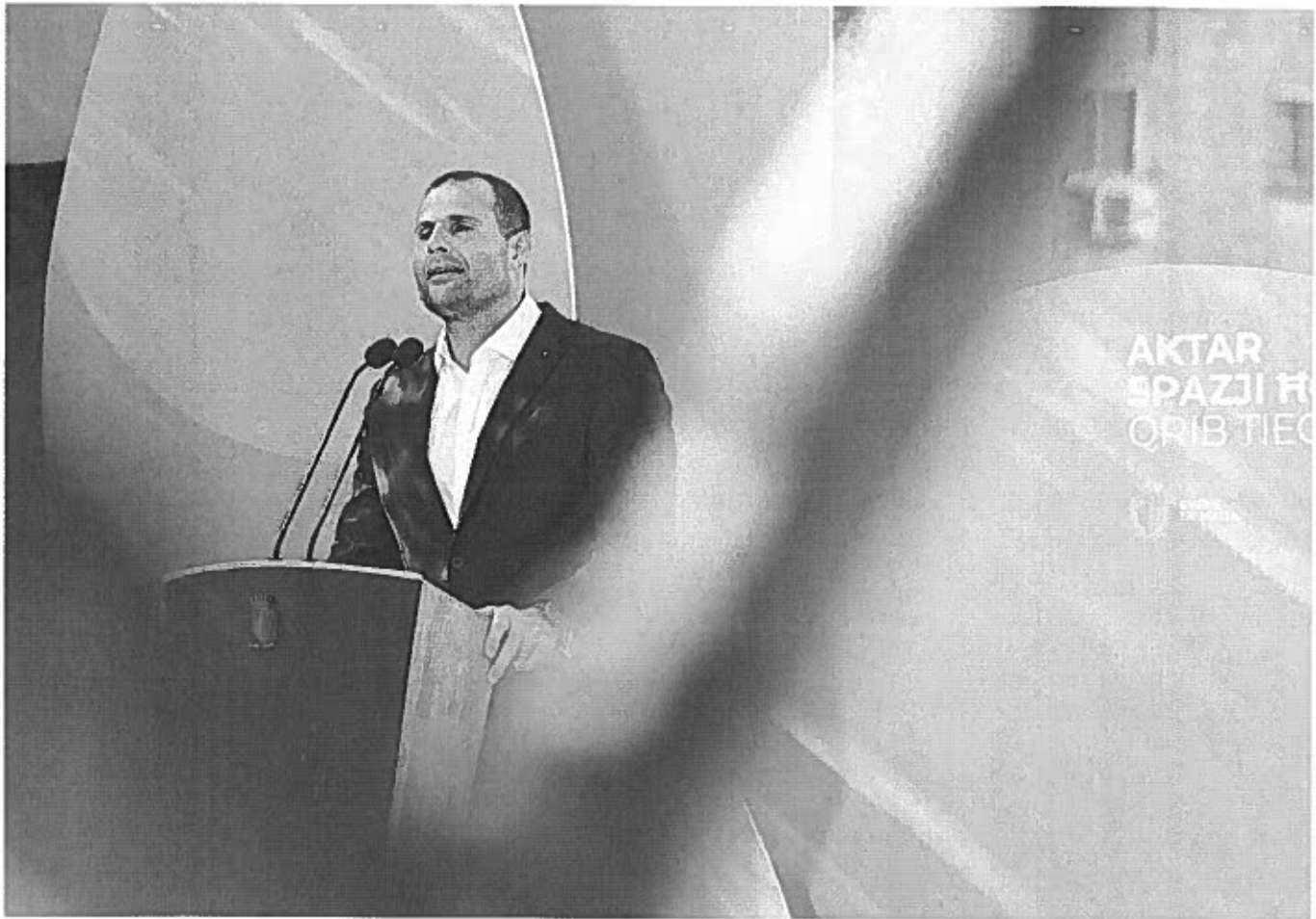




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## PM announces new open spaces on four sites intended for development

February 16, 2024



### ■ Aqra bil-Malti

Prime Minister Robert Abela announced that 8,000 squared meters of land in four localities, which are within development areas, will be turned into open spaces.

The land, which carries a total value of around €20 million, is located in St Julian's, Kirkop, Lija and Luqa.



The Prime Minister said that 30 blocks of apartments could have been built on these lands, but the Government decided to turn them into gardens instead.

Dr. Abela insisted that the Government wants the citizens to have place for relaxation close to where they live. That was why it had asked the Land Authority and Project Green to start working on this project.

The 8,000 square meters of land for these four projects form part of 20,000 square meters of land around the country that will be turned into open spaces.



The land in St Julian's



The land in St Julian's

The Prime Minister recalled that in its first year, Project Green worked on 40,000 square meters of open spaces, planting 4,000 trees.

He stressed that with this initiative, the Government is keeping its promise to the people for more open spaces in the country.

The Prime Minister stressed that, alongside economic development, the Government also wants social and environmental development.

Dr. Abela stressed that open spaces are as important as health and social housing projects, for which the land could have been assigned instead.

He said that the 4 sites will be cleaned, and then the work will start to convert them into gardens.

The Prime Minister also recalled other ongoing reforms in sustainable development, including the one in Gozo which stipulates that facades must be built with limestone.

He stressed that this legislature will be the one in which projects of open spaces will be carried out.

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Environment Minister Miriam Dalli and Minister for Lands Stefan Zrinzo Azzopardi also addressed the news conference.

Minister Dalli spoke about the environmental work being carried out by the Government, while Minister Zrinzo Azzopardi spoke about the work carried out by the Lands Authority, so that this initiative could be taken.

The mayors of the 4 localities in which these projects will be carried out also attended the event.

**Information on the 4 sites:**

Luqa

- Triq Mikielang Sapiano
- Development area for five storey buildings
- 3,400 meters squared

Kirkop

- Triq Nerik Xerri
- Development area for five storey buildings
- 1,100 meters squared

Lija

- Triq Merino

- Development area for four storey buildings
- 700 meters squared

St Julian's

- Ta' Ġjorni
- Development area for different buildings
- 2,300 meters squared



OPEN SPACES

ROBERT ABELA

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