

Malta

Renewable Energy Fact Sheet

Policy Background

The EU is working to reduce the effects of climate change and establish a common energy policy. As part of this policy, European Heads of State or Government agreed in March 2007 on binding targets to increase the share of renewable energy. By 2020 renewable energy should account for 20% of the EU's final energy consumption (8,5% in 2005). To meet this common target, each Member State needs to increase its production and use of renewable energy in electricity, heating and cooling and transport.

Although renewable energies are an integral part of our fight against climate change, they also contribute to growth, job creation and increase our energy security.

Country targets

The renewables targets are calculated as the share of renewable consumption to gross final energy consumption. Renewables consumption comprises the direct use of renewables (e.g. biofuels) plus the part of electricity and heat that is produced from renewables (e.g. wind, hydro), while final energy consumption is the energy that households, industry, services, agriculture and the transport sector use. The denominator for the RES share includes also distribution losses for electricity and heat and the consumption of these fuels in the process of producing electricity and heat.

Maltese target: 10% (2005 = 0%)

Key issues

The market for RES in Malta is still at an early stage and, at present, penetration is minimal. RES has not been adopted commercially, and only solar energy and biofuels are used. Nevertheless, the potential for solar and wind is substantial. In order to promote the uptake of RES, the Maltese government is currently creating a framework for support measures. In the meantime, it has set national indicative targets for RES-E lower than the ones agreed to in its Accession Treaty (between 0.31% and 1.31%, instead of 5%).

Main supporting policies

In Malta, RES-E is supported by:

- A fixed feed-in tariff of 46.6 €/MWh for PV installations below 3.7 kWp; and
- A reduction in value-added tax on solar systems from 15% to 5%.

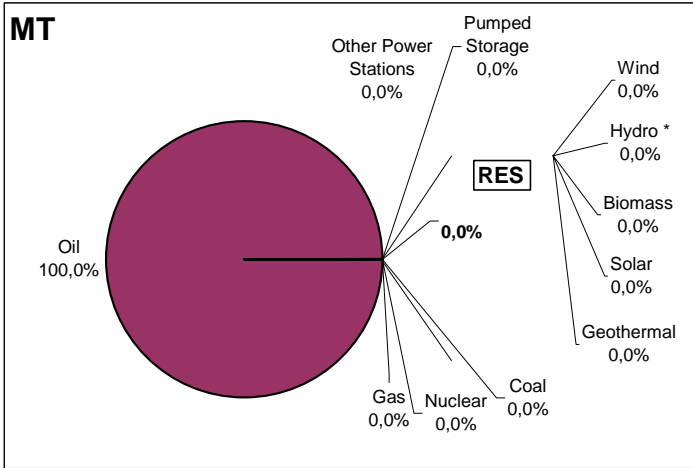
A framework for measures to further support RES is currently being examined.

Since 2005, excise taxes no longer apply to the biomass content in biodiesel.

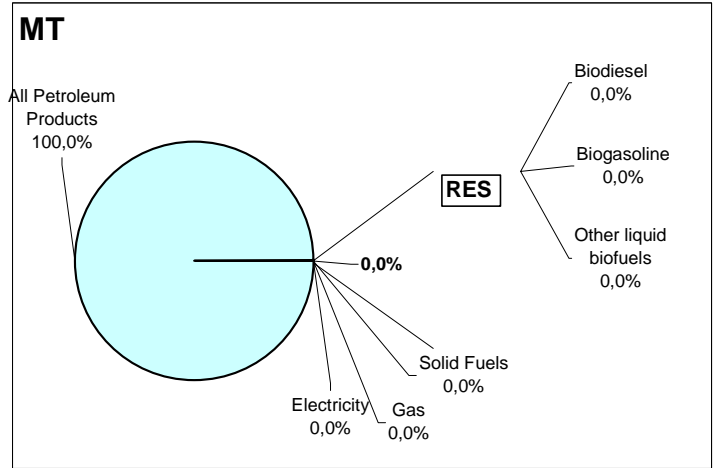
Support measures for RES-H have not yet been introduced in Malta.

Key figures¹

Gross Electricity Generation by fuel (2005)



Final Energy Consumption by Fuel, Transport (2005)



Source: Eurostat

* Not including generation from hydro pumped storage, but including electricity generation to pump water to storage. Municipal Solid Waste, Wood waste, Biogas included.

For further information

To find out more about renewables, go to: http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/intelligent/index_en.html

To find out more about the current situation of renewables in the Member States, go to

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/legislation/electricity_member_states_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/legislation/share_res_eu_en.htm

To find out more about support measures, go to

http://ec.europa.eu/energy/res/legislation/support_electricity_en.htm

To find out about a project or contact an energy agency in your region, go to

<http://www.managenergy.net/emap/maphome.html>

¹ Reliable and complete data for heating and cooling is not yet available from Eurostat

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What is meant by.....?

RES: Renewable energy sources

RES-E: Electricity production from renewable energy sources

RES-H: Production of heat and cold from renewable energy sources

Biofuels: Mainly includes biodiesel and bioethanol

Biomass: Includes solid biomass, biowaste and biogas

PV: Photo-voltaic - technology for the production of electricity from solar energy

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