



ASSOĊIAZZJONI KUNSILLI LOKALI
MALTA

Local Councils' Association

MALTA

September 2010

LCA Mayors' Meeting

All is set for the next Mayors' and Vice-Mayors' Meeting of the Local Councils' Association which is being held on the 22nd and 23rd October 2010. The venue of the conference will be the Dolmen Hotel in Bugibba that forms part of the St. Paul's Bay Local Council.

The agenda include the following matters:

- presentation from a delegation of EPODE
- discussion with MEPA Chairperson Mr. Austin Walker
- address by LCA President Mr. Michael Cohen

The final programme is being finalised due to last minute changes and confirmation of speakers.

Philoxenia

The LCA has carried out its second campaign to encourage newly set up micro-enterprises to apply for assistance through the EU funded project called Philoxenia. As a result of this campaign, the LCA has received more than six enquiries that have been passed to the external consultant of the project for the required follow-up. The project provides for a grant of €4500 on terms and conditions to approved projects that must be carried out in rural localities in Malta and Gozo. The LCA has already received 3 full applications. The maximum number of projects to be approved is 18.

COR Plenary - Open Days

The Committee of the Regions will hold another Plenary Session in Brussels during the 5 and 6 October 2010. This will also coincide with the Open Days, one of the biggest events held in Brussels by DG Regio and the Committee of the Regions. Open Days will bring together more than 5000 participants to examine current best practices in all spheres of development, cohesion, information technology, health, local government, sustainable development, transport, education, climate change, renewable energy and other current issues facing communities across Europe.

The **Regional Review** Magazine that is published for this event will contain a full page article from the Local Councils' Association delineating the current EU projects being undertaken by the LCA.

Cycle of Recycling Green Economy: Malta could potentially exploit the new sphere

A group of entrepreneurs from Marzabotto in Italy is making headways in Green Economy. The group is now looking into the possibility to expand their operations and they are considering Malta. Initial contacts have been made through the Local Councils' Association.

The Local Councils' Association has been involved in an EU project on issues of waste recycling: "The Cycle of Recycling". The project dealt with the recovery and recycling of products and the use of unskilled personnel as part of a social policy dealing with poverty reduction. This is also in line with the creation of a socially responsible development plan for the network of players employed in social integration and environmental activities. The project in which the Local Councils' Association has participated through the co-operation with European Consulting Limited was made possible through the LifeLong Learning Programme Leonardo.

Under this EU programme, a Maltese delegation led by LCA and including experts in the environmental field, social and public entities, had the opportunity to visit the 'borgo ecologico' of Marzabotto in Bologna. The delegation learnt how the group of Italian entrepreneurs is reinventing the wheel in the building used by a papermill, which they now turn into an ecological place.

The Maltese Delegation was composed of: Claudette Abela Baldacchino, Jimmy Magro, Angele Vella, Mario Schembri and Nathan Farrugia. The representatives from Wasteserve and Tree Centre did not attend due to circumstances beyond their control.

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