

## Youth 4 Entrepreneurship Gozo

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- Date:** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020
- Venue:** To be decided. If due to the Coronavirus pandemic the event cannot take place physically, the activity will be conducted through an online digital platform.
- Time:** To be decided

The Gozo Business Chamber, in collaboration with the Ministry for the Economy, Investment and Small Businesses, Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ, Bank of Valletta, and the Europe Direct Information Centre - Gozo, is proud to announce the second edition of the '**Youth 4 Entrepreneurship Gozo**' event. This event, which will form part of the events being organised during the SME Week, will take the form of a contest for potential young entrepreneurs who wish to share business ideas related to Gozo. The overall goal of this initiative is to instill confidence in young people enabling them to reach their full potential, direct attention to the economic potential and challenges facing the island of Gozo, whilst encouraging young people to adopt an innovative approach to develop their business ideas based on Gozo's needs and potential.

### Theme

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This year's **Youth 4 Entrepreneurship contest** will focus specifically on the area of '**Sustainability**'. Sustainability means that we are able to meet our present needs without in any way jeopardising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. This is in line with the **European Union's Green Deal**, which seeks to combat climate change and environmental degradation, by creating a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases by 2050. This seems an arduous task! However if we all do our part, we can achieve this objective. The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to show the importance of adopting a sustainable approach to all that we do, as we started to appreciate the importance of the natural environment surrounding us. Youth play a very important part in this process as they are the catalyst of change.

To this end any proposed actions for this year must focus on '**Sustainability**'. Examples of such actions may include or encompass the following initiatives/aspects:

- Developing new business models that are focused on sorting, reusing and recycling of used materials;
- Waste prevention and reduction;
- Increasing the uptake of environmentally friendly technologies;
- Implementation of cleaner, cheaper and healthier forms of private and public transport;
- Enhancing the energy efficiency of buildings;
- Restoring degraded eco-systems;
- Nature restoration; and
- Conservation of marine stocks/protecting coastal areas.

The above are just some examples. The best idea will be selected on the following criteria:

- **Applicability to the Gozitan context.** This means that any idea that is submitted must be related to Gozo.
- **Innovative Approach.**
- **Ability to solve a potential problem or to cater for a specific need.**

## Who is eligible to apply?

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This contest is aimed at young people between the age of 16 and 30. Applicants should be at least 16 years of age, and not more than 30 years of age, at the time of submission. Applicants should be residents in the Maltese islands, but they may not necessarily be from Gozo. The idea, however, must be strictly related to Gozo. A group of persons may team together to present their ideas. In this case it must be clearly indicated in the application form.

## Coaching session

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**Aġenzija Żgħażaġh** will be conducting a coaching session for potential applicants on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020 between 09:00 and 12:00.

**Theme** – Entrepreneurial pitching and Presentation skills

Potential applications may apply for this session by registering on this link by not later than Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020 - <https://forms.gle/LUz1NgbzqMa3AprcA>

## How to apply:

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Potential young entrepreneurs will have the opportunity to submit their ideas by not later than **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2020**. All eligible participants will be able to present their business idea during an event to be held on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020**.

All entries will be acknowledged. Applicants will also be informed whether their entry is eligible or not. If an applicant or an idea is not eligible, applicants may still be able to re-submit a new application. Those who submit their application later than **Friday 09<sup>th</sup> October**, may not necessarily be provided with a reply within the required timeframes to be able to submit a new application.

## Proposal Guidelines

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The proposed idea is to be uploaded (in PDF format) on the following link: <https://forms.gle/pBgAiz3misSL91Xa6>

**Length of proposal – not more than 500 words.**

## Presentation of Proposal on 6th November 2020

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A powerpoint projector, laptop and screen will be available to the participants during the event. If the event is held online the participants will be able to present their idea on an online platform.

During this session, young people or groups will have the opportunity to pitch their business ideas during a **ten-minute, ten-slide live pitch**, in front of a panel of business experts.

The **presentation** should focus on these main aspects:

- Background / Scope
- Presentation of the actual idea, and how this will be implemented
- Potential Budget / Funding / Source of Financing
- Difficulties that can be encountered in the implementation of this idea

The experts will also have the possibility to ask questions after the presentation. During the 6<sup>th</sup> November event all the participants will be awarded a certificate of participation. If the event is held online, the certificate will be sent by post to all the participants.

The event will also be streamed live online.

### **Winning proposal**

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The winner will be announced on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020** through an official notification on the Gozo Business Chamber's website and facebook page. All the participants will also be informed accordingly.

The winning idea will take home **the amount of €500**.

### **Registering to be present for the Final Event**

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Even if you are not presenting an idea, all young people are welcome to join the event on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020, by registering on this link: <https://forms.gle/EdAqoknfBNRQ6TRg7> Light refreshments and drinks will be served throughout the event. Places are limited, so please book at your earliest. If the event is held online, all the registrants will be provided with a link to the online platform on which the event will be held.

**The proceedings during the event will be in English. This means that the pitch during the event must also be conducted in English.**

If you require further information kindly contact us on [info@gozobusinesschamber.org](mailto:info@gozobusinesschamber.org)

For information about the coaching session please contact: [jennifer.cauchi@gov.mt](mailto:jennifer.cauchi@gov.mt)