

**Project  
Reference:**

**Simaseed Plus 6(2023)**



**GOVERNMENT  
OF MALTA**



## **Call for Expressions of Interest**

**Expressions of interest for the creation of educational demonstration gardens with Maltese indigenous species by schools in the context of the INTERREG Italia-Malta Simaseed Plus project.**

The Ministry for Gozo notifies that Expression of Interest from schools for this call will be received by not later than Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 1600h. Submissions are to be made electronically **ONLY** on email [pdpid.mgoz@gov.mt](mailto:pdpid.mgoz@gov.mt).



INTERREG V-A ITALY-MALTA PROGRAMME  
PROGRAMME PART-FINANCED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION  
EUROPEAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT FUND (ERDF)  
CO-FINANCING RATE: 85% EU FUNDS; 15% NATIONAL FUNDS



# Expressions of interest for the creation of educational demonstration gardens with Maltese indigenous species by schools in the context of the Simaseed Plus project funded under the Italia-Malta Programme 2014-2020

## 1. Background

SiMaSeed PLUS is an EU-funded project which aims to study and safeguard indigenous biodiversity, and promote its use within local contexts.

More information on the project can be obtained from: <https://italiamalta.eu/progetti/funded-projects/simaseed-plus/?lang=en>

## 2. Scope

The Ministry for Gozo is seeking Administrations of Schools situated in Gozo that are interested in developing small demonstration garden units visible from public areas that will serve as a demonstration and educational facilities for both the school population and the general public. These areas are to showcase the use of local native biodiversity for landscaping and embellishment purposes and are to include information material explaining the benefits of using local species in landscaping, decoration and gardens, especially with regard to environmental benefits, resources and maintenance. In essence this initiative is intended to persuade the community and also business players that local biodiversity (more commonly regarded as weeds), may become important players in the landscaping and embellishing activity of the future, and also offering more sustainable options (in terms of watering needs, chemical replenishment, pest control and other issues). The school community is expected to be actively involved in the maintenance of these areas.

## 3. Timetable

	DATE	TIME
Deadline for request for any additional information from the Contracting Authority. Requests for clarifications or additional information are to be sent on <a href="mailto:pdpid.mgoz@gov.mt">pdpid.mgoz@gov.mt</a> .	6 October 2023	end of business
Last date on which additional information can be issued by the Contracting Authority	10 October 2023	end of business
Expression of interest - Opening Session	13 October 2023	16:10 h

\* All times Central European Summer Time (CEST).

#### **4. Benefits**

Interested parties will benefit from the allocation of a grant which can be used for, among others:

- a. The preparation of the location selected for the demonstration unit;
- b. The procurement of planting containers, soil material, irrigation equipment and related items for the setting up of this unit;
- c. The procurement of plant species not available for free from the Government Nurseries;
- d. Maintenance for the duration of the project;
- e. The design, production and installation of adequate information and educational boards, including also an acknowledgement of the funding source (The project team will support in the development of the information and resources for these items)

The amount of the grant will indicatively be in the region of €2,000 to €5,000, and will be established during the evaluation of the response, depending on the level of interest generated by this call.

It is to be noted that the Ministry for Gozo will make available for free an array of already established native plant material originating from locally-sourced genetic material and propagated at the Ministry's facilities. Other plants may need to be procured by the interested party from other sources.

#### **5. Submission requirements**

Prospective interested parties expressing an interest are required to submit the following:

- (a) a signed declaration as per Annex 1;
- (b) a short description as an attachment to it of the site including type of terrain, current vegetation (or other) cover and water availability;
- (c) a short description as an attachment describing how the site chosen is accessible to the public and to the school community.
- (d) a short description as an attachment to it of how the organisation will manage to maintain the site after the closure of the project and for a period of at least five (5) years after December 2023 (sustainability);
- (e) a photo or photos of the site/land earmarked for planting and its environs, showing in particular its visibility from public areas and accessibility to the public and the school community.

#### **6. Special Conditions**

- a) The processes and activities falling under this project (Simaseed Plus) are all subject to local and EU legislation.
- b) Selected individuals or entities will be asked to enter into a commitment to maintain the site up till at least end of 2028.
- c) All documentation concerning the project shall be retained.
- d) In the case that the property is transferred to third parties prior to the end of the year 2028, it should be made clear that whoever takes over the property will assume the same responsibilities. Failing this the onus of this responsibility will remain with the original owner or title holder.

Submissions are to be emailed by not later than Friday, 13 October 2023 at 1600h to [pdpid.mgoz@gov.mt](mailto:pdpid.mgoz@gov.mt). with the email carrying the title “**Simaseed Plus 6(2023) –Expression of Interest**” in the Subject bar.

## **7. Criteria for the evaluation**

Provided that all required documentation is submitted and that the expressions of interest comply with the above conditions, the expressions of interest will be evaluated on the basis of suitability of the sites proposed, their visibility, the assurance that the organisation is able to maintain the site for the established time, and availability of funds. The deliberations of the Selection Board will be final.

----- end -----

**Expressions of interest for the creation of educational demonstration gardens with Maltese indigenous species by schools - INTERREG Italia-Malta Simaseed Plus project.**

**Declaration Form**

School .....

Address .....

.....

Contact person .....

Mobile phone .....

Email .....

On behalf of the organisation mentioned above, I hereby declare interest in the above-mentioned Expression of Interest and that if selected, the organisation:

1. will grant full permission to personnel so authorised by the Ministry for Gozo to enter the designated site for surveying and monitoring purposes;
2. will grant full permission to personnel so authorised by the Ministry for Gozo to consider the proposals submitted;
3. will grant full permission for the implementation of publicity initiatives (e.g. installation of an information board, press events etc.) and for monitoring.
4. All equipment, materials and publicity infrastructure placed on site will be retained on site, and the investment kept fully operational up to at least end of year 2028.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
ID CARD NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**ENCLOSURES**

Photographs of proposed site  
Description of site (see para 4)  
Description of accessibility (see para 4)  
Description of sustainability (see para 4)  
Photo/s of site chosen
