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# BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINER INITIATIVE



**FEBRUARY 2024** 







REUSE BEATS
SINGLE-USE







# **BACKGROUND – EU CONTEXT**

The objective of the EU's **Green Deal** is to achieve climate neutrality in Europe by 2050. Working alongside the **Single-Use Plastics Directive**, **Waste Framework Directive**, **and Circular Economy Action Plan**, they collectively strive to lessen the effects of plastic pollution and promote a circular economy. A key approach to this is the **BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINER – BYOC strategy**.





# **BACKGROUND – LOCAL CONTEXT**

### Single-Use Plastic Survey by National Statistics Office (2023):

**Target Population: Aged 16+** 

Persons involved in their household's grocery shopping

- 63% noticed an increase in alternatives to single-use plastic for sale.
- 62% tried to avoid plastic packaging.
- 63% used reusable bags and containers for shopping.

### **POLICY SUPPORT - SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION**





- Long Term Waste Management Plan 2021-2030 waste reduction measure WP\_EI5: Encourage retailers to offer discounts for customers who bring their own containers.
- Single-Use Plastic Framework Regulations 549.149: Plays a fundamental role in supporting the implementation of BYOC initiatives, reinforcing the commitment to reducing single-use plastic waste and promoting sustainable practices.

## **BYOC INITIATIVE**

- Aims to promote adoption among retail and catering establishments in Malta by **PROVIDING FINANCIAL INCENTIVES** for consumers to bring and reuse containers.
- Encouraging reuse, diminishes single-use packaging waste, and facilitates the transition to a Circular Economy.
- Recognizing registered establishments fostering sustainability and resource conservation.
- Encourages long-term resource retention within the economy.



# BRING YOUR OWN CONTAINER



2 ENSURE CLEANLINESS



PROVIDE A
FINANCIAL INCENTIVE



REFILL & USE



CLEAN & REUSE
YOUR CONTAINER



# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- Recognition Mark displayed at establishments
- Webpage featuring a map of registered participants
- Guidelines and Terms & Conditions for operating the initiative
- Contributes to circularity by discouraging single-use packaging, thereby promoting reusability and waste prevention.



- WHILE FOSTERING ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABILITY -









# **HOW CAN I REGISTER?**

#### 1. Visit the CE Malta Website - www.cemalta.gov.mt

Access the BYOC page <u>www.cemalta.gov.mt/byoc</u>



#### 2. Review Guidelines and Terms & Conditions

Familiarize yourself with the BYOC initiative's GUIDELINES and TERMS & CONDITIONS.

#### 3. Complete Registration Form

• Fill out the registration form provided on the BYOC page.

#### 4. Read and Sign the Registration Form

- Carefully read through the information provided.
- Sign the registration form to indicate your agreement to comply with the initiative's requirements.

#### 5. Submission

Once the form is completed and signed, submit it through the website.

#### 6. Confirmation

 Expect to receive an acknowledgement email with a unique ID (e.g., BYOC-0000). Use this ID in all further communications.

### **GUIDELINES**



#### 1. CONTAINER INSPECTION

• Cleanliness check, suitable size and type, regular sanitation, and visible guidelines.

#### 2. DECLINING CUSTOMER'S CONTAINER

• Risk assessment, polite explanation, sustainability appreciation, and online guidance.

#### 3. STAFF TRAINING

Conduct thorough staff training on BYOC guidelines and hygiene practices.



#### 4. LEGAL RESPONSIBILITY

Compliance with regulations, and risk management for reusable containers.



# **TERMS & CONDITIONS**

#### 1. DISCLAIMER

- Information provided does not grant legal rights or obligations.
- Encourages alignment with global best practices for recognition by the BYOC initiative.

#### 2. INTRODUCTION

- BYOC initiative aims to reduce reliance on single-use items and promote reusable containers.
- Businesses incentivize customers for using reusable containers to reduce environmental impact.
- CEMalta recognizes partners' efforts, fostering consumer awareness and responsible consumption practices.

#### 3. ELIGIBILITY AND LEGAL COMPLIANCE

- Businesses in Catering Undertaking and/or Retail sectors eligible.
- Adherence to local food hygiene regulations (Regulation (EC) 852/2004) mandatory.
- Non-compliance may lead to disqualification and removal from the initiative.

#### 4. WITHDRAWAL AND DE-REGISTRATION

- Participants can withdraw or de-register by contacting the Agency.
- Prompt removal of recognition logo and materials upon withdrawal request.

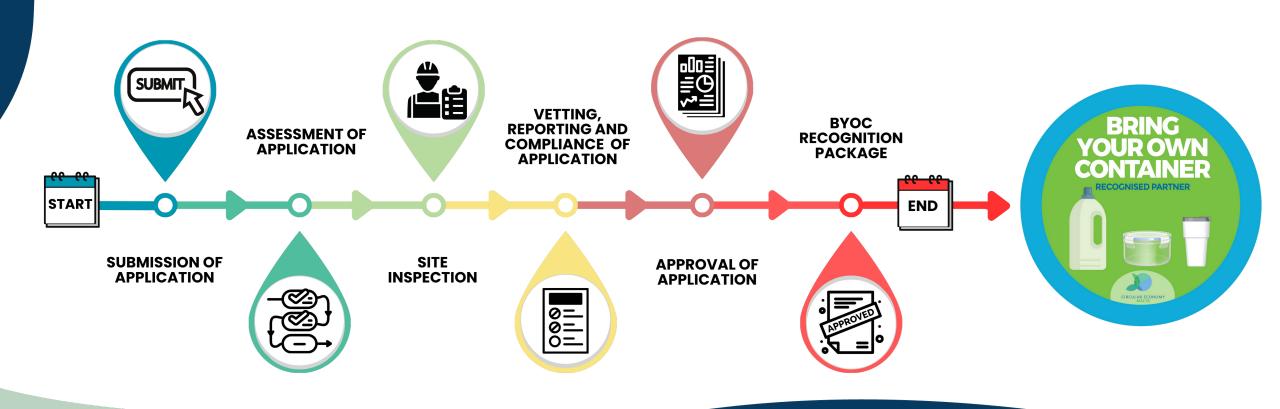
#### 5. COMMUNICATION

- Partners must clearly communicate the BYOC initiative to customers.
- Training for staff on BYOC procedures recommended.
- Option to sell reusable BYOC items in stores encouraged.



# **NEXT STEPS FOLLOWING REGISTRATION...**

### **BYOC RECOGNITION PROCESS**



# Join <u>BYOC</u> Towards Reusability and Circularity!





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# **THANK YOU!**



