



BI-LATERAL AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

The Malta Employers' Association

AND

Cross Cultural International Foundation (CCIF)

This Bi-lateral Agreement is entered into between the Malta Employers' Association (hereinafter referred to as "the Association") and Cross Cultural International Foundation (hereinafter referred to as "CCIF"), collectively referred to as "the Parties".

PREAMBLE

This Bilateral Agreement has been drawn up within the framework of the Erasmus+ project Unlock. The project is coordinated by the Malta Employers' Association, in partnership with CCIF (Malta) and Check-In Association (Portugal). Through this initiative, two EU Helpdesks were established within the Association in Malta and within Check-In in Portugal. The purpose of these Helpdesks is to assist the members of the partner organisations to access and effectively make use of, both local and EU funding opportunities available to them.

ARTICLE 1

Scope

1.1. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish a framework of cooperation between the Parties in the context of the EU Helpdesk established within the Association, while fostering collaboration and communication in areas of mutual interest.



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ARTICLE 2

Objectives

2.1. Access to the EU Helpdesk

To provide CCIF's business members with access to the Association's EU Helpdesk services:

- Inclusion in EU Helpdesk events, specifically Information Sessions and Training Sessions.
- Inclusion in official communications of the EU Helpdesk, specifically promotional material relating to the 1-to-1 meeting service.
 - The Association shall include CCIF in mailshot communications. CCIF shall, in turn, disseminate such communications within its respective community.

2.2. Strengthening Cooperation and Communication

To explore avenues for closer collaboration and improved communication between the Association and CCIF, in order to enhance support to their respective members.

2.3. Possibility of Joint Events

To allow for the future organisation of joint events or initiatives of common interest to both Parties.

ARTICLE 3

Procedure for Access to the EU Helpdesk's events

- I. The Association shall include CCIF in all mailshot communications concerning forthcoming Training Sessions and Information Sessions. CCIF shall, in turn, disseminate such communications within its respective community.
- II. CCIF will serve as the initial point of contact for its business members who express interest in attending forthcoming EU Helpdesk events.
- III. CCIF will provide the interested members with an Eligibility Form (Annex I), which they must complete and return to CCIF.



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- IV. CCIF will forward Annex I to the Association for review and approval/dismissal.
- V. Upon confirmation of eligibility, the Association will include such eligible members in the registration list for the forthcoming event and inform the member of their approval.

ARTICLE 4

Implementation of Cooperation Goals

- 4.1. Both Parties agree to maintain open communication and dialogue, with the possibility of developing joint initiatives in the future should mutual interests and opportunities arise.
- 4.2. Both Parties shall actively seek to involve one another in projects, whether EU-funded or otherwise, insofar as such initiatives address topics of mutual interest and have the potential to add value to the objectives and outcomes of the project.
- 4.3. The Association reserves the right to request CCIF's technical input in the drawing up of policy positions on matters that fall directly within CCIF's scope of expertise.

ARTICLE 5

Duration and Termination

- 5.1 The Parties acknowledge that the duration of Project UNLOCK is from 3 February 2025 to 2 February 2026, and affirm that this Agreement contributes to the sustainability and continuation of its outcomes beyond the lifetime of the Project.
- 5.2. This Agreement shall be valid for the duration of the Unlock Project. For the purposes of project sustainability, the parties shall agree to extend co-operation by a further 12-month period, i.e., up till February 2, 2027.



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5.3. This Agreement may be renewed for an additional term subject to the mutual written consent of both Parties.

5.4. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving three (3) months' written notice to the other Party.

ARTICLE 6

General Provisions

6.1. This Agreement does not create any legally binding obligations or financial commitments between the Parties.

6.2. Any initiatives requiring financial or contractual obligations shall be subject to separate agreements, to be negotiated and signed by the Parties.

6.3. Both Parties commit to handling shared information with confidentiality and in compliance with applicable data protection legislation.

6.4. The Parties expressly acknowledge and agree that this Agreement, and all access provided thereunder, is strictly limited to the services developed within the framework of the Unlock Project. Accordingly, the services listed in this Agreement refer solely and exclusively to those generated directly from the Unlock Project without prejudice to any further rights, services, or obligations shall be inferred beyond the scope herein defined.

6.5. CCIF acknowledges that, to the best of its knowledge, any candidate it recommends satisfies the eligibility criteria set out in Annex I and has completed the form truthfully.



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ARTICLE 7

Signatures

On behalf of the Malta Employers' Association

*On behalf of Cross Cultural International
Foundation (CCIF)*

Mr Kevin J. Borg

Director General

Mr Alec Bvumburah

Founder

Signature

Signature

Date

Date

On behalf of the Unlock Project

Mr Kurt Cortis

Project Manager

Signature

Date



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ANNEX I

Eligibility Form

Personal Details

Nationality: _____
Age: _____
Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Other
VAT No.
(if applicable): _____
Company Name
(if applicable): _____

Contact Details

Full Name: _____
Email: _____
Mobile: _____

Eligibility Status

Please tick one:

- ☐ TCN, registered as self-employed
☐ TCN, not currently registered, but eligible to register as self-employed

Do you have any of the following statuses? (Tick one)

- ☐ Permanent Residence
☐ Maltese (dual) Citizenship
☐ Humanitarian Protection
☐ Other – but must be eligible for self-employment
→ Please specify: _____

I, the undersigned, hereby confirm that all information declared in this form is true and correct.

Signature

Date



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