



**GOZO REGIONAL**  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

**GRDA**

# Newsletter

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**GOZO REGIONAL**  
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

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Front Cover: The iconic Christmas Tree at Villa Rundle Garden - © Photo Credits - MGOZ Joseph Mercieca.

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# EUROPEAN WEEK OF REGIONS AND CITIES

The 21<sup>st</sup> Edition of The European Week of Regions and Cities, was held between 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> October in Brussels. This is the biggest event dedicated to Cohesion Policy.

The event was attended by our CEO Mario Borg and Dr Christian Zammit, Senior Manager EU & International Affairs, who participated and contributed to various discussion fora.



Meeting with the Minister for Gozo Clint Camilleri and Gozitan MEP Dr. Josianne Cutajar. ▲

▼ Meeting at the European Business Network along with representatives from Cyprus and the Portuguese autonomous islands regions of Azores and Madeira.



## DELEGATION FROM MACEDONIA

The GRDA hosted a Delegation from Macedonia which was composed of Regional Presidents.

During the meeting, the delegation was presented with the recently launched Gozo Regional Development Strategy. Other topics such as regional challenges, EU funding opportunities and government structures were also discussed.



▲ GRDA CEO giving a presentation to the delegation from Macedonia.



# 1948 BOOK LAUNCH & EXHIBITION

The Gozo Regional Development Authority launched the book 1948 Tragedy in the Gozo Channel – The Untold Account to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the tragedy that occurred in the area known as Ғаgret iċ-Ċawl, limits of Ғondoq ir-Rummien in Qala. In this tragedy, 23 soles lost their lives.

The Authority also sponsored the well-attended exhibition which was organised to commemorate this tragedy.

The book is now available from all leading bookstores.



Dr Christian Zammit introducing the 1948 Book launch event. ▲

▼ GRDA CEO Mr Mario Borg, 1948 book author Mons. Dr Joseph Bezzina, and Mr John Cremona from the National Archives Gozo Section viewing the exhibition.



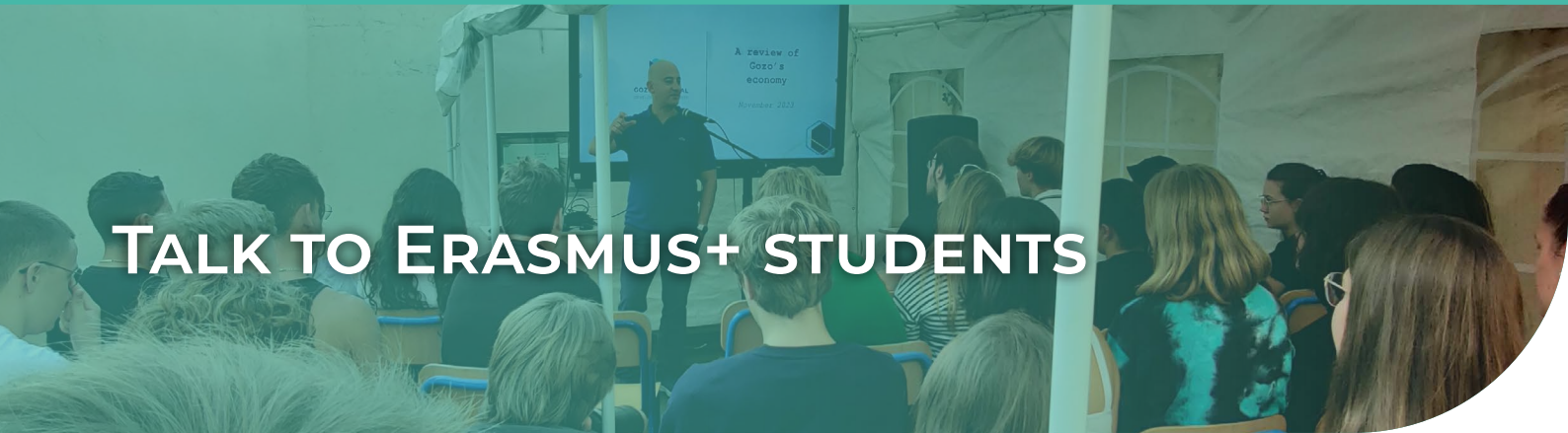
## MEETING FOUNDATION FOR SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES



A meeting with FSWS CEO, Mr Alfred Girxi and Mons Joe Vella Gauci, Operations Director for Gozo, was held at the GRDA in November.

During the meeting, it was discussed the way forward to implement the social measures listed under the Social Development section of the Gozo Regional Development Strategy.





# TALK TO ERASMUS+ STUDENTS

Our CEO, Mr Mario Borg, was invited to hold a talk about Gozo economy as part of Erasmus+ activities organized at Sir M.A Refalo Sixth Form.

A group of 33 students accompanied by 4 teachers from Villach, Austria took part in this session together with students from Sir M.A. Refalo Sixth Form; in a week full of activities to get an insight of both cultures, their economy and historical background and learn from each other.

Sir M.A. Refalo took part in an Erasmus+ project entitled "Cross cultural dialogues: Gozo/Malta/ Carinthia/Austria: insights into different cultures, economic and historical background".



# SMART CITY EXPO WORLD CONGRESS

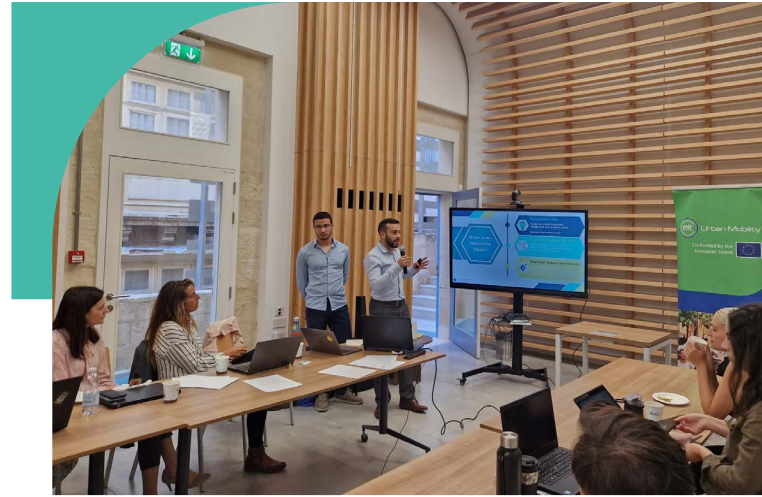


Mr Juergan Attard and Ing. George Cauchi, together with EIT Urban Mobility Malta counterparts, participated in Smart City Expo World Congress, which was held in Barcelona, Spain.

The event offered an excellent opportunity for our colleagues to meet different stakeholders in the fields of sustainable and intelligent mobility inline with the GRDA strategy.

# WORKSHOP ON INNOVATION PROCURMENT

During a workshop titled 'Setting the Scene for the Procurement of Mobility and Technology Innovation,' the GRDA presented a case study of an innovative urban mobility solution. This case study formed the basis of the workshop, fostering an interactive discussion on the procurement process and the practical implementation of the solution.



## YOUTH 4 ENTREPRENEURSHIP GOZO

For the third consecutive year, the GRDA sponsored The Gozo Business Chamber's event Youth 4 Entrepreneurship Gozo.

During the event, a panel of experts analysed the 3 business ideas submitted by our youths. The idea put forward by Lara and Daniel Sultana, that of having a 'Study Café', where students can go to focus, study, and get work done without distractions, managed to obtain the highest number of votes.

Part of the audience that attended the fifth edition of the Youth 4 Entrepreneurship event. ▼



▼ Lara and Daniel Sultana explaining their proposal to the audience during the Youth 4 Entrepreneurship event.





# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH WITH NATURE TRUST

The GRDA and Nature Trust – FEE (Malta) signed a Framework Collaboration Agreement whereas the parties wish to enhance an already existing collaborative relationship, in or order to build on each other's' missions and strengths.

The agreement was signed by Dr Louis Stefan Magrin on behalf of the GRDA CEO, and by the Executive President of Nature Trust – FEE (Malta) Mr Vincent Attard.



## GRDA STAFF DONATION

A donation of Eur640 was presented to OASI Foundation. This donation is collected through a voluntary contribution scheme among staff members.

Since 1991, OASI Foundation's aim was that of treating people suffering from the disease of addiction due to toxic substances which include, but are not limited to, drugs and alcohol.

Ms Geraldine Sammut and Mr Giovanni Scicluna from the GRDA presenting the donation to Mr Noel Xerri, CEO of OASI Foundation. ►





# GRDA PUBLICATIONS (all publications can be accessed on the GRDA website).

## RDS in Maltese

The Gozo Regional Development Strategy is now also available in Maltese.



▲ Click icon to view.

## GRDA Feedback Statement

Partial review of the Gozo and Comino Local Plan 2006 for Qala (Fondoq ir-Rummien)



▲ Click icon to view.

## GRDA Note - Female Employment



▲ Click icon to view.

## GRDA Survey - Stat tan-Nazzjon



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## Perspettivi – Issue 3

GRDA Journal Perspettivi is out. In this edition, we have the following academic papers:

- Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation – a regional analysis of the island of Gozo by Juergen Attard & Marthese Cassar
- The role of external influences on Gozitan employees' work values and career path by Jaclyn Magrin
- Enhancing Employment Opportunities for Gozitans: The Impact of Active Labour Market Policies by Kurt Sant
- What's In a Footprint? A Question of Island Magic by Prof. Maria Frendo

*Collect your free copy from our premises.*

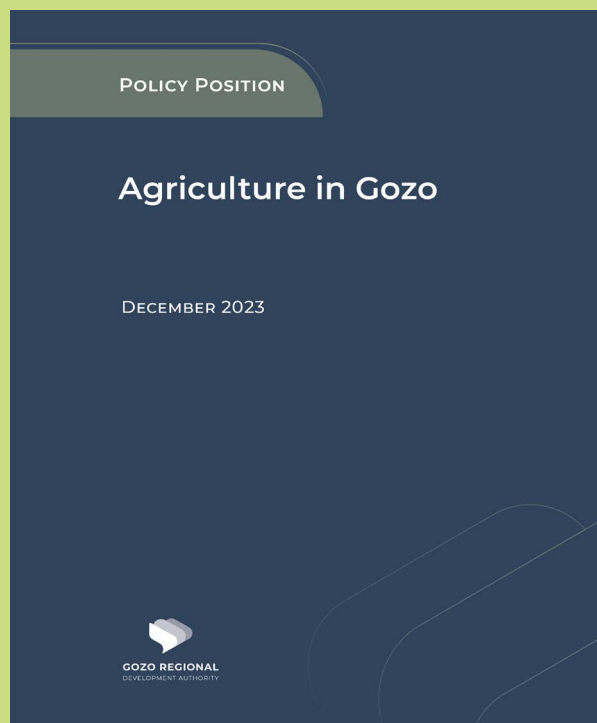
## Policy Position – Agriculture in Gozo

Following the publication of a Discussion Paper entitled 'Regional Agriculture: A Gozitan Perspective' in June 2023 and the subsequent consultation process, the Gozo Regional Development Authority is publishing its official policy position on agriculture.

Considering its importance, the agricultural sector should be safeguarded and sustainably managed to ensure its benefits continue to be realised by current as well as future generations. Hence, the agricultural sector necessitates a holistic policy vision that steers it into a more sustainable direction.



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## GRDA Feedback Statement

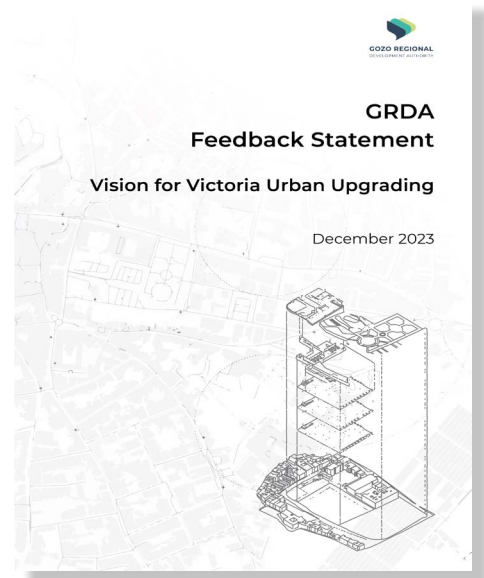
Gateway to Better Quality Employment in the Hospitality and Tourism Industry



▲ Click icon to view.

## GRDA Feedback Statement

Victoria Urban Upgrade Vision



▲ Click icon to view.

## GRDA PODCAST



As from November, the GRDA launched the 3<sup>rd</sup> season of the 'GRDA Podcast'. This season will cover 15 episodes, will go through all the way till May 2024.

One can visit the released podcasts by clicking the following links:

**Episode 1 - Discussion with Gozo Regional Development Authority CEO, Mr Mario Borg**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/2bxnWUKfrp2wQaTm/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**Episode 2 - Discussion with Baritone, Mr Charles Buttigieg**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/anyJov3m16thT48u/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**Episode 3 - Discussion with Bishop, H. E. Mgr. George Bugeja OFM**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/SGqTY6tiTPHNj6ce/?mibextid=WC7FNe>

**Episode 4 - Discussion with Nadur Nadif President, Mr Luke Said**

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/pBZxScL41nXY1AnQ/?mibextid=WC7FNe>







## CONTACT US



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