Presenting the Success Stories under the MED 2007-2013 Programme

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The general objective of the project is the creation of a new framework of cooperation between islands focusing on innovation in agriculture.

- Networking and collaboration between Mediterranean rural regions facing similar problems.

- Sharing of experiences with respect to non-technological innovation

- Promotion of successful local agricultural enterprises

- Identification of areas requiring capacity building: training of economic actors, links with university and research, dissemination of quality management approach and networking

Maltese partner: Ministry of Gozo
ERDF share: € 43,828.12
**Cypfire** focused on the use of Cypress trees as firebreaks after research showed that these were less flammable than other trees.

- These trees also act as strong wind barriers in order to avoid the spreading of fire which makes them ideal for Malta. Research work was carried out on two Cypress tree plantations; at Ballut and Gnejna.

**Maltese partner: Mgarr Local Council**
**ERDF share: € 123,250.00**
CypFire aimed to demonstrate experimentally that green barriers of cypress trees (horizontal type of *Cupressus sempervirens*) can prevent, control and cut down damage caused by environmental risks such as fires, wind and desertification. Malta was represented by Imġarr Local Council and subcontracted the research element to the Institute of Earth Systems at the University of Malta.

**Deliverables of Cypfire project included:**
- Creation of and implementation of a research protocol
- Dissemination of knowledge on *Cupressus Sempervirens* amongst Maltese stakeholders;
- Maximise and upgrading the potential of two unique cypress experimental sites in Malta;
- Participation and sharing info with schools
E2Stormed project with 9 partners from 7 countries faced the challenge of reducing energy consumption to make our cities more sustainable. E²STORMED aimed at improving energy efficiency in the urban water cycle and in buildings by promoting the use of innovative storm water solutions such as Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) in MED cities.

- Maltese partner: Local Council Association (LCA)
- ERDF share: € 140555.49
Malta is new to SuDS, therefore, one cannot simply implement SuDS straight away. Our aim is for a gradual transition from the current practice to the implementation of SuDS. Issues and problems were identified and these helped us in the development of a long-term strategy which complements the government’s vision for sustainable drainage management in Malta. LCA also had the opportunity to hold lectures for students attending the University of Malta so as to introduce them to SuDS. The next step is the actual implementation of a pilot project so as to assess the impact of SuDS in Malta and this will be done with the cooperation of the Ministry of Energy and Health.
MEDPAN North is a continuation of the Medpan Project carried out under Interreg IIIC and involved 12 entities from 6 countries.

Project used previous network to facilitate sharing of experiences and good practices on the management of Marine Protected Areas.

- Maltese partner: MEPA
- ERDF share: € 120,700.00
Locally, the project led to the publication of several detailed studies and recommendations concerning MPAs. These covered areas such as the financing and governance of MPAs as well as legislative and policy orientations for the future.

Underwater trails have been financed by the project to provide information to snorkelers on various habitats and species encountered along the trail.

Two underwater trails, one for Golden Bay and one for its wilder neighbour, Għajn Tuffieħa Bay, are planned as part of the MedPAN North project which comes to fruition in 2013.

[Image of coastal area]

**HOMER** is a Strategic MED project with 19 partners that focused on the theme of **Open Data**, a world-wide policy aiming at making available and exploitable **Public Sector Information (PSI)**.

- Governments are increasingly recognising the benefits of making their data open and reusable.
- Transparency: simply opening PSI, citizens can be better informed and participate in the decision making process.
- Economic value of PSI, whose wider re-use is considered a primary content resource for the development of digital markets

- **Maltese partner: Local Council Association (LCA)**
- **ERDF share: € 115,578.75**
Summary of main HOMER results achieved by LCA in Malta:

- Organization of successful Steering Committee Meeting and conference in Malta
- Signed MOU, Open Agreement (federation), Manifesto
- Launch of opendatamalta.com portal (using CKAN) - first from its kind open data portal in Malta, to be sustained by University of Malta staff after the end of the project
- Datasets with metadata and license and in open data formats
- Uploaded datasets on MITA portal and opendatamalta.org portal
- Organization of various open data events - workshops, seminars, conferences, hackathon for first time in Malta (Hack4Malta)
- Open data action plan for Malta (provided to MITA for implementation)
- Engagement of various stakeholders into the process, including their participation in the HOMER events abroad
- Interest to the project events from the Prime Minister, Dr Muscat
- Open data awareness campaign (online banners on websites, printed adverts, various articles published at national media, participation in a TV programme) - more people are aware of open data.

http://opendatamalta.com/
**MARIE** – A Strategic type of project with 2 Maltese partners. The Project was to seek a greater energy efficiency for buildings in the Mediterranean area.

- **UMAR** also promoted and encouraged relations between architects by exchange of information relative to architectural practices in technical, social and cultural fields. Ensuring co-ordination, co-operation and solidarity between Mediterranean architects’ organisations with a view to support them in their joint actions.

- **Maltese partner: LCA (Local Council Association)** - **ERDF share: € 112,625.00** and
- **UMAR (Union of the Mediterranean Architects)** - **ERDF share: € 102,442.00**
Summary of main MARIE results achieved by LCA in Malta:

- organization of successful Steering Committee Meeting and conference in Malta
- signed Ljubljana declaration, confirming a policy commitment, by the Ministry for Energy and Health
- organization of various energy efficiency events – workshops and seminars
- MARIE stand at the Malta Trade Fair
- Final Conference with the Participation of stakeholders and a representative from the Ministry for Energy and Health to the final conference.
- Dissemination of an awareness campaign – full page adverts with tips for energy efficiency in buildings and their renovation, published in national media and leaflets
The project focused on maritime risk prevention and the strengthening of Maritime safety related to oil spill pollution in the Mediterranean.

REMPEC supported the development of the MEDESS-4MS User Interface which enables the forecast of movement of a pollution event. To achieve this, the platform integrates, through a unique portal, fourteen (14) ocean models, seven (7) wind models, seven (7) wave models and five (5) oil spill forecasting models.

REMPEC developed the Mediterranean Integrated Geographic Information System on Marine Pollution Risk Assessment and Response (MEDGIS-MAR), a decision support system designed to assist decision-makers in selecting the most appropriate measures based on socio-environmental data, while providing information of the oil spill response equipment.
Brochures: Guidelines for emergency planning: How can MEDESS-4MS help you?

SERIOUS GAMES: Testing the MEDESS-4MS service during the project’s testing campaign, also called “Serious Games-(SG), during which several buoys were launched into the pollutant-like substance in order to follow on real time their movement and compare their trajectory with the forecasting models which showed promising results.

INFORMATION DAY: The Information Day (the “INFODAY”’) was a Meeting jointly organised by the Centre and the European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Directorate-General (DG ECHO) in Brussels, Belgium on 4 June 2014.

Maltese partner:

- IOI- Malta Operational Centre, UOM (University of Malta) - ERDF share: € 218,810.40 and
- Rempec (Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre for the Mediterranean Sea) - ERDF share: € 196,928.00
The general objective of the GRASP project is to develop a specialised e-procurement system instrument that will be made available to participating countries' authorities if they wish to avail of it.

In Malta, the GRASP project will continue to be disseminated through the Department for Local Government to promote innovative solutions and forward the information provided by IRISS in relation to GRASP. The Dept of LG will circulate the information to the 68 Local Councils and the 5 Regional Committees of Malta and will be effected through a circular. The Institute for Research and Improvement in Social Sciences (IRISS), in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance, organized a two-day seminar on green procurement, energy efficient technologies and the GRASP Project on the 9th and 10th September, 2014 whereas a practical seminar was organised on 25th May, 2015 by providing participants to learn more about the GRASP electronic green public procurement tool and found that the tender evaluation tool could be of use to them when evaluating bids.

**Maltese partner: IRISS**  
**ERDF share: € 46,750.00**
The project's objective was to identify and conduct a large scale experimentation of cost effective solutions and innovative public and private financing mechanisms to foster energy efficiency investment in low income housings or household in a state of energy poverty.

In Malta, there are different sites identified for the large scale pilot experiments of Elih-Med project. 35 dwellings (34 housing located in Malta and one site is in Gozo) were identified and formed part in the project work plan. The selected dwellings consist of flats which were developed by the Housing Authority and were subsequently sold or are leased to tenants. The Housing Authority conducts means-tests to establish whether a family or individual qualifies to rent or purchase one of its apartments.

The identified EE measures include: Solar water heater, PV panels, roof insulation, roof shading, draught proofing, UV filters.

Maltese partner: MIEMA
ERDF share: € 473,705.00
The **MED Trends** project aims at illustrating most probable integrated scenarios of marine economic growth at transnational level in MED-EU countries for the next 20 years based on best available knowledge.

In this report **Nature Trust (Malta)** presents a number of important viewpoints and recommendations (both general and specific) in order to assist national authorities towards achieving GES of the local marine environment by 2020.

This report constitutes an analysis of the economic sectors that are direct users of the local marine and coastal resources. It examines a number of indicators that have the ability to characterise the sectors’ current and future pressures on the marine environment.

From this report it is clear that the Mediterranean is in a highly pressurised area and immediate action should be taken in various sectors in order to at least slow reduce impact and more sustainable use is made of it.

- **Maltese partner: Nature Trust (Malta)**
- **ERDF share: € 27,200.00**
The project **ZeroWaste** aims at disseminating outputs and results of MED and other EU funded projects, materialised by the partners, in order to promote waste minimization through the use of tools and reduplication of good examples and practices.

**WasteServ Malta** has produced a series of important tools which mainly are addressed to the Public and Private sector, to provide crucial information to all target groups related to waste management. Local Authorities can benefit from:

- **Guide on Green Waste Management Solutions**, where public administrations, local regional and national authorities
- **Training Guide** for Local Government officers, in order to help Local and regional authorities to organise and develop training courses for their staff on Green Waste Management Solutions.
- **Companies** can benefit from ‘**White Paper on SMEs and Industrial Areas**’. The document aims at encouraging and assisting SMEs to integrate waste management within structures.

- **Maltese partner: Wasteserv**
- **ERDF share: € 51,000**
Zerowaste Pro Networking Workshop
26th
November 2014, WasteServ Visitor Centre and Family Park

- Communication Campaign” material
- On-line Networking Platform which is a virtual meeting point of operators and scientists specialized in waste management.
- CO2 Calculator handbook
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lyu5gItZX6M
- Schools can benefit from the Educational Tool on Recycling”, regarding prevention, reuse and recycling.
**MEDNET** project aims to establish and operate a network of port authorities and transport experts in the Mediterranean region, focusing on the exchange of knowledge and expertise with regard to port and custom procedures and simplification of clearance for vessels and cargoes.

**Transport Malta** compiled a Masterplan for harmonisation of port operations and in turn prepare for the implementation of the Port Formalities Directive.

The detailed study includes:

- An analysis of the current situation in port operations, best practices and improvements
- Assessment of shortfalls that may hinder the implementation of the National Single Window and of the current PortNet system and analysis of how this has to be updated to cater for the functionality of a National Single Window application
- Review and analysis of the SafeSeaNet (SSN) business logic
- Transport Malta hosted the International Conference on the 29th October, 2014 forming the project’s Mid-term Event. This brought together project partners, foreign and local stakeholders and beneficiaries

- **Maltese partner:** Transport Malta
- **ERDF share:** € 195,574.94
Thank you for your attention

This seminar addresses the Territorial Cooperation Programmes under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), as well as the ENPI Programmes under the European Neighbourhood Policy.

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