

Nru. 30

No. 30

MINISTERU GHALL-FINANZI

MINISTRY FOR FINANCE

Ghotja mill-Gvern għall-Installazzjoni ta' Bicycle Racks/Facilitajiet Ancillari f'Lokalitajiet jew f'Bini ta' Intrapriži

Government Grant on the Installation of Bicycle Racks/Ancillary Facilities in Localities or within Enterprises' Premises

BIEX il-Gvern jincentiva l-użu ta' mezzi ta' transport li ma jhammgu filwaqt li jincentiva l-eżercizzju fiziku u stil ta' hajja aktar b'saħħitha, il-Ministru għall-Finanzi qed jalloka fondi fejn kunsilli lokali, u intrapriži huma mhegga biex johorġu bi pjan biex jipromwovu l-użu tar-roti bhala mezz ta' trasport fil-lokalitajiet jew bhala mezz ta' trasport lejn u lil hinn mill-post tax-xogħol.

IN ORDER to incentivise the use of alternative green means of transport while, at the same time, encouraging physical exercise and a healthier life style the Minister for Finance is allocating funds whereby local councils and enterprises are encouraged to come up with a plan to promote the use of bicycles as a means of transportation within localities and to and from the workplace.

Għal dan il-ghan, il-Ministeru tal-Finanzi waqqaf fond biex ikopri n-nefqa mgarrba mill-kunsilli lokali jew intrapriži biex jinstallaw *bicycle racks* u facilitajiet ancillari.

To this end, the Ministry for Finance has set up a fund to cover the expenditure incurred by local councils and enterprises to install bicycle racks and ancillary facilities.

Il-kunsilli lokali u intrapriži jistgħu japplikaw għal fondi billi jissottomettu l-formola ta' applikazzjoni wara li jkunu kkonsultaw il-linji gwida applikabbli li huma aċċessibbli fuq (www.finance.gov.mt).

Local councils and enterprises can apply for funds by submitting the application form after having consulted the applicable guidelines that are accessible on (www.finance.gov.mt).

1. Tifsir

1. Interpretation

F'din l-iskema, kemm il darba r-rabta tal-kliem ma tehtiegħ xorta oħra:

In this scheme, unless the context otherwise requires:

'applikant' tfisser il-persuna li japplika għall-ghotja taht din l-iskema f'isem il-kunsill lokali jew intrapriża registrata li tkun qiegħda tapplika għall-ghotja taht din l-iskema;

'applicant' means the person applying for the grant under this scheme on behalf of the local council or the registered enterprise applying for the grant under this scheme;

'applikazzjoni' tfisser l-applikazzjoni li ssir għall-ghotja taht din l-iskema;

'application' means the application made for a grant under this scheme;

'linji gwida' tfisser dokument ta' gwida li jipprovdi l-ispeċifikazzjoni applikabbli u struzzjonijiet għall-installazzjoni u x-xiri ta' *bicycle racks*. Dawn il-linji gwida huma aċċessibbli fuq www.finance.gov.mt.

'guidelines' means guidance documents that provide the applicable specifications and instructions for installation and purchasing of bicycle racks. These guidelines are accessible at www.finance.gov.mt;

'kunsill lokali' tfisser kunsill lokali stabbilit taht l-Att dwar Kunsilli Lokali (Kap 363 tal-Liġijiet ta' Malta) u hekk kif indikat fit-Tieni Skeda annessa ma' l-Att;

'local council' means a local council established under the Local Councils Act (Cap 363 of the laws of Malta) and as designated in the Second Schedule annexed to this Act;

'intrapriża registrata' tfisser entita' legali li għanda d-dritt li tmexxi n-negozju tagħha wahidha, per eżempju

'registered enterprise' means a legal entity possessing the right to conduct business on its own, for example to enter

li tidhol f'kuntratti, ikollha propjeta' tagħha, tidhol f'obligazzjonijiet u tistabilixxi kontijiet bankarji. Intrapriża tista' tkun korporazzjoni, kważi korporazzjoni, istituzzjoni li ma tagħmilx profitt, jew intrapriża mhux inkorporata. L-Intrapriża trid tkun reġistrata mal-awtoritajiet kompetenti;

'data effettiva' tfisser l-1 ta' Jannar, 2019;

'irċevuta fiskali' tfisser riċevuta kif imfissra fit-Tlettax-il Skeda ta' l-Att dwar it-Taxxa fuq il-Valur Miżjud (Kap 406), kif sussegwentament emendat, u tinkludi kull regolament magħmul taħt l-istess Att;

'bicycle racks' tfisser faċilitajiet għal parkeġġ tar-roti għal tul ta' żmien qasir jew twil, hekk kif stipulat fil-linji gwida li huma maħsuba bħala struzzjonijiet għax-xiri u l-installazzjoni ta' bicycle racks u faċilitajiet anċillari;

'Faċilitajiet anċillari' tfisser tagħmir, bini, strutturi u titjib li jespandu l-kumdità u s-sigurtà meħtieġa biex isostnu l-użu tar-rotta bħala mezz ta' trasport;

'nefqa kapitali' tfisser nefqa relatata max-xiri u l-installazzjoni ta' bicycle racks u faċilitajiet anċillari;

'Malta' tfisser il-gżejjer Maltin;

'Ministru' tfisser il-Ministru reponsabbli għall-Finanzi;

'negozji' tfisser kull kumpanija kummerċjali, komprizi soċjetajiet bi sħubija, reġistrata f'Malta mal-Awtorità Maltija għas-Servizzi Finanzjarji;

'persuna residenti f'Malta' tfisser persuna fiżika li jkollha dokument ta' identifikazzjoni legalment validu maħruġ skont l-Att dwar il-Karta tal-Identità u Dokumenti oħra tal-Identità (Kap 258) jew li jkollha permess ta' residenza jew ittra maħruġa mill-uffiċċju tal-espatrijazzjoni fil-Ministeru għall-Affarijiet Barranin;

'Stat Membru' tfisser Stat Membru tal-Unjoni Ewropea;

'Unjoni Ewropea' għandha l-istess tifsira mogħtija lilha fl-artikolu 2 tal-Att dwar l-Unjoni Ewropea (Kap 460), u tinkludi n-Norveġja, l-Islanda u Liechtenstein;

into contracts, own property, incur liabilities and establish bank accounts. An enterprise may be a corporation, a quasi-corporation, a non-profit institution, or an unincorporated enterprise. The enterprise has to be registered with the competent authority;

'effective date' means the 1st January, 2019;

'fiscal receipt' means a receipt as defined in the Thirteenth Schedule to the Value Added Tax (Cap 406), as subsequently amended, and also includes any regulation made by the same Act;

'bicycle racks' means facilities for short-term or long term bicycle parking as defined in the guidelines that are intended as instructions for purchase and installation of bicycle racks and ancillary facilities;

'Ancillary facilities' means equipment, buildings, structures and improvements that expand the comfort and safety necessary to support the use of a bicycle as a means of transportation;

'capital expenditure' means expenditure related to the purchase and installation of bicycle racks and ancillary facilities,

'Malta' means the islands of Malta;

'Minister' means the Minister responsible for Finance;

'businesses' means any commercial company including partnerships registered in Malta with the Malta Financial Services Authority;

'person residing in Malta' means a natural person who either holds a legally valid identification document issued in terms of the Identity Card and other Identity Documents Act (Cap 258) or who has a residence permit or a letter issued from the expatriate office at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

'Member State' means a Member State of the European Union;

'European Union' has the same meaning as is assigned to it by article 2 of the European Union Act (Cap 460), and includes Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein;

'valur tax-xiri' tfisser il-valur aħhari tax-xiri tal-apparat komplut, inkluż il-VAT, u liema valur tal-apparat ikun thallas kollu mill-applikant qabel japplika għar-rimborż.

2. Applikabilità

Din l-iskema tapplika għall-infiq li jsir fuq il-valur tax-xiri u l-installazzjoni ta' *bicycle racks* fil-lokalità jew l-infiq li jsir fuq il-valur tax-xiri u l-installazzjoni ta' *bicycle racks* u faċilitajiet anċillari fi hdan il-bini ta' intrapriżi, liema xiri u xogħlijiet ikunu bdew mid-data effettiva jew wara, u tlestew sal-aħhar ta' Diċembru 2019.

3. L-infiq li għandu jiġi rraportat

L-infiq li għandu jiġi rraportat huwa dwar il-valur tax-xiri u l-installazzjoni ta' *bicycle racks*/faċilitajiet anċillari, kif imfisser f'sezzjoni wieħed (1) ta' din l-iskema.

4. Kif wieħed japplika u dokumenti li għandhom jiġu pprovduti

(i) Applikazzjonijiet taħt din l-iskema għandhom isiru fuq il-formola murija fl-iskeda (A) li tinsab ma' din l-iskema, u għandu jkun fihom dak it-tagħrif, dettalji u dokumenti kollha kif meħtieġa fl-imsemmija formola u skont din l-iskema.

(ii) Qabel ma jixtri u jinstalla l-*bicycle racks*/faċilitajiet anċillari l-applikant għandu jaqra u jsegwi l-linji gwida applikabbli, li huma aċċessibbli fuq (www.finance.gov.mt).

(iii) L-applikazzjonijiet għandhom jinkludu dan li ġej:

(a) kopja tal-Karta tal-Identità tal-applikant jew, fin-nuqqas ta' Karta tal-Identità, kopja ta' xi dokument uffiċjali ieħor kif imsemmi fit-tifsira 'persuna residenti f'Malta' f'sezzjoni 1 ta' din l-iskema;

(b) Kwotazzjonijiet għal tagħmir mixtri u xogħlijiet, li għandhom jispeċifikaw jekk jinkludux l-installazzjoni;

(c) Stampa tal-*bicycle racks* li ser jiġu mixtrija;

(d) Pjanta tas-sit u ritratti ta' fejn se jiġu installati il-*bicycle racks*/faċilitajiet anċillari.

'purchase price' means the total purchase price of the complete equipment including VAT and which purchase price has been paid in full by the applicant prior to applying for reimbursement.

2. Area of applicability

This scheme relates to the expenditure that is incurred in the purchase price and installation of bicycle racks within the locality or the purchase price and installation of bicycle racks/ ancillary facilities within the enterprises' premises, and which purchase and works were carried out from the effective date or afterwards and completed by the end of December 2019.

3. Expenditure to be reported

The expenditure to be reported is in respect of the purchase price and installation of bicycle racks/ ancillary facilities as defined in section one (1) of this scheme.

4. Manner of application and supporting documents

(i) Applications under this scheme shall be made in the form set out in schedule (A) annexed to this scheme, and shall contain all the information, details and documents as required in the said form and in terms of this scheme.

(ii) Prior to purchasing and installing the bicycle racks/ ancillary facilities the applicant must read and follow the applicable guidelines, that are accessible on (www.finance.gov.mt).

(iii) Applications are to be accompanied by the documents shown hereunder:

(a) a copy of the Identity Card of the applicant or, in the absence of an Identity Card, a copy of any other official document of identity as referred to in the interpretation of a 'person residing in Malta' in section 1 of this scheme;

(b) Quotations for equipment purchased and works, which must specify if installation is included;

(c) Picture of the proposed racks;

(d) Site plan and photos of where the bicycle racks/ ancillary facilities will be installed.

(iv) Fl-istadju tar-rimborż l-applikant għandu jissottometti:

(a) Kemm l-irċevuta/i fiskali oriġinali kif ukoll l-*invoices* kummerċjali. Fil-każ fejn fornitur ta' oġġetti jew servizzi huwa eżenti milli jagħti rċevuta fiskali, il-fornitur għandu jipprovdi dikjarazzjoni ffirmata f'dan is-sens flimkien mal-*invoices* kummerċjali.

Fil-każ ta tagħmir mhux mixtri minn Malta, l-irċevuti oriġinali tax-xiri ta' dawn l-oġġetti maħruġin mill-fornitur flimkien ma' *delivery note/s*, prova dokumentata oriġinali li l-ħlas finali sar, u approvazzjoni minn Maltapost/id-Dipartiment tad-Dwana ta' Malta, skont il-bżonn. Dawn id-dokumenti jridu jikkonfermaw li dawn l-oġġetti fil-fatt inxtraw; li l-ispejjeż tax-xiri, inkluż fejn japplika l-ispejjeż tad-dazju u tal-VAT tassew thallsu b'mod sħiħ; u li dan ix-xiri sar mill-applikant għall-applikant. Dawn l-oġġetti mixtrija jridu jkunu konformi marregolamenti dwar l-istandards tas-sigurtà tal-UE.

(v) Ikunu jikkwalifikaw għall-għajjnuna msemmiya f'sezzjoni 5 ta' din l-iskema dawk l-applikazzjonijiet biss li jkunu jikkonformaw mad-dispożizzjonijiet kollha ta' din liskema.

(vi) Applikazzjonijiet taht din l-iskema, inkluż id-dokumenti meħtieġa li jintbagħtu ma' l-applikazzjoni, għandhom ikunu sottomessi lill-Bord għall-Fond tal-*Bicycle Racks*, Ministeru għall-Finanzi, Maison Demandols, Triq Nofsinar, Valletta. Il-Formola tal-applikazzjoni u il-linji gwida jinkisbu fis-sit (www.finance.gov.mt).

5. Għotja li tithallas taht din l-iskema

(i) Kunsilli lokali u intraprizi li ma jagħmlux profit huma eliġibli biex japplikaw għall-għotja sa massimu ta' 100% fuq in-nefqa kapitali approvata li tkun saret u thallset kollha kif spjegat f'sezzjoni 2 ta' din l-iskema;

(ii) Intraprizi kummerċjali li jikkwalifikaw jistgħu japplikaw għall-għotja sa massimu ta' 50% fuq in-nefqa kapitali approvata li tkun saret u thallset kollha kif spjegat f'sezzjoni 2 ta' din l-iskema.

6. Ħlas tal-għotja

L-għotja tithallas lill-applikant permezz ta' ċekk fl-indirizz li jidher fuq l-applikazzjoni.

(iv) At reimbursement stage the applicant must submit:

(a) Both the original fiscal receipt/s and the commercial invoices. In the case where the supplier of goods/services is exempted from issuing a fiscal receipt an endorsed statement to this effect is to be supplied by the supplier together with the commercial invoices;

In the case of equipment not purchased from Malta, the original invoices of the purchase of such items issued by the supplier together with the delivery note/s, the original documentary proof that final payment has been affected, and clearance from Maltapost/Department of Customs Malta, as may be required. These documents must confirm that such items were really purchased; the expenditure costs, and which costs include duty and VAT as may be required, were really paid in full; that such a purchase was affected by the purchaser for the purchaser. Such purchased items must also conform to EU standard safety regulations, as may be required.

(v) Only those applications that are in conformity with all the provisions of this scheme shall be eligible for payment of the assistance referred to in section 5 of this scheme.

(vi) Applications under this scheme, including the documents required to be submitted with the application, shall be submitted to the Board for the Bicycle Rack Fund, Ministry for Finance, Maison Demandols, South Street, Valletta. The Application form and guidelines are available on (www.finance.gov.mt).

5. Grant payable under this scheme

(i) Local councils and non for profit enterprises are eligible to apply for a grant of up to 100% of the approved capital expenditure incurred and paid in full as explained in section 2 of the scheme;

(ii) Commercial enterprises may apply for a grant of up to 50% on the approved capital expenditure incurred and paid in full as explained in section 2 of the scheme.

6. Payment of Grant

The grant will be paid to the applicant by cheque posted to the address shown on the application.

7. Validità ta' l-applikazzjoni

Applikazzjoni ma tkunx meqjusa valida jekk:

ma tkunx shiħa u dettaljata f'kull aspekk materjali tagħha; ma jkollhiex inklużi magħha d-dokumentazzjoni jew dettalji kollha rilevanti.

8. Tul ta' l-iskema

Din l-iskema għandha tul definit u tibda' mil-1 ta' Jannar 2019, u tispicċa fil-31 ta' Diċembru 2019, sakemm din l-iskema ma tiġix modifikata/mitmuma permezz ta' notifika fil-Gazzetta tal-Gvern u tiġġedded skont kif jaħseb li hemm il-ħtieġa il-Ministru għall-Finanzi, u kif tiġi hekk pubbljkata permezz ta' notifika oħra fil-Gazzetta.

9. Għajjnuna mill-Istat

B'referenza għal sezzjoni 5(ii), din l-iskema qed tiġi implimentata b'konformità mar-Regolament tal-Kummissjoni (UE) Nru 1407/2013 tat-18 ta' Diċembru, 2013 dwar l-applikazzjoni tal-Artikli 107 u 108 tat-Trattat dwar il-Funzjonament tal-Unjoni Ewropea għall-Għajjnuna de minimis, Ġurnal Uffiċjali L352/1 tal-24 ta' Diċembru 2013. Intrapriżi kummerċjali li japplikaw għal dawn l-għotjiet għandhom jiżguraw li huma fil-limiti tal-għajjnuna mill-Istat u għandhom jimlew il-formola mehmuża dwar Għajjnuna mill-Istat.

10. Emendi għall-iskema

Il-Ministru għall-Finanzi iżomm id-dritt li jagħmel kull tibdil f'din l-iskema bil-pubbljkazzjoni ta' dak it-tibdil fil-Gazzetta tal-Gvern.

11. Dispożizzjoniet transitorji

Applikazzjonijiet taħt din l-iskema għall-infiq li jsir fuq il-valur tax-xiri u l-installazzjoni ta' *bicycle racks* u faċilitajiet anċillari, liema xiri u installazzjoni ikunu saru bejn id-data effettiva u d-data tal-pubbljkazzjoni ta' din in-notifikazzjoni, għandhom jitqiesu bħala applikazzjonijiet validi taħt din l-iskema, kemm il-darba l-applikazzjonijiet jissodisfaw il-kundizzjoniet kollha stipulati f'din in-notifikazzjoni.

SKEDI

Skeda A – Formola tal-Aplikazzjoni

It-8 ta' Jannar, 2018

7. Validity of application

An application shall not be deemed to be valid unless:

it is full and complete in all material aspects; it is accompanied by all the relevant documentation or details as required.

8. Duration of the scheme

This scheme has a definite duration and will start as from the 1st January 2019, and end on the 31st December 2019, until this scheme is not modified/terminated by means of a notice in the Government Gazette and shall be renewed as deemed necessary by the Minister for Finance and as such shall be thus published in another notice in the Gazette.

9. State Aid

With reference to section 5(ii), this scheme will be implemented in accordance with the provisions of Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 of 18 December 2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid, OJ L 352/1 of 24 December 2013. Commercial enterprises applying for this grant should make sure that they are within the limits of State Aid and will have to fill the attached form on State Aid.

10. Amendments to the scheme

The Minister for Finance reserves the right to make any amendments to this scheme by the publication of the said amendments in the Government Gazette.

11. Transitory provisions

Applications made under this scheme relating to the expenditure on the purchase price and installation of bicycle racks/ancillary facilities, and which purchase and installation was carried out between the effective date and the date of publication of this notice shall be deemed to be valid applications under this scheme, provided that the applications satisfy all the conditions stipulated in this notice.

SCHEDULES

Schedule A – Application Form

8th January, 2018