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HSBC Malta Foundation volunteers reviving Torri l-Abjad

Over two dozen HSBC Malta Foundation volunteers supported the efforts to revive the lost glory of Torri l-Abjad (White Tower) by planting trees around the area of the iconic outpost. The Foundation, which is helping Din l-Art Helwa restore and rehabilitate the historic Torri l-Abjad (White Tower) complex, recently welcomed a group of 30 HSBC employees plant a total of 35 African Tamarisk trees in Dahlet ix-Xmajjar which is in the vicinity of the Tower.

These trees compensate for another 35 that had to be uprooted during the clearing of the Tower site as per ERA's policy which regulates that uprooted trees must be compensated in equal numbers. The activity took place under the expert guidance of the Foresta 2000 rangers from the Ghadira Nature Reserve.

Last August, HSBC Malta Foundation entered into a three year partnership with Din l-Art Helwa to restore the splendour of the iconic Tower as well as its outer fortification.

Torri l-Abjad is being rehabilitated as part of a multi-phased project, which includes a protective fortification consisting of an artillery battery and ditch. The project also encompasses the completion of dormitories and other facilities, as well as a visitor centre and didactic facilities. The tower was originally built in 1658 and saw redevelopment during the Knights' period circa 1716.

“There is a lot of science that shows the positive visual, environmental, and health impacts from planting trees in communities. It was so great to see colleagues coming out with their sleeves rolled up, ready to plant these trees in difficult weather conditions. We are pleased to support this important community initiative as part of our partnership with Din l-Art Helwa,” said Astrid Micallef-Saliba, manager, Corporate Sustainability at HSBC Bank Malta.

The visitors also received a tour of the site where they observed progress on the rehabilitation project. The tour was given by Din l-Art Helwa site manager Martin Vella. The NGO's executive president Maria Grazia Cassar thanked all the participants.



HSBC volunteers working to revive the glory of Torri l-Abjad