

**SMILES COST Action Working Group 4
Training course on Nature-based Solutions development
Malta, 22/3/2024**

Friday, 22/3

09:00 Welcome & tasks of the training, introduction of participants

09:30 Context setting: SMILES and its WG4 1) objectives, 2) action points

10:00 Dr Erich Wolff (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) - Experiences with Nature-based Solutions in Marginalised Communities: Case Studies in the Asian Pacific region

10:30 Prof Tadhg Macintyre (National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Ireland) – Urban Nature-Based Solutions and impacts on health and well-being

11:00 Coffee break

11.30 Dr Christos Zoumides (The Cyprus Institute, Cyprus): Nature based solutions on small-medium islands: examples of studies from Cyprus

12.00 Dr Mario Balzan (Institute of Applied Science, Malta College of Arts, Science and Technology; Ecostack Innovations, Malta): Planning for nature-based solutions: sharing experiences from Malta and other small-medium islands

12.30 Dr Shiri Zemah Shamir (School of Sustainability, Reichman University, Israel): Costs and benefits of applying Nature-Based Solutions in Small-Medium Islands

13:00 Lunch break

14:00 Presentations by the trainees based on their experience and potential contributions to SMILES targets, reflections, discussions (facilitated by Prof Mart Külvik, Estonian University of Life Sciences, Tartu, Estonia)

15:30 Groupwork on synergies and inputs by young/early career researchers to SMILES tasks (facilitated by Prof Mart Külvik, Dr Shiri Zemah Shamir, Dr Mario Balzan)

16:30 Reflections and conclusions from the training, further action (facilitated by Prof Mart Külvik, Dr Shiri Zemah Shamir, Dr Mario Balzan)

17:00 End of Course

Link for online participants:

Please find below the link that will be used for the entire duration of the SMILES training, on the Microsoft Teams platform:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ODE0MzczM2EtZTQzNi00OWFILWFmNjAtZmQxN2JkMTA3ODBi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22d64af657-2a5f-4175-aefd-299c805207d1%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22a0653595-376e-4552-a2eb-eaf72a3ed0a3%22%7d

Meeting location:

Valletta Design Cluster, 25 Bull Street, Il-Belt Valletta VLT 1570

[Link to Google maps](#)

