

Horizon 2020 PROFILE FORM

Organization Name / Department	Esplora Interactive Science Centre	Organization Short Name	Esplora
Organization Type	<input type="checkbox"/> University <input type="checkbox"/> Public Research Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Large Scale Enterprise <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small and Medium Scale Enterprise	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Body <input type="checkbox"/> International NGO <input type="checkbox"/> National NGO	
Research Fields	N.A		
Short Description of the Organization / Department	<p>Esplora, Malta's Interactive Science Centre, is an informal educational and recreation facility appropriate for visitors of all age groups. Esplora applied to be partly financed by ERDF back in 2011 and after years of restoration and regeneration, Esplora opened its doors to the general public on the 28th of October 2016. The aim is to attract around 100,000 visitors yearly. In the past four months we have already managed to attract 30,000+ visitors which include school kids, families, tourists, adults and the elderly</p> <p>The Malta Council for Science and Technology set up Esplora, as a state-of-the-art permanent infrastructure where students, teachers and the general public are able to immerse themselves in a hands-on, interactive science experience in a non-formal learning facility. The aim is to bring science closer to the target audience and aid in increasing the number of students taking up science subjects at Form 3 level. Esplora's mission statement is: 'We aspire to cultivate a culture of scientific curiosity and creativity by igniting a passion for questioning, investigation and discovery through encouraging our staff and visitors to Explore, Think, Imagine'.</p> <p>The core values are aimed at inspiring visitors and staff to Explore, Think and Imagine while the strategic values focus on connecting with visitors and providing the general public with a place where they can realise the relevance of science in their lives. In the long term this will contribute to the increase in Science and Technology professionals, thus giving Malta the much needed human capital to sustain a competitive knowledge-based economy. As Esplora science centre, we have experience organizing workshops, science shows and events as an informal learning tool for different audiences. Through our hands on workshops, we encourage the development of key skills needed in STEAM professions such as the ability to work in a team and to communicate, creative thinking, critical thinking skills and problem solving skills. These skills are valuable both for the education and employment sectors. Features within Esplora include a Planetarium, an Outdoor Adventure Experience, an Activity Centre as well as interactive exhibition halls with 250 exhibits catering for every age and interest.</p>		

	Esplora is operated by the Malta Council for Science and Technology under the direction of the Science Popularisation Unit, characterised by a dynamic multi-disciplinary team that is driven by shared principles and objectives. The resultant work environment lends itself to the continuous enhancement of the Unit's endeavour to promote Science Communication and highlight its importance in today's society.
Previous Related Projects / Research Experience	N.A
Short Description of the Project idea (if foreseeable)	N.A
Related Call/Topic	N.A
Contact Person	Mr Clayton Cutajar/ Maria Farrugia
Position in the Organization	Deputy Director of Esplora/ Erasmus Funds Project Manager
Tel	+356 23602235
Email	clayton.a.cutajar@gov.mt maria.h.farrugia@gov.mt