Research Objectives

The research focused on:

• quantifying the number of people giving voluntary service,

• establishing an average time these individuals invest in voluntary service,

• providing information on the issue of participation; and

• outlining the preferred areas of volunteering.
• This research was carried out by means of a telephone survey among 500 respondents residing in Malta and Gozo who were randomly selected.

• The questionnaire was designed by MISCO International and was based on a detailed brief from the client.

• Fieldwork was carried out on the 1st of April 2016.

• Eligible respondents were considered to be those aged 18 years old and over. A quota on age, gender and region was applied to ensure a good representation.
• Respondents were asked whether they are active in the voluntary sector.

• They were provided with a definition of MCVS’ understanding of voluntary sector.

  “By voluntary activity we are understanding any activity you perform outside of your job and/or household duties. It may be related to charity, faith, arts, sports or any other sector.”

Base: 500 respondents (all)
Ref: Q1
Participants
There was a somewhat even distribution across all age groups.

It is interesting to note that this distribution is somewhat reflective of the manner how Malta’s population is distributed by age.

Base: 97 respondents
(individuals active in the voluntary sector)
• The majority of respondents (51%) are active with the ‘Social and Humanitarian’ voluntary sector.

• Individuals aged 18-24 years seem less likely to be active in the above sector (32%). Compared to older ages they are likely to be more involved in other sectors.
• Individuals active in the voluntary sector spend different amounts of time per month contributing towards this activity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Invested</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5 hours</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-10 hours</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-15 hours</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16-20 hours</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-30 hours</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30+ hours</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't Know</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Base: 97 respondents (individuals active in the voluntary sector)
Ref: Q3
• Half of the respondents (50%) claimed that they are active in the voluntary sector since they would like to be helpful.

- To be helpful: 50%
- Satisfaction: 36%
- Giving something back to society: 32%
- Passion (towards particular area): 32%
- To gain experience: 7%
- To meet others: 7%
- To keep me busy: 7%
- No particular reason: 2%

Base: 97 respondents (individuals active in the voluntary sector)
Ref: Q4
Non-Participants
Respondents who are not active in the voluntary sector were asked whether they would consider to be active in the future.

- **Yes**: 35%
- **No**: 61%
- **Don't know**: 4%

**Base**: 403 respondents (individuals not active in the voluntary sector)

**Ref**: Q5
Three quarters (77%) claimed that a lack of time is what keeps them back from being active in the voluntary sector.

- Not enough time: 77%
- Not fit: 8%
- Not interested: 7%
- Not aware where to get involved: 4%
- I do not enjoy being with others: 1%
- No particular reason: 6%
- Don't know: 1%

Base: 403 respondents
(Individuals not active in the voluntary sector)
Ref: Q6
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
• Almost one fifth of the Maltese population (19%) claim to be involved in the voluntary sector.

• At least a third (35%) of non-participants would consider future participation.

• No particular age differences were recorded. This may be considered as being a positive finding. The lack of a specific trend may indicate that the number of participants in the voluntary sector will remain stable.
Thank you

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