



## Negotiated agreements for renewables

### Quormi, Malta – 16 779 inhabitants

#### Governance – Finance – Buildings

In 2012, as part of the Covenant of Mayors, Qormi produced their Sustainable Energy Action Plan. One of their key actions to promote renewable energy was to negotiate agreement(s) with a number of suppliers of renewable energy systems in order to obtain preferential prices for use in buildings in the locality.

#### Project in a Nutshell

By entering into an agreement with a number of suppliers of renewable energy systems, Quormi local council is in a position to offer residences in its locality the possibility to purchase renewable energy technology at reduced prices. This model has already been employed in Malta and was very successful at the local level with a potential success rate of renewable energy system on at least 50% of rooftops in the locality. Typical renewable energy systems may include, but are not limited to, solar (water and space) heating systems, photovoltaic systems and vertical axis (low noise) helical wind turbines which tend to be more aesthetic due to its design and quieter because of the lower blade tip speed. Obviously, this is subject to the approval of the Malta Environment and Planning Authority and/or other authorities as applicable.

#### Impact & Next steps

The Council aims to have 3 239 solar water heaters installed on residential buildings by 2020. These are expected to offset electricity consumption which is currently the absolute majority source of energy for water heating. Electrical energy savings are aimed to reach 3 546.71 MWh annually with a corresponding emission reduction of 3 075 tCO<sub>2</sub>.

In addition, by promoting the installation of photovoltaic energy systems, the Council aims to have a good participation within the locality. The target installed capacity on residential rooftops by 2020 is 2 690 kWp. This should be able to generate 4 441.79 MWh offset a carbon dioxide emission of 3 851 tCO<sub>2</sub>.

#### Replicability: Challenges & Success Factors

The island of Malta remains highly dependent on oil imports. Options for renewable energy are limited with tidal energy options being non-existent and wind and wave energy potential wind highly limited. Despite Malta's abundance of solar intensity, it is one of the most densely populated countries in the world and thus has a limited land mass on which to place solar installations.





In this context rooftop photovoltaics provide the main potential source of renewable energy in Malta. Currently a fifth of the residential building stock have a photovoltaic system. This excludes apartment blocks as residents do not normally have permission to place PV on the rooftops, and vacant land.

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