# WG2 Case study profile

| WG2 Thematic Group | WG2.1a. Care for older people and people with disabilities |
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| **Name(s) of proposer** | Charles Pace |
| **Institution** | University of Malta |
| **Title of case study** | Supporting carers, developing supporting networks: improving quality in community social care amid restructuring |
| **Country/region/place investigated** | Malta |
| **Social service sector(s) investigated** *(Erase non relevant ones)* <br> • Older people <br> • People with disabilities (possibly including mental health) | *Malta's community care social care services have grown slowly in parallel with GDP growth. But the dependent population is expected to soon grow dramatically with ageing. The social as opposed to the health side of community long-term care will be challenged in the near future.* |
| **Category of case study ('what' is investigated)** *(Erase non relevant ones)* <br> • Subsector/policy/programme (meso) <br> • Project/initiative/experience (micro) <br> • Actor(s) <br> • Place (s) | *Meetings of planners and leaders , front-line practitioners and volunteers and their organisers, as well as the input of a visiting COST SOS.Cohesion expert is expected to stimulate thinking, evaluation, planning and action.* |
| **Time frame considered** *(from when to when)* | *Over 24months maximum. Forming stage followed by preparatory studies and meetings; then expert's visit and follow up reflection and action takes place. Progress documented for dissemination.* |
| **Five 'perspectives'** *(Erase non relevant ones)* <br> • Cost efficiency/quality/user satisfaction <br> • Social and/or territorial cohesion <br> • Labour conditions of social workers? <br> • Gender | *Basically this will be an effort to assess and improve quality by way of improved carer support and supportive networks, to improve input in both quantity (of volunteers and other services) and quality (introducing and expanding good practices).* <br><br> *The participation of key stakeholders is expected to yield both knowledge of the situation and its improvement.* |
| **Three processes in restructuring + crisis** *(Erase non relevant ones)* <br> • Cuts/rationalization/management reforms (NPM, others) <br> • *Vertical* subsidiarity (administrative re-arrangements between *government* levels) <br> • *Horizontal* subsidiarity (involvement of/outsourcing to other suppliers) | *While the focus of dissemination and action will be on quality of practice, this will be understood within a context of restructuring of all the types mentioned, in the hope of yielding improved understanding, know how and practice.* |
| **Specific questions/focus** | *What challenges are encountered in assuring sustainable good practice? What good practices, originating locally or* |

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| | *elsewhere, can respond to the rising need and sustainability challenges?* |
| **Local Stakeholder Network (LSN)** | *Do you intend to set up a LSN*:     YES |