



CIMULACT
Citizen and multi-actor engagement for scenario building

National Report
National Citizen Vision Workshop - MALTA

CIMULACT

National Report on Malta's National Citizen Vision Workshop

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Summary

This deliverable presents the results of Malta's National Citizen Vision Workshop, held on Saturday 5 December, 2015 between 09:00 and 17:30 at the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Floriana (within walking distance of the main bus terminus and offering free parking for participants).

Thirty eight people attended the workshop. Originally 50 people had been approved, but 4 people sent their apologies soon after they received the confirmation and 4 sent their apologies the evening before the event. A total of 42 people were expected to attend and 4 did not show up on the day. The diversity of participants was well balanced with roughly a similar amount of males and females, reasonable age distribution, and diverse geographical spread (four people came from the island of Gozo).

It was not easy to motivate citizens to apply to attend the workshop. Adverts in a national newspaper were featured, an interview was held on the University of Malta radio station (Campus FM), the event was announced daily on the cultural calendar of Campus FM for two weeks, the CIMULACT Malta Facebook page was used to motivate citizens to apply to attend the workshop, and numerous personal and academic networks were utilized. It appears that each of these channels attracted citizens as participants were asked how they heard about the workshop on the consent forms.

Everything went well during the workshop and six interesting visions were generated. The final visions are mainly focused on topics related to the environment, sustainability, education, and a fair, diverse and equal society. The raw visions provide more diversity of topics when compared to the final visions. These include concepts such as peace, better quality of life, democracy, nature and reduced consumption.

People were very positive about the whole experience and provided interesting feedback. However the citizens had a great deal more energy and enthusiasm in the morning. It was not easy for some tables to reach consensus and for the citizens to collaborate in the afternoon when they worked on their Raw Visions and Final Visions. As happened in other countries, some citizens whose preferred vision was not selected as a Final Vision were demotivated and some lost interest.

At times there appeared to be a generation gap clash with some older people hanging on to entrenched (as opposed to flexible or collaborative)

attitudes and creating mini-conflicts which were not easy for the table facilitators to resolve. The diversity of gender and age may be considered as both a plus and a minus. Some people enjoyed exchanging views across generations, others suggested it may have been better to split people on tables depending on their age group. One person said this may have led to more diverse final visions as similar age groups could have been more 'daring' and 'adventurous' rather than 'accommodating' due to various pressures to collaborate and to end the day with one vision per table.

All in all it was a very challenging, interesting and rewarding experience and the Malta team looks forward to the next steps in the CIMULACT process.



The Final Six Visions

Table 1: At one with the Environment

Describe your vision in 2050:

In our vision, we have a cleaner world to live in. Stronger emphasis on local economies reduces carbon footprint of goods resulting in cleaner seas and cleaner air. Tariff barriers are put in place to tip the balance in favour of sustainably produced goods. A move towards cleaner types of renewable energy and bigger incentives against individual car use. An introduction of environmentally friendly measures, such as green rooftops, reforestation, unbiased research, prohibitive fines against pollution, responsible waste disposal and better education to increase awareness.

Illustration:



In your desirable future, what is different from today?

No pollution, there are more green open spaces, there are less diseases and illnesses since an environmentally conscious way of production food is healthier. There is a better appreciation of all that is natural and what is man-made compliments or builds upon the natural, as opposed to eradicating it.

Is your vision desirable for everyone? Are there any concerns?

This might limit economic development for poor countries that rely on the current industrial model for the economy. This is not desirable for corporations that outsource the manufacturing of their goods to less environmentally conscious countries. (Feedback: our vision was criticised on being too focused on eliminating undesirable outcomes through aversive methods. This however might not be realistic as positive reinforcement, however ideally it would work better when not used as a stand-alone measure. People might be more motivated to work towards a goal when both measures are used.)

In short, what is your vision?

Respect for the environment, cleaner lifestyles.

Table 2: Better quality of life towards sustainable approach to local and global issues

Describe your vision in 2050:

Focus directed on – water, housing, overpopulation, and crime.

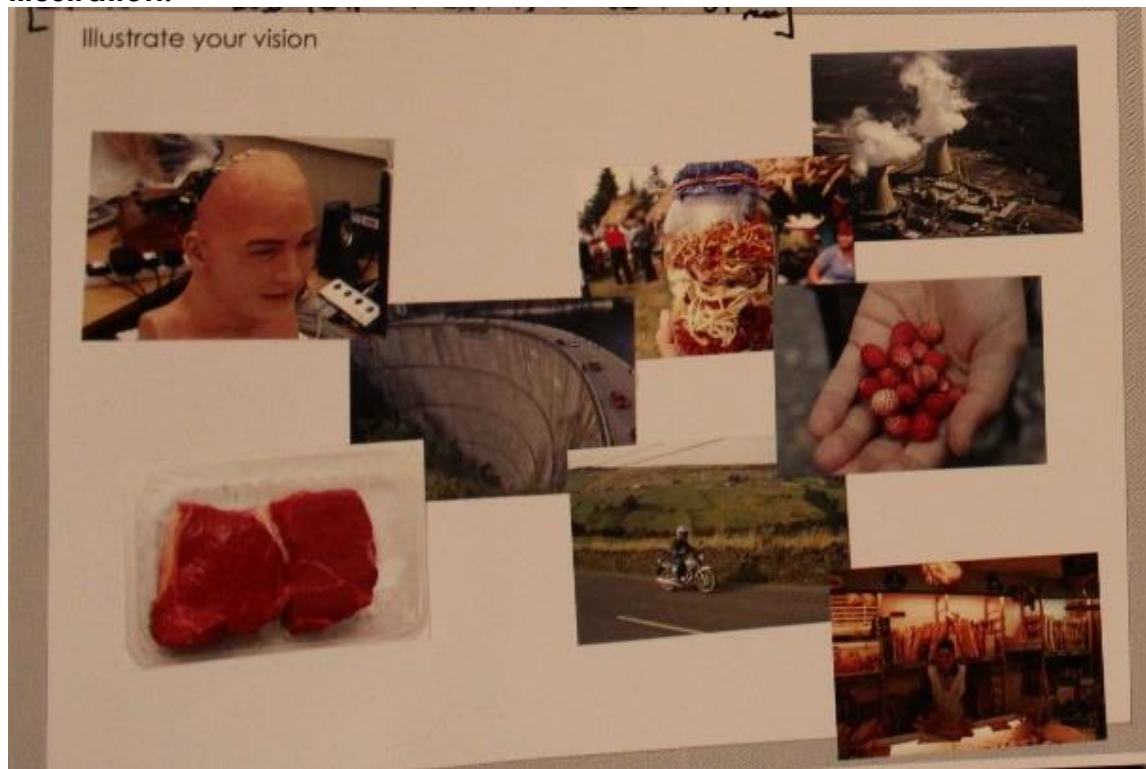
Water: a) society collects water (i) responsibly and (ii) by enforcement, b) better desalination through (i) renewables e.g. solar panels, (ii) nuclear energy – nuclear waste might be, in 30 years, cleaner.

Housing: affordable housing for everyone regardless of wage

Overpopulation: Global campaign on education toward sustainable family planning was successful.

Crime: Less crime

Illustration:



In your desirable future, what is different from today?

- 1) Less traffic due to self-driving cars
 - Higher use of scooters and bicycles
- 2) Better opportunities for businessmen and industries through the reduction of excessive taxes on these organisations and therefore they will produce jobs
- 3) Healthier food and cleaner air – for example, less processed meat
- 4) People have the ability through technology to empathise more: an empathy device

Is your vision desirable for everyone? Are there any concerns?

It wouldn't be (for everyone).

- 1) Professional drivers, mechanics, car sales: loss of jobs
- 2) Win-win situation
- 3) No. Increased cost for interested parties
- 4) No. Militaries, industrial complex would grind to a halt

In short, what is your vision?

A more secure flexible life.

Table 3: Education leading to a new way of life

Describe your vision in 2050:

Educating our children is important to our future. The children of the raw vision 2016 are now 35 years old. Their children are now starting their educational journey of their own. This is how it looks:

- Home Environment: The home is self-sufficient with sustainable energy production, example: solar panels, waste separation, waste minimization, better use of water (RO, recycling plants, rain water storage). Houses have gardens and they grow their own food. No plastic waste. Organic waste used as a source of energy (methane).
- Family: Strong values, especially family values. These allow better caring for elderly and to build strong relationships between children, parents, and grandparents. Children actively playing with other children, doing physical activities, and have balance with use of technology for playing and learning. A simple lifestyle that does not necessitate the parent to work long hours, thus spending more time with the children, family and friends.
- Culture and heritage: Children learn from their parents and grandparents mistakes not to be repeated. Family quality time allows values to be passed on.
- Environment: Clean energy that does not damage the environment. Efficient and pollution free public transport.

Illustration:



In your desirable future, what is different from today?

With more educated and caring children, the greener environment, cleaner energy source from solar, wind, and water energy, result in less cost to each household, and less waste. Public transport (more efficient than today's) relieves the need of pollution-causing cars, especially if they can take the work force to the work place. This means less cars on the road and less stress. With education came healthier lifestyle. This means less of a burden on public health system. Education can also lead to communication and integration of different people.

Is your vision desirable for everyone? Are there any concerns?

Unfortunately, the vision is not desirable for everyone. If their goal is solely their profit margin, such people will not profit from this goal, and can actually hinder the progress of the vision. The excessive dependence of electronic devices during childhood give rise to concerns.

In short, what is your vision?

- Continuity from one generation to another, will make for a more stable family which in turn makes for a more stable society. Learning from past mistakes helps us to make better choices in the future.
- Life balance is very important for wellbeing of society.

Table 4: Sustainable and Equitable Society

Describe your vision in 2050:

In 2050, all members of society have equal access to quality education and opportunities to engage and contribute equitably to fair-decision making and all other processes that affect their lives. Family units in their various forms are accepted and supported to ensure that each individual is embedded in a nurturing social system. Children are introduced to sports/exercise at an early age. Overpopulation is addressed, ensuring available resources are sufficient for everyone's needs. People are free to practise their religion; without imposing their view on others. The Earth's natural resources are nurtured; depleted forests are regenerated; energies are renewable; buildings are eco-friendly; animals are treated ethically. All individuals contribute to the economy, generating enough profit to obtain the resources they need to enhance their quality of life, without harming other or the environment. Perceptions of need are tapered to minimise materialism and waste.

Illustration:



In your desirable future, what is different from today?

The present culture is that everything is considered disposable and that supply is perceived as infinite. Current unequal access by some members of society. Opportunities are not available to all.

Is your vision desirable for everyone? Are there any concerns?

This vision would be beneficial to everyone but its attainment requires a major shift in attitudes and behaviours. A concern is that many people are resistant to change and may oppose measures designed to create sustainable and equitable societies.

In short, what is your vision?

Our vision for a future where all societies are sustainable and equitable, with due consideration for the three P's: People, Planet and Profit.

Table 5: A Democratic, Diverse and Equal Society

Describe your vision in 2050:

Educating our children today with an unbiased common and civic education, giving them the skills, knowledge, and attitude to make the best decisions for humanity. A society where every individual is embracing his cultural and physical diversity and belief, acknowledging and respecting others and working on finding the common similar values and dignity. Forming a real-time government through online polling of citizens regard micro managing government. Democracy needs to be modernized and controlled form the bottom upwards.

Illustration:



In your desirable future, what is different from today?

Increased awareness and tolerance of other people. Cyber polling reduces corruption. Reduced discrimination until it is eliminated. Equal opportunities for all across demographics.

Is your vision desirable for everyone? Are there any concerns?

Minorities are always concerned in most democracies however a real-time voting system would engage the average citizen in the decision making process. Equality would give them access to education.

In short, what is your vision?

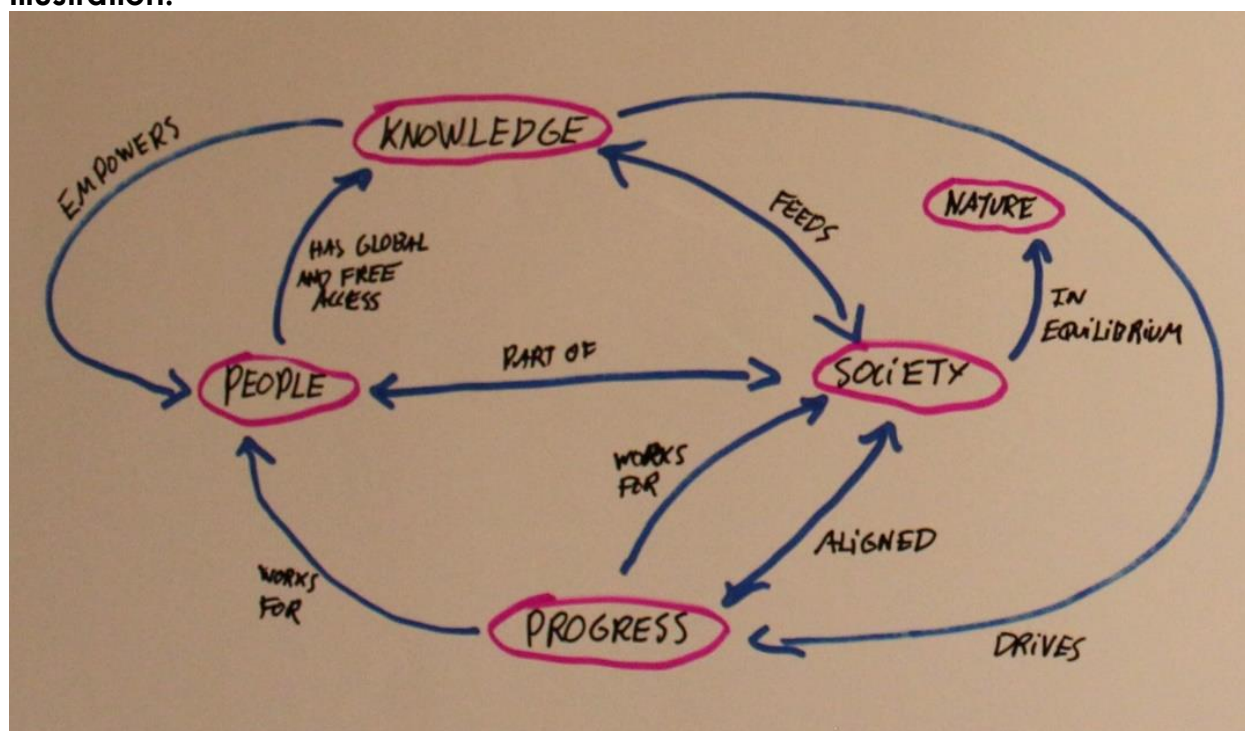
A society where its citizens are all socially integrated on a harmonious equal level. All citizens are civically educated to make decisions on their own society in the most direct, fair transparent way.

Table 6: Education and Society (community)

Describe your vision in 2050:

We envisage a world in which education is not influenced by external factors: mentors will replace teachers, students will be guided towards making choices themselves. Access to education will be global through online libraries. We will encourage the natural cultivation of regional customs and identities in an informal environment – preserving a sharing 'old' traditions. In a Greek-style agora, school will be more social: more idea sharing and personal discovery.

Illustration:



In your desirable future, what is different from today?

- Access to knowledge/ information is free in many places but not all.
- Holistic education is not a reality today (just technical today)
- Technology is not completely at our service
- Curricular education/culture is not defined by a few

Is your vision desirable for everyone? Are there any concerns?

- Individuals will be driven to extremes due to the power of knowledge
- In order for this vision to be successful, individuals will have to renounce some of the luxurious excesses of their previous lifestyles.

In short, what is your vision?

To give man a vision. What makes man is not what man makes, and our creations should not become our creators. We, as humans, have to re-discover what truly satiates our soul, not our appetites; if politicians serve those who want to sell, the politicians dis-serve the rest. Homo quo vadis?

Raw Visions

Raw Vision 1.1: A Real Government for the People

Number of votes: 23

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

Method: Due to digital advancements, everyone can be connected to an online voting system. People can have their say on all policy decisions (in real time) making the representative obsolete. This will reduce corruption of individual lawmakers. The population would become an organic self-governing entity with this form of true democracy, uncorrupted by external forces and vested interests.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

It is important because democracy is copping a good old beating in today's E.U.

Raw Vision 1.2: Sustainability, Biodiversity, and Environmental Protection

Number of votes: 12

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

People have realized that they must adopt sustainable measures if the damage that the Earth has already incurred is to be reversed. Clean energy, promotion of alternative means of transport has resulted in cleaner air and healthier people. Respect for biodiversity put a stop to man's destructive practices and organic life is flourishing yet again. People have rediscovered the value of simpler and more natural remedies which has allowed them to reduce chemical contaminations. Research programmes are now protected from the biased influences of the vested interests; a way forward in itself.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

Life depends wholly on the environment we live in; if we pollute it we're on a path of self-destruction.

Raw Vision 2.1: A reformed global and local approach to a better quality of life

Number of votes: 21

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

- A global approach to family planning, especially for young women and men.

- A local approach to reforming Administration, less politicians and more efficient civil service.
- A local approach to legalizing drugs and sex work, to obtain more tax revenue and have less organized crime.
- Consider pets as a luxury and place tax on their ownership
- Educate against overeating, obesity to have food for other humans.
- Quality and natural taste of fruit and vegetables is important. Much food is thrown away when not sold.
- Expire date on products needs to be realistic, it is often short and good food is thrown away.
- Water is the source of life, rainwater needs to be collected and not allowed to go on the streets. The law of Laparelli to collect water from rooftops needs to be reinforced again in Malta.
- Genuine security for people working in insecure jobs/ short term contracts. That is guaranteed housing and a basic income grant, access to retraining, access to childcare.
- A local approach to being more competitive to foster manufacturing and jobs, by reducing energy costs and building better infrastructure.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

Our survival is at stake both locally and globally.

Raw Vision 2.2: Peace between nations and individuals

Number of votes: 9

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

- I would like to see that wars are a thing of the past. I would like to see a world living in peace. Problems are solved by dialogue rather than war and fighting/violence.
- Politicians sort problems through better interactions and not by war.
- There is mutual respect at national, international, individual levels. The ego is there and it is a respectful one. This idea of respect extends not only to people but also to animals and the plants.
- Individuals too should respect and help each other instead of abuse or violence.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

- To future generations and us (current generation).
- War is destructive. This imagination of peace allows happiness and a better quality of life. War and death imply suffering.

Raw Vision 3.1: Environment

Number of votes: 11

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

- Immediate action plan to reverse environmental damage.

- Clean and efficient transport – electric/gas vehicle only, reduce the need for pollutive transportation, shared public transport, more efficient infrastructure
- Preservation of water
- More PV panels on private households
- Sustainability: For every tree chopped down we plant another one. i.e.: if each household plants a tree then we would have 100,000 trees.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

This is important for our well-being and should be concern of everyone, we have to leave a better world for our children.

Raw Vision 3.2: Education

Number of votes: 19

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

The childhood is the basis for your life in which you need to teach them values and morals. Children are our future so education at school must include things which make children aware of the environment.

- Introduction to nature and how to grow plants and to make your own food
- To learn the consequences of waste
- Also parents need to be educated

Children need to play freely that they can develop independently and without electronic devices. The teacher is supporter and focuses on teaching morals and social interactions so children become responsible individuals.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

When you educate the children from small, it helps us to break the mould of our current bad habits with regards to environmental and social issues. This is important for present and future generations.

Raw Vision 4.1: Sustainable and Equitable Societies

Number of votes: 29

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

We would like a future where all societies are sustainable and equitable with one consideration of the three P's: People, Planet, and Profit. In this future, overpopulation is eliminated to ensure that the available resources are sufficient to meet the needs of the people in this society. Sport is important for the lifestyle of every individual, and children are introduced to sport/exercise at an early age. It will help them be fitter, healthier and happier.

Opportunities for a quality education are available to all individuals. All members of society have equal opportunities to engage in and contribute to fair decision-making and all other processes that affect their lives. People are free to practice their religion without imposing their views on others. The

Earth's natural resources are nurtured; depleted forests are regenerated; pollution is eliminated; energies are renewable and all animals are ethically treated.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

Current unsustainable practices may lead to an uninhabitable world in the future. For all living beings on the planet.

Create a composition of images to illustrate your vision.

Contribute to the economy in a sustainable way, generating enough profit to obtain the resources they require to meet their needs and enhance their quality of life, without harming others or the environment. Perceptions of needs are tapered to minimise waste and increase sustainability of resources. People appreciate "small" meaningful things in life (Family, relationships, etc) with a decreased focus on materialism.

Raw Vision 4.2: Forty years on from 2015

Number of votes: 19

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

Since the importance of the family is becoming less – so we need more love and healthy family. A good family is a good society. A good family helps to the upbringing of children. It is the basis of society. It is important for the society in general. Less criminals. More work for the country. More happy society and better quality life. People live in a multitude of different ways as world peace has been brought about by East.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

Family is the basic for whole world.

Raw Vision 5.1: A Democratic, Diverse, and Equal Society

Number of votes: 21

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

A society where its citizens are all socially integrated on a harmonious equal level. All citizens are civically educated to take decisions on their own society in the most direct, fair, and transparent way.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

A vision for all as it's the basis of our society.

Raw Vision 5.2: Environment – A Green World

Number of votes: 11

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

We imagine a world where society sustains itself, in terms of both domestic and commercial aspect. With every household growing its own crops and every business 3D printing his/her product or service, we, globally, would use less resources on a commercial level, and domestically we would be self-sufficient and healthier since we won't be consuming toxins. With the rise of robots, we have no excuse in stating that job opportunities will diminish, so reducing commercial logistics and promoting green components backed and enforced by law.

If we let climate change mutilate our seas and disfigure the planet, we will be losers, Europeans included.

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

It is important because the world cannot consume toxins anymore and resources are not anymore abundant. By 2050 the latter will be non-existent and if water levels rise due to further pollution attributed to corporations, there will be greater consequences.

Raw Vision 6.1: Education

Number of votes: 21

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

- Access to education without external influences (politics, religion, etc.)
- Traditional education with family values, through organic methods – not dominated by technology but aided by it.
- Access to culture and education is global and free.
- Moving from the age of information to the age of knowledge – using what we learn to help ourselves and others
- Installing certain values which are universally regarded as being positive, like equality, tolerance, respect
- Use our education/knowledge to find the balance between science, society, and the environment
- Teach people to empower themselves to explore, and take initiative

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

Education is important for everyone, it is your first step towards growth, development, advancement, and equality.

Raw Vision 6.2: Strengthening Communities

Number of votes: 13

How do you imagine the future in 30 to 40 years?

- Return to traditional values/preserve traditional knowledge
- Using natural methods (conception, childbirth, medicine)
- Education instead of indoctrination – raising awareness/information (not pushing a political agenda)
- Being in tune with your roots (tools, gardening, infrastructure)
- Better use of resources not motivated by greed/selfish reasons
- Nature knows best. Technology may help
- Technology can be our advanced tools, facilitating more free time for human development
- Cultural appreciation of nature
- Needing less products and distractions, we shall drain less materials from our Earth

Why is this imagination important and for whom is it important?

Going back, or re-learning what is natural, is important for every being of nature.

Participant data

Country:	Malta
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General information:	
Number of citizens registered for the workshop:	51
Number of citizens selected to participate in the workshop:	42
Number of citizens that participated in the workshop :	38

Gender: Number of participating citizens that are:	
Women:	17
Men:	21

Age: Number of participating citizens in the age group:	
18-30	10
31-40	8
41-50	1
51-60	7
61-70	5
71-80	7

Geographical zone:

Central Malta	14
North Malta	7
South Malta	4
Inner Harbour	4
Outer Harbour	5
Gozo	4

Educational level:	
Number of participants whose highest education is...	
Secondary school	6
Diploma	10
Bachelors	13
Masters	5
Ph.D.	4

Occupation:	
<i>(Change the categories and adjust the table to match the categories relevant in your country and presented in your recruitment strategy)</i>	
Pensioners	8
Management	6
Students	6
Academic/lecturer/teacher	4
Director	4
Engineer	2
Entrepreneur	2

Unemployed	2
Consultant	1
Housewife	1
Judge	1
Scientist	1

Criteria of national relevance:	
No criteria of national relevance	

Dissemination methods that motivated citizens to attend the workshop (This question was asked to citizens on their consent form: <i>How did you hear about this workshop?</i>)	
Through University of Malta (email, website or posters)	12
Informed by Family/Friends	7
Newspaper advert	7
Internet search	4
Informed by Personal contacts	3
Facebook Advert	3
Campus FM Radio	2