

Project - Resilient Communities

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CORE Platform, in partnership with SOS Malta, embarked on a two-year project entitled “Resilient Communities”. The main concept behind this project is to encourage the adoption of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations, putting a particular emphasis on SDG 17 which focuses on partnership.

The project aims to bring together the local business entities, civil society and local government. When these come together they will work to create a network and once this is achieved, one has to work towards achieving a more equitable, inclusive and sustainable society.

The business entities, especially large companies, are encouraged to work to integrate the below issues in their business models:

- 1 Environmental Issues
- 2 Social Issues.
- 3 Good Governance Issues.

We have chosen the local councils of Gżira and Mellieħa as the two councils to participate in this pilot project. As part of the project, we have conducted a national background survey which covered more than 1100 businesses. A special emphasis was placed on the businesses in Gżira and Mellieħa. This survey highlighted that business entities partnered with other sectors towards community



projects. We have also developed an Online Hub on CORE Platform’s website. This hub is useful for uploading tools, resources, and local stories which are all applicable to the SDGs. Ms Annika Gollcher from SOS has developed an ongoing online



campaign entitled ‘#whatroledoyouplay?’, aimed at generating an online conversation with regards to the SDGs and how these can be localised. For more information, visit <http://www.core.org.mt/en/rc-home>.

We have also held two stakeholder meetings in Mellieħa and one in Gżira. The idea behind these stakeholder meetings is to involve businesses, local government, and NGOs in discussions on the SDGs, see how the latter can be adopted for the good of the community, and what sort of actions can be taken locally. The second workshop in Mellieħa was held at the Imperial Band Club Hall. Several points were raised from the discussions held, as summarised below:

- a. There is a lot of traffic in Mellieħa, both on land and sea, so this has to be more effectively controlled.
- b. Better active citizen participation, well organised residential groups, and good traffic management are required for Mellieħa.
- c. Work to create an active network in Mellieħa by encouraging more collaboration between residents, the local council and the central government.
- d. More recreational spaces are desirable so that these can be enjoyed by the residents.
- e. Mellieħa should aim to have more educational events, including art exhibitions and cultural events portraying Mellieħa.
- f. The use of electric scooters and electric bikes should be promoted.
- g. More integration of people who are not from Mellieħa, especially foreigners, is needed.
- h. Enhanced cooperation between the local council and the local NGOs.

Further activities are currently being planned for the month of October. We are planning to have a number of stakeholder meetings and a workshop, which are planned to be held in a hotel in Mellieħa, as well as a business breakfast planned for Gżira and for Mellieħa.

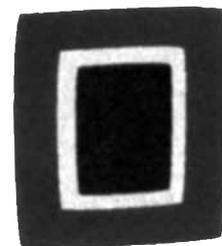


In closing this brief presentation of the project, CORE Platform would like to express special thanks to all the staff at the Mellieħa Local Council, the secretary and the Mayor and, last but not least, the Committee of the Imperial Band Club, especially Dr John B. Gauci, for all the support given to us on the day of the workshop, and the assistance to make sure that the event would be as success.

On its part, CORE Platform, through its President Mrs Helga Ellul, is helping the Imperial Band Club on two projects, one which will be beneficial to the band club itself and the other to the village of Mellieħa as it will bring tourists to visit Mellieħa and the Imperial Band Club itself.

CORE Platform is honoured to collaborate with the Imperial Band Club, and we wish to all Mellieħa residents and the Executive Committee of the Band Club a Happy Feast.

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