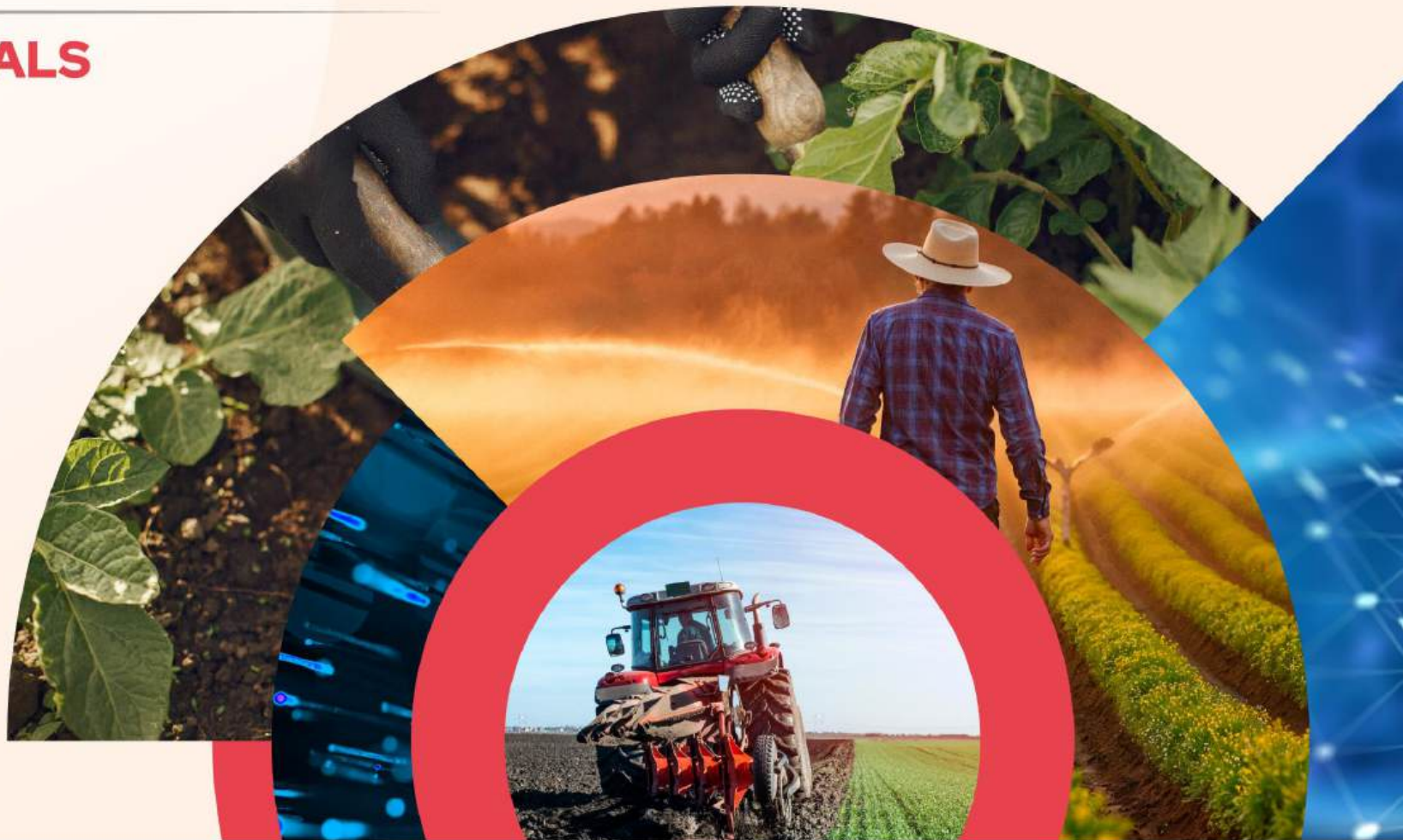


XJENZA MALTA - TÜBİTAK 2026

JOINT CALL FOR R&I PROPOSALS

ONLINE
INFORMATION SESSION

15 APRIL 2026



GOVERNMENT OF MALTA
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT
FOR YOUTH, RESEARCH
AND INNOVATION





Xjenza Malta-TÜBİTAK 2026 Joint Call for R&I Proposals

Information Session Event

xjenzamalta.mt



Housekeeping Notes

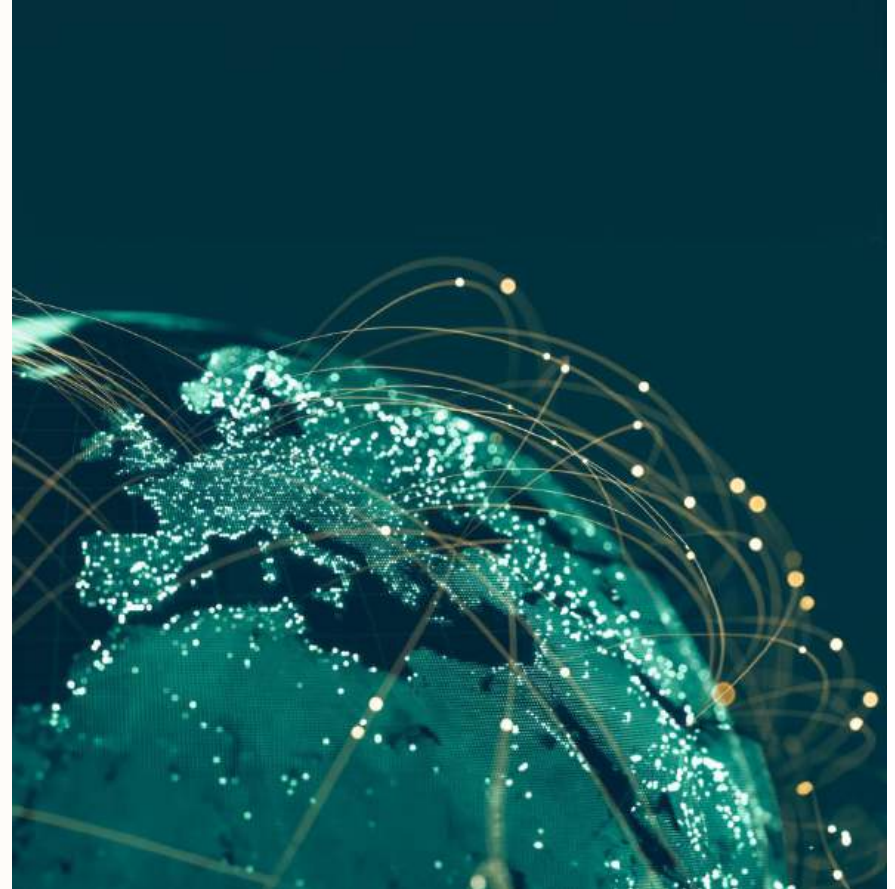
- Please hold your questions until the official Q&A session starts. In the meantime, post your questions in the chat.
- Please remain muted until you are invited to speak.



The information contained in this presentation is provided for guidance purposes only and is subject to the official national documentation issued by Xjenza Malta and TÜBİTAK. In the event of any inconsistency or contradiction, the information contained in the official documentation shall prevail over the content of this presentation. Applicants are advised not to rely solely on this presentation when completing or submitting their application, as additional requirements, conditions, and details are outlined in the official documentation and must be reviewed carefully.

The Internationalisation Unit

- **Follow international trends** in Research, Development and Innovation through its representation in international and regional science diplomacy forums
- **Strengthen international R&I collaboration** amongst local and foreign researchers and stakeholders
- Implements regional and international funding programmes, **using national funds**, aimed at the local R&I stakeholder community



Internationalisation Funding Portfolio



Xjenza Malta-TÜBİTAK General Overview

- In 2020, Xjenza Malta and TÜBİTAK signed a collaborative agreement to bilaterally support cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation between Malta and Türkiye.
- 5 Joint Calls for R&I Proposals have been launched.
- 14 successful bilateral projects have been awarded to date for an overall awarded budget of circa EUR 1.28 M.



Aim and Scope

- The 6th Joint Call aims to assist researchers and innovators from both countries in strengthening their scientific expertise and networks, fostering collaboration for future funding opportunities, including the annual PRIMA Section 1 and Section 2 Calls. This Call will focus on two distinct pillars:
 - Pillar 1: Dedicated to PRIMA Thematic Areas, addressing the PRIMA Programme's priorities.
 - Pillar 2: Focused on Research, Development, and Innovation (RDI) Thematic Areas, which extend beyond the PRIMA fields to include broader topics of mutual interest.

The Call will have two separate ranking lists, one for the PRIMA Thematic Areas and one for the RDI Thematic Areas. The intent is to fund high ranking projects from each pillar.

Call Snapshot

Project Duration	Up to 24 months
Max. funds that can jointly be requested by Malta-based partner/s per project	€100,000
Submission Deadline of Proposal	5th June 2026, 23:59 CET
Xjenza Malta Submission Email	prima.xjenzamalta@gov.mt

Call Snapshot

Project Consortia	At least one eligible legal entity operating in Malta and at least one legal entity operating in Turkey.
Pillar 1 - PRIMA Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Management of Water- Farming Systems- Agro-Food Value Chain
Pillar 2 – Shared National Priorities Research Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Artificial intelligence and Machine Learning- SMART Manufacturing- Health
Supported TRLs TRL Levels Explained: https://shorturl.at/C9lf3	1-7

XJENZA MALTA - TÜBİTAK 2026

JOINT CALL FOR R&I PROPOSALS

PILLAR 1

PRIMA THEMATIC AREAS

Management of Water
Farming Systems
Agro-food value chain

APPLY NOW



Pillar 1 – PRIMA Research Areas



BOTTOM-UP Call!

XJENZA MALTA - TÜBİTAK 2026

JOINT CALL FOR R&I PROPOSALS

PILLAR 2

SHARED NATIONAL PRIORITY AREAS

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
Smart Manufacturing
Health

APPLY NOW



Pillar 2 – Shared National Priorities



BOTTOM-UP Call!

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be scientifically evaluated based on:

- **Scientific/Technological Excellence**
- **Methodology**
- **Project Management**
- **Structure and Contribution of International Collaboration**
- **Impact**



Reference Documents



[About Us](#)

[What We Do](#) ▾

[Funding Schemes](#) ▾

[Media](#) ▾

[Esplora](#)

[Villa Bighi](#)

[Contact Us](#)



[Open Funding Schemes](#)

[Closed Funding Schemes](#)

[Resources Page](#)

An overhead photograph of a group of people sitting around a wooden table in a meeting. They are looking at laptops and tablets. The text 'Open Funding Schemes' is overlaid in white on the image.

Open Funding Schemes

Project Consortium

- Each collaborating side must have **one Principal Investigator/Lead Partner**, representing the proposal consortium for each country.
- The PI of each country shall be **responsible to submit the Joint & National Application Form** to the respective Managing Authority.
- Applicants are eligible to submit more than one proposal under the Call.



Eligible Entities

Eligible Entities must be registered in Malta or must have an operating base in Malta

Limited Liability
Company

Partnerships

Non-profit
making
Organisations

Voluntary
Organisations

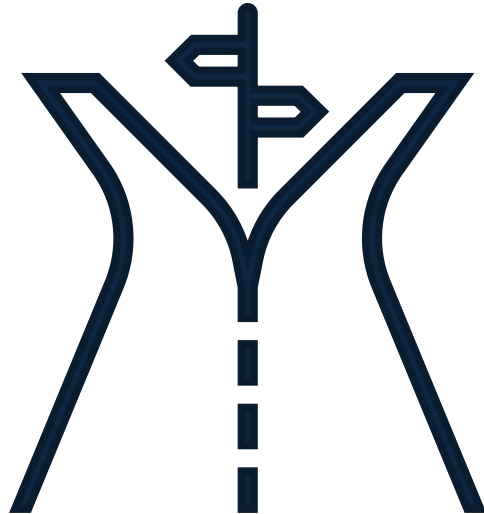
Professional
Bodies

Cooperatives

Public entities

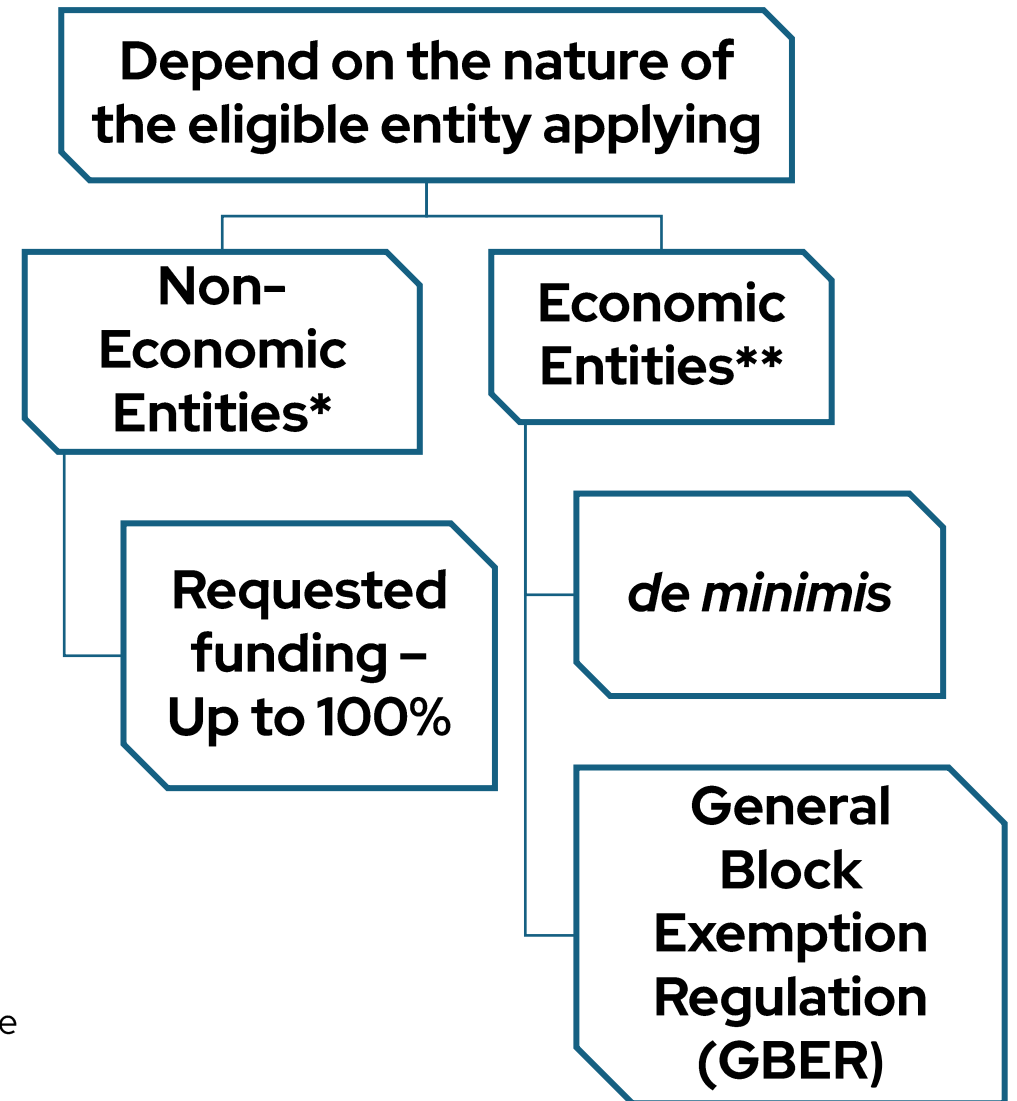
Research &
Knowledge-
Dissemination
Organisations

Funding Modalities



* Public Entities and Public Research and Knowledge-Dissemination Organisations that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU

** Undertakings that carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU.



Aid Intensity

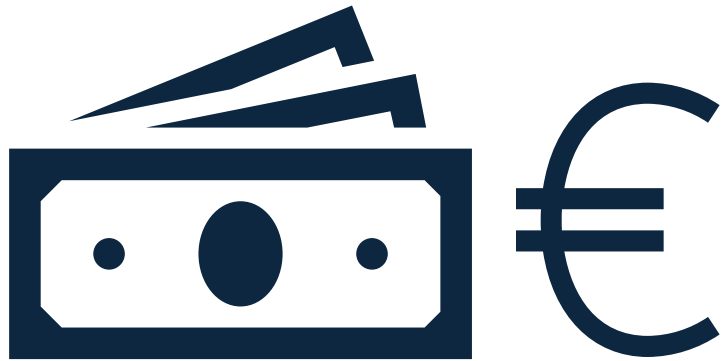
Economic entity	de minimis*	GBER
Requested funding	Up to 75%	Up to 60%
Own contribution	Remainder % (not in-kind)	Remainder % (not in-kind)

*Capping of € 300,000 over 3 years

Table below showing the Aid Intensity permutations under General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER)

Aid Intensity	Undertaking Size		Extra funding for projects prioritising Effective Collaboration &/or Wide Dissemination
	Small	Medium	
25%	Small	+ 20%	+ 15%
	Medium	+ 10%	
	Large	+ 0%	

Eligible Costs



Personnel

**Specialised
Equipment &
Consumables**

Subcontracting

**Costs of IP and
Knowledge
Transfer
activities**

**Travel &
Subsistence**

**Overheads and
Other
Operating
Expenses**

Personnel Costs

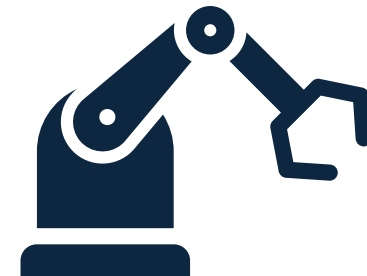
Non-economic/*de minimis*/GBER

- Project Management – up to 10% of the total project value.
- Maximum of 1720 hours p.a.

€z = (basic salary + allowances) / yearly workable hours of the employee.

Role in Project	Hourly rates in 2026	Hourly rates in 2027	Hourly rates in 2028	Limits per project
Management or equivalent	Up to €60.78/hour	Up to €63.82/hour	Up to €67.01/hour	Max 2 per project
Senior Researcher ¹ or equivalent	Up to €42.84/hour	Up to €44.98/hour	Up to €47.23/hour	Max 2 per project
Researcher ² or equivalent	Up to €30.69/hour	Up to €32.22/hour	Up to €33.83/hour	No limits
Operational, technician, research support assistant or equivalent	Up to €16.83/hour	Up to €17.67/hour	Up to €18.55/hour	No limits

Equipment and Consumables



	Non-State aid	<i>de minimis</i>	GBER
Research Consumables	Cost not to exceed 30% of the project value.	Cost not to exceed 30% of the project value.	Cost not to exceed 30% of the project value.
Specialised Equipment & Instruments	Cost to purchase/lease specialised equipment.	Cost to purchase/lease specialised equipment.	Depreciation costs - Cost of specialised equipment is only eligible to the extent and for the period used in the project. To be verified by a certified public accountant.

Travel and Subsistence



Non-economic/*de minimis*

- Economy flights, most economic solutions (public transport) and per diems for up to 14 days in a row.

GBER

- Travel costs are not eligible

Type of Meeting	Number of persons funded	Comments
Consortium meeting	Max. of 2 persons per meeting	Within the project period
International Conference	Max. of 2 persons per event	Max. of one conference every 6 months
'Other' project-related meetings	Max. of 2 persons per occasion	Need to be discussed and approved by the Managing Authority

Subcontracting

Non-economic/*de minimis*/GBER

- Allowed up to 25% of the project value
- Must follow necessary procurement procedures



IP and Knowledge Transfer Activities

Non-economic/*de minimis*/GBER

- Costs of knowledge transfer activities and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at arm's length conditions.



Overheads and Other Operating Expenses

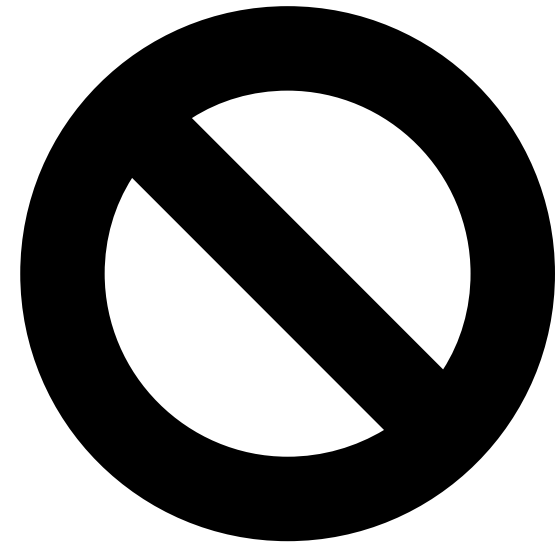
Non-economic/*de minimis*/GBER

- **Other Costs & Indirect costs that are incurred directly as a result of the project.**
- **These will be covered at 20% of total direct eligible costs claimed.**
- **Should not be listed as separate line items in the budget.**

To be discussed with the Call Manager at the application stage if needed

Ineligible Costs

1. Expenses related to loans, interest etc.
2. Expenses which are recoverable through other funding mechanisms
3. Re-purchase of the same equipment originally procured through other funding mechanisms
4. Purchase and/or leasing of equipment and services from partners or their subsidiaries
5. Standard office equipment
6. Personnel hours for travelling
7. Any other costs that are not listed as eligible costs in the National Rules.



Project Timelines & Disbursements

- All partners shall decide on a **common Start Date** for the project.
- **Meetings and Reports:**

Meetings	Project Timeline*	Reports
Kick-Off Meeting	Month 1	
Progress Meeting	Month 6	
Progress Meeting	Month 12	Interim Technical Report
	Month 13	Interim Financial Report
Progress Meeting	Month 18	
Progress Meeting	Month 24	End of Project Technical Report
	Month 26	End of Project Financial Report

**The project timeline may vary according to the project duration.*

- **Disbursements:**

Pre-Financing	50%
Interim Financing	30%
Retention Fund	20%

Submission Documents



National
Administrative
Form + Annexes

The image shows the 'Application Form' page. At the top, there are logos for TÜBİTAK and XJENZA. The title 'Application Form' is centered. Below the title, there are four numbered instructions: 1. The application form (including Section 7) must not exceed 30 pages and must be typed using the minimum font size of 10 with single spaced lines. Do not change the established format of the tables. Explanations written in red ink are not to be accepted. 2. Application form must be prepared in English. 3. Please complete all the sections for all partners involved in the project from different countries, including the department not requesting funding (otherwise, your application will be rejected). 4. Keep in mind that separate documents needs to be filled for the details of requested project budget. Below the instructions, there are four sections with input fields: 'Acronym of the Project', 'Title of the Project', 'Positioning of the Project' (with a descriptive text: 'Describe the positioning of the project e.g. where it is situated in the spectrum from "idea to application" or from "job to market". Refer to Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs) where relevant.'), and 'Accordance with the call' (with a text: 'Please describe how the project fits the scope of call (max. 1/2 page)'). At the bottom, there are checkboxes for 'Fill in: PRIMA Thematic Areas' and 'Fill in: Shared National Priority Areas', and a section for 'Thematic Area(s)'. A note states: 'If a proposal is submitted with multiple thematic areas, however they must remain within the same pillar.'

Joint Application
Form



Cooperation and IP
Agreement

Submission Documents

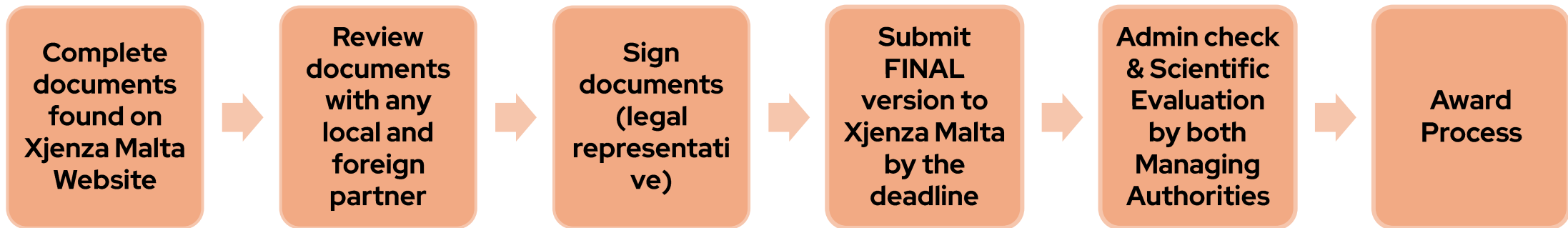
Attachments	Public entities	Public RKDOs	de minimis	GBER
De minimis Declaration Form			X	
Enterprise Size Declaration Form & Undertaking in Difficulty				X
Declaration for Augmented Aid Intensity				X
Audited financial statements (last 3 years)*			X	X
Public entities (not RKDOs) Declaration	X			
Public RKDOs Declaration		X		
Detailed Budget Breakdown Form	X	X	X	X

- Each Malta-based partner in a local consortium must submit Annexes.
- **To be submitted by Principal Investigator or directly by partners within a local consortium.**

*Where unavailable, applicants are to submit Management accounts showing detailed profit and loss & balance sheet for the current year.

*start-ups that do not have the above documents available, please provide financial projections for three (3) years signed by an auditor

Submission Process



Submission deadline: 5th June 2026, 23.59 CET

Submission Email: prima.xjenzamalta@gov.mt

Submission/Query Email Subject: Xjenza Malta-TÜBİTAK 2026 Call-ACRONYM-SUBMISSION/QUERY

Evaluation Process

- **Initial Check:** All applications undergo an **administrative eligibility check** by both Managing Authorities.
- **Eligible proposals** are evaluated through a **joint scientific process** based on defined criteria, after which the Joint Committee makes final funding decisions using recommendations from independent external experts.
- The Managing Authority may conduct **due diligence** through its contractors and request additional assurances or documentation at its discretion.

Minor Deviation = Corrected by Xjenza Malta; applicant can accept or decline the amendment

Major Deviation = Identified by Xjenza Malta; applicant may be invited to fix it, or the application is immediately rejected.

Partner Search - Plumtri



The Plumtri website header features the logo on the left and a navigation menu with the following items: ABOUT, NEWS & EVENTS, OPPORTUNITIES, RESOURCES, REGISTERED PROFILES, and MATCH MAKING TOOL. The 'OPPORTUNITIES' menu item is circled in blue. Below the navigation is a large orange banner with the text 'Looking to partner up? Search our list of registered prof...' and a 'Click here...' button. A dropdown menu is open under 'OPPORTUNITIES', listing 'Calls for Funding', 'Jobs / Internships', 'Scholarships / Fellowships', and 'Search for Partners', with the last item circled in blue.

Search for Partners

Find partners for your project ideas.

The Search for Partners tool allows plumtri users to search for partners to embark on collaborative research opportunities. It also provides users the option of uploading their own partner search requests.

Upload Partner Search

[Submit Request](#)

Filter

Keywords

- Any -

Scheme / Cell Title

Sort by

Order

Date Posted Desc

APPLY

Current Partnership Requests

MATERIAL SCIENCES UNIT AT NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF ITALY (CNR) IS LOOKING FOR A MALTESE PARTNER TO PARTICIPATE IN SPIRE XJENZA MALTA - CNR 2025 JOINT CALL FOR RESEARCH

Materials Engineering SPIRE

Mr Pietro Calandra, a chemist and physicist working on material sciences at the National Research Council of Italy (CNR) is looking for Maltese partners to apply for SPIRE: Xjenza Malta-CNR 2025 Joint Call, in the Sustainable Use of Resources section. Type of partners sought-higher education / University/Research Institution

Deadline: 29/05/2025

[Read More](#)

Any Questions?



CONTACT |

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