

# **EURADA Summer School 2024**

6 – 8 May 2024, Valletta and Gozo | Malta

#### Summer School outline

The Summer School provides an engaging and fully immersive experience offering participants a better understanding of the importance of SMEs at the European level.

During this 2 days Summer School, participants will have the chance to learn more about how the EU is embracing the green transition and developing a sustainable blue economy, the role of SMEs & startups in developing resilience for peripheral and remote regions, how crucial EU Funds are towards the development of island economies and remote European territories, as well as cultural heritage preservation initiatives of Malta.

The Summer School will also include two site visits. One to the most prominent companies operating on the Maltese islands: SuperCharger Ventures - a Malta Accelerator, and to the Gozo Experimental Farm.

### Summer School objectives

The Summer School seeks to:

- Raise awareness of the intrinsic challenges faced by small island states and remote territories;
- Put SMEs and start-ups at the forefront of our agenda;
- Highlight the impact of EU Funds towards the development of regional economies.

### Background

In 2024, for the first time in EURADA history, the Summer School will be organised on the premises of EURADA members. Given the fact that on 9-10 May 2024 the EU-Startups Summit 2024 will take place in Malta, EURADA, together with Malta Enterprise and Gozo Regional Development Authority, both EURADA Maltese members, decided to organise its Summer School in Malta with a special focus on regional policies to support startups at the European level and cultural heritage preservation initiatives.

### 2024 Focus

- The role of SMEs & startups in developing resilience for peripheral and remote regions;
- How the EU is embracing the green transition and developing a sustainable blue economy;
- Cultural heritage preservation in peripheral and remote regions;
- Effectively communicating your message across EU stakeholders;
- How crucial are EU Funds towards the development of island economies?;
- Actively promote networking between participants through workshops and site visits.

### Methodology

Different teaching methods will be applied. Expert speakers will deliver presentations and organise workshops concerning their respective specialisations/backgrounds. Company site visits will also be an integral part of the programme encouraging a more active-learning approach. Taking into account the missions and core activities of RDAs, namely innovation support, investment, and internationalisation, as well as the specificities of different innovation ecosystems, the participants will explore the future opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for RDAs in supporting SMEs-startups at local level.

#### Dates of the Summer School

The residential Summer School will take place from 6 to 8 May 2024 at Valletta and Gozo, Malta.

### Participants' profile

The programme of the Summer School targets Policymakers, Government officials working for national/regional Development Agencies, and relevant stakeholders. Participants should be strongly committed to local development, innovation and/or development and implementation of EU R&I and/or Cohesion policy.

Candidates need to submit a duly compiled application via <u>this form online</u>. Registration will remain open until **21 April 2024**. However, we strongly advise registering as early as possible to secure accommodation and other arrangements.

#### Working language

All sessions will be conducted in English.

#### Fee, logistics and costs

There is a participation fee for the EURADA Summer School. While transportation costs, snacks, lunches, and dinner in Malta will be borne by the organisers, accommodation costs and other meals not specified in the agenda will be borne by the participants.

Corporate rates when booking your accommodation in Malta will be provided upon request.

- EURADA Members: €300

- Non-EURADA members: €400

### Accommodation in Malta

The Summer School organisers managed to successfully provide you with three options for your stay in Malta.

- Water Front Hotel (Location Sliema Seafront) Single or Double Room at the rate of €175/night on BB basis. <u>https://waterfronthotelmalta.com/</u>
- <u>ANY</u> ST Hotel (Location Gzira & Sliema) –10% discount code: EURADA2024. <u>https://sthotelsmalta.com/</u>
- Hotel Verdi (Location Gzira Seafront) Corporate Rates are automatically applied when selecting the dates when accessing this link ONLY: <a href="https://be.synxis.com/?Hotel=39453&Chain=10210&&locale=en-GB&promo=MLTENT">https://be.synxis.com/?Hotel=39453&Chain=10210&&locale=en-GB&promo=MLTENT</a>. Rates at Verdi for May are at €140 for a Superior Inland and €155 for a Deluxe side/sea view room.

#### Organisers EURADA – The European Association of Development Agencies



The European Association of Development Agencies (EURADA), founded in 1992, professionals gathers working on economic development across Europe. EURADA represents development agencies before the European Union institutions. The association facilitates cooperation among regional economic development practitioners. They can network, plan common EU projects, cooperate, advocate, and participate at the European level. EURADA serves as an international well-established facility to connect development agencies with each other, with Europe, and with the opportunities Europe has to offer. www.eurada.org

#### Malta Enterprise



Malta Enterprise (ME) was officially launched in 2004 and has been in various guises since the 1950s. It is Malta's main economic development agency focused on attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and offering support to enterprises based in Malta. It acts as a single point of contact for all enterprise support, advises the Government on economic policy and facilitates interaction from various sectors.

https://maltaenterprise.com/

#### **Gozo Regional Development Authority**



**DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** 

The Gozo Regional Development Authority (GRDA) was officially launched on the 14th of September 2020. It has as its legal basis Chapter 600 of the Maltese Laws. The Authority has a regulatory and consultative role and addresses an important gap in the socio-economic development of Gozo by developing and streamlining regional policies overseeing and their by implementation through the adoption of modern project management tools. https://grda.mt/

# AGENDA of the Summer School 2024

### Monday 6 May 2024: Arrival in Malta

18.00	Venue: TBC
	Arrival in Malta and welcome aperitivo
	A brief introduction by <b>Kurt Farrugia</b> – CEO at Malta Enterprise and <b>Roberta Dall'Olio</b> – Director at EURADA, followed by a networking event

# Tuesday 7 May

8.30 – 9.00	Venue Malta Enterprise – Address TBC
	Registration and welcome coffee
9.00 - 9.30	Welcome and setting the scene
	<ul> <li>Brian Camilleri – CO Economic Intelligence, Research and EU Affairs at Malta Enterprise</li> <li>Roberta Dall'Olio – EURADA Director</li> </ul>
9.30 – 11.20	Regional policies to support startups
	<ul> <li>The impact of SMEs &amp; startups in developing resilience for peripheral and remote regions</li> <li>Dan O'Brien – Chief Economist at Institute of International and European Affairs, Dublin</li> </ul>
	Insights on artistic conservation and restoration of the local heritage
	• <b>Pierre Bugeja -</b> Founder & Senior Conservator at Prevarti
	<ul> <li>The RAISE initiative: Regions' Alliance for Interconnected Startup Ecosystems</li> <li>Giacomo Frisanco – Communication, Policy and Membership Manager at EURADA</li> <li>Philippe Sejalon – member of the RAISE Regional Steering Group and CEO at INGAGE – TBC</li> </ul>
11.20 - 11.40	Coffee break
11.40 - 12.30	Developing a sustainable blue economy in the EU
11.40 - 12.30	

	Karmenu Vella – Former EU Commissioner for
	Environment, Oceans and Fisheries
12.30 – 13.30	An interactive workshop session on effective communication/ lobbying
	Stefano Mallia – TBC
13.30 - 14.30	Lunch Break
15.00 - 16.30	<ul> <li>Company visit:</li> <li>Trident Park and Supercharger Ventures</li> </ul>
16.30 - 17.30	Transfer to la Valletta
17.30 – 18.30	Guided tour of St John's Co-Cathedral, Valletta <ul> <li>Heritage Malta</li> </ul>
18.30 – 19.30	Free time in La Valletta
19.30	Dinner in La Valletta

# Wednesday 8 May

8.30	Pick up in front of your hotel
10.00	Ferry to Gozo Island
11.00 – 11.15	Venue: Gozo Innovation Hub
	Arrival and Welcome Coffee
11.15 – 12.00	The peripheral island of Gozo, challenges, and realities
	• <b>Mario Borg</b> – CEO at Gozo Regional Development Authority
12.00 - 12.30	Regional imbalances: the role of tailor-made regional policy
	<ul> <li>Ronald Sultana – Director Tourism &amp; Economic Development, Ministry for Gozo &amp; Planning</li> </ul>
12.30 – 13.15	Regional sustainability – Protecting biodiversity, traditional and historical heritage
	<ul> <li>Joseph Cutajar – Director ECO GOZO, Ministry for Gozo &amp; Planning</li> <li>Stephen Cini – Assistant Director, Gozo Cultural Heritage</li> </ul>
	Directorate

	Magui Lage – POCITYF consortium
13.15 - 14.30	Lunch Break
14.30 - 15.00	Walk around Victoria Historical Centre & Cittadella
	<ul> <li>Christian Zammit – Head EU &amp; International Affairs at Gozo Regional Development Authority</li> </ul>
15.00 - 16.30	Visit to the <b>Gozo Experimental Farm</b> – Testing innovative practices to tackle issues in the agriculture sector
17.00	Ferry to go back to Malta

# Thursday 9 and Friday 10 May 2024

#### EU-Startup's Summit 2024 in Valletta.

EURADA can provide you with tickets for the EU-Startup's Summit with a discount.