THE ISSUE: Malta suffers from water scarcity due to resources’ depletion, escalating demand and climate change. Non Conventional Water Resources offer sustainable, cost-effective solutions to enhance water availability at local level.

THE PROGRAMME: Alter Aqua is a multi-stakeholder initiative aiming to mobilise the use of Non Conventional Water Resources (NCWR) in the Maltese Islands, such as rainwater harvesting, greywater recycling, stormwater management and wastewater reuse.

FUNDING: $1,140,000 Coca-Cola Foundation Grant + $440,000 co-funding by the Ministry for Gozo

THE ACTIVITIES:
- Installation and reinstatement of green infrastructure systems demonstrating NCWR technologies
- Educational hands-on activities at schools
- Teacher training seminars
- Awareness Raising on NCWR and sustainable water use
- Capacity building workshops for local authorities and NGOs
- Training for local technicians
- Policy Dialogue

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS
- 4 Rainwater Harvesting Systems installed & 8 more reinstated in public buildings (schools, the Gozo Experimental Farm, the Ministry for Gozo)
- 4 Greywater Recycling Systems in public buildings (Gozo Football Stadium, Malta College of Arts, Science & Technology (MCAST), Helen Keller Resource Centre, Tal-Qroqq National Swimming Pool)
- 1 Stormwater Management Application at the Ramla Valley, Gozo
- 1 Green Roof irrigated by recycled greywater at the MCAST
- Total Installed Capacity: 12,876 m³
- Estimated Annual Water Yield for 2011-2016: 16,684,000 Lt

TRAINING, CAPACITY BUILDING, AWARENESS RAISING & POLICY DIALOGUE
- Alter Aqua Resource Pack & Educational Material developed
- 10,738 Students educated through hands-on activities
- 926 Teachers trained
- STENCIL Award received for the most innovative science-related educational resources in Europe (2013)
- Alter Aqua Video Game and dedicated webpage www.gozowater.com developed
- 48 Technicians trained on innovative NCWR technologies
- Local authorities advanced their knowledge on NCWR Management
- Contribution to National Water Management Plan for the Maltese Islands
- Awareness raising on critical water challenges and the use of NCWR to address water scarcity and climate change
- Second Global Award as Water Showcase at the 7th World Water Forum (2015)