



**Foundation for
Women Entrepreneurs (Malta)**

ANNUAL REPORT – 2015

VAT No: MT-1718-7710

Identification number: VO/0247

The Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs

The Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs (Malta) is an independent non-profit organisation, which has been set up for the promotion of opportunities, awareness building, training and research in the field of Women Entrepreneurs and other gender issues.

The foundation aims at establishing entrepreneurship as a culture and way of life for women – not only business owners, but workers, mothers and citizens on a national, European and Mediterranean level; The foundation believes in promoting initiatives that foster the creation of women entrepreneurial networks that are accessible by the majority of women this is seen as an overarching structure for creating awareness of impact that women entrepreneurs can have on the national and regional economy, and helping prospective entrepreneurs to develop themselves.

The foundation also supports research and training infrastructures in various areas including but not limited to the following fields: humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, languages, business management and other fields of knowledge; this will lead to assessing, evaluating and auditing female targeted initiatives and their effectiveness within a given context; The foundation aims and believes in enhancing and networking with similar organisations and/or institutions and/or non governmental organisations in Europe and North Africa with the aim of establishing collaborative initiatives in order to Urgently and constantly address the issue of the so-called “gender inequalities” and assist communities to bridge that gap;

Hence the foundation has taken upon itself a commitment to actively promoting the review, introduction and implementation of women policies in Europe, whether public or private, and for the adoption of better, affordable, accessible and more professional procedures and standards in all walks of life;

The foundation also offers the promotion of guidance and training assistance to people involved in the provision of women-targeted services and also to members of their families in case of negative, traumatic or other similar effects arising out events connected to the performance of their duties.

The president of the organisation is Angele Giuliano and the Foundation became operational from December 2001 whilst the notarial deed was signed on October, 2002.

The Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs - Council Board

President/Administrator	Angele Giuliano
Vice-President	Annamaria Darmanin
Treasurer	Annalise Duca

The board members of the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs meet face to face at least four times a year to monitor the progress of the foundation; usually this takes place on a Friday. Apart from the face to face meetings the board keeps in touch via email or Skype. The face to face meetings take place at Gateway Centre, Kappillan Mifsud Street, Hamrun, Malta HMR1856.

Minutes of the board meetings are kept by the Foundation's President, Ms. Angele Giuliano. These are circulated via email to the members of the board for approval. Formal approval of the minutes is done at the beginning of each council meeting.



Angele Giuliano
President



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Annual Report – 2015

Due to lack of resources both financial and human, The Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs (Malta) was not very active during 2015.

Calendar of Events

13th January 2015 – Round table at Dar L- Ewropa

Maryrose Francica attended a round table conference at Dar I-Ewropa representing the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs. The round table took the form of an open discussion based on the invitation and questionnaire before the event.

13th January 2015 – MCWO

Maryrose Francica representing the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs attended the MCWO meeting held at the premises of SOS Malta, where various issues that were on the agenda were discussed.

16th January 2015 – Meeting with a potential entrepreneur

Maryrose Francica and Ruth Gatt attended a meeting with Ms. Karen Frendo a prospective entrepreneur where she coached her and help her strategise her startup idea. .

20th January 2015 – Meeting with prospective entrepreneur

Maryrose held a meeting with a prospective start-up where she discussed how the foundation can help her in sourcing out grants and EU funding, help her with her business plan and also mentoring her for the first few months of starting up her own business.

19th January 2015 – Meeting with Global College

Maryrose Francica and Angele Giuliano met representatives of Global College situated in Smart City Malta to discuss possibility of collaboration between the two organisations.

21st - 24th January 2015 – StartUp meeting in Madrid

Maryrose attended the fourth interim meeting of the StartUp project in Madrid, Spain. During the two day meeting together with the other partners Maryrose discussed the deliverables of the project mainly the System Implementation and Integration of the e-learning platform and upcoming Issues about the involvement of Users and improvement of the platform.

30th January 2015 – Only in Malta Launch

Maryrose was invited to give a keynote speech during the launch of “Only in Malta” that took place at Palazzo Prince in St. Paul’s street, Valletta. This invitation came about as the owner of this concept; Ms. Jane Chircop was mentored by the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs.

30th January 2015 – Meeting at Global College

Maryrose Francica and Angele Giuliano attended a meeting with Global College official to discuss the possibility of creating short entrepreneurship courses at Global College..

02nd – 04th February 2015 – Entrepreneurship Course in Malta

Angele Giuliano and Maryrose Francica were engaged in giving the course promoting the culture of entrepreneurship to the participants who were approved the grant from the European Commission under the Erasmus Plus KA1.

5th February 2015 – StartUp Focus group

Maryrose Francica organised a focus group related to the StartUp project. The focus group acted as a pilot for the e-learning platform. Those present were given step by step instructions on how to access the material on the e-learning platform and then gave their feedback to be taken into consideration before the e-learning platform goes public.

17th February 2015 – Meeting with Eman Mifsud

Angele Giuliano held a bilateral meeting with Mr. Eman Mifsud the organising committee President for Malta Youth to Business 2015 from AIESEC. The Foundation

for Women Entrepreneurs will be taking part in this forum and Angele Giuliano will act as a moderator..

03rd March 2015 –MCWO meeting at SOS Malta

Maryrose Francica attended the MCWO meeting that was held at the premises of SOS Malta. During this meeting various issues were tackled amongst them the activities foreseen to commemorate the Women’s Day which falls on the 8th March.

05th March 2015 – NCPE Half day event

Maryrose Francica attended the launch of the Mentoring Programme and a Discussion on Decision-Making when carrying out consultation with a wider audience. This project entitled “Gender Balance in decision making” is funded under the ESF fund.

06th March 2015 – StartUp project meeting

Maryrose and Angele hosted a meeting for the members of the Foundation to disseminate the StartUp project and keep them updated with the latest news about the project. The meeting ended with a networking lunch.

06th March 2015 – Women’s Forum

Maryrose and Angele attended the Commonwealth's Women's Forum which was held at the Intercontinental Hotel St. George's Bay. This form was organised by the CHOGM 2015 Malta Task Force under the patronage of H.E. Marie – Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta.

11th March 2015 – Malta Enterprise Policy meeting

Maryrose attended the Malta Enterprise policy meeting held at the Phoenicia Hotel, Floriana.. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Minister Christian Cardona and Ms. Nancy Caruana – Permanent Secretary MEIB. Permanent Secretary MEIB welcomed everyone to the first ECC for 2015 and went over the Agenda. Hon. Minister Cardona opened the ECC by stating that today’s ECC will address Government’s progress vis-a-vis family businesses. The Family Business Act is one of the initiatives that are being implemented by the Government to safeguard jobs, invest in enterprises and to boost Malta’s competitive economy. Its aim is to address obstacles and problems that those operating a family business face especially in instances of business transfers.

13th March 2015 – Entrepreneurship event at Global College

Angele Giuliano attended and spoke during an entrepreneurship event held at Global College, Smart City, Malta. The event was organised by the international student-run organization

providing leadership development experiences for youth locally and abroad,.AIESEC, They are coordinating a project entitled WeGrow. WeGrow is an educational program which will focus on bringing in education interns from several countries to teach young students everywhere creativity and innovation, communication proficiency and social awareness.

13th March 2015 – Bilateral meeting with prospective entrepreneur

Maryrose Francica held a bilateral meeting with Ms. Patricia Pace who asked for advice on her business idea and asked for some help in the form of mentoring.

25th March 2015 – Meeting with MCWO chairperson

Maryrose met with Ms. Lorraine Spiteri, chairperson of MCWO to discuss a new call for proposal under the Social Innovation Fund that would benefit the confederation. As the deadline for the call was a little tight after going through what needed to be done, it was decided that MCWO will not take part in these calls at this time.

07th April 2015 - MCWO meeting at SOS Malta

Maryrose attended the MCWO meeting which was held at the premises of SOS Malta in St. Venera. Amongst the issues that were discussed during this meeting was the maternity leave directive.

14th April 2015 – Job shadowing exercise

Miss Kim Busuttil, a university student job shadowed Maryrose for the day to gain hands on experience on the daily work of the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs. Ms. Busuttil was also the girl chosen by NCPE to be mentored by the Foundation.

20th - 21st April 2015 – Mentoring and Job shadowing exercise

Maryrose continued with the mentoring and job shadowing exercise with Ms. Kim Busuttil. During these days a time was allocated to discuss the title and proposal for Ms. Busuttil's thesis.

24th April 2015 – MCWO Meeting with Roberta Metsola MEP@Dar Centrali

Maryrose together with other members from MCWO met with MEP Dr. Roberta Metsola at Dar Centrali, Pieta. During this meeting Dr. Metsola gave an overview of her work at the European Parliament and heard what the MCWO is working on at the moment and the issues that need to be discussed at European level.

28th - 29th April 2014 – Mentoring and job shadowing exercise

Maryrose continued with the job shadowing and mentoring exercise with Ms. Kim Busuttil as part of the project “Gender Balance in decision making”. This project is coordinated by NCPE.

05th May 2015 – Skype call with StartUp partners

Maryrose took part in Skype call between the StartUp partners. The aim of this call was for all the partners to update the coordinators on their respective tasks and deliverables. The final conference of the project which will take place in Madrid Spain was also discussed in detail.

06th May 2015 – Job shadowing and mentoring exercise

Maryrose spent another day mentoring Ms. Kim Busuttil in conformity with the project “Gender balance in decision making” coordinated by NCPE. During this day’s session leadership skills were discussed in detail.

12th May 2015 – MCWO meeting at SOS Malta

Maryrose Francica attended the MCWO meeting held at SOS Malta in St. Venera. One of the topics of the agenda was the NCPE Directory of Women Professionals.

28th July – Meeting with Dr. Rosemarie Azzopardi

Maryrose met with Dr. Rosemarie Azzopardi a Lecturer in International Economics from the University of Malta to help with a study regarding female entrepreneurs in Malta.

13th May 2015 – Presentation at TAKEOFF, University of Malta

Maryrose Francica was invited by Dr. Leonie Baldacchino from The Edward de Bono Institute for the Design and Development of Thinking to give a presentation on the aims and objectives of the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs to a group of foreign students visiting the University of Malta. This presentation took place at TAKEOFF within the University of Malta.

15th May 2015 – Meeting with MEP Dr. Miriam Dalli

Maryrose attended a meeting organised by MCWO to meet the local MEP Dr. Mirlam Dalli. This meeting was held at the premises of SOS Malta in St. Venera. Dr. Miriam Dalli explained her mission at the European parliament and listened to what the MCWO member had to say about various issues.

19th May 2015 – Job shadowing and mentoring exercise

Maryrose continued with the job shadowing and mentoring exercise with Ms. Kim Busuttill. Ms. Busuttill was able to take part hands on on the day to day running of the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs.

26th May 2015– Meeting with Enterprise Policy Department

Angele and Maryrose met with Ms. Cheryl Haber, Manager of the Policy Development and Programme Implementation Directorate. The theme of the meeting was to discuss the activities to organised during the 2015 SME week which will take place in October.

08th – 10th June 2015 – Entrepreneurship course

Maryrose and Angele gave the three day Entrepreneurship course to the foreign teachers who came to Malta on mobility grant. This course covers subjects such as communications skills, networking, emarketing, leadership skills, work life balance, personal effectiveness and other soft skills.

18th June 2015 – MCWO meeting at SOS Malta

Maryrose attended the MCWO meeting which was held at the premises of SOS Malta. This meeting focused mostly on prostitution, age of consent and the new pension strategy.

19th June 2015 – Meeting with NCPE

Maryrose attended a meeting at the premises of NCPE where she had the opportunities to meet with other mentors of the project entitled “Gender Balance in decision making”. During this meeting the mentors shared their respective experience and discuss the on-going process of the Mentoring Programme and also raised some issues with the project coordinator.

22nd June 2015 – Mentoring and job shadowing exercise

Ms. Kim Busuttill continued with her mentoring that is taking place at the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs. Some of the day was allocated to discussions of mutual interests.

25th June 2015 – President’s reception

Angele Giuliano and Maryrose Francica attended a reception by H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta on the occasion of the first year anniversary of the launch and the opening of new premises of The President's Foundation for the wellbeing of society. The reception was held at San Anton Gardens.

26th June 2015 – Enterprise Policy Council @ Phoenicia hotel Valletta

Maryrose Francica attended the Enterprise policy council meeting which was held at the Phoenicia Hotel, Floriana. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Minister Christian Cardona and Mr Brian Grima – Senior Manager EPSD MEIB. Hon. Minister Cardona opened the ECC by stating that today's ECC will address the launching of the White Paper of the Social Enterprise Act. Social Enterprises are particularly interesting as they have the usual economic aims of any enterprise as well as being very much aware of their social responsibilities.

28th – 01st July 2015 – Final Conference of the StartUp project in Madrid, Spain

Maryrose attended the final meeting and conference of the StartUp project in Madrid, Spain. The conference was well attended and the project was disseminated during this conference. Various partners gave presentation on the aims and objectives of the project.

16th July 2015 – Pensions Talk @ SOS Malta

Maryrose Francica and Kerry Freeman attended a talk on the pension's reform law by Mr. Spiteri Gingell an expert on the subject. After the presentation there was time allocated for a Q & A session.

21st July 2015 - Mentoring and job shadowing exercise

Maryrose Francica and Kim Busuttil continued with the meetings for the job shadowing and mentoring experience.

31st July 2015 – Mentoring and job shadowing exercise

Ms. Kim Busuttil attended the last session of the job shadowing and mentoring exercise with the Foundation for Women Entrepreneurs. Ms. Busuttil expressed her thanks to all at the Foundation for giving her the chance to spend time and learn from them. Maryrose assured her that although the exercise is officially over she will still keep in contact with her via Skype, email and social media.

03rd September 2015 - MCWO meeting at SOS Malta

Maryrose attended the MCWO meeting that was held at the premises of SOS Malta in St. Venera. Amongst topics that were discussed there was the age of consent, surrogacy and CHOGM women's forum.

14th–16th September 2015 – Promoting the culture of entrepreneurship course

Maryrose and Angele conducted the three day course on entrepreneurship where they discussed with the participants why entrepreneurship is important for the economy of the country and also soft skills such as networking, brainstorming new ideas, digital marketing and the importance to try and achieve worklife balance.

05th December – US Embassy Networking Event

Angele Giuliano and Maryrose Francica took part in a speed mentoring event organised by the US Embassy under the patronage of HE. Ambassador Gina Abercrombie-Winstanley. The mentors were women in various careers whilst the mentees were mostly university students or newly graduates.

24th September 2015 - Enterprise Consultative meeting @Phoenicia Hotel

Maryrose attended the Enterprise consultative meeting which was held at the Phoenicia Hotel in Floriana. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Minister Christian Cardona and Ms. Nancy Caruana – Permanent Secretary MEIB. Mr. Jeffrey Bugeja Director Policy and Programmes together with Ms Nancy Caruana Permanent Secretary each made a short introduction highlighting the importance of enhancing trade and economic relations in Malta and beyond. Reference was also made to the recent JETCO agreement signed by Minister Cardona and Turkey to stimulate more economic relations between the two countries. The Minister expressed his satisfaction to the fact that TTIP has been chosen as one of the topics on the agenda of the third session of the ECC, since being extremely important for the stakeholders to get acquainted with the contents of this important agreement.

01st – 2nd October 2015 – FEMALE Business Cafe at Kitchen Garden

Maryrose and Angele Giuliano attended the Female Business Cafe as part of the SME week activities where they had a stand with the Foundation's brochures and also conducted workshop on the subject of entrepreneurship.

28th October 2015 - MCWO Meeting @ SOS Malta

Maryrose attended the MCWO meeting which was held at the premises of SOS Malta in St. Venera. After the agenda was adopted various topics were discussed such as EU funding opportunities and a prospective visit with the Archbishop of Malta.

23rd – 24th November 2015 – CHOGM Women’s Forum

Maryrose and Angele attended the two day Women’s forum organised during the CHOGM. The forum was held at Intercontinental Hotel, St. Julian’s Malta under the patronage of H.E. Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, President of Malta. It was two days filled with interesting speech by foreign and local panels and the opportunity to network with women from all the Commonwealth countries.

25th – 28th November 2015 – AFAEMME Annual Conference in Barcelona, Spain

Maryrose Francica attended and gave a presentation during the VII MEDITERRANEAN WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS FORUM which took place on the 26th and 27th of November 2015 in Barcelona (Spain). The Forum was co-organized by AFAEMME, the Association of Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME) and the Barcelona Chamber of Commerce.

10th December 2015 - Enterprise council meeting at Xara Lodge

Maryrose attended the enterprise council meeting which was held at Xara Lodge. The meeting was chaired by Hon. Minister Christian Cardona and Ms. Nancy Caruana – Permanent Secretary MEIB. Mr. Jeffrey Bugeja Director Enterprise Policy & Schemes opened the Enterprise Consultative Council highlighting that this is the fourth and last ECC for 2015. Hon. Minister Cardona opened the ECC by introducing the topics to be discussed which will focus on SMEs with particular attention to the Small Business Act.
