

SEA SCREENING TEMPLATE

Part A – Plan/Programme (PP) and Responsible Authority

Title of PP: Waste Management Plan for the Maltese Islands 2021-2030

Responsible Authority: Ministry for the Environment, Climate Change and Planning

Contact Person: Massimo Costa

Position: Manager II

Contact Address: 6, Qormi Road, Santa Venera

Contact Phone Number: 22926327

Contact email: massimo.costa@gov.mt

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Part B – Key Facts

Responsible Authority: Ministry for the Environment, Climate Change and Planning

Title of PP: Waste Management Plan for the Maltese Islands 2021-2030

Purpose of PP:

The present WMP 2014-2020 is reaching its expiry. The new WMP 2021-2030 will comprise policy measures to enable Malta to reach its 2030 obligations in terms of recycling and diversion of waste from landfills. The WMP outlines Malta's commitments designed to fulfil the obligations and achieve the respective targets that emanate from the eventual transposition of the EU's Waste Package into Maltese law.

Is the PP the result of legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? Explain.

The PP is result of EU legislative obligations. Article 28 of the Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC) obliges member states to draw up waste management plans which are to be evaluated at least every sixth year and revised.

The adoption of the WMP by the end of the current year is also an ex-ante conditionality for European funds 2021-2027.

Period covered by PP: 2021-2030

Envisaged Frequency of Updates: Under Article 30 of the EU's waste framework directive (Directive 2008/98/EC), Member States shall ensure that the waste management plans and waste prevention programmes are evaluated at least

every sixth year and revised as appropriate and where relevant.

Area covered by PP (ideally also attach map): The PP covers all of Malta.

Summary of PP content:

WMP 2021-2030 aims to maximise the resource value from waste through holistic waste management solutions by adopting a collaborative approach whilst fostering the necessary behavioural change.

It will focus on the key areas of: waste prevention, waste treatment infrastructure, Extended Producer Responsibility, managing commercial waste and waste collection.

Part C – SEA Criteria

SEA Criterion	Yes/No (no other answer except Yes/No)	Explanation
<p>Is the PP subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority</p> <p>OR</p> <p>prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government (Regulation 3)</p>	Yes	The plan is being developed by the MECP with input from the relevant competent authorities.
<p>Is the PP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Regulation 3)</p>	Yes	<p>Article 28 of the Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC) obliges member states to draw up waste management plans which are to be evaluated at least every sixth year and revised.</p> <p>The adoption of the WMP by the end of the current year is also an ex-ante conditionality for European funds 2021-2027.</p>
<p>Is the PP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use</p> <p>AND</p> <p>does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive? (Regulation 4(2)(a))</p>	Yes AND Yes	<p>The PP is prepared for waste management.</p> <p>The PP foresees the development of appropriate waste treatment infrastructure.</p>
<p>Will the PP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment under Articles 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Regulation 4(2)(b))</p>	Yes	The PP ... any infrastructure that is build could have an impact on nearby conversation sites and their designated features.
<p>Does the PP determine the use of small areas at local level OR Is it a minor modification of a PP</p>	No	<p>The WMP is not a minor modification of a PP.</p> <p>The PP determines the use of areas at local level when it</p>

SEA Criterion	Yes/No (no other answer except Yes/No)	Explanation
subject to Regulation 4(2)(a) (Regulation 4(3))		comes to waste management.

SEA Criterion	Yes/No (no other answer except Yes/No)	Explanation
Does the PP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in Annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Regulation 4(4))	Yes	The proponent has already earmarked a site for the relevant infrastructural development under the PP and has carried out alternative site assessment studies. The site was chosen due to its central nature, its accessibility, and because it already has in place needed infrastructure. An Environmental Impact Assessment for the infrastructural projects has started. The area in question is already designated for waste management services, with the by product of such processes feeding into other waste-related processes, hence making it ideal to place such waste infrastructures in close proximity.
Is the PP likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Regulation 4(5))	Yes	The PP envisages the building of waste-related infrastructure in an area already assigned for such land use. In constructing such waste facilities, Malta is better placed to improve its performance towards the attainment of the 2030 targets.
Is the PP's sole purpose to serve national defence or civil emergency OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7 OR Is it a financial or budget PP?	No	The adoption of the WMP by the end of the current year is also an ex-ante conditionality for European funds 2021-2027. The Commission will examine this Plan and only if it determines that Malta has made the appropriate commitments to achieve its obligations and targets will it allow EU funds to be disbursed for the waste sector.

Part D – Likely Significance of Effects on the Environment

Responsible Authority: Ministry for the Environment, Climate Change and Planning

Title of PP: Waste Management Plan for the Maltese Islands 2021-2030

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment	Likely to have significant environmental effects? Yes/No (no other answer except Yes/No)	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
the degree to which the PP sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources	Yes	<p>The PP is proposing changes in infrastructure related to waste treatment, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -A Material Recovery Facility (MRF) to improve recycling performance and divert waste from landfill -An Organic Processing Plant (OPP) optimising organic waste treatment, to improving energy recovery and to drive the development of a viable compost -A Waste-to-Energy Facility for energy recovery as an alternative to landfill -Relocation of the Marsa Thermal Treatment Facility -Increasing remaining landfill void space through the adoption of specialised engineering techniques, mitigating against further land uptake -Developing the support infrastructure required to support waste management operations, including logistics and transport infrastructure
the degree to which the PP influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	No	The PP features Malta's principal waste management plan for the next nine-year period. It will be replacing the previous WMP which applied to the 2014-2020 period. In this regard, it does not influence other plans and programmes.
the relevance of the PP for the integration of environmental	Yes	PP aims to maximise resource value from waste through

considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development		holistic waste management solutions, but adopting a collaborative approach while fostering behavioural change. The WMP is intended to be a cornerstone of a process which will strengthen the transition towards a circular economy
environmental problems relevant to the PP		Malta has missed all its 2020 waste targets. Malta is being expected to achieve even more ambitious targets by 2030, namely: 60% recycling of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW); not more than 10% of MSW landfilled, and; 70% overall recycling of plastic, paper and board, glass, metal and wood packaging material.
the relevance of the PP for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. PPs linked to waste management or water protection)	Yes	The WMP will satisfy the obligation under EU Directive 2008/98/EC (Waste Framework Directive) for Member States to draw up waste management plans Moreover, the PP will be needed to reach the above-mentioned targets contained in the EU's Waste Framework Directive, Landfill Directive and Packaging and Waste Packaging Directive, amongst others.
the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	No	
the cumulative nature of the effects	No	The PP is not expected to cause environmental effects of a cumulative nature
the transboundary nature of the effects	No	PP's effects will not extend beyond Malta's geographical area
the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	No	The PP is not expected to cause a risk to human health due to the standards expected to be adopted with respect to the infrastructure
the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	Yes	The PP foresees the development of the proposed waste infrastructure at Maghtab Environmental Complex

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment	Likely to have significant environmental effects? Yes/No (no other answer except Yes/No)	Summary of significant environmental effects (negative and positive)
<p>the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values (iii) intensive land-use 	No	<p>The areas in question do not have special natural characteristics of cultural heritage.</p> <p>The PP is expected to have a positive effect on quality standards since it aims to help Malta meet EU waste targets.</p> <p>The PP envisages the construction of facilities and will not result in intensive land use.</p>
<p>the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status</p>	No	<p>The areas where infrastructural development is foreseen by the PP do not have a recognised protection status.</p>

Part E – Summary of Environmental Effects

(Provide a summary of the significant environmental effects of the PP)

The Plan includes a series of measures to promote waste prevention, re-use, recycling and recovery in order to move waste management in Malta up the waste hierarchy. The PP aims to recover energy from high calorific material, improve Malta's recycling performance, optimise the treatment of organic waste and hence reduce landfill waste.

The PP envisages the construction of a Material Recovery Facility, an Organic Processing Plant, and a Waste-to-Energy facility. It also envisages the relocation of the Marsa Treatment Facility, an increase in remaining landfill void space through adopting specialised engineering techniques, and the development of the support infrastructure required for waste management operations. The new infrastructure will lead to an increase in recycling rates and a decrease in landfilling rates.

The infrastructure will also lead to land take-up, but this will be of land which is already committed. Emissions resulting from the waste treatment infrastructure will be abated in line with the relevant legislation.

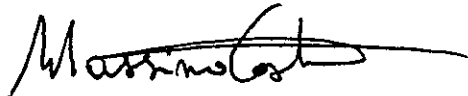
Part F – Screening Outcome

Screening is required under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations, 2010 (Legal Notice 497 of 2010). It is our view that:

- An SEA is required because the PP falls under the scope of Regulation 4(3) of the Regulations and is likely to have significant environmental effects
- An SEA is required because the PP falls under the scope of Regulation 4(4) of the Regulations and is likely to have significant environmental effects
- An SEA is not required because the PP is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

Massimo Costa

Name of Officer responsible for the Screening Report



Signature of Officer responsible for the Screening Report

Ministry for the Environment, Climate Change and Planning

Name of Responsible Authority

30/10/2020

Date

Notes to Responsible Authorities:

1. The SEA Focal Point cannot provide any feedback to incomplete Screening Templates
2. All responsible authorities should provide the SEA Focal Point with an original signed copy of each Screening Template prepared
3. All responsible authorities should provide the SEA Focal Point with a copy of the public notification which is obligatory under Regulation 4(7) of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations, 2010.