

Inclusive entrepreneurship trends and policies in Malta

This profile presents inclusive entrepreneurship data for Malta, including self-employment and entrepreneurship activity rates for women, youth and seniors. It also briefly describes recent inclusive entrepreneurship policy actions, including several new initiatives to support youth entrepreneurship.

Key trends: The self-employment rate was approximately equal to the European Union average in 2016 (13.2% vs. 14.0% for the EU). Similarly, the self-employment rates of key social target groups in Malta were similar to the EU average, including youth (3.0% vs. 4.2% for the EU) and seniors (19.1% vs. 18.5% for the EU). However, there was a large gender gap as men were nearly three times as likely to be self-employed as women (17.6% vs. 6.7% for women).

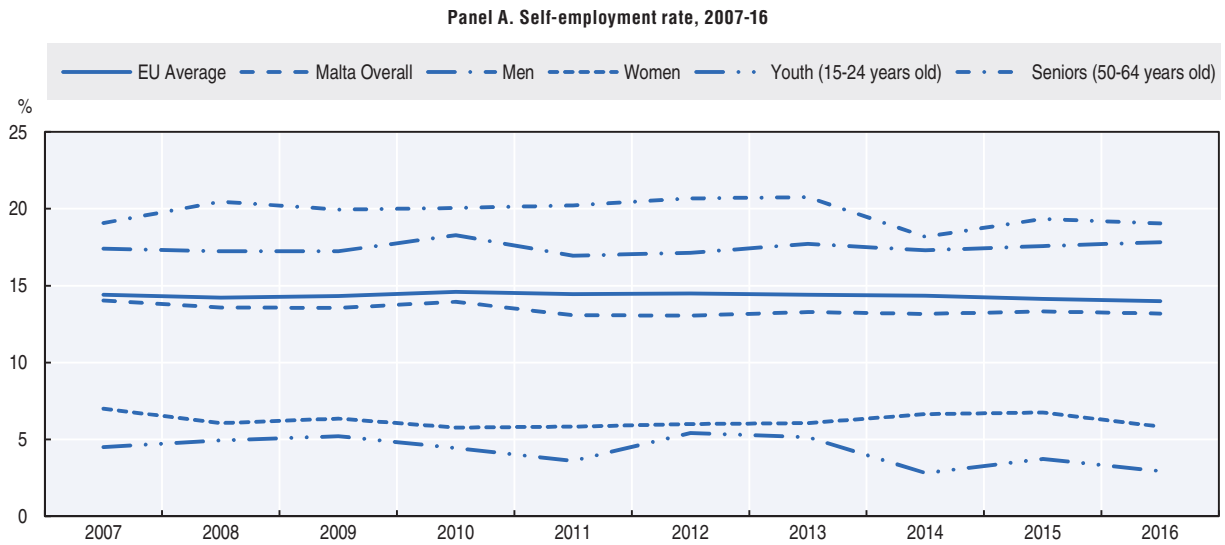
Hot issue: One of the ongoing policy debates that is relevant for inclusive entrepreneurship policy is about the need to strengthen recent efforts to embed entrepreneurship in schools. Although the National Curriculum Framework stipulates that “Education for Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation” should be merged into all learning areas through which the cross-curricular themes are to be embedded, teachers still require support in designing and delivering this education. The recent dissemination of a handbook is a good start but more teacher training is required and it would also help to set-up networks and mechanisms for good practice exchange.

Recent policy developments: The number of entrepreneurship support initiatives in Malta has increased substantially over the last decade, including several awareness-raising campaigns and entrepreneurship training programmes. Much of this new support is directed towards youth, notably students, under the National Youth Policy, which also emphasises the availability of entrepreneurship education. The proposal “Boosting Youth Entrepreneurship in Malta and the European Union” was presented to the Minister for the Economy, Investment and Small Business, the Minister for Education and Employment and the European Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs in 2016. There have also been recent actions to strengthen entrepreneurship education in the school system, including the introduction of “Education for Entrepreneurship, Creativity and Innovation” as a cross-curricular theme in the National Curriculum Framework”. These efforts are complemented by non-government organisations such as Junior Achievement-Young Enterprise (JA-YE) and Junior Chamber International Malta, which organise hack-a-thons, training sessions and business competitions.

The full Country Assessment Note can be found at: www.oecd.org/cfe/leed/inclusive-entrepreneurship.htm.


Key inclusive entrepreneurship data

Figure 27.1. Entrepreneurship and self-employment data for Malta



Notes: 1. The self-employment rate is defined as the number of self-employed people (15-64 years old) divided by the number of people in employment. 2. Malta has not participated in the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor survey so Panels B, C, D, E and F are not available.

Sources: Panel A: Eurostat (2017), Labour Force Survey, available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/lfs/data/database>.

StatLink  <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888933625395>

Reader's guide to the country profiles

This section of the book provides a short overview of inclusive entrepreneurship trends and recent policy actions in each European Union Member State. Each Country Profile highlights recent trends for key inclusive entrepreneurship indicators, focusing on activity rates, quality and barriers to business creation for people in under-represented and disadvantaged groups, drawing on a set of charts (see below). In addition, the Country Profiles briefly describe a current policy issue relevant for inclusive entrepreneurship policy development. Finally, each Country Profile describes a recent policy action that was introduced to support the unemployed, women, youth or seniors in business creation and self-employment.

The country overviews are complemented with a common set of country-specific data that benchmark key inclusive entrepreneurship indicators against the European Union average and over time. Data are presented for men, women, youth, seniors and the overall population total. These data help to show the scale of the challenge and its recent evolution. All Country Profiles contain six figures (except for the Malta profile, which does not participate in the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor survey):

Panel A: Self-employment rate, 2007-16. This presents the proportion of those in employment who are self-employed.

Panel B: Total Early-stage Entrepreneurship Activity (TEA) rate, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of the population who is actively involved in starting a business or who is the owner-operator of a business that is less than 42 months old.

Panel C: Proportion of TEA that is necessity entrepreneurship, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of early-stage entrepreneurship that was launched due to a lack of other opportunities in the labour market.

Panel D: Proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs whose products or services are new to all or some customers, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs who self-report that they offer products and/or services that are new to potential customers.

Panel E: Proportion of adults who perceive that they have the skills to start a business, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of the population who believe that they have the knowledge and skills needed to start a business.

Panel F: Proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs who expect to create more than 19 jobs in five years, 2012-16. This presents the proportion of early-stage entrepreneurs who anticipate the creation of at least 19 additional new jobs over the next five years.



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