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## **HSBC Malta Foundation to continue championing community causes in 2024**

Demonstrating an exceptional commitment to corporate social responsibility, HSBC Malta Foundation celebrates the involvement of over 400 employees who, in 2023, dedicated their voluntary leave day to support a variety of charitable causes across Malta. This initiative allowed employees to engage directly with local communities, exemplifying HSBC's ethos of connecting with and contributing to the society in which they operate.

Throughout the past year, these commendable efforts were part of a larger tapestry of support that extended to 156 entities, including 92 NGOs, 8 Local Councils and 56 schools and centres.

Among the notable collaborations, HSBC employees contributed to the development opportunities for youth with JCI Malta, supported individuals facing difficulties through the Malta Community Chest Fund Foundation, and fostered leadership skills amongst others with the JA Malta Foundation.

Educational support was also a significant focus, with initiatives at various colleges and schools forming part of the Prince's Trust International Achieve Programme. Furthermore, the foundation's engagement with local councils has led to enhanced community projects benefiting residents and local infrastructure.

The collaboration with these organisations has spanned a wide range of projects, from educational programs to environmental conservation, enriching the fabric of Maltese society.

Amongst others, these included a number of students from the Prince's Trust International Achieve programme visiting the Soup Kitchen in Valletta to help prepare lunch for the day and take-away snacks. They helped in the kitchen and cleared the tables. Thanks to these activities students realised how many people are in need of a warm meal and how many lack even the bare essentials. It was surely a remarkable experience, instilling teamwork, empathy and respect towards others.

Students from St. Thomas More College Primarja A in Żejtun, who despite their young age, were amongst many schools and individuals who supported the HSBC Malta Foundation/MOVE initiative contribute to the planting of 80 trees worth 4,000kms of walking/running as part of the #movefortrees initiative coordinated by MOVE.

On the occasion of International Women's Day, ten local schools came together to support nine NGOs working with vulnerable women across Malta and Gozo. The initiative was coordinated by the HSBC Malta Foundation.

As 2024 unfolds, the HSBC Malta Foundation aims to not only continue its legacy of community engagement but also commemorates a significant milestone — its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of operations in Malta. Reflecting on a quarter-century of community support, the foundation renews its dedication to the Maltese community, reaffirming its role as a stalwart of societal development and corporate citizenship.

"Volunteering is more than a corporate directive; it's a personal commitment our employees make year after year," commented HSBC Malta CEO, Geoffrey Fichte. "As we mark our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we are inspired by the collective impact of our teams and the foundation's partnerships with local NGOs, schools, and councils. We look forward to deepening these relationships and continuing to make a meaningful difference."



**Photocaption: HSBC employees during the CSR Day 2023 which was held at the San Blas Rehab Centre in the limits of Żebbuġ**

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