



MALTA'S DRAFT UPDATED NATIONAL ENERGY AND CLIMATE PLAN





An important step towards the more ambitious 2030 energy and climate objectives under the European Green Deal and REPowerEU Plan



Highlights of the Commission's assessment

The European Green Deal, the fast-evolving geopolitical context and the energy crisis have led the EU and its Member States to **accelerate the energy transition and set more ambitious energy and climate objectives**. These developments are reflected in the legislative and policy framework adopted under both the 'Fit for 55' package and the REPowerEU Plan. Taking this new context into account, **Member States are updating their National Energy and Climate Plans (NECPs) for the first time since 2019**. The European Commission has assessed Malta's draft updated NECP, submitted on 6 October 2023.

Malta's key objectives, targets and contributions

	2030 value submitted in the draft updated NECP	2030 target under EU legislation	Assessment of 2030 ambition level
 Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in ESR sectors (compared with 2005)	N/A	-19%*	No projections included in Malta's plan
 GHG removals in LULUCF (Mt CO ₂ eq. net GHG removals)	N/A	-0.002 (additional removal target) +0.002 (total net removals) **	No projections included in Malta's plan
 Energy Efficiency (final energy consumption)	0.8 Mtoe	0.7 Mtoe***	Malta's final energy consumption is above the indicated target resulting from EU legislation
 Renewable Energy (share of renewable energy in gross final consumption)	11.5%	28%****	Malta's submitted contribution to the EU target is significantly below the one resulting from EU legislation

* under the Effort Sharing Regulation.

** under the Regulation on Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry.

*** according to the formula set out in Annex I of the Directive (EU) 2023/1791 on energy efficiency and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/955 ('EED recast').

**** according to the formula set out in Annex II of the Regulation (EU) 2018/1999 on the Governance Regulation of the Energy Union and Climate Action.

Malta's main positive elements and areas for improvement

- ✓ On **energy security**, Malta's draft updated NECP convincingly sets out targets and policies to enhance the security of energy supply, for instance plans to reduce gas and oil consumptions through efficiency measures and through the deployment of renewables.
- ✓ On **decarbonising transport**, the plan highlights the necessity for large-scale deployment of zero- and low-emission mobility, transport and vehicles. The included projects focus on the development of onshore power supply infrastructure for marine vessels when at berth.
- ✓ On **international commitments under the Paris Agreement**, Malta is already coal free in power generation.
- ✓ On **non-CO2 emissions**, the plan addresses methane emissions in waste management and N2O emissions from agricultural soils. The plan also includes measures aimed at reducing methane emissions in agriculture, including manure management.
- ✓ On **research and innovation**, the plan highlights the Mediterranean Island Cleantech Innovation Ecosystem project to enhance cooperation between Malta and Cyprus on research and innovation activities.

- ✗ On **buildings**, Malta's draft NECP does not provide an update of the key elements, targets and milestones of the 2020 submitted long-term building renovation strategy. Malta's ambition has not changed from what was included in the previous NECP.
- ✗ On **energy poverty**, the plan does not provide any analysis of households in energy poverty, neither does it establish a national objective to reduce energy poverty.
- ✗ On **renewable energy**, Malta's draft updated NECP lacks information on measures across all sectors that it plans to adopt.
- ✗ On **adaptation to climate change**, Malta's draft updated NECP does not consider relevant climate vulnerabilities and risks, and this may put the achievement of energy and climate mitigation objectives at risk. Adaptation policies and measures to address these risks and vulnerabilities are not adequately described.
- ✗ On **fossil fuel subsidies**, the plan lacks information on how and by when they will be phased out, which is particularly an issue given their high share in total energy subsidies.

Moving forward...

Based on this assessment, the Commission has published country-specific recommendations for each Member State. These recommendations should be taken into account by the Member States when preparing their final updated NECPs, which are due by 30 June 2024.

Full Commission's assessment and recommendations on Malta's draft updated NECP: [here](#)

More information about the National Energy & Climate Plans: [NECP website](#)