
Social Impact Awards Guidelines 2018

The **Social Impact Awards** is an initiative which will enable participants to submit proposals for a positive social impact project that will benefit Malta. Finalists will be chosen to pitch their projects in front of philanthropists, individuals, companies and a panel of judges for the chance of being awarded financial or non-financial support.

1. Scope of the Social Impact Awards

The Social Impact Awards is intended to support projects of a philanthropic, educational, social or civic nature or in support of other deserving causes in Malta. It offers to provide opportunities for financial and non-financial support to develop and materialise a project which will have positive social impact on Malta.

The Awards aims to create more opportunities, build a platform and network of people wanting to make a change and encourage changemakers to solve wicked problems, create system-change models and effective projects that can really solve problems in Malta and have a positive impact on the country and everyone.

2. The Organisers

The Inspirasia Foundation Malta and The Gasan Foundation are organising this event ("Organisers"). The Awards are sponsored by these two organisations and a number of different companies, corporate foundations and philanthropists.

3. Parameters of Funding

The Social Impact Awards aims to allocate funds to a project/s selected according to the criteria contained in these Guidelines. The grants awarded could vary but are usually in the range of €50,000 and under per winning project. Full project budget size must be between €10,000 to €100,000. If only a percentage of the funds are awarded there must be a guarantee that the additional funds can be raised.

It is the sole discretion of the Organisers to decide how much and who should be awarded the grant/s. Allocation of the funds can be divided as the Organisers see fit and not all funds need to be allocated for any year's awards. The Organisers may decide not to provide the funding or ask for it back if they are not satisfied with governance, reporting and observance of regulations that were agreed to in the Project Agreements.

It is unlikely that 100% of the projects will be fully supported, therefore projects need to show ways of securing other funding and support from other donors, sponsors.

4. Eligibility

The fund supports projects that will have a positive social impact on Malta. The Fund does not support organisations or individuals, but projects organised by organisations or individuals. An organisation's daily operational expenses will only be covered by the Fund if these are shown to be necessary to the Project's successful implementation. Additionally, for all organisations the Board of Administrators must ensure that:

- a) Its objectives, as outlined in its statute or constitutive documents, are consistent with the objectives of the proposal submitted;
- b) The proposed projects or initiatives being proposed for funding must not result in any profits that will benefit an individual or company; if profits arise they must be reinvested or ploughed back into the project or retained for future projects with the same social purpose;
- c) The beneficiaries of the proposed initiative or project are philanthropic, educational, social or civic nature or in support of other deserving causes in Malta.

5. Excluded from applying for the Social Impact Awards:

- a) Projects and initiatives submitted by political parties or political-party-affiliated organisations and/or party-politically-oriented projects;
- b) Projects and initiatives submitted by entities that are funded by Central Government (such as Local Councils, agencies etc), unless their involvement is limited to sponsorship of a cause that is being promoted by an individual or organisation that is not excluded by these Guidelines.

6. Expression of Interest

An expression of interest should be submitted by the 13th April 2018, by email to info@siamalta.org with the below information:

Short description of the Project (max.50 words)

Contact details of person/organisation submitting the project

Organisers can decide to still accept project proposals even if an expression of interest is not submitted by the above date but would not accept any applications after the deadline. The Organisers reserve the right to refuse any application without giving reasons for such refusal.

7. Applications

Applications are to provide sufficient information for evaluation purposes. Such information includes detailed information on the proposed project and initiative, the total estimated cost of the project, the amount of funding being requested and, the planned execution of project including the relevant timeframes. Only authorised signatories should sign the Application Form.

All Application Forms to be sent by email to info@siamalta.org by 30th April, 2018 (cc: louisa@inspirasia.org and sarah@gasan.com).

The Organisers reserve the right to seek further clarifications or documentation when not satisfied with the information being submitted.

The Organisers reserve the right to carry out Due Diligence Procedures. Due Diligence procedures could be asked to be carried out by an appointed external auditor and further documents may be asked for including but not limited to the following:

For existing organisations:

- a) Audited financial statements;
- b) Relevant banking information;
- c) Recent bank statements;
- d) Full list of full legal names of senior leadership, trustees, and board members including true copies of identity cards;
- e) List of countries where Organisation has operations outside of Malta, if any;
- f) Relevant information on any government affiliation or public funding; and
- g) Further details or information on Organisation's project idea and implementation plan
- h) Mid-Year Financial Reports (January to June 2017) for the entire organisation
 - I. Profit and Loss
 - II. Balance Sheet
 - III. Cash flow
- i) 2016 and 2017 Profit and Loss statements for the entire organisation - side by side on one Excel sheet to easily compare
- j) Written (Word document) narrative, particularly explaining major budget line items
- k) Written narrative on program accomplishment in 2017 and Mid-year 2018. Please include any images, success stories and client data where possible.
- l) Strategic plan or activities plan for your organisation for 2018.
- m) Child policies – for any projects in direct contact with children
- n) Policies and procedures

For new organisations or individuals:

- a) Written (Word document) narrative, particularly explaining major budget line items
- b) Relevant information on any government affiliation or public funding; and
- c) Further details or information on Organisation's project idea and implementation.

8. Submission time-frames

- a) 12th March 2018 – Informative session
- b) 13th April 2018 - Submission for Expression of Interest.
- c) 30th April 2018 at 12:00hrs - Submission deadline for Application Forms. To submit detailed application form, together with all requested information.
- d) By end May 2018 – Semi-finalists to be announced. Prior to this date, applicants could be asked to submit further documents and information.

- e) June – October 2018 – Mentoring period. Semi-finalists to get guidance on improving the projects
- f) October 2018 - Pre-trial pitching and Q&A session – For Finalists to be chosen
- g) October 2018 – Finalists chosen to pitch at the final event
- h) November 2018 - Final event. Grants to be awarded.

* Dates are subject to change.

9. Selection Process

The Judges evaluate all applications and make recommendations for the awarding of funds based on all the criteria below. For facilitation of project evaluation, it is recommended that Project descriptions clearly demonstrate how the Project fulfils each of the below criteria:

- a) Project falls within the scope of the Social Impact Awards;
- b) Full project budget size must be between €10,000 to €100,000
- c) Projects have a positive social impact in the areas of health, education, disability, social inclusion, alleviating poverty and destitution, social and community development, culture, environment, animal welfare, youths, elderly, disadvantaged communities/groups and improvement of life in Malta - **If your project doesn't fall in these areas or it is unclear what area it falls under please contact info@siamalta.org to clarify if you are eligible to apply.**
- d) Projects can be of a non-profit nature, generate an income and revenue is put back into the project for sustainability or as a social business.
- e) Proposal constitutes new, original and creative projects;
- f) Project benefits are sustainable;
- g) The project targets beneficiaries facing particular hardships, OR a wide sector of society benefits from the Project;
- h) The Applicant has access to the necessary expertise, capacity and competence to implement the Project or highlight any weaknesses aware and requests this support as part of their application form.

10. Judging

Each Application will be evaluated by a team based on the following criteria:

- a) **Impact.** How will the proposed project improve lives? How many people will be affected if successful and to what extent? Is the proposal rooted in research that identifies the size of the problem and how the proposed idea will help solve it? How will the impact be measured?
- b) **Feasibility.** Does the team have a well-developed, realistic plan to execute on the proposal? Have they identified the right partners for implementation? Does the team have enough capacity to carry out the project (or identified areas they need support in?) How are you collaborating with other stakeholders to have real impact?
- c) **Sustainability.** If successful, how easily is the project and organisation able to remain sustainable and find new modes of funding or partners? Will the project continue after Social Impact Awards funds finish?

For the final round, the Finalists will then be required to pitch their idea to the Judges at a final event in person in Malta (the "Final Event"). If a Finalist does not participate in the Final Event in person, they will be disqualified from the Challenge.

Finalists are obliged to present at the Final event and can not drop out last minute, unless for serious matters, communicated with The Organisers.

Determinations of the Judges and Organisers are final and binding. All decisions regarding allocation of funds made by the Organisations shall be final, including decisions relating to Eligibility as stated in these guidelines.

Finalists could be asked to fulfil certain requirements or obligations in order to be eligible to win a grant. All grantees will be asked to sign a MOU stipulating a number of requirements and obligations before receiving the funds. If they fail to sign or fulfil the MOU the grant can go to another finalist.

Following final recommendations and approval, a letter of commitment is issued to the respective project applicants. Project organisations will be required to enter into a Project Agreement with the Organisers. This letter and agreement will indicate the amount of funding that is allocated to the project, as well as any approved terms and conditions such as payment schedules, evaluation requirements, implementation plans, etc. When a payment is presented for a project, a declaration confirming its receipt by the appropriate and authorised applicant is to be signed.

Signature

Date Authorised
