

PRESENTATION OF THE NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY REPORT

BUSINESS BREAKFAST

Wednesday 17th April, 2024

The Ball Room - Westin Dragonara Resort

08:30 - 09:30	Breakfast and Registration
09:30 - 09:35	Welcome address by Perit David Xuereb Chairperson of the National Productivity Board
09:35 - 09:45	Address by Hon. Andy Ellul Parliamentary Secretary for Social Dialogue
09:45 - 10:15	Presentation by NPB consultants EMCS
10:15 - 11:15	Panel Discussion: Mr Andy Gatesy - Chairman and CEO, Toly Products Ltd Mr Mark Bajada - Chairman, BL Group of Companies Prof Joe Borg - Faculty of Health Sciences - Dept. of Applied Biomedical Science, University of Malta and Founder of Spaceomix Ltd. Ms Ruth DeBricat - Senior Director, Policy and Employment Relations - Malta Skills Council
11:15 - 11:30	Interventions from the floor
11:30	Conclusion by Perit David Xuereb

BRIEF | NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY BOARD

The National Productivity Board is an independent institution that helps to analyse developments and challenges related to economic productivity and competitiveness.

The National Productivity Board effectively fulfils the objectives outlined in the European Union, Council recommendation concerning National Productivity Boards. Its primary task is to diagnose and analyse productivity and competitiveness developments in Malta, considering both the euro area and the European Union as reference points. The analysis encompasses long-term drivers and facilitators of productivity and competitiveness, such as innovation, investment attraction, business environment, and human capital. It also examines cost and non-cost factors that can impact prices and the quality of goods and services, even in comparison to global competitors in the short term. The analysis relies on transparent and comparable indicators to ensure robustness and accuracy.

Additionally, the Board engages in independent analysis of policy challenges related to productivity and competitiveness. It assesses the potential effects of various policy options and makes explicit trade-offs when formulating policies.

Furthermore, the National Productivity Board is responsible for preparing the annual report, which is submitted to the European Commission on a yearly basis. This report, along with other national reports, contributes to the European Semester process.

The focus of this year's Annual National Productivity report is on assessing the relationship between wages and productivity in Malta.

Specific importance was given to key economic sectors due to significant variation across sectors when it comes to both average wages as well as productivity. One of the key findings of this analysis is that the current trajectory of labour productivity and wages in Malta stands in contrast to the prevailing trends observed in other European Union countries as indicated by a lower relationship between productivity increase and wage increase in Malta when compared to the EU average.

The report is structured into five chapters, covering aspects such as the economic overview of Malta, human capital and skills analysis, relevant research, innovation and digitalization indicators and indices, an econometric model to assess the relationship, and ten S.M.A.R.T. recommendations derived from the analysis.