

## **“NON CONVENTIONAL WATER RESOURCES (NCWR) PROGRAM IN MALTA”**

### ***ALTER AQUA – Phase III***

**Call for proposals to students, newly graduates and young professionals of**  
*Engineering, Architecture, Natural Resources Management, Water Technologies, others*

#### **1. Background**

The “Non Conventional Water Resources (NCWR) Program in Malta [aka Alter Aqua]” ([www.gwpmed.org/NCWR](http://www.gwpmed.org/NCWR)), implemented in the Maltese Islands since 2011, has entered its 3<sup>rd</sup> phase (2019-2020). The Programme is designed by the regional organisation **Global Water Partnership - Mediterranean (GWP-Med | [www.gwpmed.org](http://www.gwpmed.org))**, one of the thirteen regions of the inter-governmental organisation Global Water Partnership (GWP| [www.gwp.org](http://www.gwp.org)), in partnership with the **Energy and Water Agency (EWA | [www.energywateragency.gov.mt](http://www.energywateragency.gov.mt))** and the Coca-Cola in Malta (General Soft Drinks S.A. and the Coca-Cola Company), supported primarily by **The Coca-Cola Foundation** and co-funded by EWA.

*Alter Aqua* commenced in the Maltese Islands in 2011, first focusing on the island of Gozo, in partnership with the Ministry for Gozo and the Eco Gozo project; and since 2014, focusing on the Island of Malta, in partnership with the Ministry for Energy and Water Management and the Energy and Water Agency, aiming to promote the use of non conventional water resources as a sustainable practice for local water security and climate change adaptation. Since 2011, the Programme has applied 17 NCWR systems, yielding 18 million liters of water annually, including the installation or reinstatement of rainwater harvesting systems and greywater recycling systems, alongside educational and awareness raising activities and capacity building workshops for professionals. The Programme has reached out to about 15,000 students, 1,380 teachers, 55 technicians, benefiting more than 65,000 people. It has contributed to water security at local and national level in a sustainable and cost-effective way and has promoted a new water culture for sustainable water use.

Water security is among the top priorities in the Maltese Islands, where integrated and innovative approaches to water management are applied, including mobilising non conventional water resources and engaging stakeholders to improve water efficiency and management, contributing also to climate change adaptation and sustainable development.

Leveraging the legacy of the previous phases, *Alter Aqua - Phase III* seeks to mainstream NCWR applications and water saving in Malta, including through youth engagement and capacity building. In this regard the Programme collaborates with tertiary education institutes to place youth at the forefront by engaging them in training and hands-on experience to design and implement NCWR systems while promoting employability in green/blue jobs, by engaging in the design and implementation of mainstream and innovative NCWR related projects and/or by engaging in the design of communication, marketing and cultural activities related to water. The activities of the Programme include Technical interventions, Capacity Building and Youth Engagement, as well as Awareness Raising and Communication activities. This call for proposals is addressed to students, newly graduates and young professionals of technical backgrounds, such as Engineering, Architecture, Natural Resources Management, Water Technologies and others, and will initiate their participation in a capacity building programme for NCWR.

## 2. Capacity building programme outline

In the context of the **Non Conventional Water Resources (NCWR) Programme in Malta - Alter Aqua III**, implemented in the Maltese Islands, the regional organisation **GWP-Med** and the **EWA** are issuing this **call for proposals for NCWR technical projects in the Maltese Islands**. The call is addressed **to university and college students, newly graduates and young professionals** residing in the Maltese islands, enrolled or graduated from a tertiary educational institution (in the Maltese Islands or elsewhere), in the field of Engineering, Architecture, Sciences, Natural Resources Management, Water Technologies, Sustainability, or similar.

Interested parties that submit their proposal through this call, will have the opportunity to **engage in a capacity building programme** in Malta to learn how to design NCWR systems – with emphasis on rainwater harvesting – study and draft technical specifications, as well as familiarise themselves with the procurement processes for technical works and engage in the implementation, as part of the supervision team.

The capacity building programme with related timeframe involves:

- A. April-May 2019 – Submission of project proposals
- B. May 2019 – Evaluation of proposals by a committee of professionals; participation in a capacity building workshop
- C. June 2019 – Revision and enrichment of selected proposals to a concise project document, with the support of experienced professionals
- D. July 2019 – Evaluation of project documents; selection of projects for implementation;
- E. Q3 2019 – Project procurement; Q4 2019-Q3 2020 – Project execution
- F. Q4 2020 – Open event featuring proposals and works.

Please note an informative meeting will take place in Malta at a date and location that will be announced soon; interested parties are advised to enroll through the link supplied in section 3.

Participation in the programme is part-time and voluntary. Involved candidates are expected to commit to phases a) through c), however they are encouraged to be involved throughout the programme.

Participants will benefit by gaining valuable experience, beneficial for their careers, including:

- Hands-on experience on NCWR technologies
- Close collaboration with specialised professionals in the water sector
- Project management skills & team work
- Real life project participation.

## 3. Capacity building programme content

- A. Candidates will submit their project proposal as instructed in the following section. Submitting a project proposal will enable the candidates participation in the capacity building programme.
- B. A committee of professionals will evaluate the submitted proposals in order to select which of these will be further elaborated by participants. All candidates (irrespective of the evaluation process) will participate in a capacity building workshop that will take place in Malta to facilitate learning about technically sound and socially acceptable projects, with considerations of time and budget limitations, as well as legal and

administrative procedures (procurement etc.). The workshop will include site visit(s) to works that were implemented by the Alter Aqua Programme in its previous phases.

- C. Candidates of selected proposals and, possibly, additional participants whose proposals were not selected but are willing to contribute to the work of successful teams, will be invited to enrich and resubmit their project proposals, following the guidance of professionals in terms of supplying technical details about selected projects (e.g. instructions for the execution, bill of quantities).
- D. A committee of professionals will evaluate the final project proposals and select 2-4 projects for implementation based on feasibility, benefit and cost. Successful candidates are encouraged to continue their involvement by following also the procurement and execution process.
- E. Project proposals and works will be featured during an open public event to take place in Malta.

An informative meeting for interested participants will take place in a location that will be announced soon. During the meeting, organizers will provide information about the call and about possible project sites. It is recommended that all interested parties attend this meeting; enrollment is possible through the following link: <https://bit.ly/2KGgQET>.

Site visits will be organized to selected works, either before or after the capacity building workshop, in order to gather additional information for developing the project proposals.

#### 4. Proposal submission

Candidates are invited to submit their project proposal (concept note), suggesting a technical intervention for NCWR, which must regard publicly owned and easily accessible premises on the Maltese Islands, including a timeline for implementation (execution of technical intervention) of maximum 6 months. Proposals may include small or medium scale technical projects for rainwater harvesting & reuse; stormwater management & reuse; underground water replenishment; water efficiency; green-blue infrastructure; greywater recycling. Other innovative project ideas may be considered if they can form a replicable pilot case to demonstrate and promote NCWR in the urban environment. Proposals for research projects and for technologies that are still being tested shall not be considered.

Possible projects may include the restoration of existing or the installation of new systems.

Proposals must be submitted ~~by May 16th 2019, 11:59 am CET (noon) by May 6th 2019, 23:59 CET~~, by completing and sending the attached form (**in word format**) through email to [nassia \[at\] gwpmed.org](mailto:nassia@gwpmed.org), with subject "**Alter Aqua Phase III – Call for project proposals**". ~~Additional time for preparing submissions may be supplied upon request.~~ The call will remain open until a relevant notification is posted on the announcement at <https://bit.ly/2GnaZ39> (also accessible through [www.gwpmed.org/NCWR](http://www.gwpmed.org/NCWR)).

## 5. Candidates required profile

Candidates may:

- Submit their proposal individually or in teams of 2-5 persons

Candidates must:

- Be enrolled at or have graduated from a tertiary educational institution in the field of Engineering, Architecture, Sciences, Natural Resources Management, Water Technologies, Sustainability, or similar, in the Maltese Islands or elsewhere. In the case of graduates, candidates must have completed their undergraduate or postgraduate degree within the last 5 years or be of age up to 32 years old.
- Reside in Malta
- Have a good working level of the English language.

For more information about the Programme and the call, kindly contact Ms. Nassia Kassela, Programme Officer, GWP-Med, on [nassia \[at\] gwpmed.org](mailto:nassia@gwpmed.org).

*Note: Information gathered will only be used for the purposes described in the call and the Alter Aqua Programme. Contact will be made in order to inform you about the progress of your submission and upcoming Alter Aqua Programme workshops and events. For any further information about how your data is handled, please contact secretariat [at] gwpmed.org with subject: "Alter Aqua III data privacy"*