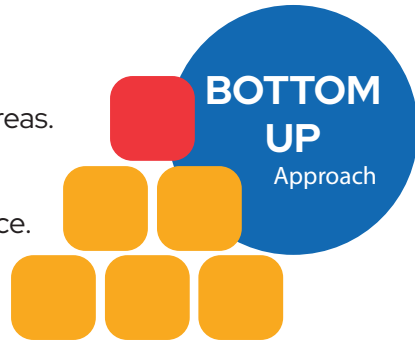
TRL 1

Basic Principles Observed

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE PROGRAMME (REP)

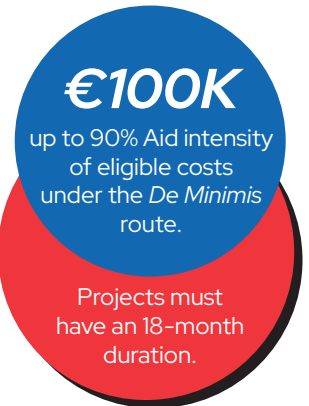
SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

- This programme follows a bottom-up approach and is non-theme based.
- Spans across a broad range of scientific areas.
- Intended for projects at an early stage of research, having high scientific excellence along with national & international relevance.



EARLY STAGE RESEARCH

This funding scheme spans from TRL 1 up to TRL 4. These TRLs go from basic principles observed (TRL 1) to scientific & process validation in laboratory setting (TRL 4).



TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (TDP)

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme enables the improvement of a product or service via extensive collaboration in consortia composed of public entities and industry players. It provides financial support for research, development and innovation within the SMART Specialisation Areas.

FUNDING

€500K

up to 75% aid intensity under the *De Minimis* route OR up to 60% aid intensity under the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) route.

Projects must have a 24-, 30- or 36-month

€14K
+VAT

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CHECK

Identification of novel elements of the technology.

Duration: 4 weeks

FEASIBILITY & COMMERCIALISATION

Assessment on market research & economic impact.

Duration: 12 weeks



TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL

To apply for this funding scheme, your technology must already be at TRL 4 and must increase to TRL 7 by the end of the project. These TRLs go from technology validated in the lab (TRL 4) to system prototype demonstration in an operational environment (TRL 7).

GO TO MARKET ACCELERATOR PROGRAMME (GTM Acc)

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme supports the verification and validation activities of novel prototypes for optimisation within the market. Intended as the final stage of the fusion portfolio to bridge the gap between research and the market.

FUNDING

€150K

up to 60% aid intensity under the GBER route.

Projects must have a 24-month duration

€14K
+VAT

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CHECK

Identification of novel elements of the technology.

Duration: 4 weeks

FEASIBILITY & COMMERCIALISATION

Assessment on market research & economic impact.

Duration: 12 weeks



TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL

To apply for this funding scheme, your technology must already be at TRL 5 or 6 and must increase to TRL 7 to 8 by the end of the project.

These TRLs go from technology demonstrated (TRL 5) and validated in their relevant environment (TRL 6) to system prototype demonstration (TRL 7) and completion (TRL 8).

TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME LITE (TDP LITE)

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme facilitates expedited applied research in the development of novel products or processes.

AIM OF THE PROGRAMME

It aims at optimising the potential commercial impact on both the Maltese & foreign markets.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

- This funding programme is open to sole entities (non-collaborative).
- This programme has both a state aid & non-state aid route.
- To apply for this funding scheme, your technology must already be at least TRL level 4.



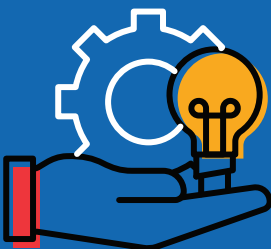
FUNDING
€200K

up to 75% aid intensity
under the *De Minimis* route
OR up to 60% aid intensity
under the GBER route.

Projects
must have a
12- or 18-month
duration

TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL

To apply for this funding scheme, your technology must already be at TRL 4 and must increase to TRL 7 by the end of the project. These TRLs go from technology validated in the lab (TRL 4) to system prototype demonstration in an operational environment (TRL 7).



INNOVATION 4 INDUSTRY



INNOVATION
FOR INDUSTRY

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme is a non-TRL-based funding initiative targeted towards the private sector for innovative product and/or process improvement.

Drive applied innovation through product and process improvement.

- Strengthen the private sector's R&D and innovation capabilities.
- Support incremental innovation projects that enhance industrial efficiency and output.

MAX 40%
PROJECT VALUE
SUBCONTRACTING

INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA STREAM PRIVATE HEI COLLABORATION SAFEGUARD YOUR IP

- Encourage private-HEI partnerships for applied innovation.
- Promote technology transfer and knowledge sharing.
- Foster Private - Higher Education Institutes partnerships in a low-risk environment.
- Assist in the improvement of current processes/products within industry.

TALENT INTEGRATION TOP-UP

M.Sc / Ph.D RESEARCHERS

ATTRACT & RETAIN TALENT LONG-TERM INTEGRATION

- Increase the uptake of specialised researchers within the private sector.
- Build in-house R&D capacity and promote knowledge-driven innovation.
- Bridge the gap between research expertise and industrial application.
- Support the creation of stable, innovation-focused employment.
- Drive long-term competitiveness through human capital investment.

FUNDING
€150K

up to 75% aid intensity
under the De Minimis route
OR up to 60% aid intensity
under the GBER route.

Projects must have
a 12- or 18-month
duration.

€40K
TOP UP

RESEARCH NETWORKING SCHEME



SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme offers research support opportunities consisting of National and/or International Networking scheme along with the Open Access Journal Support.



INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING SCHEME (INS)

Support beneficiaries to pursue networking activities that are occurring outside of Malta

LOCAL NETWORKING SCHEME (LNS)

- Malta - Malta networking
- Malta - Foreign networking
- Malta- Foreign networking with diaspora researcher

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL SUPPORT

Supports beneficiaries of Xjenza Malta research grants to publish their research in an open access journal

LOCAL NETWORKING SCHEME (LNS)

€ 8,000

OPTION 1

Two or more Maltese entities collaborating to host local events.

€ 8,000

OPTION 2

A Maltese entity collaborates with a foreign entity to host a local event in Malta, with the participation of other Maltese entities.

+
€ 2,000

TOP-UP

If the foreign collaborator, is a Maltese diaspora researcher

UNDER DE
MINIMIS AT

100%

INTENSITY

12-MONTH
DURATION

- Organising seminars, workshops, training sessions or conferences in Malta
- Carrying out joint activities that bring together multiple Maltese entities.
- Strengthening connections with Maltese researchers working or studying abroad

International Networking Scheme (INS)

Provides funding for networking between a Maltese entity and one foreign counterpart of proven track record

Networking activities are to be occurring outside of Malta and it includes researchers participating in international networking opportunities such as:

- Conferences
- Workshops
- On-site training or
- Research placements.

Eligible costs under this option are flights, conference admission fees and subsistence

FUNDING
UNDER
DE MINIMIS AT
100%
INTENSITY

UP TO
€8,000

12-MONTH
DURATION

OPEN ACCESS JOURNAL SUPPORT

Supports researchers, who have already benefited from Xjenza Malta research grants to publish their research in a peer-reviewed open access journal

When applying for the open access scheme, the journal article can be already submitted but not published prior to the signing of the Grant Agreement.

12 MONTH DURATION

Reimbursement can be claimed not more than a year after award.

Funding under De Minimis at 100% aid intensity with reimbursement

UP TO
€4,000

VOUCHER PROGRAMME

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme offers assistance to researchers depending on the stage of research in the form of 'vouchers' to the FUSION portfolio. This programme will not have a fixed call period, and will be indefinitely open until exhaustion of funds.

To start applying to the Voucher Programme, your technology must be at TRL 5 or above.



UP TO
€12K

BUSINESS PLAN

This will provide the financial and operational plan of a start-up whilst acting as a blueprint from time of launch to several years in the future.

Validity of voucher: 1 year **TRL 5-7**

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY REGISTRATION (IPR)

Levels of IPR: National Level, EU Level and International level.

Types of IPR:

- Trademark
- Copyright
- Industrial Design
- Trade Secrets
- Patent

UP TO
€20K

TRL 5+

Validity of Voucher: 3.5 years

MARKET DISCOVERY

This will provide the right opportunities through which the technology/product/service can be showcased to potential investors.

Validity of voucher: 1 year

TRL 5+

UP TO
€4K

THEMATIC PROGRAMMES

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

This programme follows a top-down approach addressing topics of immediate national interest & particular market needs or failures. The thematic area for this programme is identified **annually** in collaboration with other Maltese public entities .

CANCER RESEARCH PROGRAMME - in collaboration with the Cancer Research and Innovation Hub Malta (CRIHM)

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

Top-down initiative focusing on health and well-being. The Cancer Research Programme aims to support capacity-building efforts related to cancer research in Malta.

FUNDING

€300K

up to 75% aid intensity under the *De Minimis* route
OR up to 60% aid intensity under the GBER route.

Projects must have a 36 month duration



TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL

Research between TRL 1 and TRL 7

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME – in collaboration with the Malta Digital Innovation Authority (MDIA)

SCOPE OF THE PROGRAMME

Top-down initiative focusing on digital technologies. The Digital Technologies Programme aims to support capacity-building efforts related to measure 10 and 11 of the draft realigned AI Vision and Strategy.

FUNDING

€200K

up to 75% aid intensity under the *De Minimis* route
OR up to 60% aid intensity under the GBER route.

Projects must have a 24-month duration



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