GUIDELINES 2020

The Malta Social Impact Awards (MSIA) offers opportunities to changemakers. It enables participants to submit proposals for an initiative with a positive social impact that will benefit Malta. Finalists will be chosen to pitch their initiatives in front of philanthropists, individuals, companies and a panel of judges for the chance of being awarded financial and non-financial support.

1. Scope of the Malta Social Impact Awards

MSIA is intended to support initiatives 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 an initiative which will have positive social impact on Malta.

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

2. The Organisers

Inspirasia Foundation and The Gasan Foundation are the organisers of this initiative ("Organisers"). The Awards are sponsored by the above two foundations, the Academy of Givers and a number of different companies, corporate foundations and philanthropists.

3. Parameters of Funding

MSIA will allocate funds to an initiative/s selected according to the criteria contained in these Guidelines. Requested funding must not exceed €50,000. MSIA will only support up to 70% of the full budget and the applicants need to prove that they will secure any extra funding required, in-kind support might also be considered for the remaining 30%.

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 annually. 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 Grant Agreements.

4. Eligibility

The fund supports initiatives that will have a positive social impact on Malta. All organisations 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 initiatives must not result in any profits that will benefit an individual or company;
c) In the absence of a lawful social enterprise framework in Malta, MSIA will consider Limited Liability companies that have clear Social Purpose declared in their M&As and a commitment to reinvest all profits derived from the winning MSIA initiative back into their social purpose activities;
d) The beneficiaries of the proposed initiative are philanthropic, educational, social or civic in nature or in support of other deserving causes in Malta.
5. **Applications**

Applicants should provide sufficient information for the purpose of evaluation, this information includes;

- total estimated cost of the initiative,
- the amount of funding being requested and,
- the planned execution of the initiative 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 the 16th April (cc: christine@siamalta.org and sarah@gasan.com)

The Organisers reserve the right to seek further clarifications or documentation when necessary and reserve the right to carry out Due Diligence Procedures.

6. **Submission time-frames**

   a) 16th April 2020 at 12:00hrs - Submission deadline for Application Forms. To submit detailed application form, together with all requested information. Submissions after this time will not be accepted.
   
   b) By end May 2020 – Semi-finalists to be announced. Prior to this date, applicants could be asked to submit further documents and information. Prior to the announcement of the semi-finalists, shortlisted applicants might be asked to present their initiatives to the MSIA committee.
   
   c) June – October 2020 – Mentoring period. Semi-finalists to get guidance on improving their initiatives
   
   d) October 2020 - Pre-trial pitching and Q&A session, where finalists will be chosen to pitch at the Final Event
   
   e) November 2020 - Final Event, where grants to be awarded.

* Dates are subject to change.

7. **Selection Process**

The Judges will evaluate all applications for the opportunity to win financial and non-financial support based on the below criteria:

   a) The initiative falls within the scope of the Malta Social Impact Awards;
   
   b) Initiatives are sustainable;
   
   a) All initiatives must have a social purpose. Social Purpose definitions (but not limited to): "social purpose" is a purpose which benefits the community and which includes:
      (a) the advancement of education, including physical education and sports;
      (b) the advancement of health;
      (c) social and community advancement, including the integration of persons who are disadvantaged or disabled;
(d) the advancement of culture, arts and national heritage;
(e) the advancement of environmental protection and improvement, including the protection of animals;
(f) the promotion of human rights, conflict resolution, democracy and reconciliation;
(g) the relief of poverty, pain and suffering, and other humanitarian needs;
(h) animal welfare

If your initiative does not fall into any of these categories, please contact info@siamalta.org

The initiative can be:

a. Of a non-profit Nature
   An initiative with a social purpose that does not generate any profits. Ideally run by an organisation that is registered as a voluntary organisation.

b. A Social Enterprise
   A social enterprise is an organization that applies commercial strategies to maximize social impact. Any profits made are put back into the initiative and their social mission is as core to their success as any potential profit.

8. Judging

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

a) Impact. How will the proposed initiative improve lives? How many people will be affected if successful and to what extent? Is the proposal backed by research that identifies the size of the problem? How does the proposed idea help solve it? How will the impact be measured?

b) Feasibility. Does the team have a well-developed, realistic plan to execute the proposal? Have the right partners been identified? Does the team have enough capacity and resources to carry out the initiative (or identified areas they need support in?) How will the proposed initiative collaborate with other stakeholders to have real impact?

c) Sustainability. Is the program and funding sustainable? If successful, how easily is the initiative and organisation able to remain sustainable and find new modes of funding or partners? Will the initiative continue after MSIA funds finish?

9. Final Event

All finalists selected will be asked to participate in the Final Event in November 2020 where they will be required to pitch their initiative to the Judges, in front of a live audience. If a Finalist does not participate in the Final Event in person, they will be disqualified.

10. Other

Determinations of the Judges and Organisers are final and binding. All decisions regarding allocation of funds made by the Organisers 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 applicants. The winners will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Organisers. This agreement will indicate the amount of funding that is allocated to the initiative, as well as any approved terms and conditions such as payment schedules, evaluation requirements, implementation plans, etc. When a payment is presented for an initiative, a declaration confirming its receipt by the appropriate and authorised applicant is to be signed.

Signature of Director / Individual

Date