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# GAG4 – Rejuvenating Gozo – Fourth Call

Improve the attractiveness of living in Gozo for young persons and  
young families



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## Agenda

1. Mr Yosef Magro - Gozo Action Group Foundation (GAGF)
2. Ms Paula Azzopardi - Agriculture and Rural Payments Agency (ARPA)
3. Ms Abigail Ciantar - Servizi Ewropej f' Malta (SEM)



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## The Gozo Action Group Foundation

- The GAGF was founded in 2009.
- Members from the Private Sectors:
  - Gozo Business Chambers
  - Gozo NGOs Associations
  - Gozo Tourism Association
  - Gozo Confederations of Agriculture & Fisheries
  - Others
- Members from the Public Sector
  - All of the 14 Gozitan Local Councils



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## The Gozo Action Group Foundation

- The GAGF is directed by a Decision Committee consisting of 7 members: 3 from the Public Sector and 4 from the Private Sector.
- The aim of the GAGF is to create more opportunities for NGOs, Local Councils, and other entities.
- The GAGF encourages collaborative initiatives and innovative projects that enhance the quality of life in Gozo for all.
- The GAGF has been able to continuously reach its aim through the ongoing opportunity of administering the EU Funded LEADER Programme in the Gozo Region.



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## History of the L.E.A.D.E.R. Programme

- Established in 1991, financed by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD).
- Introduced locally in the 2007-2013 Rural Development Programme (RDP).
- Operates with a bottom-up approach which includes stakeholder from various sectors.
- Aims to:
  - Support small-scale community projects
  - Increase capacity of local rural communities and business networks
  - Encourage innovation and cooperation to address local development objectives
- These aims are addressed through the Local Development Strategy and are tailored to each territory.
- Malta consists of 3 territories and has 3 LAG's. Each LAG manages it's respective territory according to their LDS.
- The LAG's are: GAL Majjistral Foundation, the GAL Xlokk Foundation and the Gozo Action Group Foundation



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## Why the Fourth Call under GAG4?

- Rural Agricultural Fund for Rural Development 2014 – 2020
- Original budget under M19.2: €1,474,440
- Additional Funding:
  - Due to Covid-19 pandemic (programme was extended till 2025), i.e. Rural Agricultural Fund for Rural Development 2014 – 2022
  - savings on projects
  - irregularities
- Original budget + Additional Funding under M19.2: €2,636,680
- Last Additional Funding: €240,000



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## General and Specific Objectives of the measure 4 for Gozo

- 'New Economy Activities' : The action is expected to provide lifestyle attractions to young people and young families by focusing on amenities and activities associated with the new economy', with potential spin-off effects on employment generation;
- 'Climate and Environment': Investment and activities promoted through this action will need to deliver improvements in environmental and climate performance, due to the importance of these factors for a healthy lifestyle of young persons and families.



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## General and Specific Objectives of the measure 4 for Gozo

- ‘Gozo Lifestyle’: The main focus of this action is the preservation, valorization and evolution of the Gozitan lifestyle through the retention and attraction of a younger population.
- ‘Cultural Heritage’: The action is expected to improve on cultural heritage assets as a means to improve the lifestyle for young persons and young families
- ‘Partnership Approach’: The action must involve collaboration between Local Councils, NGOs and business operators



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## Type of Operations

- The action will provide resources to:
  - Improve the attractiveness of Gozo for **young persons and young families** through the creation of hard and soft support infrastructures;
  - Enhance the involvement of Local Councils, NGOs and business operators in improving the quality of life and the environment in Gozo for **young persons and families**.



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## Type of Support

- Investments by NGOs, Local Councils, and/or business operators, with a direct interest in young persons and young families, in equipment and in providing new and or/extended services which is specifically required for their specialized activities (e.g. *childcare, sports, cultural, educational activities, community entertainment activities compatible with the Gozitan lifestyle*), capacity-building in undertaking innovative and/or extended activities of direct interest to **young persons and young families**



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### Eligible Investment supported:

- Investment in equipment by NGOs, Local Councils and Business Operators, up to 100% of budget
- Capacity-building by NGOs including running costs of offering services, up to 15% of budget



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## Examples of Projects involving Equipment



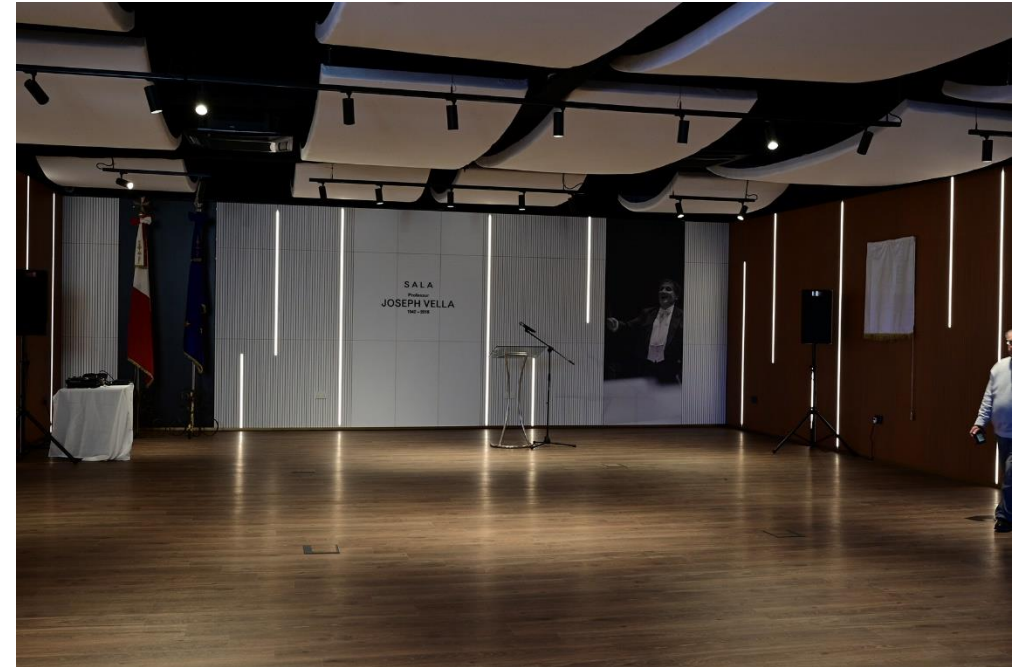
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## Eligible Localities where the project can be undertaken:

Rural Localities within the Gozo Action Group Foundation territory		
Fontana	Għajnsielem	Għarb
Għasri	Kerċem	Munxar
Nadur	Qala	Rabat (Citta' Victoria)
Sannat	San Lawrenz	Xagħra
Xewkija	Żebbug	



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## Eligible Beneficiaries:

- Applications are accepted from entities regularly operating or providing a service within the geographic area covered by the GAGF.
- Applicants can be **Local Councils, NGOs** and **business operators**.
- Each application must consist of **any three (3) entities**, from the aforementioned categories. The applicant has to co-operate with at least two other partners. A lead partner should also be appointed who shall be considered as the project applicant. The application shall clearly specify the role to be played by the applicant and the project partners.
- Any one entity (whether main beneficiary and/or partner) can apply under one or more of the measures, but **cannot** participate under different/competing applications within the same measures, unless the entity submits the **Final Payment Declaration** as submitted to **ARPA**.



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## Eligible Beneficiaries:

- It is important to note that:
  - Private undertakings where eligible, are to be limited to SME's. Large firms (as per Eurostat definition), are excluded.
  - NGOs refer to entities that are enrolled and fully compliant with the Voluntary Organisations Act and its subsidiary legislation 492.02 (Annual Returns and Annual Accounts) Regulations 2012.
  - The applicant has to be a member of the decision board/unit/committee (or is the legal representative) of the beneficiary/applicant organizing.



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## Indicators and Targets (including past calls)

Number of Local Councils (municipalities) offering new and improved amenities for young persons and families:	8
Number of businesses offering new and improved services for young persons and families:	23
Number of NGOs offering new and improved services for young persons and families:	21



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## Aid Intensity

- For the scope of this call, beneficiaries will receive 80% of the total eligible project costs as public funds with the other 20% coming as a private contribution;
- The Measure Budget (Total Public Expenditure) is €240,000
- The minimum grant support per project is capped at €40,000
- The maximum grant support per project is capped at €120,000



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## Important Points:

- Projects have to be completed within a limited timeframe.
- All projects must be implemented by **MAY 2025**.
- The **COMPETITIVE** selection process will be undertaken by the Project Selection Committee (PSC).



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SELECTION CRITERIA	MAXIMUM POINTS
1. Number of distinct infrastructural interventions supported by the project, (5 points per intervention up to a maximum of 15 points).	15 points
2. Number of distinct lifestyle support services enabled by the project, (5 points per Intervention up to a maximum of 15 points).	15 points
3. The degree of financial sustainability of the project:	
i. during project implementation; and	5 points
i. after project implementation.	10 points
4. The quality of the project in terms of:	
i. the potential for the infrastructure developed to:	
a. improve the quality of life in Gozo for youths and young families;	5 points
b. enhance lifetime opportunities for youths;	5 points
i. the potential for the services proposed to:	
a. improve the quality of life in Gozo for youths and young families;	5 points
b. enhance lifetime opportunities for youths;	5 points
i. the degree of synergy between infrastructures developed and services proposed.	15 points
5. Overall quality of the project proposal.	5 points
6. Implementation readiness.	5 points
7. Number of partners in proposed project (3 points per partner up to a maximum of 10 points)	10 points
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>100 points</b>



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## Ranking

- Total Budget - €240,000
- 4 applications – Total €340,000
- Project 004 applied for €100,000, only €50,000 is available
- Project 0001 is on the reserve list due to budget constraints

Reference	Beneficiary	Marks	Budget Allocated
0003	C	78	€70,000.00
0002	B	72	€120,000.00
0004	D	66	€50,000.00*
Reserve List			
0001	A	54	€100,000.00



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## Timeframes of the Measure

- The Measure will launch on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July 2024
- The deadline for clarification will be the 02<sup>nd</sup> of August 2024
- The deadline for application submission will be the 9<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 at **NOON**
- If no applications are received or budget is not allocated, the deadline can be extended
- For updates, one must check on [www.leadergozo.eu](http://www.leadergozo.eu)



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## Guidance Notes and Application

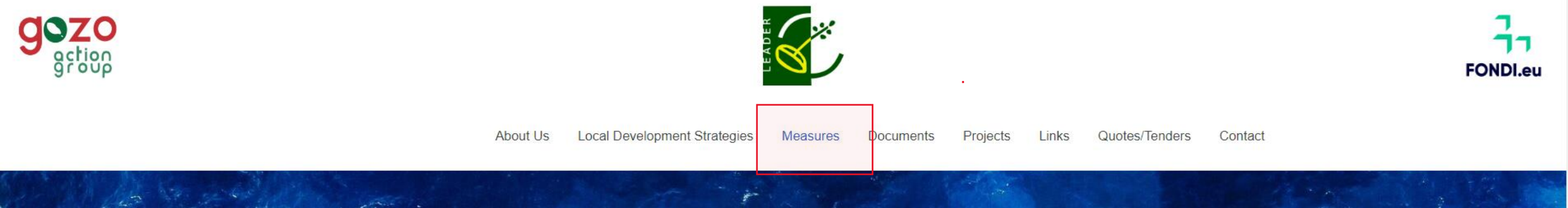
- [www.leadergozo.eu](http://www.leadergozo.eu)
- Tab – Measures
- GAG 4: Rejuvenating Gozo



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enhance performance across all seasons in a sustainable manner.

*Measure is currently closed.*

**GAG 4: Rejuvenating Gozo**

This action will improve the amenities and services in Gozo so as to improve the quality of life for young persons and young families, thereby contributing to retaining skills and to demographic and cultural regeneration.

*Measure will be open soon.*

*The schedule for this call is as follows:*

- 27th June 2024: Pre-call advert.
- 5th July 2024 at 10:30am: Online Information Session
- 8th July 2024: Launch of Call
- 9th August 2024 at 12:00pm (noon) : Deadline for application submission.



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## Implementation phase

- Local Councils are to follow the Public Procurements Regulations
- Private Bodies are to follow MA PA EAFRD Circular 01/2021
- Advance payment of up to 50% of the total eligible cost, beneficiary will have to coordinate with ARPA
- Interim payments are possible



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## Contact Details of the Gozo Action Group Foundation

- For further information, please contact us on:
  - Phone Number: 2155 0322
  - E-mail: [info@leadergozo.eu](mailto:info@leadergozo.eu)
  - Website: [www.leadergozo.eu](http://www.leadergozo.eu)



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# Q&A



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# Assisting stakeholders in accessing European Funds

Abigail Ciantar – Executive, Project Support, SEM



# Laqgħa għall-Benefiċjarji Sotto-Mizura 19.2

Aġenzija għall-Pagamenti Agrikoli u Rurali  
5 ta' Lulju 2024



# Ir-Rwol tal-ARPA

- Verifika tal-eligibilità tal-ispejjeż
- Verifika tat-talbiet għall-ħlas
- Ħlasijiet
- Verifiki fuq il-post (matul, fl-aħħar u wara li jintemm il-proġett)
- Irkupru ta' dejn





# Formula tal-Bank għall-Ħlas (Bank Payment Form)

- Ma jinħargux ħlasijiet jekk ma timtelix din il-formola.
- L-ARPA għandha tircievi l-formola originali iffirmata mill-bank.
- Kopja tal-formola tista' tintbagħat lil:
  - *Front Office*, Il-Pitkalija, Ta' Qali, limiti ta' Ħ'Attard
  - *Front Office*, Farm Sperimentali, Triq l-Imgarr, Ix-Xewkija, Għawdex
  - Uffiċċju Ewlieni tal-Aġenzija għall-Pagamenti Agrikoli u Rurali, l-Għammieri, il-Marsa
- Il-formola għall-ħas f'kont bankarju hi aċċessibbli mis-sit elettroniku tal-Aġenzija (<https://arpa.gov.mt/servizzi/>)



# Sottomissjoni tat-Talba għall-Ħlas (*Payment Claim*)

- Tipi ta' ħlas:
  - *Advance Payment*
  - *Ħlas Interim*
  - *Ħlas Finali*
- Dawn it-tipi ta' ħlas jiddependu mill-mizura u l-istadju li fih ikun wasal il-proġett.
- Il-formola sabiex tigi sottomessa talba għall-ħlas hi aċċessibbli mis-sit elettroniku tal-Aġenzija (<https://arpa.gov.mt/servizzi/> -> Formola Ta' Talba Għall-Ħlas – Programm Għall-Iżvilupp Rurali 2014-2020)



# Sottomissjoni tat-Talba għall-Flas (*Payment Claim*)

formola elettronika

## Formola ta' Talba għall-Flas - Programm għall- iŻvilupp Rurali 2014-2020



*Hin stmat biex timla u tissottometti l-formola: circa 10 minuti*

Il-landing page ta' servizz.gov:

[https://www.servizz.gov.mt/mt/Pages/Ambjent\\_-Ener\\_ija\\_-Biedja-u-Sajd/Biedja/Biedja/WEB1857/default.aspx](https://www.servizz.gov.mt/mt/Pages/Ambjent_-Ener_ija_-Biedja-u-Sajd/Biedja/Biedja/WEB1857/default.aspx)

L-Fond Agrikolu Ewropew għal Żvilupp Rurali (EAFRD) jiffinanzja programmi ta' żvilupp rurali. Il-benefiċjarji ta' għotjiet mill-EAFRD jistgħu jitolbu flasijiet mill-Aġenzija għall-Pagamenti Rurali skont ir-Regolament tal-Kunsill (CE) Nru. 1698/2005 biss fejn l-ispiza tkun ġestita flimkien.

*Fields immarkati b' \* huma obbligatorji*

### Dettalji tal-Applikant

Isem \*

Kunjom \*

Numru tal-Karta tal-Identità \*



# 'Advance Payment'

- Benefiċjarju jista' jissottometti talba għal Advance Payment.
- Dawn it-talbiet għall-ħlas ma jistgħux jaqbzu il-50% tal- *Grant Amount*.
- Formola għanda tintalab lil ARPA.
- Benefiċjarji privati iridu jissupplixxu garanzija bankarja.



# Flasijiet *Interim*

- Benefiċjarju jista' jissottometti talbiet għall-flas *interim*.
- Dawn it-talbiet għall-flas ma jistgħux jaqbu it-80% tal-ispejjeż eliġibbli totali.
- Kull talba għall-flas għandu jkollha annessa kopja tat-talba għall-kwotazzjonijiet, kwotazzjonijiet, fattura fiskali u prova valida li sar il-flas, kif ukoll dokumenti rilevanti oħra bħal ritratti, ċertifikazzjoni mill-perit bil-*warrant*, eċċ. *li* jistgħu jkunu applikabbli.



# ¶las Finali

- Meta jkun tlesta l-proġett, tista' ssir it-talba għall-¶las finali.
- It-talba finali għandha tkun akkumpanjata mill-fatturi kollha meħtieġa u prova valida tal-¶las kif ukoll dokumentazzjoni oħra rilevanti bħal ritratti, ċertifikazzjoni mill-perit bil-*warrant*, eċċ. u kif meħtieġ skont il-linji gwida tal-miżura.
- Qabel il-¶las finali, l-Aġenzija tagħmel il-verifiki fuq il-post sabiex tikkonferma li l-proġett ikun twettaq b'konformità mal-kundizzjonijiet miftehma.



## Anness 1 – Dikjarazzjoni li Takkumpanja l-Aħħar Talba għall-Flas

<INTESTATURA TAL-BENEFIĊJARJU>

**Miżura:**

**Numru tal-Kuntratt:**

**Isem il-Benefiċjarju:**

Jiena, hawn taht iffirmit, niddikjara li l-proġett irregolat bil-Ftehim tal-Ghotja <daħħal in-numru tal-kuntratt> u kull addenda rispettiva ġie mitmum. Jiena niddjara wkoll li x-xogħlijiet rilevanti ġew kompletati u li l-istrutturi kollha mibnija huma kompletament funzjonali b'konformita mal-iskop tal-proġett approvat. Jiena niddikjara wkoll li kull tagħmir akkwistat bħala parti mill-proġett ġie installat, ikkommissjonat, huwa kompletament funzjonali u jintuża regolarment.

<Isem f'Ittri Grassi>

<Firma>

<Data>



# Dokumenti Meħtieġa?

- Formula tat-talba għall-ħlas (disponibbli mis-sit elettroniku tal-Aġenzija <https://arpa.gov.mt/servizzi/>) – originali u ffirmata mill-benefiċjarju.
- Sejħa għall-kwotazzjonijiet (kopja) u kwotazzjonijiet (originali).
- Fatturi (originali) pertinenti għas-servizz, forniment jew ħidmiet provduti u li għalihom qed issir it-talba bħala parti mit-talba għall-ħlas rilevanti.
- Prova valida tal-ħlas fir-rigward ta' kull fattura (originali).
- Evidenza fotografika ta' kull provvista jew xogħol kopert bit-talba għall-ħlas.





# Fejn?

- *Il-Front Office*, Il-Pitkalija, Ta' Qali, limiti ta' H'Attard

## **Hinijiet tal-Ftuħ**

**1 ta' Ottubru – 15 ta' Ġunju: mit-Tnejn – sal-Ġimgħa 07:30 – 15:00**

**16 ta' Ġunju – 30 ta' Settembru: mit-Tnejn – sal-Ġimgħa 07:30 – 12.30**

- *Il-Front Office*, Farm Sperimentali, Triq l-Imgarr, Ix-Xewkija, Għawdex

## **Hinijiet tal-Ftuħ**

**mit-Tnejn – sal-Ġimgħa 07:30 – 12.30**



# Fejn? (ikompli)

- FI-Uffiċċju Ewlieni tal-Agenzija għall-Pagamenti Agrikoli u Rurali, I-Għammieri, il-Marsa

## Ħinijiet tal-Ftuħ

Skeda tax-Xitwa (1 ta' Ottubru - 15 ta' Ġunju)

It-Tlieta	07:00 – 12:00
L-Erbgħa	13:00 – 15:00

Skeda tas-Sajf (16 ta' Ġunju – 30 ta' Settembru)

It-Tlieta	07:00 – 11:00
L-Erbgħa	07:00 – 11:00

- L-Agenzija se tirreġistra u toħroġ irċevuta għal kull talba għall-ħlas.



# Il-Proċess ta' Verifika

- L-Aġenzija tagħmel numru ta' verifiki hekk kif imsemmi hawn taħt:
  - Eligibilità tal-ispiza.
  - Proċedura tax-xiri.
  - Verifiki fuq kwotazzjonijiet (inkluż l-awtentività).
  - Verifiki fuq fatturi u provi ta' ħlas (inkluż l-awtentività).
  - Verifika fuq il-korrettezza u l-kompletezza tal-informazzjoni inkluża fit-talba għall-ħlas.



# Kontrolli fuq il-Post

- Minn diversi entitajiet fosthom l-ARPA, l-*Managing Authority* (Funds and Programmes Division) u s-*Certifying Body* (Internal Audit & Investigations Department).
- Waqt l-implimentazzjoni tal-proġett, qabel ma jinħareġ l-aħħar ħlas kif ukoll wara li jitlesta l-proġett sa 5 snin mill-aħħar pagament.



## Forza Magġuri (*Force Majeure*)

- Ċirkostanza mhux normali jew mhix prevedibbli lil hinn mill-kontroll tal-benefiċjarju.
- Notifika lill-Aġenzija bil-miktub li tinkludi kull dokumentazzjoni ta' sostenn **fi żmien 15-il jum ta' xogħol** mid-data li fiha l-benefiċjarju jew il-persuna intitolata minnu/minnha jkun f'pożizzjoni li jagħmel hekk (il-formula hi aċċessibbli mis-sit elettroniku tal-Aġenzija (<https://arpa.gov.mt/servizzi/> - > Talbiet F' Kazi Ta' Forza Magġuri).
- Talbiet b'hal dawn jiġu riveduti mill-Bord tal-Aġenzija fuq *Force Majeure* u l-benefiċjarju jiġi notifikat bil-miktub bid-deċiżjoni tal-Bord jekk it-talba tiegħu/tagħha gietx aċċettata jew rifjutata.



# Linji Gwida:

- <https://arpa.gov.mt/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/investmentMeasuresPaymentGuidelinesFinalEN-V3.0-3.pdf>



# Kuntatti



[arpa-rdpinvestmentclaims@gov.mt](mailto:arpa-rdpinvestmentclaims@gov.mt)



2339 7142 / 2339 7114 / 2292 4306

# Contact Details



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# Thank You

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