

#### 1.4.4. Operational training in Malta



On 13 December 2019, a second operational and technical assistance plan, agreed by EASO and Malta, was signed, marking another year of support for and cooperation with the Maltese authorities. The Operating Plan targeted four areas of action within the field of asylum and reception, namely:

1. improving access to asylum procedures, including information provision, registration of applicants for international protection and timely screening and referral of vulnerable persons;
2. increasing the capacity to manage and reduce the asylum backlog at first instance determination;
3. increasing Malta's Dublin Unit capacity, whose main role is to determine the Member States responsible for analysing asylum requests, and
4. enhancing the capacity to implement reception standards in line with the CEAS (added in the course of 2020).

While the support provided as part of the Operating Plan of 2019 continued, 2020 saw additional support provided in the area of reception. This gave the TPDC an opportunity to develop, together with the national counterpart, specific training pathways for both staff members and EASO interim officers. The training provided under this measure was based on the results of an analysis of the specific tasks assigned to reception officials working in the Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers and the results of a tailor-made training needs assessment survey.

Furthermore, 2020 also saw continued cooperation with the International Protection Agency, the national agency responsible for receiving and processing asylum applications. The training delivered for the International Protection Agency was aimed at developing the skills of staff members and EASO interim officers. Outside the scope of the 2020 Operating Plan, EASO was also involved in the delivery of sessions as part of the onboarding programme for Maltese border guards.

178 participations

97 individuals

Overall, in 2020 EASO recorded 178 participations in its training sessions organised under the Operating Plan for Malta, with the highest number of trainees being interim case officers (50 participations), followed by EASO registration assistants (27) and EASO interim vulnerability experts (23).

Participations per target group under the operating plan for Malta in 2020

