Malta. A Regional Centre for Strategic Investment and Doing Business.
Strategically located at the centre of the Mediterranean, the Maltese Islands have been traditionally known for their booming tourism industry. However, their important location, the clear political commitment to ensure sustainable economic activity and the islands’ highly qualified workforce, have ensured that Malta has 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 strategy for sustainable economic development success through Vision 2015 and Beyond, outlining the key sectors with high growth potential.

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Malta is one of the fastest growing centres in financial services. Today, financial services and financial intermediation account for around 12% of GDP, and this figure is expected to double within the next decade.

Taxation
Companies established in Malta benefit from an attractive tax environment, a full imputation system and double taxation treaties with more than 58 countries. Malta’s tax regime together with the country’s extensive network of agreements help investors achieve high levels of tax efficiency.

Banking
Malta is fast becoming an international banking centre. During the last decade, the sector has boomed, growing from one commercial bank that serves the local population to an international banking center of great renown.

Hedge funds
Malta’s excellent international reputation as a domicile for hedge funds begins with the island’s accession to the European Union in 2004. At that time there were only four hedge funds domiciled in Malta. Today, over 400 licenses have been issued for investment services.

Insurance
Malta is an attractive location for the establishment of insurance companies and reinsurance. In today’s challenging economic and financial situation faced by many European countries, the island offers opportunities and security for those seeking to enter the insurance sector.

Trusts
Malta is also a highly attractive jurisdiction for the establishment of international structures of corporate holdings. Both multinational groups as well as companies managed by their owners value the special legal structures offered by the country. In the last decade, Malta has been very active in the area of fiduciary duties, especially those arising from the creation of trusts and foundations.
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 EUR30 million, Smart City has also placed Malta on the map within the global ICT arena. Today, the ICT infrastructure of Malta is one of the most sophisticated and reliable in Europe. The island has a great ability to provide qualified manpower at all levels. Malta’s educational institutions churn out hundreds of graduates in various aspects of ICT annually.

TRANSPORT AND LOGISTICS

Maritime
Malta’s strategic location has made the island one of the most important logistics centers in the region. The right infrastructure and port facilities for cargo and passenger transport have contributed to the recognition of Malta as a leading logistics hub on the international level.

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. In fact, the Malta Freeport is the third largest logistics centre in the Mediterranean region, moving 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 6 miles from the Freeport and only 15 minutes from the main industrial and commercial centres.

In addition, the country has invested EUR17 million in the Safi Aviation Park, a new aviation park of 200,000 m² 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 a beneficial 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 sector. The project will enable the creation of a research, development & innovation cluster and is being developed by Malta Enterprise in collaboration with the University of Malta and the national hospital, Mater Dei. The project, with an investment of around EUR 38 million, is strongly supported by fiscal and financial incentives as well training aids that will be of great interest to companies that are active within the industry.
Why Malta?

Top 10 reasons to invest here
• Pro-business government with easy access to decision makers
• Nimble economy
• Political and social stability
• Highly skilled English-speaking workforce
• International finance 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, Combi Pharma, ST Microelectronics and Playmobil, among others, operate successfully in Malta
• Malta is the only country in the European Union with a full imputation system
• There are 58 double taxation treaties between Malta and third countries
• Malta has the largest ship register in the European Union
• Malta is fast becoming a leading global financial services industry
• The new aviation park will establish Malta as a leader in the aircraft maintenance industry

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.

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.
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
   - Loan interest subsidies
   - Interest subsidies with rates between 1 to 3.5%

2. Investment Aid.
   Companies operating in 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 human resources.

3. R&D&I Programmes.
   Malta offers various incentives to encourage innovative companies take-up projects in research and development. Such projects are eligible for tax credits on industrial research, experimental development and registration of intellectual property.

4. Employment and Training.
   Incentives to support companies hire new employees and train their staff.
   - Incentives for job creation for new graduates and unemployed people who belong to groups of disadvantaged and disabled.
   - Training assistance through provision of scholarships for employees.