

VOPS Summaries 2023

ops ref. Numb	Name of organisation	Vo number	Name of project	summary
A1.01	#Zibel	VO/1465	Zibel Creative Hub	<p>The project Zibel Studio incorporates two key pillars of the eNGOs mission; collection of marine plastics and sustainability. The first phase of the project is, seventeen bins for marine plastics will be deployed in different coastal localities in Malta. Through collaboration with local councils, clean up efforts by citizens will be mobilised, through diving, snorkeling and beach combing, using the bins as collection points. A key aspect of this phase is to promote volunteering, providing How To guides, and Zibel clean up bags to empower people to clean up their coastal areas and raise awareness about the impact of pollutants in the environment. In the second phase of the project, materials in the bins will be collected periodically, and transported to Zibel Studio. This space will act as a creative hub for the storage and reuse of marine plastics, making it the first marine plastics reuse facility in Malta.</p>
A1.02	Arthritis and Rheumatism Association Malta	VO/0425	The Advantages of Shared-Decision Making both for the patient and Care Provider	<p>ARAM wants to introduce Shared decision-making on national level for patients suffering from Chronic conditions like Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs). These patients go through great pain and in order for them to regain their life back they need Treatment. This treatment usually can be defined into three categories: a) Changing something in your treatment or b) Changing some of the treatment you are receiving or c) Changes in your lifestyles. In order for ARAM to achieve this goal it needs to borrow the Research conducted by the VO of Netherland that showed that more than 80% of the patients would like to decide with their doctor/nurse the treatment which fits best in their situation. This process of deciding together is called Shared decision-making. Patients who decides with their doctor/nurse has several advantages. 1) The patient will know better why the treatment was chosen 2) There will be less uncertainty about the treatment option and 3) It is likely that patients will comply better with their treatment agreed and hence will be able to handle side-effects better. Introducing this shared decision-making can prevent other factors and the patient can be guided to understand better its advantages to achieve a better life.</p>
A1.03	Assocjazzjoni Sport Muturi u Karozzi	VO/0251	Malta Motocross Academy	<p>The sport of motocross involves riders riding specialized motorcycles on a track made of soil and tilled earth. The track itself consists of corners, jumps and bumps that the rider must negotiate throughout the race. The principal objective of this project is to create awareness of such sport among children and youths. With such project we will be giving the opportunity to children and youths to try the sport in a safe and closed environment using electric motocross bikes while accompanied by trained instructors. For this project we will be acquiring specialized electric motocross motorcycles for children and youths, together with the appropriate clothing such as helmets, boots and chest, back and knee protectors. Training sessions will be held at primary and secondary schools by qualified motocross coaches.</p>
A1.04	CORE Platform	VO/1204	Malta Diversity & Inclusion Charter	<p>This Charter is a commitment in favour of diversity and inclusion among the employees, which must benefit from equal treatment and opportunities, irrespective of sex, race, colour, ethnic or social origin, genetic features, language, religion or belief, political or any other opinion, membership of a national minority, property, birth, disability, age or sexual orientation. The entities signing this charter commit to: Implementing an HR policy where diversity is regarded as a source of enrichment, innovation, and creativity and where inclusion is promoted by managers and all staff. Secure equal opportunities at every step of the career, through selection and recruitment, procedures, and mobility. Exclude any kind of discrimination, and promote the enforcement of this principle at every level of the entity, in line with the Staff Regulations. Heighten managers' and Human Resource services' awareness of any barriers that can prevent individuals from succeeding. Communicate widely and to each colleague the commitment to implement a diversity and inclusion policy, and deliver regular and detailed follow-ups of the results.</p>
A1.05	Dar Guzeppa Debono	VO/0674	The 3 Missions	<p>The main aim of this project is to increase awareness and enhance knowledge on the difference between having a job, pursuing a career and being on a mission. The project will target three different groups, having three different missions: - Professionals who assist soon to be parents, using their mission to assist in the best ways those that will have a new mission; - Those who are new parents, thus assisting them in their new mission; and - Parents who have teenage children to assist their children in finding the right mission in their life. It will include the following activities: - Workshops for new parents by professionals; - Sessions with post-secondary students; - Online workshops and follow-up one to one sessions for parents whose children are at Year 6 up to post-secondary schools; - Building of new material online to be available for all; - Full day conference including follow-up session, presenting research and policy recommendations targeting professionals; - Final report for the Committee at DGD to ensure sustainability of the services</p>

A1.06	Depiro Sports Club	VO/1825	Safe Sport	<p>The project aims to create a safe and inclusive environment where all participants have the opportunity to express their potential. The projects targets to empower volunteers in the safety and inclusive domains. The project will involve entities (Local Council, Agenzija Sapport, Community Police, Primary School) that are working in collaboration with our sports club where they will be offered to train their staff too (if they do not take the opportunity other NGOs will be invited). The project will involve the buying of medical and safety equipment which will be complimented with training courses for staff and volunteers. Safe Sport includes the buying of specialized equipment that can be used for participants with special needs, which will also be complimented with training. Safe Sport will also engage experts to upgrade policies and practices that safe guard participants in an inclusive environment. The project will recruit staff that will help and support program participants that need more help to integrate and learn from our programs. Dissemination of good practices will be shared with other NGOs.</p>
A1.07	Fondazzjoni għall-Patrimonju Kulturali tal-Arċidjoċesi ta' Malta	VO/1288	Mdina Museum Outreach	<p>The Mdina Museum Outreach Programme being proposed for funding under the VOPS scheme has 2 main objectives: 1. Call for museum Volunteers and staff and volunteer training 2. The organisation of outreach events. The project is aimed at attracting volunteers who would be ready to spend time at the museum as information helpers and visit facilitators. Once engaged they will require training to be able to provide information about the various collections and highlights in the museum. A fast-track route aimed at visitors who have a limited time whilst visiting the museum will be developed. This will be especially useful for the hundreds of cruise line visitors who often do not have more than 30 minutes to visit the museum. A major our reach event will be created in order to attract potential visitors to the Museum</p>
A1.08	Fondazzjoni Sagħtar	VO/1824	Il-Malti bl-AI	<p>Fondazzjoni Sagħtar is establishing itself as a leading organisation in promoting literacy. Following the reissue of the popular children's magazine "Sagħtar", the Sagħtar portal as well as the Sagħtar app (funded through VOPS), the Foundation is planning to widen its services through the adoption of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education. AI is already part of our daily lives, through social media advertising, mobile assistants and smart homes. However, the use of AI in education is still in its infancy and is gaining ground thanks to work carried out by the University of Malta, which has already created an AI in Mathematics. Using AI in teaching languages is challenging, and a project using AI for Maltese language teaching would be a first for the country. The proposed project involves a standalone mobile app that provides a platform for a refresher course for Maltese in Primary years 4 to 6. The platform will be powered by an AI whereby the progress of students shall be gauged automatically by assessing student abilities and providing a 'curricular diet' which is personalised for the student. It will use the current syllabi of the primary years whilst utilising the Sagħtar magazine content as its resource.</p>
A1.09	Friends of the Earth Malta	VO/0091	Comino Educational Campaign	<p>The project proposed by Friends of the Earth Malta (FoEM), aims to create the material necessary for a long-term educational campaign about Comino. It aims to educate the public on the importance of the Natura 2000 site's protection, and how to enjoy the island responsibly. FoEM will seek the expertise of professionals including a graphic designer, website designer, copywriter, translator, photographer, videographer and illustrator to help create the visual and written material for the campaign. A market research specialist will conduct focus groups related to the campaign. A knowledgesharing session will be led by the specialist sharing the findings with FoEM's team and VOs who are working on the issue of Comino. This session thereby ensures that FoEM is investing in the skills of our members and the wider voluntary sector. The project concludes with the creation of a visual identity toolkit will be shared internally and the graphic designer will lead a skill-sharing session. In addition, the web-designer will offer a workshop on updating the new website. By the end of the project FoEM's team will have gained the knowledge and skills required to upkeep the campaign independently beyond the funding period.</p>
A1.10	Generation (Change?)	VO/2049	All Hands on Deck	<p>The "All hands on deck" project is a restoration of a wooden sailing boat. The project puts focus on young people getting active and learning about cultural heritage and sustainability by being in solidarity with others. For the implementation of the project the organisation will cooperate with the local community and professionals with expertise in the fields of sustainability, craftsmanship and youth work. Through this project we would like to achieve a greater sense of inter generational collaboration within the local community, as well as highlighting the historical value of the maritime scene in Malta and finally provide the knowledge and skills to the young people involved that will increase their future employment prospects. Activities include, five workshops that each have an individual theme (Carpentry, Painting, Nautical knowledge, Knots, Life skills) that caters to the skills required for the renovation of the boat and that also tackle the different interpersonal skills required in everyday. The restoration of the boat is used as a tool for the young people to improve their life skills.</p>

A1.11	ghaqda festa ghajn tuta	VO/1462	MIX (MICS) Malta Italy Culture Sharing	Ghaqda Ghajn Tuta is seeking to create a new cultural experience for both local and visiting residents. The Kercem community, is seeking to enter into a twinning agreement with a locality from Italy, Soriano nel Cimino. This locality has a group of Sbandieratori, a group, who we already had the opportunity to speak with, and following discussions with them, they are willing to guide us and help us form a musical group that will have a mixture of both Maltese and Italian Culture. With the help of a local artist and a professional Conductor we will create a suitable choreography for our newly developed group to focus on. For this initiative the appointed local artist needs to plot designs for the costumes to be worn, the group's emblem, and also help in the formation of the choreography. We are committed to focus all designs on the chevalier times. The appointed Conductor will be the leader. Our group will be fundamental to help Kercem's community to sign the twinning's contract, and also take the initiative to Share some of their culture in our locality. This project will also help to develop a new discipline for our children and youths.
A1.12	Ghaqda Muzikali Sant`Andrija	VO/0395	Pass it On	The project involves an intergenerational knowledge transfer in three distinct areas where the organisation holds core competences, namely in (i) crib building; (ii) artisanship and (iii) music. The project is constituted of three interlocking initiatives, aimed at enticing youths and youngsters to the organisation, provide training and facilitate the transgenerational relationship. Music: Enticing youngsters to music is becoming a harder challenge by the day. The initiative involves a concert specifically for children and their parents. In this concert we will feature the Carnival of the Animals, music written purposely for children. The concert will involve animators and the participation of the young audience. Crib Making: The organisation has a core competence in crib construction, (winner of a number of local and international awards in this field). This core competence is however vested in a number of senior citizens. Through the organisation of a course in professional crib making earmarked for youths, we will strive to transfer the skills involved to the younger generation. Artisanship: Similarly to the crib making, the initiative involves the organisation of courses in gilding, faux marbling, carpentry and flag sewing.
A1.13	Ghaxaq FC Youth Nursery	VO/0669	Creating a safer, healthier and more inclusive environment to our members	The idea of this project is to increase the capacity building of the GHAXAQ Football Nursery which has been set up 20 years ago but never did that step forward to attract more youth and children from our community. We are proposing to try to include as much children as possible being them coming from families from different classes of our society. We will try to eliminate any barriers for these children to be part of our nursery. We are proposing to invest in our infrastructure to have a safer place where to train our children by using Veco camera during football sessions so to ensure that children are safe from any bullying. We intend to provide health and safety courses and First aid courses both to our coaches, volunteers and children. We also intend to make a campaign of healthy eating to our members whereby we intend to hold lectures for healthy eating and also provide healthy food to our footballers.
A1.14	Hospice Malta	VO/0062	Hospice Community Services	The services provided are various and include treatment to alleviate pain, providing symptom relief and control, as well as psychological, emotional, social and spiritual support. Once the patient is treated at home, the requirement of hospitalisation is substantially reduced and thus resulting in less burden on the national health system. It is therefore absolutely necessary that in order to reach more patients at the comfort of their homes, the professional care team requires an efficient means of transport. Apart from having an assigned driver for specific regions to ensure efficacy, Hospice Malta also already possesses a number of vehicles that the professional team uses for the said visits. Over the years, these are properly maintained and serviced. However, a number of these vehicles (with over 20 years in use) require replacement as the repairs are extensive. Thus, the project aim is to replace the mentioned vehicles by hybrid vehicles that will serve the purpose of the service provision. The project entails the purchase of hybrid vehicle for improved efficiency to converse energy with less carbon emissions. The attainment of such vehicles will ensure that Maltese and Gozitan citizens continue to receive palliative care services within their own home.
A1.15	Junior Achievement Young Enterprise	VO/0705	Youth Work Readiness	Our project, running from March to October, targeting youths aged between 15 and 30, will address the work-readiness skills gap through a series of podcasts, events and video clips. Each episode will tackle a different aspect of work-readiness, such as work ethics, rights and obligations. New jobs and industries, such as green jobs, will also be explored. We will promote entrepreneurship as both an effective mindset for the workplace, and a viable alternative to traditional employment. Youth volunteers will assist in the production of each show, contributing to their work-readiness in a concrete manner. Ideally, a percentage of the students will be from disadvantaged backgrounds. The short video clips will be produced to reach our target demographic, raising awareness of entrepreneurship and financial literacy as two key future skills. Additionally, we will organise a launch event, training sessions, and a mini Career Expo. Lastly, we will be asking leaders to invite youth to their offices for a Job Shadow Day, which will increase their practical exposure. We plan to keep on running the podcast, creating additional seasons, after the project's completion through sponsorships. This will increase our project's sustainability, while also maximising its ongoing impact on the local community.

A1.16	Malta Dementia Society	VO/0539	DancingtoDementia	Curated according to interventions proposed in the National Dementia Policy, DancingtoDementia is a community service project which envisions humanising the care for people living with dementia and providing respite for their carers through specialised dance sessions within care homes. In collaboration with Dance Beyond Borders Foundation, the Malta Dementia Society aims to provide for individuals with dementia living in residential care homes. This project will provide training to ten dance facilitators who will deliver sessions in Malta and Gozo together with the assistance of intergenerational volunteers. These sessions build an extensive research showing that dancing and music are non-pharmacotherapeutic approaches that significantly lower challenging behaviour in people living with dementia. Furthermore, dancing has the ability to improve physical function and autonomy in people living with dementia. Moreover, the social experience of the dance sessions can be an uplifting and joyous experience.
A1.17	Malta Health Network	VO/0076	"To be seen and to be heard"	Following a comprehensive Communications and Marketing Strategy proposal developed thanks to funding through ENISIE project, MHN is seeking to do this project to implement crucial parts of this strategy. The project will mainly involve the production including storyboarding, scripting, infographics, animation and editing of 4-6 30second videos. These videos will be promoted through a launch event. Then these will be disseminated as much as possible through our Website, Social media including You Tube but also other means. This project aims to utilise both traditional and digital media to reach specific segments of the general public, through TV, and radio targeting primarily adults over 40 years of age, as well as complimentary online campaigns on various social media platforms to also reach 18+ audiences
A1.18	Malta LGBTIQ Rights Movement	VO/0039	Across the Spectrum	In 2023 Malta will host Europride and as part of those activities, MGRM wishes to create a documentary which records the many and diverse voices of the LGBTIQ community and how they understand and articulate many of the central themes/concepts which underscore Maltese life, concepts which heteronormative societies often take for granted. As an example, the documentary will delve into how LGBTIQ people view the concept of family, what family means to them and how their views of family overlap or differ from established definitions. Other themes (to be decided during the workshop) will allow us a snapshot of where the community is, its needs and the challenges it still faces. Through the documentary we intend to build an understanding of the diversity of LGBTIQ voices, the diversity of opinions about many concepts which are often taken for granted and also explore how the LGBTIQ voices often reflect or mirror traditional voices and challenge the notion that the LGBTIQ community represents 'the other' in modern Maltese society. The documentary will serve as a window into the voice of the LGBTIQ community and with that understanding serve to facilitate mutual understanding and a more inclusive Maltese society.
A1.19	Malta Red Cross Society	VO/0086	Reducing Inequalities in First Aid Training for Persons with Hearing Impairment- Phase 2	The initial aim of the Project was to create a learning facility which provides persons with restricted mobility, hearing and mental impairment to be trained and certified in all aspects of First Aid, both in person and online. The development of the platform of Phase One, which is the platform where developed courses may be uploaded, has exceeded expectations and can also provide the possibility of including accessibility to persons with visual and mental impairments. Phase Two sees the creation of the actual course with presentations which include sign language and/or subtitles so that participants can fully participate in the comfort and safety of their own home and at times which are convenient for them.
A1.20	Malta Rugby Football Union	VO/2255	RugbyRoots - Developing Maltese Grassroots Rugby for the Future	This project will aim to develop a grassroots youth rugby program, while engaging more members of the community, and building a sustainable platform for further development and growth. The project will consist of four key actions: (i) grassroots programme development, (ii) engagement and training, (iii) outreach and community building, and (iv) marketing and dissemination. The project will work to foster the development of three main areas: (i) grassroots rugby, (ii) volunteers, and (iii) local clubs. It has been proven time and time again that rugby can be an ideal platform for achieving social and economic development.
A1.21	National Parents' Society of Persons with Disability	VO/0156	Training of Volunter-Advocates in the Disability Sector and Development of Two Important Tools	NPSPD is a non-profit organisation in Malta which caters for the needs of people with disability and their families and organises several activities throughout the year. NPSPD is now planning to organise a series of workshops for volunteer activists, primarily parents of persons with disability and centred on disability issues and leadership skills. Furthermore, it aims to develop two important tools to support these advocates achieve their aims. This will be done by a) Six monthly training workshops of three hours each covering areas such as leadership skills, disability issues and updated information about services and benefits available to persons with disability and their families. b) Re-brand our Society's website and logo to help us attract new volunteers especially from the younger generation. We will utilise our re-vamped website and social media, through Facebook ads, to promote the above-mentioned workshops and attract more advocates to join our NGO. c) Develops a one stop interactive website incorporating comprehensive, up-to-date and userfriendly information on all the services

A1.22	Otters ASC	VO/1932	Certification of Otters ASC swimming coaches with special focus on inclusive and special needs education.	Otters ASC , a water polo club based in Gozo is proposing to organize a coaching course for our coaching staff so these coaches will be certified and thus will be able to offer a better coaching to the Gozo community. The first public pool in Gozo is set to open in June 2023 and up till now there is no officially certified swimming coaches . The swimming courses will focus on three main pillars which are a. Skills in the teaching and coaching of swimming b. Skills required to teach students with special needs (mental and physical). c. First aid and life saving skills to equip our coaches with these very important skills needed to deliver a safe and enjoyable session. The course will be held locally by inviting a qualified foreign swimming instructor and will be held through blended learning. Theory training can he held online and practice will be held in a local swimming pool.
A1.23	RISe Foundation	VO/0834	Preparation for female inmates' rehabilitation and reintegration programme in Malta	As The RISe Foundation marks its 10th anniversary of providing social service to the Maltese community, The Foundation envisions opening and implementing an offender rehabilitation and reintegration programme specifically designed for women. Such a programme is an important societal need which at present is not available in Malta and Gozo. The female offender population is on the increase. To provide such a tailor-made service, RISe's internal staff and need to be trained by external experts and expand their knowledge regarding the specific set of skills required to work efficiently with the female offenders. This will be unique because it will be the only female offender rehab. and reint. programme in Malta and Gozo and is community-based. The infrastructural skeleton and concept of the specialized programme for females have already been discussed and endorsed by the Ministry for the Family, Children's Rights and Social Solidarity and the Ministry for Home Affairs, Security, Reforms and Equality wherein a PSP is now in the pipelines.
A1.24	Socjeta Santa Marija u Banda Re Gorg V	VO/0260	Rise Up - Youth for traditional Craftmanship	The project proposed by Sezzjoni Zghazagh Santa Marija Mqabba involves an artistic initiative to commemorate the 30 years of our youth within the Band club. This artistic project, commonly known as 'Saproporta' will be showcased on the village's main street during our festa season. Our youth volunteers have been fundamental throughout the band's club history to reach goals and raise the bar when it comes to celebrating our local village feast. The project will enable the applicant to separate back-end operations carried out at the warehouses, from operations that require interaction with volunteers and the community. To cultivate and keep the learning knowledge that will be learned throughout this project, youth and volunteer workshops and resources will be done. This will help our organization to pass on knowledge on such crafts, which would otherwise slowly die out in an age of machinery. Through our regular activities, we youth volunteers keep local cultural traditions alive. We rally together the community, showcasing pride for our locality and our history and traditions whilst also offering touristic attractions and enriching the cultural offer of the Xlokk territory.
A1.25	St John Rescue Corps	VO/0223	Underwater Rescue	This project consists of an initiative to further improve the St John Rescue Corps (SJRC) ability to protect the safety of society whilst also safeguarding the environment. This project will allow for the purchase of specialised equipment to primarily deliver a more timely, efficient and effective search & rescue, below and above the sea surface and also perform cleanup operations. The specialised equipment consists of an underwater ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle), a multifunctional waterproof drone and underwater scooters. SJRC provides backup rescue services to the Civil Protection Department (CPD). Through its fleet of fire trucks, vehicles, boats, equipment and trained Volunteers, SJRC regularly assists the CPD in emergencies to rescue people and salvage property and to maintain public safety during large national events on land and sea. For this reason, this equipment will be a vital piece of mobile infrastructure used to successfully carry out the duties of the SJRC, specialising in marine related incidents that will be called upon.
A1.26	St Lawrence Band Club	VO/0230	Insaħħu l-Patrimonju Muzikali Malti	Il-Gżejjer Maltin huwa miżewda b'patrimonju u kultura rikka, iżda dan il-patrimonju li hallew missirijietna għandu jiġi ppreservat bl-aħjar mod possibli sabiex illum u għada jtkomplu jtgawdew mill-Maltin u anke mit-turisti li jżuru lil gżira tagħna. Filfatt l-ghan principali ta' din l-inizjattiva huwa li jitqajjem gharfien għal komposizzjonijiet Lawrenzjani li forsi ma humiex tant popolari jew maghrufa u hemm nuqqas ta' gharfien dwarhom. X'inhu l-aspett storiku u kulturali ta' dawn l-innijiet u komposizzjonijiet? X'inhi t-tema primarja u xi t-fisser l-lirika ta' dawn l-innijiet? Min kien l-kompozitur? Min fejn originaw? Dawn fost hafna oħrajn huma f'tit mil-mistoqsijiet li ser jigu mwiegħba bl-ghajnuna ta' dan il-progett. Għaldaqstant din l-inizjattiva ser tinkludi ricerka estenziva tal-innijiet lawrenzjani li forsi qatt ma ndaqqu jew għalkemm uhud minnhom għalqu 50 sena l-gharfien dwarhom huwa minimu. Permezz ta' din l-inizjattiva, s-Socjeta Muzikali San Lawrenz ser tkun f'posizzjoni li tpproduci CD/USB elettroniku b'dawn l-innijiet. Biex tkompli titqajjem gharfien, s-Socjeta ser torganizza ukoll serata Muzika-Letterja marbuta mat-tnedija

A1.27	The Malta Trust Foundation	VO/1761	Art Beat	<p>Art Beat aims to promote the cultural rights of children and young people with disability by creating an accessible art activity which invests on their creative skills and capitalises on their enjoyment of the art experience, together with the involvement of their friends and siblings, joining the group as volunteers. . Through this year-long pilot project, this programme will offer fun and enriching art sessions that provide each member with the unique opportunity of expression through visual and tactile metaphors. After successfully setting up Villabianca, a centre that provides musical access to children and young people with disability, TMTF now intends to expand this provision to other artforms, with visual art being the next area of target. Based on Villabianca's principles, ARTBEAT promises to bring a strong sense of empowerment to those that choose to take benefit from this project.</p> <p>ART Beat intends to provide further artistic access and equal opportunities to young individuals with disability by creating appropriate pathways that can lead to the active participation of this group in society through the use of alternative modes of expression and the nourishing of meaningful interpersonal relationships. Working alongside volunteers will create an opportunity for inclusive exchange and socialisation</p>
A2.01	Banda San Gorg Bormla	VO/0193	Restoration of Palazzo Paolino Vassallo	<p>The Palazzo Paolino Vassallo has been hosting the St. George's Band Club for the past 70 years. Throughout the years various minor maintenance works were carried for the upkeeping of the place. However, in recent years the building developed substantial damage due to lack of roof maintenance, where rainwater seeped from the roof and made various damages. To this end, an architect was commissioned to advice the works needed. The members of the club has been working to minimize the damage, however due to lack of funds, the repairs of the roof could not be financially sustained. Therefore, through this application, the club is seeking financial assistance to make the necessary repairs and restore the place to its former glory.</p> <p>Besides the roofs, the works will also include other maintenance internal works to rehabilitate the place.</p>
A2.02	Emergency Fire & Rescue Unit (EFRU)	VO/0018	Upgrading Sanitary Facilities for Volunteers at the Unit Headquarters	<p>The Unit uses its premises primarily for training delivery to its volunteers and also host initiatives with foreign and local counterparts at its Headquarters. Through this project, EFRU shall convert a current store room to an area with high quality standard sanitary facilities, to offer its headquarters users an acceptable level of sanitary facilities. Based on the project plan, a Health & Safety risk assessment shall be carried out. Furthermore, the following actions shall be undertaken, approximately sequentially: - Minor structural alterations; - Electrical & Plumbing installations; - Plastering, Painting & tiling; - Partitioning; - Installation of showers, WCs, wash-hand basins, mixers and other sanitary fixtures.</p>
A2.03	Għaqda Muzikali Immakulata Kuncizzjoni Hamrun	VO/0194	Providing additional services to our members and beyond	<p>Through this project we would like to be a cultural hub in the Hamrun Area and increase the accessibility of cultural and creative activities for all. The organisation is proposing improvements to the main hall ceiling in order to provide a better environment for all of its users and members. The installation of a sound absorbing gypsum soffit would create a much needed positive and advantageous effect for the band club. The newly design gypsum soffit will create a better visual impact within the Hall with its eye-catching design; whilst at the same time providing sound attenuation of the noise for the nearby areas and also providing better acoustics for the musical lessons, meetings, events and band rehearsals. This will provide an adequate environment for the organisation of Youth activities including exhibitions and music lessons.</p>
A2.04	Għaqda Muzikali Santa Marija Ħal Għaxaq	VO/00351	Strengthening the Dream Factory, Empowering the Apprentice	<p>VOPS funding in 2018 made possible an infrastructural overhaul of a hub of workshops and festa street decorations stores transforming our organization's property in a work-space where young persons can socialize within a safe environment whilst learning and practicing technical skills in carpentry, metal works, gilding and textile handling. This proposal is devised as a continuation of the 2018 project whilst building upon the same core ideas and therapeutic aims. The concept was to identify and recruit young persons displaying clear signs of lack of skills in embarking on meaningful employment, or those who in systematic ways appeared to be unable to maintain employment consistency. This target population put particular emphasis on early school drop-outs. This project envisages the further upgrade ointo well equipped workshops by investing on the purchase: i. 4 working benches ii. 3 tool cabinets iii. 1 bespoke working surface for sewing iv. 2 shelving solutions v. A kitchenette vi. 8 chairs vii. 3 tables. The aim is to further enhance a non-threatening and a non-anxiety arousing context conducive to learning.</p>
A2.05	Home Away from Home	VO/0774	You're precious: Creating a welcoming environment for young people	<p>Our response to Covid-19 was not to close down the Youth Centre but to enhance safety measures. Thus we increasingly met in airy spaces: such as on the roof which was readily available to us. This year we aim to: a) Upgrade an unused room upstairs plus adjacent toilet, corridor and roof, making the area more youth-friendly: installing WiFi and planters/greenery. b) Install air-conditioning in the Youth Centre because the place seems to be getting warmer each summer, becoming unbearable between May and September when we have most activities and live-ins and protect this investment by means of a voltage stabiliser since the electricity in the area constantly fluctuates horribly c) Make the place look more appealing, nice and welcoming through the installation of curtains and doing a little bit of maintenance.</p>

A2.06	Malta Girl Guides	VO/00222	Making the outdoor area safe and accessible	The Attard Girl Guides, a unit within the Malta Girl Guides meet in a very old building dating back more than a century. The boundary wall of the outside area has been condemned by the architect as dangerous and at risk to collapse. Hence this area which includes a back door opening into a secondary road cannot be used as it is not safe. This infrastructural project is aimed to dismantle and reconstruct the boundary wall of the outside area, widen the back door to be wheelchair accessible, and install a ramp since the street level is higher than the courtyard grounds.
A2.07	Oratorju Salesjan Dingli	VO/1618	Providing a Safe Space for the Youth	Oratorju Salesjan Dingli strives to offer a safe space for the young people of the local area and the wider community. Our youth centre has witnessed an increase in members throughout this past year (currently we have almost 400 subscribed members!) and this makes the continuous formation of youth volunteers a priority. The increased numbers of members, has also brought to light a number of health and safety issues which must be safeguarded. That is why this project is divided into 3 subcategories: 1. Health and Safety infrastructure 2. Personnel training regarding to Health and Safety 3. Acquiring resources to enhance the educational space of the oratory This project would help us to make the oratory a safer space by installing a new fire alarm system and also by replacing the old unsafe railing of the balcony. This project also envisages training for all youth volunteers by offering a first aid and a food handling course. Finally, we also aim to replace (and add to) our chairs to accommodate the increased participation.
A2.08	Richmond Foundation	VO/0017	Furniture for Dar Teresa	Dar Teresa will provide single mothers with mental health problems the opportunity to receive a therapeutic mental health service without having to be separated from their children. The service will be a three-phased residential programme focusing on housing, mental health rehabilitation and social support towards reintegration back into the community. During the First Phase, the key worker focuses on identifying family needs and creating appropriate links to community resources. Particular emphasis will be placed on mental health, substance abuse, trauma, and other needs along with practical services such as links to child care, employment services and social benefits. Richmond Foundation key workers will work closely with Mental Health Services, Local Councils, Health Centres, Jobsplus and the neighbourhood network in order to facilitate the integration into the community. The second phase will focus on fine-tuning the established support systems while the family works with the key worker to access long-term housing resources, secure and maintain stable housing and long-term employment. During the final phase the family's support system will be improved further to ensure long-term community links that address housing and family functioning. Key workers will detach, while the family moves forward independently, with appropriate support from Richmond within the community.
A2.09	Socjeta Filarmonika La Stella	VO/0348	Investment in facilities, accessibility and updating of standards at Teatru Astra - a public venue	In the process of positioning itself for the future and re-defining its vision and strategy - management is calibrating it's focus on the upgrading and maintaining of it's facilities. The project being proposed will refurbish specific areas within the Teatru Astra complex that are used by the general public during the various performances. This project will have two important aims; - The refurbishment of restrooms, to be made accessible for the people with special needs including also the elderly. - Amplifying the standards of the restrooms to meet modern day requirements and aesthetically compliment a theatre. Teatru Astra, through this project, will facilitate and ensure that the premises is fully addressing the needs of occupants and visitors that allows convenience use both in terms of accessibility and standards and that there is no threat to the health and safety of the general public.
A2.10	Socjeta' Filarmonika Santa Marija	VO/0238	Home-Safe-Home...Volunteering for ALL!	Our 'home' [facility/band club] besides incorporating a music school, also serves as a youth hub, and a day center for active-aging programs and includes a multi-purpose hall used all year round for all types of initiatives/events. All this bears an obligation to maintain and directly invest in a SAFER, INCLUSIVE, and ACCESSIBLE place/facilities for EVERYONE! The following top-priority interventions are needed for our facilities: 1. Renovation of Fire Escapes (emergency routes) and Installation of fire doors 2. Installation of an Eco-friendly stage lighting system adapted for volunteers suffering from epilepsy/astigmatism 3. Floor (sub-base) leveling and low-pile fire-resistant carpet fitting at the multi-purpose hall, appropriate and easing mobility of wheelchair bound users
A2.11	The Eden and Razzett Foundation - Inspire	VO/0199	Lift for accessibility in our Bulebel facility	The aim of this project is to ensure easy accessibility for persons with a disability who wish to benefit from Inspire's services in Bulebel. In recent years, our educational facility in Bulebel was extended to what was previously solely the administration block. This required the full use of the first floor. At this floor there is limited accessibility and the only means of access is through stairs. A passenger lift shaft is already in place. A lift needs to be installed in this block to better support our client's needs and that of other users of this building. This was requested to us by CRPD during a recent visit to the premises.

A2.12	Aditus Foundation	VO/0512	Operation Green	Operation Green' will bring our operations in line with our sustainable goals by reworking our office structure into a space that is friendly to the environment, to our team members and our beneficiaries. Two years ago we embarked on a long-term project to render our operations greener. We invested in high-quality IT documentation systems to go almost entirely paperless; we recycle up to 85% of our recyclable waste; we adopted internal energy-saving protocols; we 'installed' CO2 absorbing plants in key locations; and invested in specialised window layerings to reduce heat and noxious waves. 'Operation Green' will provide us with the support we need to operate at a more structural level by exploring green roof options, and securing the building against on-going damage.
A2.13	Soċjeta' Muzikali La Stella Levantina A.D.1894	VO/0203	Investiment f'Bottega tal-Arti sabiex nipreservaw il-voluntarjat fl-artiġjanat tal-festi	Il-proġett li qed niproponu huwa li jibda x-xogħol fuq l-ewwel kamra tal-binja biex tinbidel f' bottega tal 'arti halli jkun jista jibda jintuza l-post. Għalhekk flimkien mall-perit u l-permessi neċessarji qed nikonkludu li l-proġett jibda permezz li jitranga s-saqaf tal-ewwel kamra fejn hemm bżonn li jinbidlu xi xriek. Wara jrid jibda ttindif, ftuħ ta' fili, mgħodija ta' dawli, ilma u drenagg u tikħil. Parti mill-kamra se tinbidel f'kamra talbanju (toilet u sink) u għalhekk irid issir partition tal-gypsum. L-skop ta' dan ix-xogħol huwa li din il-kamra tibda tintuza bħala workshop (bottega) fejn hawn jibda jinħadem u jiġi restawrat l-armar tal-festa. Għaldaqstant dan il-post fiċ-ċentru ta' raħalna jiġi trasformat f'post soċjali fejn jibdeu jiltaqgħu l-voluntiera, speċjalment zgħażaġħ li jittgħalmu dawn is-snaġġa u tekniċi tradizzjonali sabiex ma jintilfux. Il-kamra tista wkoll tibda tintuza biex fiha jsiru laqgħat zgħar edukattivi fuq il-festi, t-tekniċi talarmar kif ukoll lezzjonijiet ta' kif wieħed jagħmel presepju. Barra minn hekk hawn jistgħu wkoll jibdeu jsiru open days sabiex inħajru aktar zgħażaġħ jingħaqdu fil-voluntarjat.
A3.01	Malta Association of Supported Employment (MASE)	VO/1159	Supported Employment for Persons with Disability	MASE wants to assess how Malta is performing with regards Supported Employment service(s) for persons with disability, including those with mental health issues. MASE is concerned that Malta still lacks behind with persons with disability in employment. The project will conduct a study into the situation of Supported Employment for people with disabilities in Malta, who are underrepresented in the Maltese labour market as confirmed by the Malta 2022 Country report. The study will identify the key stakeholders in the current delivery of SE services and through the methodology of questionnaires, face-to-face interviews and follow up, the study will be able to provide an accurate picture of SE in Malta. The study is important not only for persons with disability and their families but also for planning and funding authorities. Moreover, the current service providers and future ones will benefit from the recommendations that will be an integral part of the project. .
A3.02	Malta Federation of Organisations Persons With Disability	VO/0042	Personal Assistance for Persons with Disability	This project consists of a research study on Personal Assistance services for persons with disabilities in Malta, with the aim of assessing the suitability of these services in meeting persons with disabilities' needs, and mapping the way forward. The objectives of this research study are two-fold: To evaluate the current Personal Assistance scheme(s) and services in Malta and Gozo (hereafter referred to as 'Malta') To explore the best scenario of Personal Assistance in Malta in supporting persons with disabilities to live independently.
A3.03	Parent-Infant Mental Health Alliance	VO/1650	Promoting Healthy Beginnings for Babies and Infants of Mothers with Perinatal Mental Health Problems	Maternal mental health problems are known to affect up to 20% of women. They are of major importance as a public health issue because of their adverse impact on the mother and also because they have been shown to compromise the healthy emotional, cognitive and even physical development of the child, with serious long-term consequences. For these reasons, treatment in the perinatal period needs to address both the women's mental health difficulties and also the mother-child relationship through early, effective therapeutic interventions, in order to guarantee positive child outcomes across various domains in life. This project aims to evaluate the effectiveness of a relationship-based video-feedback intervention in improving the quality of the mother-child interaction for mothers with mental health illnesses during the first postnatal year. In this way, the existing gap in knowledge regarding evidence-based methods to support early life relationships for vulnerable mother-infant dyads can be addressed. Furthermore, this project will hopefully pave the way to expanding local perinatal mental health services to incorporate infant services, and therefore address these the wideranging impact of these illnesses on the baby.
A3.04	The Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health	VO/1548	The national project on the prevalence of mental disorders among children and adolescents in Malta	This project aims to determine the prevalence of mental disorders among children and adolescents living in Malta. This project is a follow up project to another research project in which 800 young people were screened for a mental disorder. Between March and October 2023, a gold standard diagnostic assessment will be conducted on the 135 young people who scored up in the screening interview. This diagnostic assessment will ascertain a categorical diagnosis using gold standard diagnostic criteria (DSM-V). A random sample of 135 young people who did not score up on the screening interview will also be offered a diagnostic assessment to ensure that they do not meet criteria for a mental disorder, and if they do, to calculate the percentage of young people who may have obtained a false negative result in the screening phase. This data will be used to determine the prevalence of mental disorders among young people in Malta. These results shall be presented to the minister of health and the CEO of mental health services to discuss strategies of improving mental health in Malta. Human resources and service development that meets the present needs of young people locally shall also be informed from these numbers.

A4.01	Business and Professional Women (Valletta) Malta	VO/1467	BPW Careers' Day	All schools in Malta will be invited to send their year 10 students to attend the Careers' Day and will be asked to register the number of students and supervisors attending. A mailshot will be sent to numerous companies, entities, NGOs, Private organisations and individuals, inviting them to register as mentors. The venue, MFCC, will be set up in sections. Each section will include desks or stalls for women mentors coming from related work sectors such as Law, Finance, Health, Diplomacy, Academia, Social Care, Sport, Science, Hair & Beauty, Technology, etc. Students will be visiting mentors and interacting with them. Some of the sections will offer students a hands-on experience of VR, IoT and other Emerging Technologies. A gift token will be given to all mentors and a gift bag with promotional material and information leaflets will be distributed to students on their way out of the venue.
A4.02	Ghaqda Muzikali San Guzepp Ghaxaq	VO/0323	150 Anniversary - 1874 -2024	The project will be based on organizing different events to commence the festivities linked with the celebration of our 150 Anniversary from the foundation of our organization. Our first activity will be an exhibition which will involve other band clubs such as ours. During this activity we will have the launch of our new logos, one for the 150th Anniversary and the new organization logo whereby we are looking more at digitalization. We will have a competition and invite anyone interested to submit his design. After this exhibition we will organize a musical concert whereby our band will be involved. During this Concert our band will perform different music from different concerts which marked our history. We will also play a new masterpiece penned by our musical director for the occasion. During this musical concert our musicians, all volunteers, will get new experience since we will have experienced musicians joining our band.
A4.03	Malta Association of Public Health Medicine	VO/0750	National Public Health Symposium	The Malta Association of Public Health Medicine's (MAPHM) plans to organise a National Public Health Symposium in collaboration with other VOs and entities related to health and its determinants. The objective of the National Public Health Symposium is to provide a platform for public health, health economics and social policy researchers to disseminate the results of their research to stakeholders, interested parties, government and the public. This arises from the Malta Association of Public Health Medicine's (MAPHM) Strategic Plan to "Identify and react to priority public health issues. Engage members to create and maintain advocacy initiatives and inform and educate the public about important public health issues", and "Build cooperation and partnerships within civil society to advocate for policies that address determinants of health".
A4.04	Malta Chamber of Planners	VO/1591	European Council for Spatial Planners General Assembly and Conference	The Malta Chamber of Planners has been entrusted with the organisation of the European Council for Spatial Planners' Spring General Assembly 2023. The General Assembly takes place twice a year. The conference and General Assembly will take place between the 18th and 20th May 2023. This event will consist of a meeting of the ECTP Executive Committee on the 18th May with a conference on the 19th to discuss planning issues both in Malta and in Europe. The final day on Saturday 20th is when the General Assembly will be held. During this assembly issues of the ECTP will be discussed in view of the forthcoming challenges of the European Union in terms of spatial planning. The Chamber will also organise sight visiting tours to the foreign participants which will be between 25 to 30. A gala dinner will be organised on the 19th evening.
A4.05	Malta Paralympic Committee	VO/1616	Project ParaSport	Project ParaSport will offer a unique opportunity for the public to experience Para Sport first-hand, by engaging with Para Sport at open public training sessions, tournaments, fun activities, competitions and more. By enabling the public to engage directly with Para Sport, the project aims to stimulate all-rounded awareness about Para Sport and contribute towards creating equal opportunities for participation in sport by persons with impairments (physical, visual, or intellectual impairments). An overriding theme of the project will be that of 'normalising' Para Sport within our community - to cultivate a culture of understanding, acceptance, and equal opportunities. The project will also serve as a countdown to the forthcoming Paris 2024 Paralympic Games, kickstarting an awareness and educational campaign about the Paralympics
A4.06	Malta UNESCO Youth Association	VO/0510	The Musical Legacy of Carlo Diacono: A Concert promoting National Intangible Cultural Heritage	Culture, a resource for the identity and cohesion of communities, is one of the core pillars on which UNESCO's mission rests, and hence the Malta UNESCO Youth Association (MUYA) has teamed up with the Local Council of Żejtun in order to promote one of the essential components of intangible cultural heritage - music. In the occasion of the 80th anniversary since the death of the renowned Maltese composer and musician Carlo Diacono, MUYA shall be collaborating with the Cappella Diacono, an orchestra established by the acclaimed Diacono himself back in 1892, in order to develop a community outreach project with the primary aim of increasing awareness of younger generations of the musical masterpieces developed by Diacono himself. Through the involvement of young musicians and choristers, the project seeks to allow them to play the musical works together with the current musicians of the orchestra, led by Mro. Ray Sciberras, culminating in a final concert to the public of the work by the "enlarged" orchestra. The project will also involve a photo exhibition of musicians in a number of key areas associated with Diacono's life which shall be exhibited during the concert as well as a publication in this regard.
A4.07	Munxar Falcons F.C.	VO/0543	Sports 4 All	To hold a sports programme, mainly keeping fit classes for adults and sports-related classes for elderly persons. These sessions will be given by a professional. Participants will have the opportunity to socialise while keeping fit.

A4.08	Savio Athletics Club	VO/1077	Volonta: The wish. The will. In all freedom.	The project will mainly consist of an athletics training camp, open for both members and the general public, as well as a final event showcasing the benefit of volunteering through the club's ten years experience, encouraging and inviting the attendees to participate in the voluntary sector. Both the training camp and the final event will take place during September 2023, however, preparations, and marketing will start by March 2023
A4.09	The Scout Association of Malta	VO/00311	Celebrating a 110 years of Voluntary Service - Rabat Scouts Group	one of the first scout groups to open his doors to youths on the Maltese Islands. This was only possible thanks to voluntary members who throughout the years have given their time to help the members develop their character and become better men and women for our society. It is the goal of Scouting "to contribute to the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potentials as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities. Throughout this project while celebrating the 110-year anniversary, the group shall remind his old and new members together with people from the local community, the importance of the voluntary work. We shall also promote and encourage a culture of volunteering, which unfortunately is now declining.
A4.10	Socjeta Filarmonika Marija Mtellgha s-Sema, L-Imgarr A.D. 2011	VO/0577	Il-Merhba	Ftit Snin ilu l-għaqda tagħna ordnat statwa ta' Santa Marija tad-dimostrazzjoni. Il-ħsieb kien li tizzanzan fl- 2020. Minħabba l-covid dan ma kienx possibli u l-pjanijiet iittardjaw. Issa wasal il mument li fil-festa tas-sena 2023 ninawgurawom. Dan il-proġett li qed napplikaw għalih f'din liskema qed jissejjaħ il-Merhba, dan għaliex se jkun qed jiffoka propja fuq il-jum li fiħ din l-istatwa tad-dimostrazzjoni tingħata merħba minn ulied l-imgarr. Nixtiequ li dan ikun jum memorabbli u nagħmlu festa kbira li raħalna qatt ma ra qabel. Il-preparamenti ilhom għaddejien u issa nixtiequ li permess ta dan il-proġett jiġi implimentati. Il-proġett jilhaq il-qofol tiegħu i l-Ġimgħa 18 ta' Awwissu 2023 Dakinhar se nibdew kapitlu ġdid kif jiġi ċcelebrat il-marċ ta' dan il-jum billi mis-sena 2023 'il quddiem dan jibda jkun akkumpanjat bl-istatw artitstika ta' Santa Marija. Dakinhar ssir li n awgurazjoni ta l-istatwa. Waqt din l-inawgurazjoni il-banda tagħna ssellem lil vara b' diversi innijeit . Il-banda se tkun ikkumpanjata min diversi kantanti. Wara l-banda tikkumpanja l-istatwa fit-toroq ewlenin tal-imgarr. Bħala parti minn dan il-proġett se jkun hemm sejha biex il-paruċċani ikunu jistgħu jipparteċipaw billi jerfgħu fl- statwa, izejnu d-djar u t-toroq kif ukoll jipparteċipaw fl-ispettaklu li se jiġi mtella wara.
A4.11	Upbeat Music House	VO/0996	Malta African Festival of Arts (MAFA)	Malta African Festival of Arts - MAFA is a project that aims to create a space where African Art can be showcased over a period of 5 days and series on different exhibitions in a number of locations. Upbeat music house has been working with migrant artists over the years funded by SIS, VOPS and we believe we've been building up to such an annual event. The festival aims to showcase African arts and culture in the of theatre, dance, music, African fabrics/fashion, street performance, African Films, Theatre/dance and visual arts, Africa day dinner and Africa day concert. MAFA is billed to be the largest African arts festival in Malta and versioned to grow to be among the largest African Arts Festivals in Malta and then in Europe with performances from African musicians in the diaspora and some from Africa.
A4.12	Youth Football Association	VO/1237	Celebrating 40 years of volunteering in the youth football sector	In 2023, the Youth FA will be celebrating its 40 years of volunteering in the youth football sector in collaboration with the 48 active football nurseries, including also Frame Football Malta. Amongst the various events to celebrate such a great achievement considering the extensive number of volunteers involved, both within the YFA itself and its affiliated nurseries, a 2-day conference is planned to promote further the importance of volunteering especially in sports. The plan is to identify an English-speaking guest speaker with a volunteering background of interest along with a number of Maltese speakers to tackle various themes in relation to youth football including child safeguarding, role of parents and guardians and planning for the future