



MALTA UNIVERSITY CONSULTING

EU Funding – a practical approach to accessing and managing it February 2014 (9 hours)

Course registration fee: €225

Dates: February 26; March 5th & 10th

Time: 1.30p.m. – 4.30p.m.

Venue: University Residence, Robert Mifsud Bonnici Street, Lija (ample parking space available)

Target audience: Representatives of organisations, be they private companies, public organisations, or NGOs, interested to explore the possibility of accessing EU funding to support the implementation of their activities and achievement of their objectives

Course objectives:

By the end of the course, the participants will have an understanding of:

- EU policies and their related funding instruments
- How to identify EU funding opportunities
- How to develop projects relevant to EU funding programmes
- The main characteristics of a successful EU project proposal
- How to join other project / funding proposals
- The application process stages and its requirements (administrative, technical and financial)
- Insight into the evaluation criteria and selection procedures applied
- The main principles to successfully plan and manage a project
- The main financial principles of EU funding programs and how to successfully manage the project's budget
- The main elements for a successful promotion of the project, dissemination and/or exploitation of its results
- The challenges of managing an EU funded programme as a coordinating beneficiary or as a partner

Insight into successfully implemented EU projects

Methods and Tools

- Presentations will be used to set the background of each topic and set the base for questions and discussion.
- Brainstorming and discussions will be used to encourage participants to share their ideas and experiences on the subject.
- Case studies and examples will be used so as to trigger discussion and to enhance understanding and practical understanding of the issues discussed.
- Group work will be used in order to facilitate practical application of the information received, as well as understanding or the team work necessary for the planning and implementation of a project.

Lecturer: Ms Anamaria Magri Pantea, holding an Honours Degree in Economics with specialisation in finance and a Master in Business Administration with Distinction, is a freelance consultant in EU funding, innovation management and business development. She has over 12 years of experience in projects structuring and funding sourcing, their initiation, coordination, supervision and evaluation. Ms Magri Pantea has extensive expertise in EU funding (facilitating access to, managing and monitoring its implementation), particularly in areas related to innovation, enterprise competitiveness, entrepreneurship, ICT, energy and sustainability. Ms Magri Pantea previously worked with Malta Investment Management Co. Ltd (MIMCOL), managed the Malta National Contact Point for the EU's Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, and worked directly with the European Commission within the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). Here she supported the development of the first three Knowledge and Innovation Communities-large pioneering projects bringing together in a long-term collaborative framework business, research and education organisations from across Europe to address current societal challenges (e.g. the use of ICT as an enabler, energy sustainability, climate change).

Certification: Participants who attend at least 80% of the sessions will be awarded a Certificate of Attendance issued by Malta University Consulting Ltd.

Contact Information: Malta University Consulting Ltd, University Residence, Lija, tel: 21240746/9982 9244;
Email: maria.bugeja@muhc.com.mt; website: www.muhc.com.mt.

COURSE PROGRAMME

Session 1

Overview of EU policies, main funding programmes and successful projects

- EU policies and their implementation instruments
- Basic principles of EU grants
- Centralised vs. decentralised funding programmes
- Overview of main funding programmes 2014-2020
 - Horizon 2020 and its SMEs dedicated scheme (research & innovation)
 - COSME (enhancing competitiveness of SMEs)
 - Erasmus+ (education, training, youth and sport)
 - Creative Europe (culture and creative industry support)
 - LIFE (environment and climate)
 - Programme MED (territorial cooperation in the Mediterranean area)
 - ENPI CBC MED (Mediterranean Sea Basin Neighbourhood Programme)
 - Structural Funds – ERDF & ESF
- Case studies of successful projects

Session 2

How to effectively devise an EU funding project proposal

- Proposals evaluation criteria and clarification of its interpretation
- Mapping organisational objectives against EU funding programmes
- Developing project ideas aligned with available funding programmes.
- Partnership identification or development
- Structuring a project proposal
- Project management; IPR management; communication, dissemination and exploitation principles
- Administrative requirements and process
- Group work on development of project proposal structure

Session 3

How to manage EU funded projects

- Project Life cycle – contracting, implementation, reporting, post-auditing
- Administrative, technical and financial obligations
- Technical and financial management principles
- Achieving the project objectives, communicating and exploiting results
- Reporting on activities, deliverables and costs
- Audit trail development and preservation
- Group discussion on EU funded projects implementation challenges and best practices