

# SINO-MALTA

Fund 2023 Call Info Session

Virtual Information Event  
Date: 12<sup>th</sup> May 2023

**Sandrine Borg**

Executive (Internationalisation)  
Programme Manager



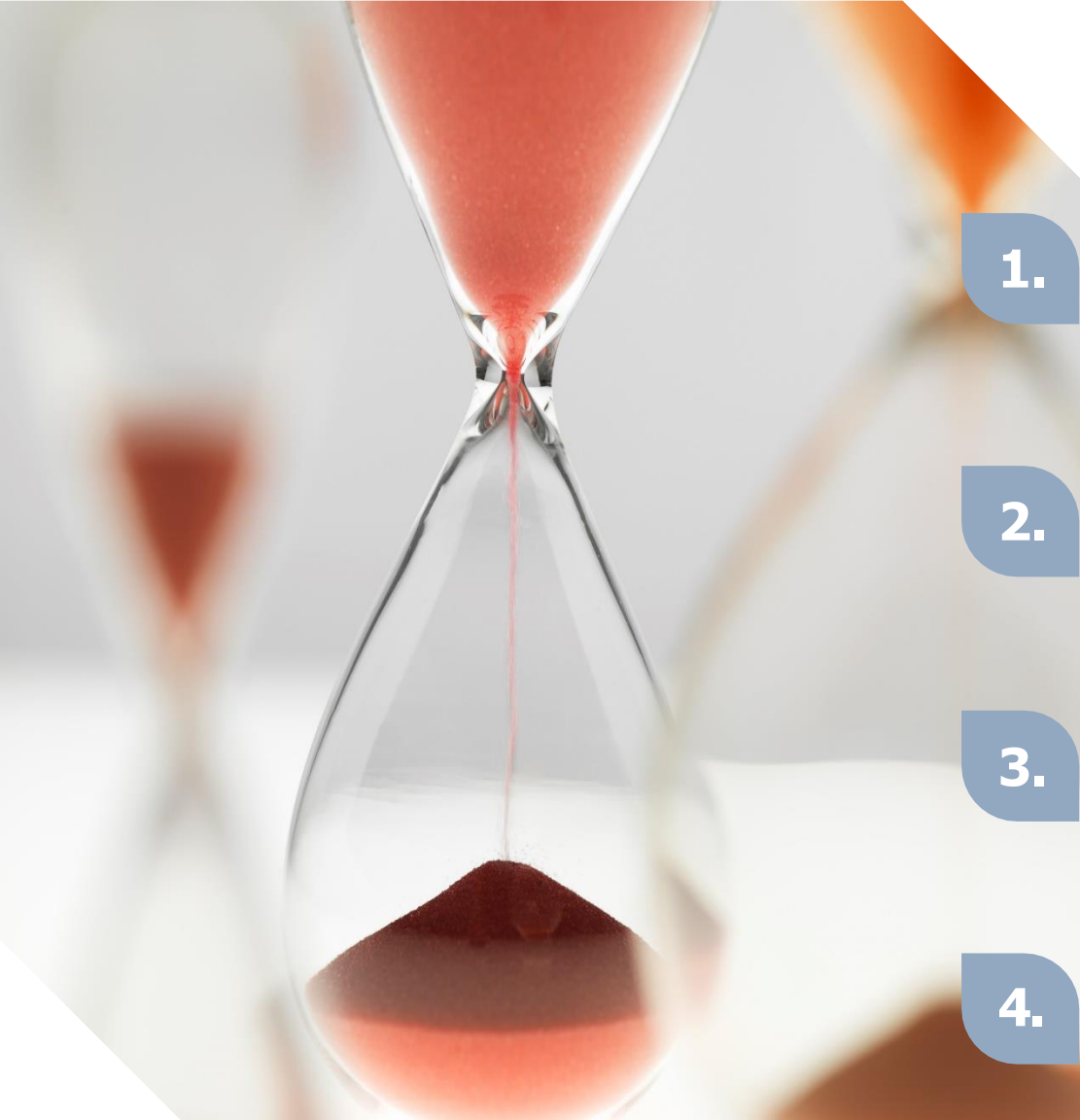
GOVERNMENT OF MALTA  
PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIAT  
FOR YOUTH, RESEARCH  
AND INNOVATION



中华人民共和国科学技术部  
Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China



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# Agenda

## Introduction & Call overview

*10:00 – 10:10 hrs*

## National Rules, Submission Documents, Submission Process

*10:10 – 10:30 hrs*

## Partner Search

*10:30 – 10:40 hrs*

## Q&A

*10:40 – 11:00 hrs*



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# Internationalisation Unit



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## Aims and Objectives

- The main aim of the internationalisation unit is to **strengthen international R&I collaboration amongst local and foreign researchers and stakeholders**
- The Unit implements regional and international funding programmes, using national funds, aimed at the local R&I stakeholder community



# Internationalisation Programmes



## Programmes:

- **PRIMA**
- **BlueBio ERA-NET COFUND**



**MCST TÜBİTAK** 2022  
JOINT CALL FOR R&I PROPOSALS

## Programmes:

- **SINO-MALTA** Fund
- **MCST-TÜBİTAK**



**HORIZON EUROPE**

## Horizon Europe Partnerships:

- Clean Energy Transition Partnership (**CETP**)
- Sustainable **Blue Economy** Partnership
- Transforming Health Care System (**THCS**) Partnership

# Background

SINO-MALTA Fund Call for Proposals for Science and Technology Cooperation is carried out based on the agreements by the Joint Commission on Science and Technology. MCST and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MOST) were nominated as the implementing agencies for cooperation.

Main objectives of the SINO-MALTA Fund:

- Intensify scientific collaboration
- Strengthen R&D activities
- Technology transfer
- Long-term cooperation through researcher mobility and networking
- Generate mutual-beneficial and win-win research.



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# Projects Awarded

Call	Acronym	Titles
2019	<b>SEAM</b>	Surface Engineering for Additive Manufactured parts used in marine transportation
2019	<b>AquaDetector</b>	High-Precision Detection Technologies for Water Quality in Aquaculture
2020	<b>REACTIVE</b>	REducing AirCRAFT Taxiing emissIons through energy recoVery and storagE
2020	<b>Hatchery Match</b>	An Automated Marine Fish Hatchery with Innovated Water Recirculation Technologies
2020	<b>MGMTOFGR</b>	Marine Geophysical Mapping Techniques for Offshore Freshened Groundwater Resources
2021	<b>BIMA</b>	Dual fuel engine technology and dynamic Behaviour Improvement for Marine Application
2021	<b>CHI MA HAEM NET</b>	Application of precision medicine in Haemophilia Network: A joint original exploration research between Malta and China
2021	<b>AMBULANT</b>	AutonoMous Bio-mimetic Underwater vehicLe for digitAl cage moNiToring
2022	<b>Four projects to be awarded</b>	





# 2023 Call Research Areas



**PROMOTING R&I**  
in Digital Technologies



**PROMOTING R&I**  
for Green and Blue Transitions



**PROMOTING R&I**  
in Health



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# 2023 Call Research Areas

## **1. Health**, with a focus on:

- Cancer,
- Cellular therapy,
- Drug development,
- Traditional Chinese Medicine,
- Digital tools to support healthcare

## **2. Green and Blue Economy Transitions**, with a focus on:

- Renewable energy,
- Sustainable mobility,
- Smart manufacturing,
- Marine and Maritime technologies.

## **3. Digital technologies**,

- Digital technologies may remain general as a theme,
- Digital technologies as a cross-cutting theme may be equally supported.





# Funding Opportunities

Home > Funding Opportunities



- Technology Extension Support Programme **OPEN**
- Science and Technology Cooperation (SINO-Malta Fund) **OPEN**
- THCS Joint Transnational Call 2023 – Healthcare of the Future **OPEN**
- MCST-TUBITAK 2023 Joint Call for R&I Proposals **OPEN**
- Internationalisation Partnership Awards Scheme Plus 2023 (IPAS+ Action A&B) 1st Call (Closed)

<https://mcst.gov.mt/funding-opportunities>



**Proposal Deadline: 27<sup>th</sup> June, 23:59 CET**

The submission process for the 2023 Call will follow a **one-stage process** that allows for Malta-based applicants to find China-based partners to collaborate and submit a full proposal that describes the state of the art, methodology, implementation, and foreseen outcomes.

Eligible undertakings (**State Aid**) as well as Public entities and Public Research & Knowledge Dissemination Organisations that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU (**Non-State Aid**) can request up to EUR 200,000 and will need to adhere to the National Rules for Participation. The total budget for this call is EUR 600,000. The National Rules can be accessed through the relevant hyperlink.

Each applicant is required to apply using the **Application Form** along with any pertinent annexes and submit all documentation by the deadline to: [international.mcst@gov.mt](mailto:international.mcst@gov.mt). Please access the Application Form and the following annexes through the hyperlinks: **Annex I, Annex II, Annex III, Annex IV, Annex V, Annex VI, Annex VII, Annex VIII, Annex IX.**

Interested applicants are invited to make use of plumtri's matchmaking SINO-MALTA Fund 2023 Call page by registering interest here: <https://bit.ly/3EYhBkR>

Queries may be forwarded to the Malta Council for Science and Technology (MCST) on [international.mcst@gov.mt](mailto:international.mcst@gov.mt)

<http://mcst.gov.mt/science-technology-cooperation-sino-malta-fund/>



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# CALL DETAILS

## Consortium Composition

- At least one Malta-based entity
- At least one China-based entity

## Submission / National Rules

- Malta-based entities - MCST
- China-based entities – MOST

## Type of Projects

- Research Projects (low TRL)
- Research, Development and Innovation Projects (high TRL)

## Call Budget

- The National Budget for this Call is of €600,000.
- Maximum requested budget, for Maltese partners in a consortium, is €200,000.



# CALL DETAILS

Submission  
Deadline for  
Malta-based  
entities

- 27<sup>th</sup> June 2023 – One Stage Call

Project Duration

- 24 months

Scientific  
Evaluation

- Scientific / Technological Excellence
- Methodology
- Project management
- Importance of International Collaboration
- Impact



# National Considerations

## Eligible Entities

**Eligible Entities must be registered in Malta or must have an operating base in Malta**

**Limited Liability  
Company**

**Partnerships**

**Non-profit  
making  
Organisations**

**Voluntary  
Organisations**

**Professional  
Bodies**

**Cooperatives**

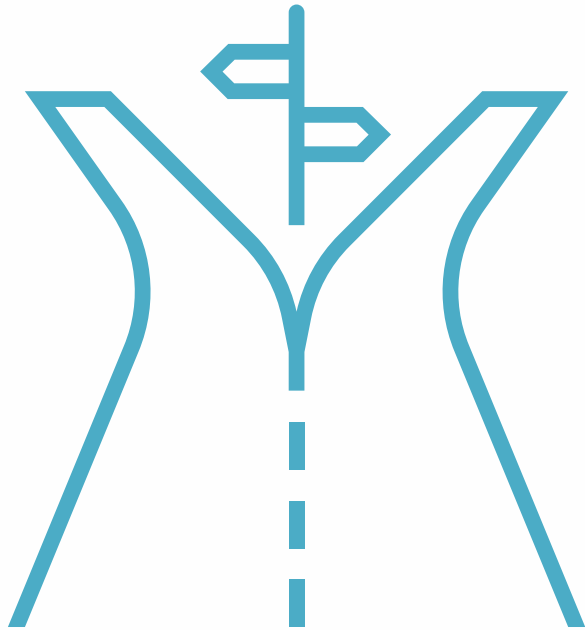
**Public entities**

**Research &  
Knowledge-  
Dissemination  
Organisations**

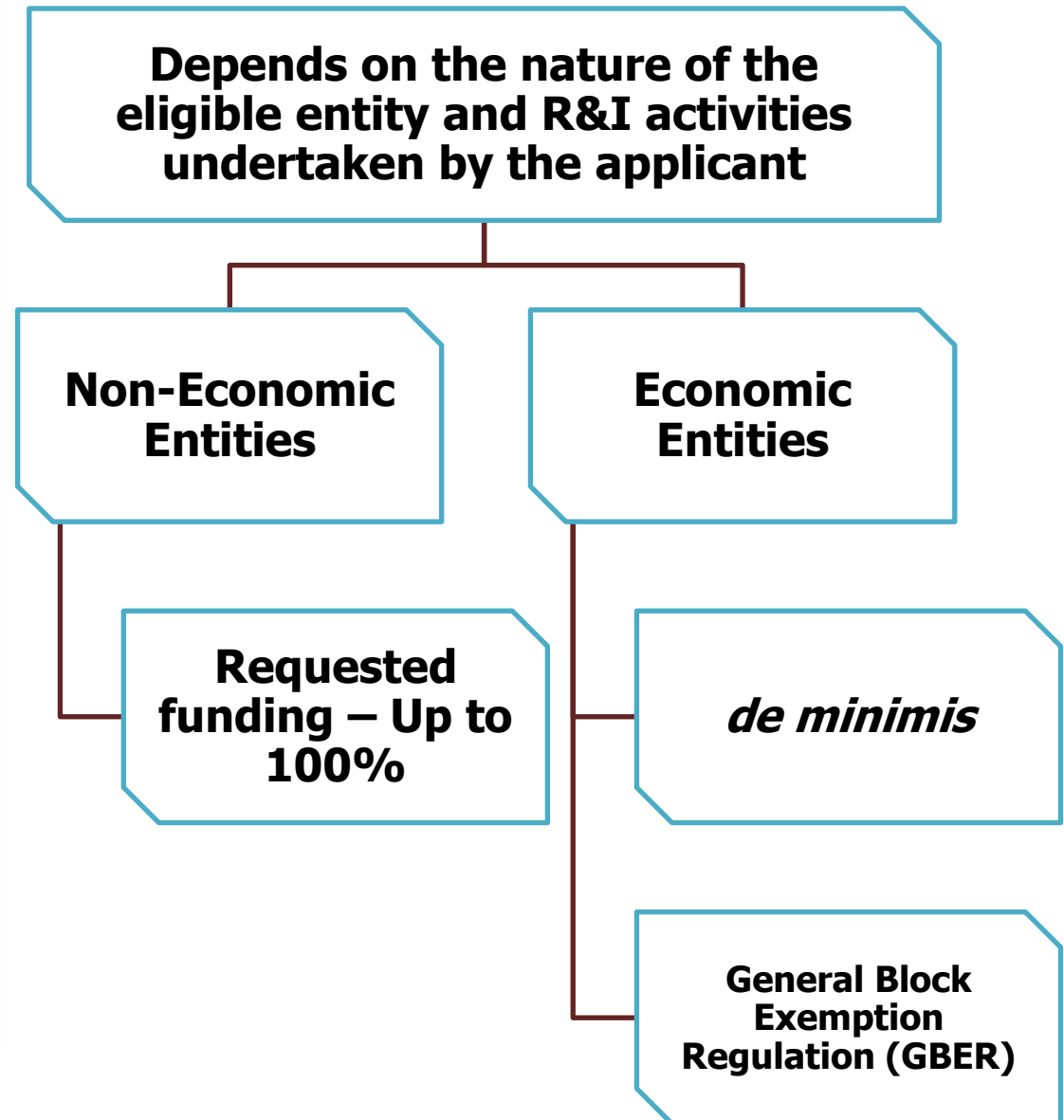




# Funding Modalities



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# Aid Intensity

Economic entity	<i>de minimis</i> *	GBER	Type of Research	Small Undertaking	Medium Undertaking	Large Undertaking
Requested funding	<b>Up to 75%</b>	<b>Up to 100%</b>	Fundamental Research	100%	100%	100%
Own contribution	<b>Remainder % (not in-kind)</b>	<b>Remainder % (not in-kind)</b>	Industrial Research	70%	60%	50%
			Industrial Research with an effective Collaboration and/or results are widely disseminated	80%	75%	65%
			Experimental Development	45%	35%	25%
			Experimental Development with an effective collaboration and/or results are widely disseminated	60%	50%	40%

\*Capping of **€200k** over a span of **3 consecutive fiscal years**



# Eligible Costs



More details can be found in the National Rules

**Personnel**

**Specialised  
Equipment &  
Consumables**

**Subcontracting**

**Costs of IP and  
Knowledge  
Transfer  
activities**

**Travel &  
Subsistence\***

**Other Operating  
Expenses**

*\*Some restrictions apply.  
Overheads covered at 10% of direct eligible costs.*



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# Personnel

## Non-economic / *de minimis* / GBER

- Project Management – up to 10% of the project value
- Maximum of 1720 hours p.a.
- Students – EUR 6,000-8,000 p.a.
- Hourly rates specified in national rules



Role in Project	Hourly rates	Limits per project
Management or equivalent	Up to € 52.50/hour	Max. 2 per project
Senior Researcher* or equivalent	Up to € 37.01/hour	Max. 2 per project
Researcher* or equivalent	Up to € 26.51/hour	No limits
Operational, technician, research support assistant or equivalent	Up to € 14.54/hour	No limits

*The rates stated in the table above are for the year 2023. For subsequent years a 5% increase per year is allowed.*

\*The term 'senior researcher' is to be used for a postdoctoral researcher with a specialist and high level of local and international experience in the field. Individuals possessing a high level of experience in industry can still be considered.

\*The term 'researcher' is to be used for a Bachelor's, Master's or a PhD degree holder and hence the hourly rate should be equivalent to the degree held by the relevant individual.



# Instruments, Specialised Equipment and Consumables

## **Non-economic / *de minimis***

- Cost to purchase/lease specialised equipment.
- Cost of research consumables should not exceed 30% of the project value.

## **GBER**

- Depreciation costs of specialised equipment for the extent and period used for the project. *To be verified by a certified public accountant.*
- Cost of specialised equipment is only eligible if the lifetime of the equipment is equal to the lifetime of the project.
- Cost of research consumables should not exceed 30% of the project value.



# Travel and Subsistence

## Non-economic/ *de minimis*

- Max. of 2 persons per meeting/event
- **Economy flights, and public transport (most economic solutions) and *per diems* for up to 14 days in a row**

## GBER

- Travel costs and subsistence are not eligible





# Subcontracted activities

## Non-economic/*de minimis* / GBER

- Allowed up to 25% of the project value
- Must follow fair procurement procedures
- *To be discussed with the Call Manager at application stage*



# IP and Knowledge Transfer activities

## Non-economic/*de minimis* / GBER

- Costs of knowledge transfer activities and patents bought or licensed from outside sources at arm's length conditions.
- *To be discussed with the Call Manager at application stage*



## Costs of other Operating Expenses

**Non-economic/ *de minimis* / GBER**

- Other operating expenses incurred directly as a result of the project
- *To be discussed with the Call Manager at application stage*

## Overheads

**Non-economic/ *de minimis* / GBER**

- Overheads covered at 10% of direct eligible costs

# Ineligible costs

- Expenses related to loans, interest etc.
- Expenses which are recoverable through other funding mechanisms
- Re-purchase of the same equipment originally procured through other funding mechanisms
- Purchase and/or leasing of equipment and services from partners or their subsidiaries
- Standard office equipment/stationery
- Personnel hours for travelling and/or overtime
- Travel and Subsistence and Dissemination-related expenses are ineligible costs in relation to applications submitted under Regulation B (GBER).
- Any other costs that are not listed as eligible costs in the National Rules.



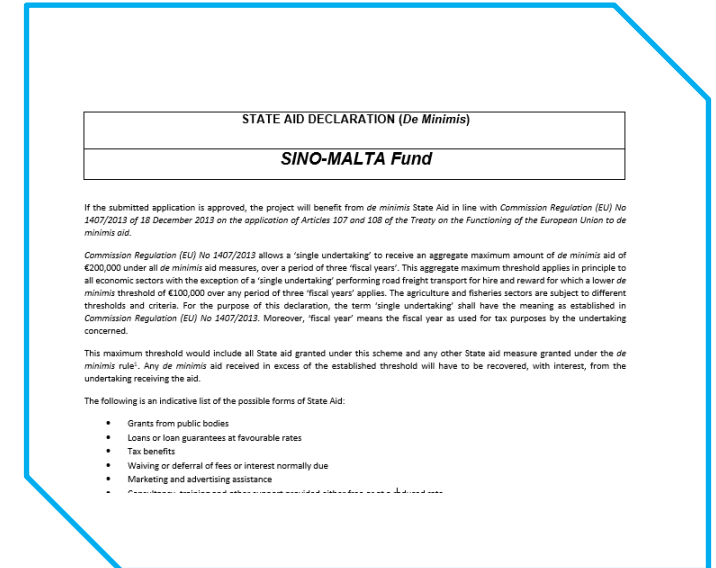
# Submission Documents



Application Form



Cooperation and IP Agreement



Annexes

<http://mcst.gov.mt/science-technology-cooperation-sino-malta>



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# Submission Documents - Annexes

	Description	Public entities	Public RKDOs	de minimis	GBER
Annex I	de minimis Form			x	
Annex II	Enterprise Size Declaration				x
Annex III	Undertaking in Difficulty				x
Annex IV	Effective Collaboration Declaration				x
Annex V	Research Type Declaration				x
Annex IX	GBER Budget Breakdown Form				x
Annex VI	Public entities (not RKDOs)	x			
Annex VII	Public RKDOs		x		
Annex VIII	Overall Detailed Budget Breakdown Form	x	x	x	x

- Each Malta-based partner in a local consortium must submit Annexes.





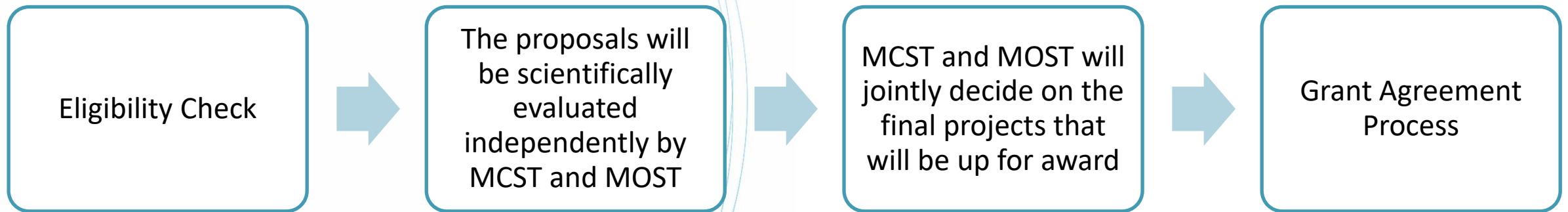
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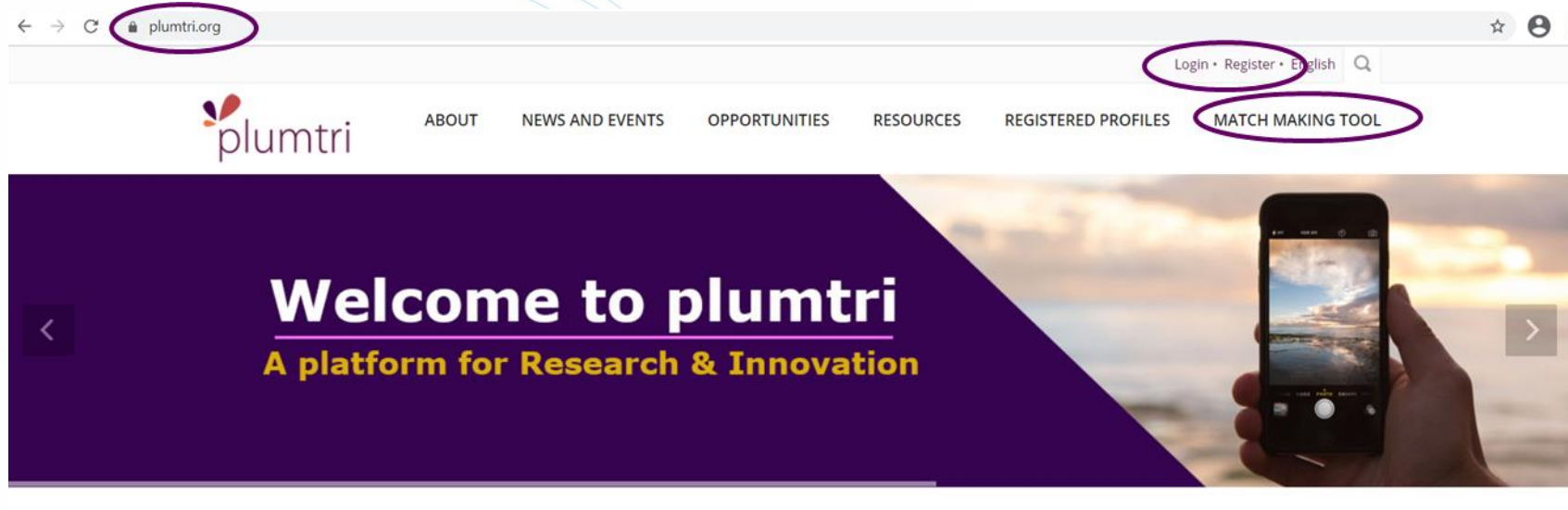


Submission email – [international.mcst@gov.mt](mailto:international.mcst@gov.mt)

Deadline: 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 23:59 CET

# Submission Process





**One-stop shop for National and Mediterranean researchers, to keep abreast with:**

- ✓ Latest News and Events
- ✓ Funding and Work Opportunities in R&I
- ✓ Facilitate networking amongst Mediterranean R&I community
- ✓ Partner Search Facility
- ✓ [Matchmaking Tool](#)



**Any Questions?**



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# Thank You

- Organise One-to-One sessions for tailor-made advice
- Facilitate search for partners - plumtri

**Contact email address:**  
**[sandrine.borg.1@gov.mt](mailto:sandrine.borg.1@gov.mt)**