Maria Stella Portelli Joins Chemists Without Borders’ Board of Directors
BY MARIA STELLA PORTELLI AND RAY KRONQUIST

“I’d like to introduce Maria Stella Portelli as our newest member of the Chemists Without Borders’ Board of Directors. Stella is a Chemistry and Biology graduate from the University of Malta. She currently holds the position of a medical writer at a healthcare company and has previously worked as a research chemist in the pharmaceutical industry. However, it was during her studies that she contracted the travel bug. Amongst other places, it has taken her to India, Kenya, Colombia, Brazil and Peru, where she worked on various voluntary projects with different organizations. Her experience in NGOs extends even further. For 4 years, she was an active committee member of IAESTE Malta, where her roles varied from taking care of the internship exchange system to eventually leading the organization. She joined Chemists Without Borders in March 2017. Stella has already had a positive impact on our organization, and we look forward to her contributions in the years to come. Here are some of her ideas going forward.”
- Ray, President of CWB

It's funny how the I-have-nothing-to-lose attitude that pushed me to email Chemists Without Borders landed me a golden volunteering opportunity.

Since my first email earlier this year, I have hopped on the Arsenic Project Team and joined Ray in his crusade against time. With innumerable emails and perfectly orchestrated Skype meetings to suit different time zones, I started to learn more and more about our organization, how it works, its strengths and its weaknesses.

Now, engaged in this new role, I would like to consolidate the strengths of our organization and repurpose them to rectify the shortcomings. This translates to three main personal points of focus which I would like to share with you: