

PRESS RELEASE

**PRESS CONFERENCE:
Public Consultation and Works
at
Il-Majjistral Nature and History Park
Tuesday 27th July 2010 @ MCC Valletta**

The Majjistral Nature and History Park Board would like to invite the public and stakeholders to participate in a public consultation exercise for the finalisation of the Park's management plan with particular reference to access control and landscape rehabilitation. The plan and proposals can be viewed at www.majjistral.org and feedback will be received by the Board by email: info@majjistral.org or by post: P.O.Box Number 9, St Paul's Bay until 15th September 2010.

The Board's Chairman, Dr Ian Castaldi Paris outlined the works and activities undertaken in the past two years which included further habitat rehabilitation of a widespread illegal dumping site through afforestation, site maintenance and restoration of dry stone walls. Numerous, regular cleanups are an ongoing park activity held with the help of the general public, private corporations and NGOs. On site monitoring is carried out by the park's ranger aided also by public reporting. 2010 also saw the restoration of British structures and an old stone stairways leading down to the *Rdum*.

The Park's objectives for increasing environmental education opportunities and raising awareness are reached via dissemination of information and a number of public activities which include guided walks and on site talks, outdoor education for students of different ages including nature walks and snorkelling, as well as teambuilding events for companies and joint activities with other NGOs, public entities and farmers' cooperatives.

The Park has also become an important research site for fieldwork studies carried out by the University of Malta as well as the Italian Universities of Trieste and Modena.

Il-Majjistral Nature and History Park is located in the northwest of Malta within Mellieha and stretches from Golden Bay to Anchor Bay. The area was protected by law in 2007 and its management was passed on by Government to the Heritage Parks Federation composed of 3 non-profit NGOs Din l-Art Helwa, Gaia Foundation and Nature Trust (Malta). More info: www.majjistral.org

Encl: Presentation

www.majjistral.org