



## SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVE WORKING GROUP – MEETING MINUTES

<b>Meeting Number</b>	06
<b>Date</b>	24/06/2025
<b>Time</b>	09:30 – 11:30hrs
<b>Venue</b>	Arts Council Malta Offices, Mrieħel
<b>ACM</b>	<p>Luke Dalli, Exec Chair</p> <p>Karsten Xuereb, Research Exec</p> <p>Nikki Petroni, Education Exec (online)</p>
<b>PCOs</b>	<p>Rupert Cefai, Exec Chair, Spazju Kreattiv</p> <p>Daniel Azzopardi, Artistic Director, Spazju Kreattiv</p>
<b>Present Members</b>	<p>Alex Bezzina</p> <p>Kristina Borg</p> <p>Charlie Cauchi, MPA (online)</p> <p>Maria Galea, MEIA</p> <p>Lisa Gwen Chetcuti</p> <p>Matthew Muscat Drago MPA</p> <p>Diane Portelli (moveo)</p> <p>Moira Scicluna Zahra (MCI)</p>
<b>Excused</b>	Christabel Borg Preca, OD NAPA

<b>Other</b>	Alison Mizzi, Eszter Kosa, EMCS (Strategy 2030 researchers)
<b>Chair</b>	Karsten Xuereb
<b>Rapporteur</b>	Aida Daoud Bushra, ACM

<b>Agenda Item</b>		<b>Action</b>
1.	<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	Minutes approved
2.	<p><b>First meeting with Dr Luke Dalli as Exec Chair ACM</b></p> <p>ACM to shift towards more engagement with the CCS on the basis of joint leadership. Strategy 2030 and Funding Review to aim to go further beyond funding mechanisms, and making them more effective. Internally, less compartmentalisation, to impact ACM role in CCS.</p>	1 to 1 meetings between Luke Dalli & SRWG members
3.	<p><b>Strategy 2030 Focus Group</b></p> <p><i>Impressions of Strategy 2025:</i></p> <p>Maria Galea: Strategy 2025 lacked implementation plan.</p> <p>Rupert Cefai: PCOs not really involved in any part of the strategy process.</p> <p>Diane Portelli: while applicants for funds are required to align proposals to strategy principles, their development is distant from CCS practicalities.</p> <p>Maria Galea: funding to reflect shift outlined by Luke.</p> <p>Kristina Borg: role of SRWG members still being defined. This should include participatory governance &amp; solution-oriented approach. To contribute to 'grounded vision.' To achieve excellence, attention needs to be paid to the 'invisible elements/hidden parts' that lead there.</p>	<p>Karsten to share Gantt Chart.</p> <p>Karsten to respond to Alex on why Annual Report 2024 does not include PCO budgets.</p>

*Role of PCOs:*

Rupert Cefai: existant on paper, disaggregated in practice.

Luke: ACM is regulator legally speaking, but not empowered to act so. ACM should be enabler and bridge with the CCS.

Karsten Xuereb: PCOs and ACM should jointly address the cultural policy.

Maria Galea: funding-wise, public monopoly significantly favours ACM and PCOs spending, contributing to private sector over-dependence and suffering significant competition. Strategy 2030 should acknowledge this.

Daniel Azzopardi: better balance to be sought between commissioning of PCOs and private CCS practitioners.

Rupert Cefai: existence of entities aiming for excellence did not reflect market conditions.

Lisa Gwen: similar thinking leading to ACM commissioning of biennales. Expertise does not always follow.

*Education:*

Daniel Azzopardi: ACM and PCOs should focus on all educational levels and relations to CCS.

Maria Galea, Lisa Gwen, Alex Bezzina : education contributes to continuity, cultivating a critical sense, nurturing sustainability practices, addressing short-termism and projectitis.

Luke: pilot project to nurture critical capacities and economic development through support to performing arts reviewers.

*Challenges ahead:*

Maria Galea: CCS grew quickly, 'full-injection', with not enough infrastructure and capacity building to sustain it in time. Need to consider entrepreneurship beyond the individual, and perceive the ecosystem.

	<p>Diane Portelli: to favour mutual collaboration, and support private practitioners to contribute to capacity building of sector, while benefiting from opportunities provided by state.</p> <p>Kristina Borg: high time to practice funding and governance models that go beyond traditional dependence, competitiveness and bureaucratisation.</p>	
4.	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Upcoming PCO participation to be established per agenda item/s</li> <li>2. Co-chairing to be done as per schedule</li> <li>3. Next SRWG meeting of 22 July to act as 2<sup>nd</sup> focus group with EMCS</li> </ol>	EMCS to provide interim feedback, in preparation for 2 <sup>nd</sup> focus group.

<b>Next Meeting Number</b>	7
<b>Date</b>	22 July 2025
<b>Time</b>	09:30 – 11:30hrs
<b>Venue</b>	ACM