

Specific Objective	Reference No.	Project title	Project Acronym	Maltese Partner	Project Summary Description	Project Dates		Budget		
						Start	End	ERDF 80%	Partner contribution 20%	Total
1.1 Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies in the cross-border area	C1-1.1-20	Virtual Environment for Rehabilitation and Assessment	VERA	Ministry for Health and Active Aging	The overall objective is to establish a network between institutions and companies to develop collaborative, non-invasive and low-cost systems for the early and reliable diagnosis of ND and the monitoring of therapeutic or rehabilitation treatments. The expected changes concern the optimisation of diagnosis and treatment through artificial intelligence (AI) applied in virtual reality (VR) environments using data from wearable and non-invasive sensors of different types appropriately combined. The expected output is a pilot solution that can be integrated into the processes of healthcare institutions and companies.	Jan-25	Jul-27	€111,995.26	€27,998.82	€139,994.08
				University of Malta - Faculty of Health Sciences				€219,974.78	€54,993.70	€274,968.48
1.1 Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies in the cross-border area	C1-1.1-29	Obtaining biochar for biomedical applications with an ecofriendly solution to exploit the unlocked potential of agricultural waste	BIOWIOWA	University of Malta - Metamaterials Unit, Faculty of Science	Waste represents a potential source of unused substances and ultimately can become biomass for animal feed or fertilization of soil. In a vision of circular and sustainable agriculture, this project aims to identify an alternative use for these biomasses by transforming them, through a green and low-energy impact process, into so-called biochar. Biochar is a carbonaceous material, and its chemical structure makes it unique both as a sorbent and as a material for environmental remediation. The use of biochar as an additive has been studied by many to mitigate anthropogenic pollution through carbon sequestration while simultaneously providing enhanced soil fertility. An innovative use of biochar is to exploit it for the delivery of pharmacologically active substances, from vitamins to drugs. The compounds obtained are therefore of nanoscale dimensions, showing layers of carbon organized with few hydrogen and oxygen-based functional groups that confer a high capacity to form chemical bonds as well as excellent membrane permeability. These biochars could find application not only in the agricultural sector (which is highly developed in both Italy and Malta) but also in the bioremediation of soils contaminated with pollutants such as pesticides and fertilizers (to promote the development of organic agriculture in both countries) and lastly in the pharmaceutical and cosmetic industries.	Jan-25	Jul-27	€423,702.96	€105,925.74	€529,628.70
1.2 skills for smart specialisation, industrial transition and entrepreneurship in the cross- border area	C1-1.2-58	Movement of human capital in the cross-border area Italia-Malta	MOVE ON 27	Hermes Cooperation Limited	Building on the success achieved by the recent "MOVE ON" experience (Code: C2-2.2-112), "MOVE ON 2027" aims to involve not only young people transitioning from education to the workforce in cross-border mobility experiences but also employed individuals (e.g., entrepreneurs, managers, professionals, etc.). The new initiative also places specific attention on the qualification of human capital. Therefore, MOVE ON 2027 capitalizes on the lessons learned from MOVE ON and introduces significant elements of innovation to strengthen the impact of an already successfully tested intervention model. MOVE ON 2027 also aims to more actively involve policymakers and to consolidate and expand a result achieved by MOVE ON - the "cross-border network" - making it a dynamic platform for cross-border cooperation not only in education, employment, and mobility but also in entrepreneurship and innovation, particularly in the RIS3 areas of Sicily and Malta and, more generally, in sectors of common interest.	Jan-25	Jan-27	€232,320.00	€58,080.00	€290,400.00

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1.1 Developing and enhancing research and innovation capacities and the uptake of advanced technologies in the cross-border area	C1-1.1-68	Smart Food	SMARTFOOD	Malta Food Agency	The objective is to provide businesses in Sicily and Malta with innovative services related to the use of Artificial Intelligence to reduce production costs by improving production processes on one hand and providing a marketing tool on the other to communicate the quality linked to the production chain and product sustainability thanks to Blockchain technology. Main outputs: a protocol that will allow identifying the most efficient production destination of the analyzed areas; a protocol that will allow inserting a QR code on the label that will communicate to the consumer the traceability of production and the sustainability of the product as well as its specific qualities; a digital platform capable of transforming the protocols resulting from the above research into services that can be freely used by agri-food businesses in Malta and Sicily.	Jan-25	Jan-27	€288,000.00	€72,000.00	€360,000.00
3.1 Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in the cross-border area in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation	C1-3.1-10	Cultural Heritage FOR AIL	CHORAL	University of Malta - Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development	The project CHORAL- Cultural Heritage FOR AIL aims to mobilise green and digital accessibility to cultural heritage sites in Malta and Palermo. The project has the overall objectives of investigating accessibility in the programme areas and develop a joint strategy that enhances the current accessibility for increased tourism access and local visitors alike. The project will implement wayfinding totems to nudge greener travel. It also extends the accessibility concept to the digital world by using technology to create a framework to digitize less accessible cultural sites. CHORAL will pilot the digitalisation tools on two sites, one in Palermo and one in Malta.	Jan-25	Jan-27	€79,586.00	€19,896.50	€99,482.50
				Heritage Malta				€144,000.00	€36,000.00	€180,000.00
3.1 Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in the cross-border area in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation	C1-3.1-37	Routes to the fortified coastal heritage in the Mediterranean.	FORTEMARE	DLH - Din l-Art Melwa, National Trust of Malta	To identify an alternative territorial narrative to that used for mass tourism, shifting attention from already inflated places to marginal and less valued areas with a potential landscape/naturalistic richness and cultural heritage, through practices based on respect and care for territories and communities. Inclusiveness is central, achievable with solutions to improve both the cultural, cognitive and physical accessibility of coastal fortified heritage and collective sharing (citizens, third sector entities).	Jan-25	Jan-27	€105,523.20	€26,380.80	€131,904.00
3.1 Enhancing the role of culture and sustainable tourism in the cross-border area in economic development, social inclusion and social innovation	C1-3.1-79	Walking And Yachting Together	WAYTogether	Yachting Malta Ltd Malta -	This project will see the creation of two pilot actions, single-site and cross-border, jointly developed in the Sicilian and Maltese territories, aiming at sustainable and responsible tourism, oriented to a new market niche, such as people with mild-medium mental disabilities, i.e. individuals with limitations in cognitive, emotional and/or behavioural functioning. WAY Together aims above all at the creation of a model (or solution) that takes into account the development opportunities that people with disabilities create for the tourism industry, developing measures to improve knowledge and skills in this sector, training service personnel on the specific needs of people with disabilities.	Jan-25	Jan-27	€151,904.39	€37,976.10	€189,880.49
				The Eden and Razzett Foundation (Inspire)				€91,318.14	€22,829.54	€114,147.68

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2.1 Promoting climate change adaptation, disaster risk prevention and resilience of the cross-border area (RSO2.4)	C1-2.3-28	Enhanced monitoring and disaster response to mitigate impacts of extreme weather and marine events	WAVEGUARD	University of Malta - Department of Geosciences	Project outputs require innovative and integrated approaches, combining observations from multiparametric networks capable of acquiring measurements across the entire cross-border area, hydrodynamic models, data science algorithms and artificial intelligence (in particular machine learning) suitable for Analysing large amounts of Heterogeneous data. Furthermore, giving the spatial extent of such events, risk mitigation requirements joint development of exertions and emergency plans. The partnership reflects this complexity in terms of multidisciplinary and geographic extent.	May-25	Nov-27	€162,489.63	€40,622.41	€203,112.04
				Protezzjoni Civili				€320,000.00	€80,000.00	€400,000.00
2.1 Promoting climate change adaptation, disaster risk prevention and resilience of the cross-border area (RSO2.4)	C1-2.3-62	Cross-border strategy for the resilient management of coastal erosion processes and for the sustainable sourcing of chairs for nourishment	SANDLAND	University of Malta - Department of Geography	SANDLAND is proposed to identify Marini Relitti sedimentary sites (DSMR), in selected offshore coastal sections of Sicily, selected on the basis of geomorphological and sedimentary characteristics, to be used as potential sediment reservoirs for environmentally sustainable reforestation of Sicilian and Maltese beaches with similar geological conditions.	May-25	Nov-27	€219,262.68	€54,815.67	€274,078.35
2.2 Promoting the transition to a circular economy in the cross-border area (RSO2.6)	C1-2.3-16	Circular Economy in agri-food & textiles in cross-border area	GO4CIRCULAR	Malta Chamber of SMEs	The GO4CIRCULAR project aims to stimulate the transition towards the circular economy in SMEs in the agri-food and textile sector in Sicily and Malta, addressing environmental challenges and promoting sustainable practices. The importance of this step is highlighted by the environmental issues linked to the linear production and consumption models prevailing in these sectors, which contribute significantly to the global environmental impact.	May-25	May-27	€113,081.28	€28,270.32	€141,351.60
				IDEA Academy Ltd				€81,240.20	€20,310.05	€101,550.25
2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-118	Forecast models of microplastic accumulation in coastal marine areas, effects on biodiversity and strategies to reduce pollution	MAESTRI	University of Malta - Department of Chemistry/Department of Geosciences	Microplastics (MP) are plastic fragments with a size of less than 5 mm. MPs can cause damage to the functioning mechanisms of marine organisms and act as vectors of pathogens, toxins, persistent pollutants or environmental hormones. The Central Mediterranean is highly susceptible to MP contamination, concentrating 7% of the global MP load and retaining only 1% of the fresh water received. Although many bodies in the Mediterranean basin are working on this issue, there is little data and protocols for the analysis of MP in coastal areas. Moreover, the control factors of MP transport and distribution have been poorly studied, preventing predictions about their concentrations in ecosystems and their effects. MAESTRI aims to identify MP in selected coastal areas of Italy and Malta, characterise them, understand their origin, monitor their distribution, assess their influence on coastal marine biodiversity and assess their potential for biodegradation by bacteria and fungi. It also aims to develop tools, with a technology readiness level of not less than TRL 4, for on-site identification of MP and geological characterisation of the site.	May-25	Nov-27	€292,490.24	€73,122.56	€365,612.80
2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-108	High-resolution technologies to monitor marine litter and detect effects on protected marine ecosystems towards a cross-border early detection system	TecMAReco	University of Malta - Department of Geosciences, Faculty of Science	Marine litter, specifically plastics at sea, represents one of the most studied emerging marine pollutants. The existing scientific literature has already listed effects that plastics at sea (belonging to the 3 size categories of mega-, macro- and micro- plastics – hereafter referred as MP) can have a global scale on a variety of marine ecosystems and the inhabiting species. The promotion of harmonised/standardised monitoring and the development of validated high resolution dispersion models have been recognised as the more effective tool to inform management measures (i.e. mitigation), two salient management cornerstones when dealing with marine systems on transitional areas (e.g. Italy and Malta). The project takes advantage by knowledge and tools already acquired and tested through previously developed cooperation projects.	May-25	Nov-27	€46,692.00	€44,896.32	€224,481.60
				Zibel				€64,000.00	€16,000.00	€80,000.00

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2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-106	Restoration and Conservation through the Limitation of Alien and Invasive Menace	RECLAIM	University of Malta - Institute of Earth Systems	The project aims to address the common challenge related to invasive or potentially invasive alien species (IAS) that the two islands have in common and that represent a threat to natural ecosystems (with repercussions on areas such as tourism and the preservation of natural capital and biodiversity) and agroecosystems (with repercussions on agricultural and related productions). The general objectives of the project are: carry out targeted actions in selected natural areas where it is most necessary to intervene, carry out monitoring actions for the development of further actions, provide guidelines on sustainable methods of control and localized eradication of invasive or potentially invasive alien species present both in Sicily and in Malta, consolidate the results already obtained in previous projects (eg, the Interreg FAST project just ended). Particular importance will be given to environmental restoration activities with native species in the areas where actions to contain alien species will be carried out.	May-25	Nov-27	€250,053.75	€62,513.44	€312,567.19
				Environment and Resources Authority				€192,000.00	€48,000.00	€240,000.00
2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-7	REVIVING marine Ecosystems through habitat restoration measures.	REVIVE	University of Malta - Department of Geosciences, Faculty of Science	The REVIVE project proposes some attempts to revitalize and improve priority habitats in line with the Habitats Directive, with the aim of obtaining effective intervention measures in transboundary areas. Specifically, we offer solutions based on: 1) specific actions to reduce the spread of invasive species, allowing ecosystems to develop their natural dynamics; 2) the use of artificial substrates or structures to revive the return of marine life in different habitats (e.g. reefs of vermetids Habitat 1170) and to promote, in specific closed coastal areas (e.g. ports, marinas), the improvement of their state.	May-25	Nov-27	€225,363.20	€56,340.81	€281,704.01
				Ambjent Malta				€164,062.91	€41,015.73	€205,078.64
2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-26	A bridge between Italy and Malta to preserve the richness and stability of the Mediterranean Maquis	MEDMAQUIS	Nature Trust - FEE Malta	MEDMAQUIS intends to recover and increase the diversity of the natural habitats characteristic of the Mediterranean scrub through the implementation of joint pilot actions in Sicily in the Natura 2000 site Bosco di Santo Pietro, in the Vallone Piano della Corte Reserve, in the Immacolatelle Micio Conti Complex, in the RNO Isola delle Femmine and in Malta in Buskett, Pembroke and Xrobb I-Għagin.	May-25	Nov-27	€55,366.00	€13,841.50	€69,207.50
				Ambjent Malta				€144,769.65	€36,192.42	€180,962.07
2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-69	WETland ecosystem restoration through WISE strategic adaptation across borders	WETWISE	University of Malta - Department of Biology	WETWISE wants to demonstrate with data and concrete actions the effectiveness of coastal wetlands restoration in three pilot sites in Sicily and Malta. Thanks to the cooperation between site managers and an interdisciplinary team of researchers, an integrated approach will be developed, which will combine constant and real-time monitoring with a series of digital twins of the sites, to carry out the co-design and implementation of sustainable and effective restoration actions	May-25	Nov-27	€156,254.54	€39,063.64	€195,318.18
				WES TRADE Ltd. - R&D Department				€51,205.76	€12,801.44	€64,007.20

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2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-39	Use of beached Posidonia oceanica as a resource for sustainable animal husbandry.	MAREA	University of Malta - Institute of Earth Systems	The MAREA project aims to address the joint challenge of sustainable management of marine resources between Italy and Malta. Its main objective is to promote the circular economy by exploiting stranded ocean grasslands to develop new livestock products. This is expected to lead to significant changes by reducing the environmental impact and generating new economic opportunities for both countries involved. The main results of the project include practical guides for the production of seagrass products and zootechnical performance assessments. Farmers, the livestock industry, the feed industry and the marine environment will benefit from the initiative.	May-25	May-27	€143,999.08	€35,999.77	€179,998.85
2.3 Strengthening nature protection and conservation, biodiversity, green infrastructure and reducing pollution in the transboundary area (RSO2.7)	C1-2.3-47	Habitat REstoration and GARDens for bioDiversity enhancement in cross-border area	REGARD	Ministry for Gozo and Planning	The overall objective of the project is to promote sustainable development, foster a culture of protection and enhancement of environmental heritage, and raise awareness among citizens and stakeholders of the benefits of investing in natural capital.	May-25	Nov-27	€281,937.92	€70,484.48	€352,422.40
				University of Malta - Department of Biology	The expected benefits are an increase in ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration and climate regulation, tourism attractiveness and economic spillovers to local communities.			€254,462.43	€63,615.61	€318,078.04
						Total		€5,067,056.00	€1,299,987.37	€6,499,936.65