A logo on a black background

Description automatically generated

**SINO-MALTA Fund 2025 Joint Call** **(Science and Technology Cooperation)**

**Application Form**

Version: 1

Issue Date: April 2025

**Notes to Applicants**

1. The official National Rules for Participation can be downloaded from the [Xjenza Malta website](https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/open-funding-schemes/).
2. Kindly ensure that this application form is filled in with reference to the National Rules for Participation 2025 for this scheme.
3. The Application Form and any attached documents will be treated as confidential throughout and after the project appraisal process.
4. Only Application forms which are complete and that include all relevant supporting documents will be evaluated.
5. Only electronically filled-in application forms will be accepted. Should the application be hand-written or should the format of the application form be altered, the application form will not be evaluated.
6. Part B of the application form (excluding Sections 7 to 10) should not exceed 30 pages and must be typed using the minimum font size of 10 with single spacing. Do not change the headings or the established formats of the templates. Explanations written in italics can be deleted. Please, do not consider the page limit as a target! It is in your interest to keep your text as concise as possible since experts rarely view unnecessarily long proposals in a positive light.
7. All responses must be clearly explained and substantiated.
8. A complete Application Form must be submitted by the Lead Applicant of the Malta-based entity (on behalf of the Project Consortium), to Xjenza Malta via email on [international.xjenzamalta@gov.mt](mailto:international.xjenzamalta@gov.mt). Corresponding Annexes may be sent by the Project Partners directly to the Managing Authority via email.
9. The deadline for submission is **30th June 2025, 23:59 CET**. Any submissions received after this date and time will be rejected.
10. This Application will be evaluated in combination with all relevant submitted supporting documents. The Managing Authority reserves the right to request further information should this be required.
11. Please complete the sections for all partners involved in the project from different countries, including the partner(s) not requesting funding, if any.

**Application Form**

**Part A**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Project Acronym** | |  | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| **Project Title** | |  | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| **Positioning of the Project** | | | | | |
| *Describe the positioning of the project e.g. where it is situated in the spectrum from ‘idea to application’, or from ‘lab to market’. Refer to Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs)[[1]](#footnote-2) where relevant.* | | | | | |
|  | | | |  |
| **Thematic Area and Subtopic:** |
| *Please describe how the project fits the selected thematic area/s and subtopic/s.* | | | | | |
|  |  | | | | |
|  | | | | | |
| **Project Duration:** |  | | Months | | |

**Partners involved in the project (including both Maltese and Chinese partners in the consortium)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Partner Number** | **Country** | **Full Name of Partner Organisation** | **Partner Status (Lead / Partner)** | **Organisation Type** | **Name of Principal Investigator (PI)** | **Project Cost** | **Requested Cost** |
| **1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Total** | | | | |  |  |

*Add as many lines as needed*

**Lead Partner Profiles:**

**a) Maltese Lead Applicant**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Legal Name of Undertaking/Entity | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Name of Department/Institute/Centre *[if applicable]* | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| E-mail address | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Website address | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| More information on the entity:   * Brief history, when established, number of employees * Field of activity and core competencies * Research capacity & track record in related activities * Other relevant information |  |
| VAT number *[not applicable for public entities]* | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Legal Form of Undertaking/Entity | Choose an item. |
| Registration/Identification number  *[not applicable for public entities]* | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Entity / Undertaking Size | Choose an item. |
| Date Established  *[not applicable for public entities]* | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| Business Activity *[please state NACE code; a list of NACE Codes may be accessed* [*here*](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5902521/KS-RA-07-015-EN.PDF)*]* | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Principal Investigator/Project Contact Point Information | *Name:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *Designation:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *Gender:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *Contact Number:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *E-mail address:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *I consent to receive information about other Xjenza Malta initiatives* |
| Funding route chosen  Please tick which State Aid Regulation you will be following.  Applicants may only opt for one option. Selecting more than one option will render the application ineligible.  More information is provided in the National Rules for Participation and the Managing Authority can also be contacted for further clarifications. | ☐ ***De Minimis*** (Applicants shall need to fill in Annex I)  ☐ **GBER** Applicants shall need to fill in Annex II, III and IV. *N.B. Travel costs are not considered as eligible costs under Regulation B)*  ☐ **State Aid** not applicable (Applicants shall need to sign the declaration provided in either Annex V or Annex VI of this application form)  NB: The funding route selected should be reflected in the budget requested, also taking into account eligible costs as outlined in the National Rules for Participation. |

**Chinese Lead Applicant**

*NB: Chinese entities must apply separately with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Legal Name of Undertaking / Entity** |  |
| **Name of Department/Institute/Centre** (if applicable) |  |
| **Website link:** |  |
| **More information on the entity:**   * Brief history, when established, number of employees * Field of activity and core competencies * Research capacity & track record in related activities * Other relevant information |  |
| **Project Contact Point Information** | *Name:*  *Designation:*  *Contact Number:*  *E-mail address:.* |

**Additional Partner Profiles**

**Malta**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Legal Name of Undertaking / Entity** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Name of Department/Institute/Centre** (if applicable) | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **E-mail address:** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Website address:** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **More information on the entity:**   * Brief history, when established, number of employees * Field of activity and core competencies * Research capacity & track record in related activities * Other relevant information |  |
| **VAT number** (not applicable for public entities)**:** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Legal Form of Undertaking / Entity:** | Choose an item. |
| **Registration/Identification number** (not applicable for public entities)**:** | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Entity / Undertaking Size:** | Choose an item. |
| **Date Established** (not applicable for public entities): | Click or tap to enter a date. |
| **Business Activity** (please state NACE code):  A list of NACE Codes may be accessed by [clicking here](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/3859598/5902521/KS-RA-07-015-EN.PDF). | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Partner Contact Point Information** | *Name:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *Designation:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *Gender:* Click or tap here to enter text.  *Contact Number:*Click or tap here to enter text.  *E-mail address:*Click or tap here to enter text.  *I consent to receive information about other Xjenza Malta initiatives* |
| **Funding route chosen**  Please tick which State Aid Regulation you will be following.  Applicants may only opt for **one** option. Selecting more than one option will render the application ineligible.  More information is provided in the National Rules for Participation and the Managing Authority can also be contacted for further clarifications. | ☐ ***De Minimis*** (Applicants shall need to fill in Annex I)  ☐ **GBER** Applicants shall need to fill in Annex II, III and IV. *N.B. Travel costs are not considered as eligible costs under Regulation B)*  ☐ **State Aid** not applicable (Applicants shall need to sign the declaration provided in either Annex V or Annex VI of this application form)  NB: The funding route selected should be reflected in the budget requested, also taking into account eligible costs as outlined in the National Rules for Participation. |

*Repeat Template for each Maltese Partner as needed.*

**China**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **PARTNER 1** | |
| **Legal Name of Undertaking / Entity** |  |
| **Name of Department/Institute/Centre** (if applicable) |  |
| **Website address:** |  |
| **More information on the entity:**   * Brief history, when established, number of employees * Field of activity and core competencies * Research capacity & track record in related activities * Other relevant information |  |
| **Project Contact Point Information** | *Name:*  *Designation:*  *Contact Number:*  *E-mail address:* |

*Repeat Template for each Chinese Partner as needed.*

**Summary of the project** *(publishable abstract):*

|  |
| --- |
| *Kindly provide a brief publishable abstract, no longer than 400 words.* |
| **Keywords:** |

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# **Section 1: Scientific/Technological Excellence**

## **Aims and Objectives of the Project**

|  |
| --- |
| *Please describe the aims and scientific/technical objectives of the project in detail with clear and brief statements. The objectives should be measurable, realistic, and achievable within the project’s lifetime.* |

## **State of the Art**

|  |
| --- |
| *Please describe the current international state of the art in the domain addressed by the project (present a literature review including, if applicable, patent/utility model/market research relevant to the project). All necessary references should be given in Section 8.* |

## **1.3 Scientific Quality, Innovation Potential and Contribution**

|  |
| --- |
| *Please describe the scientific quality and innovation potential of the project, highlighting the expected progress beyond the state of the art.* |

# 

# **Section 2: Methodology**

|  |
| --- |
| *Please explain the scientific and technological methodology and research techniques (including data collection techniques, tools, and data analysis methods) to achieve the objectives of the project. Be specific and avoid general descriptions. Describe experience or preliminary results showing feasibility.* |

# **Section 3: Project Management**

|  |
| --- |
| *Provide a work-time schedule using the following Gantt chart – the below template may be used.*  *Each task must be clearly allocated to specific time periods (e.g., months or weeks), and all planned deliverables must be explicitly indicated and linked to the corresponding tasks.*  *A graphic presentation (Pert chart or similar) which shows inter-relations of different work packages (WPs) is also expected.*  *Describe the organisational structure, the management structure, and the decision-making.* |

## **3.1 Work plan**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Work Packages/Tasks/***  ***Deliverables*** |  |  | | | | | | | | | | |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ***1*** | ***2*** | ***3*** | ***4*** | ***5*** | ***6*** | ***7*** | ***8*** | ***9*** | ***10*** | ***11*** | ***12*** | ***13*** | ***14*** | ***15*** | ***16*** | ***17*** | ***18*** | ***19*** | ***20*** | ***21*** | ***22*** | ***23*** | ***24*** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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*Use as many rows and columns as needed.*

## **3.2 Work Packages**

*Provide a description of each work package (templates provided).*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **WP 1** | | **WP Title** | | | | | | **Start Date** | **End Date** | | **Duration (months)** |
|  | | | | | |  |  | |  |
| **Work Package Leader** | |  | | | | | |  | | | |
| **Contribution of project partners (including both Maltese and Chinese Partners)** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Partner number7 | | | | 1 | | 2 | 3 | | | 4 | |
| Total effort per partner (Person-months)8 | | | |  | |  |  | | |  | |
| **Objectives** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Please provide a general description of the work to be undertaken (including methods to be applied where appropriate), identify the partners involved and specify their contributions.* | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Interdependence with Other Work Packages** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| *Please describe the interdependence between the present work package with other work packages.* | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Tasks** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **T1.1** | **Task title (Start month – end month; Responsible partner; Involved partner(s))**  *Description of work highlighting role of each participant, indicating partner effort (in person-months)* | | | | | | | | | | |
| **T1.2** | **Task title (Start month – end month; Responsible partner; Involved partner(s))**  *Description of work highlighting role of each participant, indicating partner effort*  *Add as many lines as needed* | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Deliverable** | | | **Month of delivery** | | **Title of deliverable** | | | | | | |
| **D1.1** | | |  | |  | | | | | | |
| **D1.2** | | |  | |  | | | | | | |
|  | | |  | | *Add as many lines as needed* | | | | | | |

*Use as many WP templates as needed*

**Work package overview: Total effort per WP and partner (Person-months)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Partner Number** | **WP1** | **WP2** | **WP3** | **WP4** | **WP5** | **WP6** | **Total** |
| **1** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Total** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

*Use as many lines and columns as needed*

## **3.3 Deliverables of Malta-based Participants**

*Submit a list of assigned deliverables that the beneficiary is responsible for/is contributing to.*

*The* ***format and weighting*** *of deliverable submissions must be specified (e.g., presentations, reports, correspondence, legal agreements, images, event agendas, audio recordings, videos, databases, certificates or manuscripts). Deliverable submissions must be done through a file storing/sharing service that is set-up by the beneficiary. Mandatory deliverables as per the National Rules shall be also listed. Activities related to project set-up, such a personnel recruitment, procurement of equipment, internal meetings, etc, should not be considered as deliverables. Applicants should ensure that the deliverables proposed remain relevant and proportionate to the scope of the project, avoiding excessive & unnecessary deliverables.*

*N.B: Further to the mandatory deliverables, the proposed deliverables should not exceed twelve (12).*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assigned Project Deliverables** | **Leading or contributing** *(indicate for both lead and partner)* | **Format** | **Submission Date** | **Percentage weighting**  **(cumulative 100%) \*** |
| WP *(WPX – Title)* |  |  | **M** *(MX)* | **%** |
| Deliverable (*DX.X – Title)* |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Deliverable |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Deliverable |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| WP |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Deliverable |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Deliverable |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| WP |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Deliverable |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| WP |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Deliverable |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| **Mandatory deliverables as per National Rules** |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| *Interim Technical and Financial Report* |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| *End of Project Technical Report* |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| *End of Project Audited Financial Report\*\** |  |  | **M** | **NA** |
| *Dissemination articles* |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| *Progress Meetings with Xjenza Malta* |  |  | **M** | **%** |
| Add as required |  |  | **M** | **%** |

\**Allocate a percentage to each deliverable (both mandatory and additional deliverables) indicating their relative importance to the successful completion of the project. Consider the significance of each deliverable within the context of the project's objectives and goals; please be aware that these percentages will be evaluated. The total allocation should sum up to 100%.*

*\*\*The End of Project Financial Report is not subject to a percentage weighting. This mandatory deliverable holds an overarching 100% of the project* value. Failure to submit the End of Project Financial Report by the end of the project finalisation phase will result in the automatic refund of the full grant amount.

*Note: If the project is awarded, the Grant Agreement specifies that if a deliverable is not delivered within the timeframes stipulated beyond the project end date, the corresponding percentage of the grant will be deducted from the project value.*

## **3.4 Milestones and Risk Analysis**

*Please provide a list of milestones and potential risks (templates provided).*

**List of milestones**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Milestone** | **Delivery month** | **WP involved** | **Title** |
| **M1** |  |  |  |
| **M2** |  |  |  |
| **M3** |  |  |  |

*Use as many lines as needed but try to limit the number of milestones.*

**Risk analysis.**

*The risks that can affect the success of the project negatively, their potential impacts and corresponding mitigation plans should be described. The Risk Reduction Plan should be in line with the main objectives of the project.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Risk description** | **Probability** | **Impact** | **Mitigation Measures** |
|  |  |  |  |

# **Section 4: Importance of International Collaboration**

## **4.1 Expertise and role of each partner**

*Describe each partner in the project by using the template below.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Partner number (1,2,3 etc.)** | **Organisation Full name** |
|  |  |
| **Expertise** | |
| *Expertise of the* ***partner’s project team*** *related to the objectives of the project.*  *Provide a brief CV of the principal investigator highlighting R&I-related experience.* | |
| **Role in the project** | |
|  | |
| **Availability of Resources to undertake the project** | |
| *Provide an overview of the resources available to allow the successful implementation of the project activities.* | |

*Use as many templates as needed.*

## **4.2 Added value of the collaboration**

|  |
| --- |
| * *How the partners complement one another in terms of necessary expertise, technology and other resources? Describe the added value of the consortium as a whole (including complementarity, balance).* * *Please explain the necessity and importance of implementing the project with international collaboration.* * *If the technology transfer between the partners is foreseen, please explain how it will be accomplished.* |

## **4.3 Management of Intellectual Property**

|  |
| --- |
| * *Please specify the project output(s) which might be subject to registration of patent, utility model and industrial design.* * *NB. Applicants are reminded that any output subject to Intellectual Property Rights should be in line with the Intellectual Property Agreement* |

# **Section 5: Impact**

## **5.1 Expected impacts**

*Describe the expected impact(s) of the project in relation to the project objectives using the template below. Wherever possible, use quantified indicators and targets.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Type of impact** |  | **Expected Output, Results and Impacts** |
| **Scientific/Academic**  (Peer-reviewed Article, Proceeding, Chapters, Book) |  |  |
| **Dissemination**  (e.g. Popular articles in magazines, social media platforms, outreach activities to the general public) |  |  |
| **Economic/Commercial/Social/Environmental *(not applicable for projects undertaking fundamental research)***  (Product, Prototype, Patent, Utility model, Production license, Process Improvement, Variety registry, Spin-off/Start-up company, Audiovisual archive, Inventory / Database / Documentation Production, Work that can be copyrighted, Presented in media, Fair, Project market, Scientific activity (workshop, training where the results of the projects to be used), social impact, environmental impact and other common effects.  For the projects aiming new product development, please also answer the following questions;   * Describe the added value that the project will provide and the contribution of the project output(s) to partner(s)’ efficiency and competitiveness. * Explain the commercialization potential and domestic/international market share of project output(s) including a brief comparison with other potentially competing products or services and its possibility to replace an imported product. * Provide a clear and realistic commercialization plan of project output(s) including the following information:   - Time to market (where relevant)  - Increase in sales rate  - Increase in market share  - Breakeven point |  |  |
| **Researcher Mobility, continuation of research activities** |  |  |

# **Section 6: Ethical issues & Risk Appraisal**

|  |
| --- |
| *Describe any potential ethical issues (if any) that may arise during the execution of the project.*  *Describe your strategies to be followed to reduce ethical risk.* |

## **6.1 Risk Appraisal**

|  |
| --- |
| **Is the proposed research considered to involve** [**critical technology**](https://defence-industry-space.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2023-10/C_2023_6689_1_EN_annexe_acte_autonome_part1_v9.pdf) **?** *Yes/No*  *If yes, indicate the relevant Technology Area and specific technologies listed, or any other technologies deemed relevant by the applicant.*  **If yes, has the applying entity conducted a risk appraisal[[2]](#footnote-3) of the foreign partner?**  *Please provide a brief summary of the appraisal outcomes and confirm whether the entity is satisfied to proceed with the proposed collaboration.* |
|  |

# **Section 7: Budgets**

## **7.1 Type of Research and Aid Intensity chosen**

*For each applicant, please provide the research type to be undertaken and a justification that aligns with the research type definitions provided in the National Rules for Participation (Section 1.1 – Definitions). Should a partner be undertaking different types of research, kindly indicate this in the justification.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Maltese Lead Applicant** | **Research Type:** *Fundamental Research and/or Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development of entity’s tasks*  **Justification:** *Kindly justify Research Type selected*  **Aid Intensity:** *Provide % Aid Intensity as per Funding Route chosen in Partner Profile* |
| **Maltese Partner 1** | **Research Type:** *Fundamental Research and/or Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development of entity’s tasks*  **Justification:** *Kindly justify Research Type selected*  **Aid Intensity:** *Provide % Aid Intensity as per Funding Route chosen in Partner Profile* |
| **Maltese Partner 2** | **Research Type:** *Fundamental Research and/or Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development of entity’s tasks*  **Justification:** *Kindly justify Research Type selected*  **Aid Intensity:** *Provide % Aid Intensity as per Funding Route chosen in Partner Profile* |

*Use as many lines as needed.*

**7.2 Budget Details**

1. **Budget Summary by Entity**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Eligible Direct Costs €** | **Eligible Indirect Costs €** | **Total Eligible Costs €** | **Co-financing rate** | **Requested Funding €** |
| Maltese Lead Partner  *Name of Lead Partner* |  |  |  |  |  |
| Partner 1  *Name of Partner 1* |  |  |  |  |  |
| Partner 2  *Name of Partner 2* |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Total*** |  |  |  |  |  |

*Kindly submit Annex VII outlining the Budget details by each Malta-based Partner.*

*Please consult the National Rules for Participation for more details.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tranche** | **Requested**  **Funding €** |
| Pre-Financing  (50% of total requested funding) |  |
| Interim Financing  (30% of total requested funding) |  |
| **Retention**  (20% of total requested funding) |  |
| **Total** |  |

# **Section 8: References (if applicable)**

|  |
| --- |
| *Each reference must include the names of all authors, article/journal/book title, volume number, page numbers and year of publication. If the document is available electronically, the Digital Object Identifier should also be shared.* |

# **Section 9:** **Additional Declarations**

## Personal Data Protection

1. **Contact Email Address of the Data Protection Officer:** [dpo.xjenzamalta@gov.mt](mailto:dpo.xjenzamalta@gov.mt)
2. **The Legal Basis and Purpose of Processing:** The personal data collected by Xjenza Malta (hereinafter ‘the Managing Authority’) via this written application for the aid and its subsequent processing by the Managing Authority to evaluate data subject’s request for aid under the Scheme is in line with:
3. The relevant National Rules for Participation.
4. Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17th June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended by Commission Regulation (EU) No 2017/1084 of 14 June 2017 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as regards aid for port and airport infrastructure, notification thresholds for aid for culture and heritage conservation and aid for sport and multifunctional recreational infrastructures, and regional operating aid schemes for outermost regions and amending Regulation (EU) No 702/2014 as regards the calculation of eligible costs, by Commission Regulation (EU) 2020/972 of 2 July 2020 amending Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 as regards its prolongation and amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 as regards its prolongation and relevant adjustments, by Commission Regulation (EU) 2021/1237 of 23 July 2021 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, and by Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/1315 of 23 June 2023 amending Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty and Regulation (EU) 2022/2473 declaring certain categories of aid to undertakings active in the production, processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, (hereinafter referred to as the ‘General Block Exemption Regulation’), in the case of those projects submitted under Regulation B of the National Rules for Participation – State aid.
5. Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2831 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (hereinafter referred to as the ‘de minimis Regulation’) in the case of those projects submitted under Regulation A of the National Rules for Participation – State aid.
6. Data Protection Act (CAP 586 of the Laws of Malta) and Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation).
7. The legitimate basis to process personal data submitted by the data subject by virtue of his/her written application for aid is Regulation 6 (1)(b) of the General Data Protection Regulation (“GDPR”), as *‘processing is necessary in order to take steps at the request of the data subject prior to entering into a contract’.*
8. **Data Retention Period:** The data collected by the Managing Authority as submitted by the data subject via this written application for aid will be retained for a period of ten (10) years from the date on which the aid was granted under this scheme, in line with Article 12 of the General Block Exemption Regulation (where applicable) or Article 6 of the *de minimis* Regulation (where applicable). In the case of projects which are not awarded, data collected by the Managing Authority as submitted by the data subject, shall need to be retained for the duration of the funding programme or of the programming period.
9. **Pursuant to the GDPR Regulation, you have the right to access personal data, rectify inaccurate personal data, request to erase personal data, and request the Managing Authority to restrict the processing of personal data.** To exercise such rights, you are to submit a written request to the Data Protection Officer via the contact e-mail address. Any erasing and/or rectification of personal data and/or restriction of processing as referred to above may:
   1. Render one or more cost items or the Entity ineligible for assistance under the Scheme or render void the Grant Agreement issued in favour of the Entity for assistance under the Scheme in relation to this written application for aid.
   2. Lead the Managing Authority to enforce a recovery of aid granted to the Entity as part of this written application for aid.
10. **Sharing of data where strictly necessary and required by law:** For the purpose of processing this written application for aid in line with the National Rules for Participation, the General Block Exemption Regulation or the de minimis Regulation, the Managing Authority may share the data provided via this application with other Government Entities, subject that such processing satisfies at least one of the grounds listed under Regulation of the GDPR. The use of the Scarlet Database owned by JobsPlus shall also be used to aid in the interpretation of the ‘enterprise size declaration’, the ‘undertaking in difficulty’ and the ‘de minimis declaration’ forms.
11. For the purpose of monitoring aid in line with Article 6 of the de minimis Regulation and Articles 11 and 12 of the General Block Exemption Regulation or where legally required, any data provided as part of this written application for aid may be shared with the European Commission.
12. For any individual aid award granted in line with Regulation B of the Rules for Participation - State aid that is in excess of €100,000 (or for beneficiaries active in primary agricultural production or in the fishery and aquaculture sector on each individual aid award exceeding €10,000) as part of this written application for aid, the details of the Beneficiary, the awarded aid, and the project details shall be published as provided for in Article 9 of the General Block Exemption Regulation.
13. If you feel that your data protection rights have been infringed, you have the right to lodge a complaint with the Information and Data Protection Commissioner.
14. **Authorisation to engage with the Managing Authority on matters** **related to this application**:

I the undersigned, as the legal representative of the Applicant Entity, authorise the following Legal Bodies and/or Natural Persons to act on my behalf with the Managing Authority concerning matters related to this written application for aid and any subsequent documentation exchanged between the two parties concerning the same written application for aid.

*The person giving authorisation should correspond to the data subject of personal data contained in this application as well as represent the Applicant Entity as its legal representative.*

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| Name of Legal Entity | Name and Surname of Natural Person Granted Authorisation[[3]](#footnote-4) | E-Mail Address of Party Granted Authorisation[[4]](#footnote-5) |
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| --- | --- |
| Name And Surname of The Person Giving Authorisation | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| E-Mail Address of The Person Giving Authorisation | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Signature Of Person Giving Authorisation |  |
| Designation | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Date | Click or tap here to enter text. |

## Cumulation of Aid (where State aid rules apply)

The undersigned declares that aid approved under this incentive is in line with the terms and conditions set out in the National Rules for Participation and in line with Article 5 of Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/2831 of 13 December 2023 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to *de minimis* aid (where applicable), and Article 8 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended (where applicable).

## Double Funding

The undersigned confirms that there has not been any approval or has been granted any public funding, financing or fiscal benefit in respect to the cost items included in this request for aid and will not seek funding or fiscal benefits for these cost items through other National and/or European Union measures. Such measures may include:

1. Schemes administered by Xjenza Malta, Malta Enterprise, the Planning and Priorities’ Coordination Division (PPCD), the Measure and Support Division, Jobsplus, the Energy and Water Agency, and other government-funded schemes operated by other entities (such as JAMIE financial instrument).
2. Schemes funded through Horizon 2020, Horizon Europe, ERDF, ESF and any other European Union programmes/instruments.

## Outstanding Recovery Order

The undersigned confirms that the applicant is not subject to an outstanding recovery order following a previous Commission decision declaring an aid granted by Malta illegal and incompatible with the internal market.

## Transparency Obligations

For any individual aid award in line with Regulation A of the National Rules for Participation – State aid, as of 1 January 2026, information on de minimis aid granted under this scheme shall be made publicly available in a central register.

The following information shall be made public:

1. The identification of the beneficiary,
2. The aid amount,
3. The granting date,
4. The aid instrument, and
5. The sector involved on the basis of the statistical classification of economic activities in the Union (‘NACE classification’).

For any individual aid award in line with Regulation B of the National Rules for Participation – State aid, that is in excess of EUR 100,000 (or for beneficiaries active in primary agricultural production or in the fishery and aquaculture sector, on each individual aid award exceeding €10,000), the details of the beneficiary; the aid awarded; and the project details; shall be published as provided for in Article 9 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty, as amended.

By submitting this application, I hereby acknowledge that the Managing Authority shall abide by any applicable transparency rules and may publish and make available to third parties’ information as required by such rules.

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| Declarations for Lead Applicant | |
| I confirm that: | |
| The information given in this form is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if it is later established that the information is misrepresented, the application or funded project may be ineligible or terminated respectively. | **I AGREE** |
| I have read and accept the terms and conditions stipulated within the declarations above and the National Rules for Participation and confirm that I agree with the eventual publication of personal data and project proposal content information of successful applicants, including the name of the entity, project contacts, title of proposal and abstract. | **I AGREE** |
| I accept and confirm that the personal data and project/activities proposal content information can be passed on to Xjenza Malta to be used solely for the purposes of administering, processing, and review of the application. | **I AGREE** |
| I accept and confirm that the personal data and proposal content information can be passed on to third parties i.e., the Partner Organisation/s with whom I will be carrying out this project, solely for use in said project/activities, and that any misuse of the data or provision of data to parties outside this agreement will incur legal action. | **I AGREE** |
| In the case the proposal is selected for funding, the designated ‘Start of Works’ date of the project will be after the signing of the Grant Agreement. | **I AGREE** |
| I have never been found guilty by any competent Court in Malta or elsewhere of any crime[[5]](#footnote-6) and that I have never been adjudged bankrupt or insolvent by, or filed an application for insolvency before, any competent Court in Malta or elsewhere. | **I AGREE** |
| I have never been disqualified[[6]](#footnote-7) or excluded from participation in any Public Tender either by the Government of Malta or by the European Union or by any public entity in Malta. | **I AGREE** |
| I have never been disqualified[[7]](#footnote-8) or excluded from participation in any Public and/or European Union funding scheme. | **I AGREE** |
| I declare that the proposal has an exclusive focus on civil applications. Activities intended in whole or in part for military use or aimed in whole or in part at serving military purposes are not eligible for funding.  If the project involves dual-use items within the meaning of Regulation (EC) No 428/2009, or any other items requiring authorisation, we confirm that we will comply with the applicable regulatory framework, including obtaining all necessary export/import licences prior to the use of such items. | **I AGREE** |

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| Name of Legal Representative: | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Contact Details: | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Date: | Click here to enter a date. |
| Signature of Legal Representative, Position in Entity + Entity Stamp for the Maltese Lead Applicant: |  |
| Signature, Position in Entity & Stamp of Legal Representative for ALL other Maltese partners: |  |

# **Section 10: Check List of Attachment****s**

Please ensure that the following annexes are submitted with this application form, depending on the State Aid Regulation you will be following. All annexes can be downloaded from the [Xjenza Malta’s website](https://xjenzamalta.mt/media/open-funding-schemes/) and should be submitted along with this application form by the proposal submission deadline.

The Lead Applicant must submit the following documents on behalf of the local project consortium by email to [international.xjenzamalta@gov.mt](mailto:international.xjenzamalta@gov.mt):

A signed copy of this **Application Form** in MS Word (.docx) and PDF formats completed by all Malta-based project partners.

A **Cooperation and Intellectual Property Agreement** signed by all Malta-based project partners & China-based Lead Partner.

Curricula Vitae of Principal Investigator and other key researchers highlighting R&I related experience.

**Budget Breakdown Form** for each local project partner.

Annexes should be submitted based on which funding modality will be followed by each local applicant. Project Partners may choose to submit their Annexes to the Lead Applicant or directly to Xjenza Malta on [international.xjenzamalta@gov.mt](mailto:international.xjenzamalta@gov.mt).

Applications where **State Aid is not applicable** should submit:

Signed Declaration where State Aid is not applicable for Public Entities whose activity does not constitute an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU (Excluding Public Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organisations).

Signed declaration where State Aid is not applicable for Public Research and Knowledge Dissemination Organisations that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU.

**Entities applying for aid under Regulation A (*de minimis*) should submit:**

The *De minimis* declaration Form

Audited financial statements for the last three (3) years

**Entities applying for aid under Regulation B (GBER) should submit:**

Enterprise Size Declaration Form & Undertaking in Difficulty

Declarations for Augmented Aid Intensity

Audited financial statements for the last three (3) years

**Please tick accordingly (applicable only for applications under the State Aid route i.e., *de minimis* or GBER):**

With this application form, I have annexed the Memorandum and Articles of Association (and any other corresponding amendments) or other constitutive document.

**Additionally, other forms of documentation can be requested depending on the nature of the undertaking.**

*\**In the case of start-ups that do not have the above documents available, please provide financial projections for three (3) years signed by an auditor (to include an income statement, a cash flow statement and a statement of financial position).

1. [*http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014\_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl\_en.pdf*](http://ec.europa.eu/research/participants/data/ref/h2020/wp/2014_2015/annexes/h2020-wp1415-annex-g-trl_en.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Risk appraisals help safeguard research security by identifying potential risks in international collaborations involving critical technologies. The applying entity is responsible for deciding the scope and approach of the appraisal. Entities may use the European Commission’s ["Building Blocks for Risk Appraisal"](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2024-01/ec_rtd_building-blocks-risk-appraisal.pdf) as a resource, though it is not expected that all questions will be answered. Other frameworks or internal tools may also be used. The evaluation will focus only on whether an appraisal was completed, not on the methodology used. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Leave empty if authorisation is intended for any natural person engaged with the Legal Entity. Otherwise, specify the name and surname of the person(s) working for the Legal Entity to whom the authorisation is intended. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Written communication with the Legal Entity and/or Natural Person granted authorisation via email will only be accepted via the email address specified in the table above. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. *This Declaration does not extend to any traffic related offences where these have been made.* [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. *This Declaration does not extend to disqualification of any tender proposal due to technical reasons.* [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. *This Declaration does not extend to disqualification of any tender proposal due to technical reasons.* [↑](#footnote-ref-8)