



Adaptation preparedness scoreboard:

Draft country fiche for Malta

Disclaimer

This draft country fiche was prepared in the context of the implementation of the EU's Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change (EUAS). The indicators were developed and agreed with experts from the Member States (MS). This draft version of the fiche is published as background information to the public stakeholder consultation about the evaluation of the EUAS running from early December 2017 to early March 2018. It constitutes work in progress, a particular stage of information collection and dialogue between the Commission and the Member States. It presents a snapshot of the status in the country as of September or October 2017. The fiches are planned to be finalised and published as an annex to the strategy's evaluation report in the fourth quarter of 2018, before which they will be further updated and modified. Should you have any specific comments on the draft fiche, please send it to the mailbox CLIMA-CLIMATE-CHANGE-ADAPTATION@ec.europa.eu

Please note that the assessments (yes/no/in progress) need to be read in conjunction with the narrative that accompanies them. They assess the state of play *within* each country. While all effort has been made to ensure the coherence across fiches in the assessment of the same indicator, it should not be directly compared across the MS. Two countries with a "yes" on the same indicator could have a different national situation leading to that assessment. Not all indicators have the "in progress" status, some can only be "yes" or "no". For a more detailed explanation of what each indicator means and how its value is determined, please refer to the description of the scoreboard, a document published alongside the country fiches.

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POLICY FRAMEWORK

Adaptation strategies

A1. National adaptation strategy

The current national adaptation strategy (NAS)¹ was adopted in 2012, under the authority of the Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs. The NAS outlines recommendations for climate change adaptation, and indicates which government entity or authority is responsible for its implementation and the time frames within which such policy actions should be implemented. The NAS prescribes institutional, legislative, policy, communication and research and development measures, in addition to actions related to water, agriculture, human health, tourism, financing and insurance sectors.

Malta has initiated the process of developing a national Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) in accordance with requirements under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), European Union legislation and the Climate Action Act, 2015 (CAP543). Given, the particular specificities of the country and in view of being a vulnerable island in the Mediterranean, although it is not the practice, Malta's Low Carbon Development Strategy will also incorporate the National Adaptation Strategy. The outcome to have the adaptation strategy within the LCDS was concluded in a scoping exercise, which is one of the phases in the process towards the adoption of a LCDS for Malta. This is regarded as an important

¹ Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs (2012), National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy, <http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Document%20Repository/Malta%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation%20Strategy/National%20Adaptation%20Strategy.pdf>

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step in enhancing the coherence of broad policy frameworks and mainstreaming adaptation across the board.

Adaptation action plans

B1. National adaptation plan

B2. Adaptation plans adopted at sub-national level

At the time of the development of the NAS, no separate action plan was published. Nevertheless, the strategy itself included measures and actions deriving from the overarching strategy objectives. In the contest of the development of the LCDS, the addition of a specific section on national adaptation action is considered.

B3. Sectoral adaptation plans

The following sector documents address adaptation issues, notably the 2nd Water Catchment Management Plan for the Maltese Islands (2016)², the Malta National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan 2012-2020³, National Energy Efficiency Action Plan⁴, the Malta's National Transport Master Plan 2025⁵, adopted in 2016, as well as the National Agricultural Policy for the Maltese Islands 2016-2025.⁶

SCOREBOARD

Step A: preparing the ground for adaptation

1. Coordination structure

1a. A central administration body officially in charge of adaptation policy making

Yes / No

In Malta, the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development, and Climate Change is in charge of adaptation policy-making in accordance with the Climate Action Act, 2015 (CAP 543).

1b. Horizontal (i.e. sectoral) coordination mechanisms exist within the governance system, with division of responsibilities

Yes / In progress / No

In order to ensure coordination between the relevant authorities and stakeholders for the development of the NAS, the Climate Change Committee on adaptation was established in 2009. This committee provided the necessary consultations for the drafting of the NAS which was then presented to the former Ministry for Resources

² Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit Environment and Resources Authority (2016), The 2nd Water Catchment Management Plan for the Malta Water Catchment District 2015 – 2021, <https://energywateragency.gov.mt/en/Documents/2nd%20Water%20Catchment%20Management%20Plan%20-%20Malta.pdf>

³ <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/mt/mt-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

⁴ Ministry of Energy (2014), MALTA'S NATIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY ACTION PLAN (NEEAP), https://ec.europa.eu/energy/sites/ener/files/documents/2014_neeap_en_malta.pdf

⁵ Transport Malta (2016), Transport Master Plan, 2025, <http://www.transport.gov.mt/transport-strategies/strategies-policies-actions/national-transport-strategy-and-master-plan>

⁶ <https://agriculture.gov.mt/en/Documents/Agriculture%20Policy%20Issues%20Paper%20%20EN.pdf>

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and Rural Development. After approval and publication of the NAS the coordination role was taken up by the Ministry. In 2013 an Inter-Ministerial Committee on climate Change was established to provide a forum for a cross-sectoral approach on climate change issues, including adaptation. This committee is also the responsible body for the current coordination for the development of the LCDS. Later in 2015, the Climate Action Act provided for the establishment of a Climate Action Board, composed of representatives of ministries responsible for a wide range of affected sectors; The Climate Action Board's functions are related mainly to the supervision of the implementation of the Act together with any regulations that shall be eventually issued there under including development and implementation of mitigation and adaptation policies. This provision is designed to strengthen efficient collaborative action involving all stakeholders in view of the cross-cutting nature of climate change that prevails over each and every sector of the economy, as it is also reported in the Climate Adapt Portal. One of the functions of the Climate Action Board is also to consult with the Malta Council for Economic and Social Development on climate action, including adaptation.

Currently the coordination of Climate Change Policies development and implementation is under the responsibility of the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate change as established by the Climate Action Act, 2015. The following implementation of Climate change adaptation measures is responsibility of the responsible sectoral Ministries.

1c. Vertical (i.e. across levels of administration) coordination mechanisms exist within the governance system, enabling lower levels of administration to influence policy making

Yes / In progress / No

While the process for development of the National Adaptation Strategy involved effective consultation of local councils and other stakeholders, thanks to the work of the CCC on Adaptation, the Climate Change Consultative Council, which was proposed in the strategy as a forum for future coordination on adaptation and mitigation, has not been established as explained above. However, the role of the Climate Change Consultative Council was taken up by the Climate Action Board, as mandated in the Climate Action Act, 2015.

Local government is engaged in the development of adaptation-relevant policies in different sectors, such as for example water catchment management.

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2. Stakeholders' involvement in policy development

2a. A dedicated process is in place to facilitate stakeholders' involvement in the preparation of adaptation policies

Yes / No

The 2012 NAS was prepared by the Climate Change Committee for Adaptation (CCCA), a body constituted by the former Ministry for Resources and Rural Affairs in 2009. The Committee was composed of representatives of the relevant government departments and agencies, academics and other experts, the private sector, and NGOs. The national consultation process held between November 2010 and June 2011 and the exchange between the Committee and the Government resulted in the

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NAS⁷. The 2012 NAS proposed the establishment of the Climate Change Consultative Council, a body tasked to provide input to policy design, implementation and review of the NAS and the mitigation strategy. The role of the Climate Change Consultative Council was then taken up by the Climate Action Board as established by the Climate Action Act in 2015.

2b. Transboundary cooperation is planned to address common challenges with relevant countries

Yes / No

Together with neighbouring countries, Malta participates in the main fora for regional cooperation on environmental and climate related actions in the context of implementing the Barcelona Convention and the work of the Union for the Mediterranean.

Moreover, transnational cooperation with other Mediterranean countries and international cooperation in the area of climate science is developed and led by the University of Malta⁸.

Step B: assessing risks and vulnerabilities to climate change

3. Current and projected climate change

3a. Observation systems are in place to monitor climate change, extreme climate events and their impacts

Yes / **In progress** / **No**

Observations and forecasts on weather and climate conditions in Malta are conducted by the Malta International Airport (MIA) Meteorological Services Office⁹.

The MET Office provides meteorological services to various stakeholders. The MET Office maintains a continuous observation and forecasting service with the function of a Meteorological Watch Office (MWO). Detailed weather information is also issued by this service provider, within the airspace covering the Maltese territory. Observations are conducted on a mandatory basis and these are done through the automatic weather stations located across the islands. The Met Office is fully equipped with modern technological systems to support meteorology in Malta & Gozo including a Storm Weather Radar and the latest systems for Automatic Weather Stations all over Malta & Gozo. In 2015 new software for monitoring weather and the preparation of weather forecasts shall be introduced.

The University of Malta carries out academic research and climate observation. It feeds data to the Sea Level Station Monitoring Facility that aims at providing (i) information about the operational status of global and regional networks of real time sea level stations, and (ii) a display service for quick inspection of the raw data

⁷ CCCA (2010), National Climate Change Adaptation Strategy – Consultation Report, [http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Document%20Repository/Malta%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation%20Strategy/National%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation%20Strategy%20\(Consultation%20Report\).pdf](http://msdec.gov.mt/en/Document%20Repository/Malta%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation%20Strategy/National%20Climate%20Change%20Adaptation%20Strategy%20(Consultation%20Report).pdf)

⁸ For instance, the Physical Oceanography Research Group participates in several pan European projects and networks, some of which relevant to climate adaption such as MedGLOSS (the Mediterranean regional subsystem of the Global Sea Level Observing System with a local station for real-time sea level, sea temperature and atmospheric pressure measurements in Portomaso), <http://www.um.edu.mt/science/geosciences/physicaloceanography>

⁹ <https://www.maltairport.com/weather/>

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stream from individual stations¹⁰. The Climate Research Group (CRG) within the University of Malta, Department of Geosciences, has now installed a numerical weather prediction model called WRF which makes forecasts over the Maltese Islands, and two regional climate models (RCM) called PRECIS and RegCM4 on the super computer cluster, ALBERT, available at the University of Malta.

3b. Scenarios and projections are used to assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, taking into account geographical specificities and best available science (e.g. in response to revised IPCC assessments)

Yes / **In progress** / No

The National Adaptation Strategy notes that “the modelling technology available today is still such that the level of resolution renders it next to impossible to model climate change and adaptation scenarios on a geographical terrain as small as Malta.” The Strategy relied on model runs used for the 2nd national communication to the UNFCCC (2010) – and the latest national communication to the UNFCCC, dating from 2014, continues to refer to these projections and notes that there was then ongoing work at the University of Malta to adapt the modelling system to the needs of Malta with regards to projecting climate change impacts¹¹.

3c. Sound climate risks/vulnerability assessments for priority vulnerable sectors are undertaken to support adaptation decision making

Yes / **In progress** / No

The 2014 national communication to the UNFCCC draws relevant sectoral lessons on risk from the data available¹². Sectoral vulnerability assessments (focusing on climate change implications on tourism in Malta) have been also published by the University of Malta scholars¹³, including for example tourism.

3d. Climate risks/vulnerability assessments take transboundary risks into account, when relevant

Yes / In progress / **No**

While Malta relies on projections which – because of the scale issues referred to above – cover a broader Mediterranean area, there is no evidence from either the National Adaptation Strategy or the national communications to the UNFCCC that this has led to a more in-depth analysis or action regarding transboundary sectoral impacts. Currently it is not possible to say whether studies on the transboundary sectoral impacts will be undertaken in the near future.

¹⁰ UNESCO, IOC - SEA LEVEL STATION MONITORING FACILITY, <http://www.ioc-sealevelmonitoring.org/index.php>

¹¹ The Malta Resources Authority on behalf of the Ministry for Sustainable Development, Environment and Climate Change (2014), The Third, Fourth, Fifth and Sixth National Communication of Malta to the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change, https://unfccc.int/files/national_reports/annex_i_natcom/submitted_natcom/application/pdf/mlt_nc3,4,5,6.pdf

¹³ Palmieri, P., Climate change : impacts on the Maltese tourism and hospitality industry : reflections, responses and repercussions, <https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/10689>, Galdies C, Said A, Camilleri L, Caruana M (2016). Climate change trends in Malta and related beliefs, concerns and attitudes toward adaptation among Gozitan farmers. European Journal of Agronomy 74:18-28

4. Knowledge gaps

4. Work is being carried out to identify, prioritise and address the knowledge gaps

Yes / In progress / No

The NAS prescribed specific measures for research and identifies relevant stakeholders. The 2014 National Research and Innovation Strategy 2020¹⁴ reaffirms the importance of research on climate change adaptation which should also 'valorise the findings and recommendations contained in Malta's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of 2012'.

The University of Malta is significantly involved in generating knowledge about climate change through local and international research projects. Another emerging trend in university based research is the focus on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) related issues (including themes related to climate change education).

The University of Malta is engaged in promoting social sustainability and conducting interdisciplinary researches in areas related to sustainable development and climate change, including mitigation and adaptation through the Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development. The Institute's main focus is to conduct researches that enhance Malta's quality of life, disseminate acquired knowledge to the general public whilst also promoting best-practices to mitigate and adapt to impacts of climate change on business operations and markets, through online media, publications, seminars, conferences and teaching programmes.¹⁵

The Climate Change Platform was established by the Small Island States Institute of the University of Malta. Its main objectives are to facilitate collaboration between University of Malta entities and individual University of Malta academics interested in climate change issues and to promote research and teaching initiatives relating to climate change.¹⁶

Since the adoption of the Climate Action Act, the responsibilities under this provision require to be reviewed to align the NAS and Climate Action act.

5. Knowledge transfer

5a. Adaptation relevant data and information is available to all stakeholders, including policy makers (e.g. through a dedicated website or other comparable means)

Yes / In progress / No

Climate change policies and relevant documents can be found on the website of the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change. In future, there may be the possibility for the development of a specific section of the

¹⁵ Reference can be made at the homepage of the institute for climate change and sustainable development website:
<https://www.um.edu.mt/iccsd>

¹⁶ Reference can be made at the UoM website page on the climate change platform of the Institute for the small islands states
<https://www.um.edu.mt/islands/climate>

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website to serve as a platform/repository of information on climate change in general and specifically on adaptation action.

5b. Capacity building activities take place; education and training materials on climate change adaptation concepts and practices are available and disseminated

Yes / In progress / No

Capacity Building on climate related activities is ongoing within the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change where a new Directorate on Environment and Climate Change was established. Currently activities related to capacity building are in place to enhance the participation of department employees involved in climate policy making to relevant training and education resources, such as courses and seminars. Further activities may be supported in the future.

Moreover, the Ministry supports development of studies on Climate change at University level, providing scholarships for students of the University of Malta. Seminars are organised by the Climate Change Platform established by the Small Island States Institute of the University of Malta, in order to facilitate collaboration between UoM entities and individual UoM academics interested in climate change issues. This with the aim to promote research and teaching initiatives related to climate change¹⁷

Step C: identifying adaptation options

6. Adaptation options' identification

6a. Adaptation options address the sectoral risks identified in 3c, the geographical specificities identified in 3b and follow best practices in similar contexts

Yes / No

The identification of relevant climate adaptation measures in the National Adaptation Strategy was based on expert judgement, informed by the consultative process used for the preparation of the strategy, and by sectoral reports which were drafted by designated experts specifically for the adaptation strategy development.

6b. The selection of priority adaptation options is based on robust methods (e.g. multi-criteria analyses, stakeholders' consultation, etc.) and consistent with existing decision-making frameworks

Yes / No

The adaptation options identified in the National Adaptation Strategy have been determined on the basis of expert judgement reports and stakeholder consultation. Options have been chosen also based on the requirement for "no regret" choices, which would "deliver tangible environment and sustainable development results

¹⁷ Further information about upcoming seminars can be found at <https://www.um.edu.mt/islands/climate/newsandevents>

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independently of climate change considerations". The Climate Action Act lists (Article 6) a number of considerations and criteria that the Government should take into account in its decision-making on climate policy, which would effectively equate to a multi-criteria decision-making process. These criteria provide direction for development of climate change policies in the upcoming years.

6c. Mechanisms are in place to coordinate disaster risk management and climate change adaptation and to ensure coherence between the two policies

Yes / In progress / **No**

While the National Adaptation Strategy does not address disaster risk management, the Malta Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit, within the Cabinet Office at the Office of the Prime Minister is responsible for the coordination of all Critical Infrastructure Protection and Emergency and Disaster Management issues on a national level. Another principal responsibility is to ensure that the necessary risk assessments and the drawing up of the security (contingency) plans are carried out, maintained and exercised on an ongoing basis by their respective owners/operators. In the contest of the national disaster risk assessment exercise, an extensive consultation process has been undertaken by the CIP Unit involving all relevant stakeholders to the processes, including The Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change as the responsible Ministry for climate change policy.

7. Funding resources identified and allocated

7. Funding is available to increase climate resilience in vulnerable sectors and for cross-cutting adaptation action

Yes / **In progress** / No

Malta supports several sectoral projects related to climate change through the use of EAFRD funds¹⁸. Funding is also available to increase climate resilience in water management and agriculture sectors, notably in the water management sector through implementation of Malta's River Basin Management Plan for 2009-2015, and the Water Catchment Management Plan from 2011¹⁹. Malta has also benefitted from EU co-financing (ERDF, ESF) for an extensive flood management project²⁰.

Several projects under the Operational Programme I have been approved and implemented with the aim of developing sustainability and support actions in a number of sectors.²¹

The Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 is focused on 5 main needs for the Maltese agriculture sector with a minimum of 30% of the total RDP budget

¹⁸ http://ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/pa/partnership-agreement-malta-summary_en.pdf

¹⁹ <http://www.mepa.org.mt/topic-wcmp>

²⁰ <https://investinginyourfuture.gov.mt/project/waste-management-and-risk-prevention/national-flood-relief-project-nfrp-42041344>

²¹ https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/Operational%20Programmes/Programming%20Period%202014%20-%202020/Operational%20Programme%201/Documents/Approved%20Projects%202016/Online%20List%20of%20Beneficiaries_OP%20ERDF%20Malta_PPCD_November_2016%20updated.pdf

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earmarked for actions which will contribute to the achievement of EU-wide climate change targets.²²

Sectoral projects and initiatives with adaptation co benefits are also sustained by budget lines which are not necessarily explicitly designated for climate adaptation action, for example all the projects which are tackling water scarcity and water waste reduction are developed by the Water and Energy Ministry and related authorities and agencies with different funding sources.

Step D: Implementing adaptation action

8. Mainstreaming adaptation in planning processes

8a. Consideration of climate change adaptation has been included in the national frameworks for environmental impact assessments

Yes / **No**

One of the measures foreseen in the 2013 national environmental policy is to integrate climate change assessment into EIA and strategic environmental assessment processes. Malta is currently working on the transposition of the new EIA Directive whilst the strategic environmental assessment directive is already transposed in the national legislation

8b. Prevention/preparedness strategies in place under national disaster risk management plans take into account climate change impacts and projections

Yes / **No**

In 2011 the Malta Critical Infrastructure Protection Unit²³ within the Office of the Prime Minister was created.

The 2nd Water Catchment Management Plan, providing an integrated water management framework for the Malta Water Catchment District, was adopted in April 2016 and considers challenges emerging from extreme water management events such as droughts and floods. It covers the expected climate change impacts, including those related to water scarcity and invasive alien species²⁴.

8c. Key land use, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies take into account the impacts of climate change

Yes / **No**

The National Adaptation Strategy refers to the need to mainstream adaptation measures in the "structure plan and the local plans" – the Structure Plan for the Maltese Islands, dating from 1990, was the key land use planning document for the country. It has now been replaced by the 2014 Strategic Plan for the Environment

²² <https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/European%20Agricultural%20Fund/Documents/RDP%202014-2020/Malta%27s%20Rural%20Development%20Programme%202014-2020.pdf>

²³ <http://opm.gov.mt/en/MCIP/Pages/About-Us.aspx>

²⁴ Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit Environment and Resources Authority (2016), The 2nd Water Catchment Management Plan for the Malta Water Catchment District 2015 – 2021, <https://energywateragency.gov.mt/en/Documents/2nd%20Water%20Catchment%20Management%20Plan%20-%20Malta.pdf>

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and Development (adopted under the Environment and Development Planning Act (EDPA) of 2010). While its planning prescriptions are at a very high level, it contains a statement of the risks to climate resilience of inappropriate development. However, the plan provides little detail on how this broad approach is to be put into practice. The individual local plans still in force predate the 2010 Act, but are in the process of being updated.

8d. National policy instruments promote adaptation at sectoral level, in line with national priorities and in areas where adaptation is mainstreamed in EU policies

Yes/ In progress / No

There is good evidence of integration in high-level policy-making in some affected sectors. For example, Malta's National Transport Master Plan 2025²⁵, adopted in 2016, identifies climate impacts such as increased rainfall intensity and sea level rise as key threats for the transport infrastructure; and refers specifically to University of Malta research on potential impacts. Responses identified include increased permeability, and improved stormwater management; and incorporating climate impacts at design stage is included as a policy measure. Implementation of the Transport Master plan commitments will be ongoing for the next years, being this document been approved only in 2016 with a long-term view up to 2025.

Another sector which addresses climate change adaptation as one of the key issues is agriculture²⁶. The National Agricultural Policy for the Maltese Islands 2016-2025 is currently being finalized with a view towards fostering sustainability of farming activities by adapting to the local geo-climatic conditions.²⁷

The Rural Development Programme for 2014-2020 focuses on three main cross-cutting objectives namely the environment, climate and innovation. The programme addresses and priority climate change mitigation and adaptation actions by introducing various measures. More information can be obtained at this website.

Climate change adaptation measures are also addressed in the National Biodiversity Strategy which defines a comprehensive framework for safeguarding Malta's biodiversity over the period 2012 to 2020, as required by the National Environmental Policy. Malta's NBSAP aims at sustainable and more resource-efficient choices and actions by local communities and relevant sectors in order to contribute to a significant improvement in the status of Malta's biodiversity and associated ecosystem services. To achieve this, forestation for climate change mitigation is carried out on land of low biodiversity value or ecosystems largely composed of non-native species and preferably degraded ones, and taking into account of the Pan-European Guidelines for Afforestation and Reforestation. Ecologically-sensitive forestation schemes, strategically located within the landscape, and the measure on Green Infrastructure are strengthened to improve the ecological coherence of Natura 2000, via integration into the broader landscape, and hence to curb habitat

²⁵ Transport Malta (2016), Transport Master Plan, 2025, <http://www.transport.gov.mt/transport-strategies/strategies-policies-actions/national-transport-strategy-and-master-plan>

²⁶ Ministry for Sustainable Development, the Environment and Climate Change (2016), National Agricultural Policy for the Maltese Islands 2016 – 2025: Issues Paper, https://socialdialogue.gov.mt/en/Public_Consultations/MSDEC/Pages/Consultations/NationalAgriculturalPolicyfortheMalteseIslands2016-2025IssuesPaper.aspx

²⁷ <https://agriculture.gov.mt/en/Documents/Agriculture%20Policy%20Issues%20Paper%20%20EN.pdf>

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fragmentation, improve adaptation to climate change and aid in integrated flood management.²⁸

Other sectoral documents consider climate change impacts with regards to the different sectors' needs. For example climate change is one of the key issues identified in Malta's strategic plan for environment and development²⁹. The national environmental policy (2012) itself also includes adaptation objectives: its sixth objective tackles long-term sustainability issues, including enhancing the capacity of Malta to adapt to climate change. Adaptation to climate change was also already a focus of the Water Catchment Management Plan from 2011 for the Maltese Islands; its successor, covering the period 2015-2021³⁰, also addresses climate change impacts on a range of outcomes.

8e. Adaptation is mainstreamed in insurance or alternative policy instruments, where relevant, to provide incentives for investments in risk prevention

Yes / **No**

While noting that Climate Change insurance is still in its infancy, discussion on this topic are being undertaken at national level for example with specific seminars organised by the University of Malta's Climate Change Platform in November 2016 with the support of the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change in order to address linkages with disaster risk management sector with the participation of the insurance sector representatives between several other stakeholders.

9. Implementing adaptation

9a. Adaptation policies and measures are implemented, e.g. as defined in action plans or sectoral policy documents

Yes / In progress / **No**

The review of the NAS as well as the definition of a new coordination and implementation structure will be undertaken in the contest of the development of the LCDS.

9b. Cooperation mechanisms in place to foster and support adaptation at relevant scales (e.g. local, subnational)

Yes / **No**

The consultative council's role was taken up by the Climate Action Board. However, it should be noted that vertical coordination is not a significant issue for Malta, given the national government's responsibility for most aspects of policy and implementation, with a relatively limited role for local government.

²⁸ Reference can be made at <https://www.cbd.int/doc/world/mt/mt-nbsap-01-en.pdf>

²⁹ Malta Environmental & Planning Authority (2015) Strategic Plan for Environment and Development, <http://www.mepa.org.mt/Documents/FinalVersion.pdf>

³⁰ [The 2nd Water Catchment Management Plan for the Malta Water Catchment District 2015 - 2021](#)

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9c. Procedures or guidelines are available to assess the potential impact of climate change on major projects or programmes, and facilitate the choice of alternative options, e.g. green infrastructure

Yes / **No**

We have not identified any specific procedures or guidelines for assessing the impact of climate change on major projects or programmes and for facilitating their adaptation. However, the Climate Action Act now includes an obligation on Government to ensure that "policies, programmes and projects are, to the extent possible, designed in a manner that ensures resilience to the impacts of climate change.

Climate change impact assessment in major projects is undertaken in the contest of the new eligibility requirements for funding for major projects by the EU. In this contest, the Managing Authority will follow up the application's compliance with the specific climate change adaptation and risk assessment aspects.

9d. There are processes for stakeholders' involvement in the implementation of adaptation policies and measures

Yes / No

The role of the Climate Change Consultative Council is currently covered by the Climate Action Board which has the responsibility for ensuring consultation of relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the strategy and further policy actions.

Step E: Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation activities

10. Monitoring and reporting

10a. NAS/NAP implementation is monitored and the results of the monitoring are disseminated

Yes / **No**

There is no evidence of systematic collection and dissemination of information on implementation of the national adaptation strategy. Review of the NAS is currently in progress in the contest of the LCDS development process and information will be provided after completion.

10b. The integration of climate change adaptation in sectoral policies is monitored and the results of the monitoring are disseminated

Yes / **No**

There is no evidence of central monitoring of the integration of climate adaptation into sectoral policies.

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10c. Regional-, sub-national or local action is monitored and the results of the monitoring are disseminated

Yes / **No**

Given the scale of Malta as a country and the nature of the remit of local government in Malta implementation of adaptation action by local councils is a relatively minor issue, and such implementation is generally centralised to the central government entities.

11. Evaluation

11a. A periodic review of the national adaptation strategy and action plans is planned

Yes / No

The Climate Action Act 2015 places a duty on the Minister to “ensure that the national adaptation strategy is reviewed and updated periodically and at least every four years.” The NAS is currently under review in the context of the development of the LCDS.

11b. Stakeholders are involved in the assessment, evaluation and review of national adaptation policy

Yes / **No**

Details of the evaluation and review process could not be identified; therefore it is not currently possible to identify whether stakeholders are involved. While the Climate Action Act requirement does mandate stakeholder consultation in the preparation of the strategy, this does not appear to extend to evaluation.

The NAS is currently under review in the contest of the development of the LCDS.

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SUMMARY TABLE

Adaptation Preparedness Scoreboard		
No.	Indicator	Met?
Step A: Preparing the ground for adaptation		
1 <i>Coordination structure</i>		
1a	A central administration body officially in charge of adaptation policy making	Yes / No
1b	Horizontal (i.e. sectoral) coordination mechanisms exist within the governance system, with division of responsibilities	Yes / In progress / No
1c	Vertical (i.e. across levels of administration) coordination mechanisms exist within the governance system, enabling lower levels of administration to influence policy making.	Yes / In progress / No
2 <i>Stakeholders' involvement in policy development</i>		
2a	A dedicated process is in place to facilitate stakeholders' involvement in the preparation of adaptation policies	Yes / No
2b	Transboundary cooperation is planned to address common challenges with relevant countries	Yes / No
Step B: Assessing risks and vulnerabilities to climate change		
3 <i>Current and projected climate change</i>		
3a	Observation systems are in place to monitor climate change, extreme climate events and their impacts	Yes / In progress / No
3b	Scenarios and projections are used to assess the economic, social and environmental impacts of climate change, taking into account geographical specificities and best available science (e.g. in response to revised IPCC assessments) Yes / In progress / No (e.g. in response to revised IPCC assessments)	Yes / In progress / No
3c	Sound climate risks/vulnerability assessments for priority vulnerable sectors are undertaken to support adaptation decision making.	Yes / In progress / No
3d	Climate risks/vulnerability assessments take transboundary risks into account, when relevant	Yes / In progress / No
4 <i>Knowledge gaps</i>		
4	Work is being carried out to identify, prioritise and address the knowledge gaps	Yes / In progress / No
5 <i>Knowledge transfer</i>		
5a	Adaptation relevant data and information is available to all stakeholders, including policy makers (e.g. through a dedicated website or other comparable means).	Yes / In progress / No

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Adaptation Preparedness Scoreboard		
No.	Indicator	Met?
5b	Capacity building activities take place; education and training materials on climate change adaptation concepts and practices are available and disseminated	Yes / In progress / No
Step C: Identifying adaptation options		
6 Identification of adaptation options		
6a	Adaptation options address the sectoral risks identified in 3c, the geographical specificities identified in 3b and follow best practices in similar contexts	Yes / No
6b	The selection of priority adaptation options is based on robust methods (e.g. multi-criteria analyses, stakeholders' consultation, etc.) and consistent with existing decision-making frameworks	Yes / No
6c	Mechanisms are in place to coordinate disaster risk management and climate change adaptation and to ensure coherence between the two policies	Yes / In progress / No
7 Funding resources identified and allocated		
7	Funding is available to increase climate resilience in vulnerable sectors and for cross-cutting adaptation action	Yes / In progress / No
Step D: Implementing adaptation action		
8 Mainstreaming adaptation in planning processes		
8a	Consideration of climate change adaptation has been included in the national frameworks for environmental impact assessments	Yes / No
8b	Prevention/preparedness strategies in place under national disaster risk management plans take into account climate change impacts and projections	Yes / No
8c	Key land use, spatial planning, urban planning and maritime spatial planning policies take into account the impacts of climate change	Yes / No
8d	National policy instruments promote adaptation at sectoral level, in line with national priorities and in areas where adaptation is mainstreamed in EU policies	Yes/ In progress / No
8e	Adaptation is mainstreamed in insurance or alternative policy instruments, where relevant, to provide incentives for investments in risk prevention	Yes / No
9 Implementing adaptation		
9a	Adaptation policies and measures are implemented, e.g. as defined in action plans or sectoral policy documents	Yes / In progress / No
9b	Cooperation mechanisms in place to foster and support adaptation at relevant scales (e.g. local, subnational)	Yes / No
9c	Procedures or guidelines are available to assess the potential impact of climate change on major projects or programmes, and facilitate the choice of alternative options, e.g. green	Yes / No

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Adaptation Preparedness Scoreboard		
No.	Indicator	Met?
	infrastructure	
9d	There are processes for stakeholders' involvement in the implementation of adaptation policies and measures.	<u>Yes</u> / No
Step E: Monitoring and evaluation of adaptation activities		
10 <i>Monitoring and reporting</i>		
10a	NAS/NAP implementation is monitored and the results of the monitoring are disseminated	Yes / <u>No</u>
10b	The integration of climate change adaptation in sectoral policies is monitored and the results of the monitoring are disseminated	Yes / <u>No</u>
10c	Regional-, sub-national or local action is monitored and the results of the monitoring are disseminated	<u>Yes</u> / No
11 <i>Evaluation</i>		
11a	A periodic review of the national adaptation strategy and action plans is planned	<u>Yes</u> / No
11b	Stakeholders are involved in the assessment, evaluation and review of national adaptation policy	Yes / <u>No</u>

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