EED implementation in Malta

Introduction

The Office of the Prime Minister through the Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU). Other Ministries are involved in implementation. These include the Ministry for Transport and Infrastructure, the Ministry for European Affairs and Implementation of the Manifesto, and the Ministry for Finance.

1. Legal context

The Energy Efficiency and Cogeneration Regulations (L.N. 196 of 2014) transpose the Energy Efficiency Directive (2012/27/EU).

2. Status of the implementation

2.1. Legislative provisions

This table contains information on how the EED has been implemented by article, including any relevant web links.

EED Article	Implementation status
Article 4	*Article 4 of the EED requires the establishment of a long-term strategy for mobilizing investment in the renovation of the national stock of residential and commercial buildings, both public and private. The first version of Malta's long-term strategy for mobilising investment in the renovation of buildings gives a clear picture of the particular attributes of the Maltese buildings. It describes the method of construction, energy consumption patterns and limitations of the local building sector. The strategy shall be updated every three years and submitted to the Commission as part of the National Energy Efficiency Action Plans.* *In the meantime the following actions were taken:* 1. *Government continued to support schemes that supported the installation of Solar Water Heaters, Double Glazing and Roof Insulation;* 2. *Using the financing possibilities offered with the use of ERDF funds, schemes were made available to SMEs to retrofit their operation and buildings;* 3. *The Sigġiewi Primary School refurbishment Project was concluded. In this Project equipment was replaced with a more modern, energy efficient one. Investments included a BM system, Solar Thermal units, Solar PV units, insulation, double glazing and smart lighting;* 4. *The Building Regulations Office issued an updated Technical Guide F i.e. the 'Energy Performance Requirements for Buildings' Guide;* 5. *The Malta Environment and Planning Authority issued in 2015 the 'Strategic Planning for the Environment Development. This Policy document included new parameters for the installation of RES in buildings.*
Article 5	*On the basis of article 5(6), Malta has opted for an alternative approach*

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	which allows the possibility to count the excess savings achieved in the previous or following years towards the target of a given year. *Meanwhile the Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit provides technical advice to Public bodies in order to improve their energy consumption.*
Article 6	*With respect to the provisions of Article 6 of the EED, SEWCU is collaborating with the relevant entities including the Department of Contracts to formalize in an appropriate guidance document the administrative processes to implement Article 6 of the EED. The document will be available online to guide public authorities in their procurement of goods, services and buildings in line with Article 6.*
Article 7	*In its report for Article 7 drafted in December 2013, Malta indicated that Article 7 energy savings would be met through the setting up of an Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme, as well as alternative policy measures.* *The Energy Efficiency Obligation Scheme requires the main public utility in the electricity sector to :* a. *To instruct consumers in wise energy use in the home through appropriate messages (both general and specific) via smart meters. Smart meters will also detect fraud and hence control excessive use of energy which usually accompanies fraud.* b. *To set up a Domestic Residential Household Tariff System that through its progressiveness incentivises energy efficiency* *The majority of energy savings will be achieved through alternative energy saving policies.* *Measures include :* - *Financing schemes or instruments and fiscal incentives .e.g incentive schemes for Building Improvement through Double Glazing and Roof Insulation;* - *Public corporations leading by example e.g. the considerable investment for the Water Services Corporation to improve the energy efficiency of its operation;* - *Direction to the public sector to improve the energy efficiency of its buildings;* - *Improvement in the energy consumption of the vehicle fleet;* - *Introduction of small and micro cogeneration units providing heat energy for own use.* - *Voluntary Agreements.*
Article 8 & Article 16	*Malta has adopted Option (a) given in Article 8(1)(a), where energy audits are carried out in an independent manner by qualified and/or accredited experts according to qualification criteria. The Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit (SEWCU) monitor energy audit activities. It is the agency that promotes energy audits and guarantees the attainment of the desired quality in mandatory audits by non-SMEs.* *SEWCU in conjunction with the Regulator for Energy and Water Services had issued a guidance note on the carrying out of mandatory energy audits by non-SMEs. This guidance note can be accessed at the following link:* *http://energy.gov.mt/en/Pages/guidancenotes.aspx* *The Regulator for Energy and Water Services (REWS) had issued a Government Notice (GN 1032 of 2014) which sets out a scheme for the registration of training courses leading to the certification of energy auditors*

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	and energy managers. The registered training courses and the list of certified energy auditors and energy managers are available at the following link: https://www.rews.org.mt/#/en/a/81-providers-res-and-energy-audits
Article 9 - 11	*By mid 2015, Enemalta had installed around 274,500 electricity Smart meters, this being 92.3% of the total number of customer services installed. There remained around 23,000 installations that still had to be equipped with a Smart meter. Most of these are either closed premises or premises wherein there are technical difficulties for installation.* *Malta revised the electricity and water bills aligning it to the requirements specified in the EED. Further changes are also being proposed to make the bill to provide more information to the consumer.*
Article 12	*Article 12 requires MSs to take appropriate measures to promote and facilitate an efficient use of energy by small energy customers, including domestic customers. Malta is addressing this requirement through various initiatives intended for small energy customers investing in energy efficiency and renewable sources. These measures include fiscal incentives, feed-in tariffs, grants and subsidies, and the implementation of exemplary projects in the residential sector. Furthermore SEWCU technical personnel participate in popular media programmes and conduct home visits, to promote energy efficiency and provide tailored energy and water savings tips. These instruments and policies are intended to promote a behavioural change towards the better use of energy.*
Article 14	*Malta had notified the European Commission that there are no exemptions from the requirement for thermal electricity generation installations to be subject to a cost benefit analysis, in line with Article 14(6) of the EED.* *Malta has also recently carried out an analysis in order to assess cost effective and efficient heating and cooling. CHP technology seems to have a marginal potential role in Malta, even when taking into account provisions of Directive 2012/27/EU of enhancing this technology and district heating. This is accentuated by the fact that Malta has practically no cheaply available indigenous resources of biomass or biogas, and currently there is no natural gas network to render the fuel supply cheaper than present options. Nevertheless, the economic cost-benefit analysis drawn up in accordance with Directive 2012/27/EU showed some positive results for some scenarios of CHP plants penetration rate especially when considering environmental benefits and health externalities that could receive a better evaluation in the future. However the up-take of CHP technology as small scale stand alone installations is rendered more difficult considering the market competition of equally efficient heating technologies, like heat pumps and condensing boilers.* *The current local conditions may not be ideal for the implementation of CHP and district heating networks; the report suggests a series of policies and measures that may be adopted to support and promote these technologies for the medium term up to 2020 and further out to 2030 with the introduction of even more ambitious legislation and technological breakthroughs.* *As regards the equipment mentioned in Article 14(6) it is not currently envisaged that in the near future new peak load and back-up electricity generating installations, nuclear power installations, geological storages of carbon dioxide, industrial installations with a total thermal input exceeding 20MW generating waste heat, and new district heating and cooling network with a total thermal input exceeding 20MW are installed in Malta.*

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Article 15	*In line with the requirements of this Article, the designated distribution system operator has carried out an assessment of the energy efficiency potential of the electricity infrastructure.*
Article 17	*A newly set up website www.ecobuild.gov.mt addresses this article.* *The website's objective is to promote discussion and disseminate expertise in local applications of green building technology. The project is envisaged to facilitate Malta in achieving the EU 2020 targets for energy efficient buildings.* *One of the aims of this website is to enhance consumer awareness with respect to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources. The website ecobuild.gov.mt includes:* - *Product catalogue of locally available green building technologies;* - *Job descriptions of certified technicians, designers, consultancy & specialist services;* - *Non-technical advice for home-owners investing in energy-saving measures;* - *Technical produce information for building professionals, technicians and developers;* - *Technical advice on how to make the most cost-effective choice of products.* *The Immediate target results for the Website are:* - *More exposure to all approved green building products;* - *A direct comparison between products from different suppliers;* - *More energy awareness;* - *Collection of green design data;* - *Long term benefits;* - *Less energy poverty;* - *More comfortable buildings through the implementation of green technology;* - *Better understanding of green building products and services;* - *Supporting the Government targets for EU 2020.* *In order to achieve its goals the website is focused on:* - *Homeowners* - *Developers* - *Contractors* - *Architects* - *Engineers* - *Stakeholders in the Green Building Product & Service Industry*
Article 18	*Malta has prepared a document on energy performance contracting and related monitoring and verification which will be issued for public consultation. Amongst other things, the public consultation will provide feedback whether the EPC model is suitable for Malta and whether Malta needs to have a transitory business model for EPC or even an EPC facilitator.*
Article 19	*Studies to implement these paragraphs of this Article are still being developed.*

2.2. Non-legislative provisions

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With the local transposition of the Energy Efficiency Directive in 2014, the industry sectors were informed of their legal obligations towards Article 8 and the Government relayed its commitments to support all economic sectors to boost competitiveness. The Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit in summer of 2014 approached the Malta Business Bureau, to facilitate the implementation of the obligation of Article 8 and also proceeded to negotiate voluntary agreements with non-SMEs to promote the implementation of energy efficiency measures as a tool to support this aim. A number of voluntary agreements were signed in 2015 covering energy saving measures implemented from 2014 onwards.
Companies have committed savings of 11,117,716kWh through energy conserving measures during the year 2014.

3. Relevant information

Sustainable Energy and Water Conservation Unit: **www.sewcu.gov.mt**

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