

## DETAILED REPORT

### MONITORING PHASE – survey

<b>Acronym</b>	ZEROCO2
<b>Index</b>	PG100015
<b>Period</b>	1.4.2018 – 31.3.2019
<b>Name of project partner</b>	University of Malta
<b>Name of the policy instrument addressed</b>	Cohesion Policy 2014-2020: Malta’s Operational Programme 1 – Fostering a Competitive and Sustainable Economy to Meet our Challenges. Priority Axis 4 – Shifting towards a Low Carbon Economy. 4c Supporting Energy Efficiency, Smart Energy Management and Renewable Energy Use in Public Infrastructure, including in Public Buildings and in the Housing Sector

**Phase 2** is dedicated to **monitoring the implementation of the action plans** in the policy instruments addressed. Project partners should regularly check the extent to which the measures described in the action plans are implemented on the ground and gathering evidence of success.

Project partners should maintain the contact with players involved (stakeholders) through for example: E-mails, phone calls, discussing with them at regional events, etc. Each partner should use the approach that suits his players involved, as there is no common rule for all.

Based on the survey below, an overview of successful implementation of action plans will be published on ZEROCO2 website.

**Important:** *The implementation of the action plan falls under responsibility of each partner dealing with the policy instrument. The progress made in implementing the action plan is reported back to the programme via progress reports (and based on this survey) in phase 2 (annually) with any necessary explanations if the action plan cannot be partly or fully implemented. But the non-implementation of action plan will not call in question the eligibility of costs related to the Interreg Europe.*

### **General Comment**

Although Malta is considered as a region in the Interreg-Europe programme, it is also a country. Therefore, reporting of successful or failed policy action plan proposals could have a much higher impact than that experienced in regions forming only part of a country.

The approach for monitoring was as follows:

1. Presentation of the Policy Action Plan (Email) to:
  - a. The Minister for Energy and Water Management, Hon. Joe Mizzi, responsible for EE and RE Directives
  - b. The Minister for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects, Hon. Dr. Ian Borg, responsible of EPBD. Dr. Borg, who was also present during the final regional meeting and the launch of the policy action plan.
2. The Ministers directed us to their policy directors whom we met face to face, with the support of the Funds and Programmes Division (FPD), as follows:
  - a. Ms Lucienne Meilak, Director, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Policy Development and Programme Implementation Directorate, Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Capital Projects
  - b. Mr Manuel Sapiano, CEO Energy and Water Agency
  - c. Mr MarJohn Abela CEO of Regulator for Energy and Water Services (REWS)
  - d. Ms Amanda Zammit, Director and Ms Vanessa Christine Demanuele, Senior Manager, Policy Development & Programme Implementation Directorate, Ministry for Energy and Water Management
  - e. Ms Diane Muscat, Director, Policy Development and Programme Implementation Directorate, Ministry for Finance
  - f. Ms Josette Zerafa, Assistant Director, Policy Development and Programme Implementation Directorate, Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change
  - g. Ms Ruth Debrincat Tabone, Director, Ms Josianne Muscat, Assistant Director and Mr David Muscat, Manager – Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Energy and Climate Change
  - h. Mr Angelo Grech, Manager, Policy Development and Programme Implementation Directorate, Office of the Permanent Secretary – Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Energy and Climate Change



### **General Feedback**

1. Overall, the meetings were always met with positive welcoming attitude, as shown in this excerpt from an e-mail:

*“In view of the relation of this project on emissions, we wish to invite you to present the findings of this project to the MESDC who is currently leading discussions on low carbon development. As you may well be aware, in May 2017, MESDC has issued a consultation document Low Carbon Development Strategy – Our Vision. The aim was for public entities, private sector organisations, constituted bodies, civil society and individuals to assist the development of Malta’s Low Carbon Development Strategy. We are currently discussing this Strategy with the actors involved and your findings may help develop this strategy further. This will act as a centralised way for your findings to be discussed. MESDC”*

2. High percentage of females at the level of directorship, which is positive.

3. Where relevant, a number of ZeroCO2 policy action proposals have been implemented as shown in the next sections.

4. Need for greater awareness and follow-up for Directors on the value of projects such as Interreg-Europe in assisting them in improving policy measures.

5. Lack of harmonised approach probably due to different priorities of different entities.

6. Varying level of acquaintance with the Interreg Europe programme among policy directors.

7. Need for further training and additional human resources for policy making to effect change.



**ACTION 1 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide training and template/s of how energy performance contracts should be put in place.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
Energy and Water Agency and the Building Regulation Office as policy advisors Meetings to explain the details of the training programme and to get feedback from the policy advisors on it.
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
According to the Energy and Water Agency and what is written in the most recent draft Energy and Climate Plan for 2030, there are a number of private undertakings operating in Malta that provide an energy service, but the concept of financing investments through the energy savings (ESCO) model has not yet taken off. This is due to the generally low energy intensity of the various economic sectors, and the availability of alternative sources of finance. The Government has explored the possibility of adopting energy service contracts in the public sector. A study was carried out on three typical public buildings, whereby it resulted that in view of their low energy consumption, the return on investment for energy savings measures was quite low. Except for investments in renewable energy projects, the payback time exceeded the expected lifetime of the measure itself or the building. The private sector is also facing a similar situation and, so far, no concrete results have materialised. A public consultation on Energy Performance Contracting was also held in February 2017. Respondents highlighted that take up is restricted due to limited savings. Furthermore, potential ESCO providers find it difficult to accumulate a sufficiently large portfolio of interventions to build a suitable business case. Malta is currently analysing whether the development of a financial Special Purpose Vehicle, which would provide off-balance sheet financing for ESCOs and their customers, offer attractive repayment options through low interest rates and have a higher risk tolerance than traditional financing instruments, would achieve the required effectiveness and leverage in the local scenario.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
N/A
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
<b>Our Feedback:</b> This policy action plan proposal seems to be difficult to implement in the current business scenario in Malta, where energy prices are relatively low and energy efficiency products are still relatively expensive, due to low uptake.

**ACTION 2 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide a one-stop shop for all financial incentive measures and to provide technical advice to the general public who would like to achieve NZCO2EB</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
<p>The Energy and Water Agency (EWA) together with the Regulator for Energy and Water Services (REWS) are the responsible entities.</p> <p>During the first 2 years of the ZeroCO2 project, a number of projects and high level meetings were held to discuss and pave the way for a number of policy measures, one of which was the discussion of a one-stop shop.</p>
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
<p>None.</p> <p>It is Government's policy to, as far as is technically and legally possible, have single points of contact for managing support schemes within the same sector. Now that a buildings-specific authority is in the making, the role of the individual entities may have to be revisited with the aim of streamlining operations.</p> <p>Essentially, the EWA and REWS are shedding this proposal on the Malta Construction and Building Authority, which is still in the making since 2018.</p>
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
<p>Point 10 of the EPBD (EU) 2018/844 specifically addresses Article 20(2), which requires MS to provide information through accessible and transparent advisory tools such as renovation advice and one-stop-shops. This is doable given that Malta has successfully implemented a number of one-stop shops such as:</p> <p>Servizz.gov, the agency which brings all of Malta's government services together, Business 1st offers more opportunities for government departments and other bodies to provide their services directly in one place in order to cut down on excessive red-tape in obtaining information and carrying out the required procedures to set up and run a business. Other existing one-stop shops include Mygov.mt, MyHealth and one-stop shop for public officers.</p>

**ACTION 3 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide training and continuous professional development to architects, engineers and project managers on aspects of design, technologies, life cycle costings and energy performance certification to facilitate the transition to NZCO2EB.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The University of Malta
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
The University of Malta has launched a new study unit for engineers, architects and project managers ISE2020: Net Zero Energy Building Strategies <a href="https://www.um.edu.mt/courses/studyunit/ISE2020">https://www.um.edu.mt/courses/studyunit/ISE2020</a> The first run has started in February 2019 with 11 participants.  Similar training adapted to policy makers is noted to be lacking.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
The first run of the course was initialised in February 2019. At the moment there are 11 professionals undertaking training. <a href="https://www.um.edu.mt/courses/studyunit/ISE2020">https://www.um.edu.mt/courses/studyunit/ISE2020</a>
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.



***ACTION 4 (as described in Action plan)***

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide a guide on best-practice methods to renovate public buildings according to their specific sector, such as schools, offices, health centres and housing blocks to facilitate their transition to NZCO2EB status</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Building Regulation Office
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
The Building Regulation Office has published the cost-optimal studies for different sectors in Malta. It is also in the process of updating Technical Document F on the minimum energy efficiency requirements for new and renovated buildings. <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/content/eu-countries-2018-cost-optimal-reports">https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/content/eu-countries-2018-cost-optimal-reports</a>
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
The Institute for Sustainable Energy of the University of Malta had taken the initiative and proposed a collaboration agreement with the Ministry for Education and Employment to study the energy efficiency measures implemented in the St Nicholas College Siggiewi Primary School (identified as good practice example in Interreg-Europe platform) and build up on the experience to make a best practice document for energy efficiency in renovated and new schools. However, this is not yet approved. The University of Malta has also secured funds for the construction of the Sustainable Living Complex on campus, which is meant to be a prototype resource-efficient building.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.

**ACTION 5 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide non-biased information campaigns using social media on the most effective measures including energy management practices that can be applied for buildings in Malta to reduce CO2 emissions. The campaign should also focus on the role of energy performance certification so as to improve the public perception on the certification and enhance their utilisation</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Building Regulation Office and the Energy and Water Agency
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
No significant action to date
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
It is highly recommended to use the available media to organise and broadcast systematic and long-term awareness programmes on EPCs, energy efficiency, renewable energy, climate change, etc...



**ACTION 6 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide indicators for energy performance levels for different building categories, based on statistical analysis of actual registered EPCs, to enable one to compare between the EPC of a property and the prevailing benchmark</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Building Regulation Office
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
No significant action to date
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
Benchmarking of the over 48,000 EPCs registered with the BRO can serve to provide vital information on the status of Maltese buildings in terms of energy efficiency. It is very important to carry out studies to analyse these submitted EPCs statistically



**ACTION 7 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Improve the public perception of energy performance certifications by encouraging banks to calculate maximum loan limits for potential property buyers based on the energy performance of the property.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Building Regulation Office
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
No significant action to date
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
the Interreg Europe funding programme to promote the use of EPCs of buildings. However, the proposal was not successful, mainly because the Interreg-Europe programme was expecting a policy maker from Malta or elsewhere, to lead the action rather than University.  Nonetheless, it is to be positively noted that the Energy and Water Agency has partnered in the most recent Interreg-Europe AQUARES launched in June 2018, which should be of benefit to the important sector of water policy. Moreover, the EWA is currently participating in 1 LIFE, 1 CF, 2 ERDF, 6 H2020, 1 CBC-MED, 3 INTERREG and 1 CEF funded projects supporting policy development in both the energy and water sector. On the other hand, to date there are no projects focusing on the building sector from other concerned entities.



**ACTION 8 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Consider introducing a mandatory minimum renewable energy share in new and renovated buildings.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Building Regulation Office
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
The cost optimal studies of different building stocks have just been finalised. They include a recommendation to introduce a minimum percentage of renewable energy in new buildings. These will be studied and if found feasible, will be included in the next update of Technical Document F: Minimum Energy Requirements for Buildings
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
This is a step in the right direction. The cost optimal studies are now found on the EU Energy website <a href="https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/content/eu-countries-2018-cost-optimal-reports">https://ec.europa.eu/energy/en/content/eu-countries-2018-cost-optimal-reports</a>
The next step is to update the minimum energy performance requirements for buildings Technical Document F, which should include minimum percentage of RE installations in specific new building sectors.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.



**ACTION 9 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide fiscal incentives or tax rebates for contractors who opt to build new buildings of high efficiency rating beyond the minimum energy requirements of Technical Document F.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Ministry of Finance
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
None so far.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
Malta is passing through a strong building construction boom. The buildings that are constructed today could be much more efficient, but they are not. This is a missed opportunity, if no action is taken to encourage contractors to build high efficiency nearly-zero energy buildings through fiscal incentives.



**ACTION 10 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Revise solar water heating grant to regenerate interest in solar water heating.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Energy and Water Agency
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
The grant scheme for solar water heating was revised during 2018, increasing the grant amount per installation from 400 to 700 Euros.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
<p>There seems to be a positive change of +47% increase in 2018 compared to 2017 uptake of solar heaters, while 42 heat pump water heaters were installed as compared to 0 in 2017. However, there is still a large potential, especially in large residential homes for the elderly that has not been reached yet. The existing grant scheme does not apply to those homes, which are increasing in number due to increased aging population.</p> <p>The ZeroCO2 policy action plan recommended improvement in grant for solar water heaters, due to dwindling uptake of previous grant. As a result, the policy was changed from a grant of 400 to 700 Euro per system. In 2018, 273 solar heating systems benefited from this scheme, amounting to 160,300 Euro in grants. Similarly, another policy action plan recommended grants on heat pump water heaters. In 2018, a grant of 700 Euro was introduced and 42 heat pumps were installed, amounting to 29,400 Euro. Therefore, the total grants disbursed in 2018 was 189,700 Euro. The equivalent carbon dioxide reduction compared to the base scenario of using the prevailing electric resistance storage boiler is 346.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide. According to the draft National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030, solar heating systems will be promoted for the period 2021-2030 with a total financial support of 20 million Euro, aiming to install a total of 15,000 solar heating systems. Therefore, the current savings in 2018 amounted to 1.82%.</p> <p>Self-defined performance indicator = 1.82%</p>
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.

**ACTION 11 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide bundled incentives combining two technological options such as PVs/SWH, PVs/Heat pump for existing buildings and incentives that combine envelope improvement with RES such as roof insulation/PVs or roof insulation/SWH or roof insulation and shading/heat pump for existing buildings to be renovated.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Regulator for Energy and Water Services
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
The Regulator for Energy and Water Services commented that beneficiaries can take more than one grant of different incentives even today
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
The importance of combining measures is to make best use of grants for those measures that produce best energy efficiency results. As it stands today, most grant uptake is that of solar photovoltaics, which strictly speaking does not necessarily favour more efficient use of energy (At times, energy consumption was shown to increase when PVs are installed). Moreover, this policy plan proposal meant that these bundled incentives will need to be more financially attractive than taking 2 or more separate grants, as it stands today.



**ACTION 12 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide grants to install solar water heaters and/or heat pumps for domestic hot water for the hospitality sector (hotels/ restaurants), residential people homes and sports complexes</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Regulator for Energy and Water Services
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
A new scheme to support energy efficiency in sports complexes (including for SWH and HP) has been launched this year in line with the announced Budget measure. It includes improvements in equipment efficiency, energy related building envelope improvement, reduction of energy consumption for heating and cooling systems, improvement of lighting efficiency and any other action which is expected to result in energy savings of at least 20%. The minimum eligible cost shall be Euro 250 and the maximum eligible cost shall be capped at Euro 50,000 excl. VAT. The grant shall cover 100% of the eligible cost in the case of investments up to Euro 20,000 excl. VAT and 90% of the eligible cost in the case of investments greater than Euro 20,000 and up to Euro 50,000 excl. VAT. <a href="https://www.energywateragency.gov.mt/schemes/">https://www.energywateragency.gov.mt/schemes/</a>
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
The incentive for sports complexes is a step in the right direction and is commendable, as proposed in the ZeroCO2 policy action plan. Given that the number of these complexes are quite limited to produce a significant impact on the country's energy efficiency and renewable energy achievement of the targets, it is further recommended that the scheme is expanded to encompass other social centres, such as homes for the elderly, health centres, social clubs and centres, etc...
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.

**ACTION 13 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Provide incentives for solar shading and/or spectrally selective coatings and films for the commercial building sector</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Energy and Water Agency
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
Industry can already tap incentives launched by Malta Enterprise (in cooperation with the EWA) to support energy efficiency measures. The incentive is based on a tax rebate.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
From previous results of Malta Enterprise Schemes, it is noted that incentives based on tax rebates do not seem to be effective, possibly due to the fact that many entities such as restaurants are family run or SME that pay little tax and therefore would require many years to get their money back.
Commercial shops, showrooms and supermarkets need to be encouraged to adopt this important aspect of shading and/or selective coatings on their large window displays, given that their major energy consumption is for space cooling.



**ACTION 14 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Extend government/private communal solar farm projects to households who despite having a roof cannot install PVs due to solar shading. Another possibility can be to extend communal farms to commercial buildings (such as many restaurants) that do not own a roof top.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Energy and Water Agency
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
It is noted that Fiddien was a pilot project, in which the roof area over a WSC asset was utilised to present a case-study to present the feasibility of a shared ownership solar-farm. One cannot however discount the possibility of WSC (or other public entities) itself in investing in PV-systems on the roof-area of its assets to improve its financial competitiveness. In fact, there are a number of initiatives in which public entities (such as WSC) are investing in solar technology on their assets – and we believe that this should also be encouraged since it improves the financial standing of such utilities or public service providers. This said, any such future project proposals coming from the private sector (in collaboration, if applicable, with public sector entities) will be positively considered – provided their legal and administrative eligibility.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
Indeed, the action has triggered the interest of businesses to invest in large solar PV farms in Malta. However, these large farms so far seem to be a purely commercial initiative with no scope of a social dimension (e.g. offering communal contribution by the general public to share the benefits of RE potential), as was the case of the PV Communal farm at Fiddien, Rabat, Malta. This means that households who have no access to rooftops will NOT be able to invest in PV systems to improve their household energy performance rating. There are many government-owned roofs that could be utilised for PV communal projects, thus supporting the achievement of zero energy status for residential and non-residential buildings, especially those having no access to sunny roofs and facades.

**ACTION 15 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Renovate 5 % of the public housing sector to reduce their CO2 emissions by 30 % or more by end of 2020.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Housing Authority.
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
The Housing Authority has taken heed of the ZeroCO2 project and has signed an agreement with the University of Malta to carry out a feasibility study to renovate one social housing block having 40 apartments. This will serve as a best-practice example and will lead to the formulation of a guidance document for the renovation of the whole social housing stock.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
This is a success story and is a step in the right direction. The Housing Authority has always been keen on energy efficiency. In 2004, a new high efficiency social housing project (10 apartments) was constructed in 2004. In 2008, 80 new apartments were also built based on the best-practice example of the first energy efficient project. Now, it is high time to renovate the large social housing stock, given that there is at least one social housing project in almost every village and town in Malta.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.

**ACTION 16 (as described in Action plan)**

Please provide a short description of the action (max 500 character)
<b>Devise projects to improve the energy performance rating of public authority buildings, such as Ministries, public offices, health centres and public schools and sports complexes.</b>
Please list the players involved (as listed in the action plan) and measures (mail, at regional events, etc.) that you used to reach them?
The Ministry of finance.
What is the progress made in the implementation of this action planned for your policy instrument?
There is no policy direction to renovate public authority buildings to be nearly-zero energy.
If you succeeded in implementation of this action in to the policy instrument addressed, please describe the nature of the change and if applicable, the amount of funding influenced by this action and how it was estimated.
If you have not succeeded to implement this action plan in policy instrument addressed, please describe the reasons and the progress made so far.
Article 2a of the new EPBD 2018/844 requires that all MS adopt a long-term renovation strategy that must be supported by evidence-based progress, and guiding investments into an energy efficient public building stock, in line with Eurostat guidance. Clearly, this policy action proposal cannot be overlooked.



**Summary:**

Energy Performance Contracts							
One-stop shop							
Professional training							
Best-practice renovation guidance							
Awareness raising campaigns							
Statistical analysis of EPCs							
Improve public perception of EPCs							
Mandatory minimum share of RE in buildings							
Fiscal incentive to contractors							
Solar heating grant							
Bundled incentives							
Grants to hospitality sector, elderly and sports complexes							
Incentives for shading of commercial buildings							
Extend PV communal farms							
Renovate 5% of social housing sector							
Renovation of public authority buildings							

1. This is the first year for monitoring the Interreg-Europe ZeroCO2 project
2. There is very good progress in at least 2 policy action proposals (professional training for zero-energy buildings and SWH grant)
3. There are good indications that 3 other policy actions will be implemented (Min. Re in new buildings, EE grants to sports complexes, renovation of social housing block)
5. Excellent progress in the planned updating of the statutory minimum requirements for energy efficiency to reflect NZEB level as guided by the cost-optimal studies that were published in January 2019.
6. The cost optimal studies for Malta have included some of the recommendations of the project ZEROCO2 in its financial packages (e.g. heat pumps water heaters) and have recommended installing them in sectors having high hot water consumption, as they are were found to be cost-optimal.
7. Need for capacity building at all levels is evident
8. Need for greater harmonisation and communication between policy makers



### **Other achievements**

Could you report on any interesting policy development (even though no policy change was achieved yet)? Please describe.

The Draft Energy and Climate Plan for 2030

<https://www.energywateragency.gov.mt/2030-necp/>

Malta's Sustainable Development Vision 2050

[https://meae.gov.mt/en/Public\\_Consultations/MSDEC/Documents/Malta%27s%20Sustainable%20Development%20Vision%20for%202050.pdf](https://meae.gov.mt/en/Public_Consultations/MSDEC/Documents/Malta%27s%20Sustainable%20Development%20Vision%20for%202050.pdf)

### **Territorial Impact**

If possible, please describe the impact in the territory (e.g. beneficiaries concerned, results achieved in terms of increased competitiveness or cleaner environment).

The ZeroCO2 policy action plan recommended improvement in grant for solar water heaters, due to dwindling uptake of previous grant. As a result, the policy was changed from a grant of 400 to 700 Euro per system. In 2018, 273 solar heating systems benefited from this scheme, amounting to 160,300 Euro in grants. Similarly, another policy action plan recommended grants on heat pump water heaters. In 2018, a grant of 700 Euro was introduced and 42 heat pumps were installed, amounting to 29,400 Euro. Therefore, the total grants disbursed in 2018 was 189,700 Euro. The equivalent carbon dioxide reduction compared to the base scenario of using the prevailing electric resistance storage boiler is 346.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide. According to the draft National Energy and Climate Plan for 2030, solar heating systems will be promoted for the period 2021-2030 with a total financial support of 20 million Euro, aiming to install a total of 15,000 solar heating systems. Therefore, the current savings in 2018 amounted to 1.82%.

Self-defined performance indicator = 1.82%

