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SMILEGOV

**Enhancing effective implementation of sustainable energy action
plans in European islands through reinforcement of smart
multilevel governance**

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**Manual for Sustainable Energy Projects
Implementation**

Cluster of Malta

10/09/2015

Part. N°		Partner's name	Short name
CO1		Network of Sustainable Aegean Islands - Greece	DAFNI
CB2		Conference of Peripheral & Maritime Regions	CPMR
CB3		Region Gotland – Sweden	GOTLAND
CB4		Ölands Municipal Association - Sweden	ÖLAND
CB5		Hiiu Municipality - Estonia	HIIUMAA
CB6		Saare County Government – Saaremaa - Estonia	SAAREMAA
CB7		European Small Islands Federation	ESIN
CB8		Samsø Energy Academy - Denmark	SE
CB9		Canary Islands Institute of Technology - Spain	ITC
CB10		Regional Agency for Energy and Environment of the Autonomous Region of Madeira - Portugal	AREAM
CB11		Cyprus Energy Agency	CEA
CB12		Local Councils Association – Malta	LCA
CB13		Scottish Islands Federation	SIF

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Content

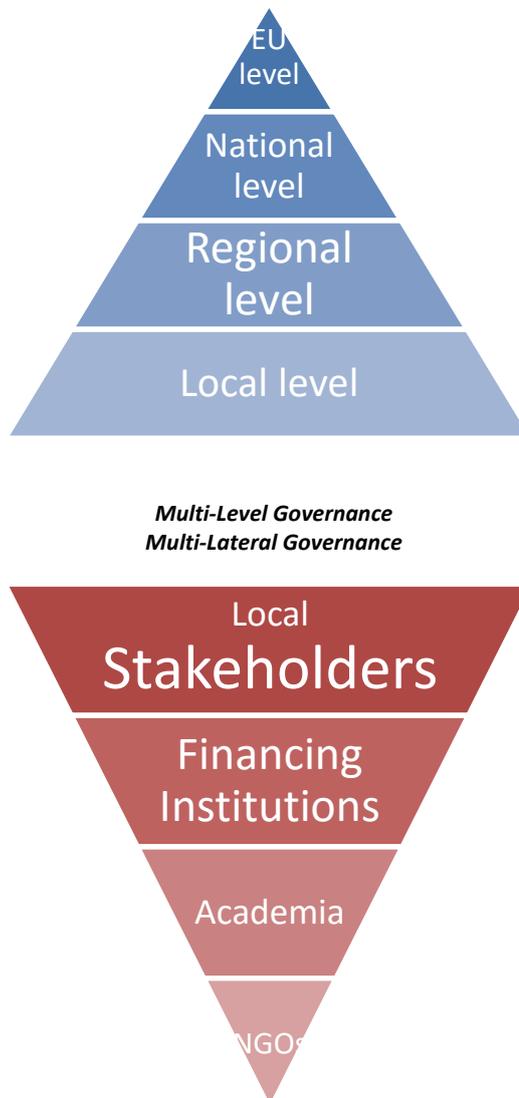
1	Introduction	4
2	Outline of the Projects and Barriers	5
3	Barrier A - Effective Participation of the Public.....	5
3.1	Examples from good practices	5
3.2	The role of Multilevel Governance	5
3.3	Step-by-step methodology to overcome the barrier.....	5
4	Barrier B - Ownership of Project once it ends.....	6
4.1	Examples from good practices	6
4.2	The role of Multilevel Governance	6
4.3	Step-by-step methodology to overcome the barrier.....	6
5	Summary table	7



1 Introduction

This manual is supposed to work as support on how to approach different barriers within a good Multi-Level Governance (MLG) project. Multi-level governance can be explained as the effective interaction between different political levels for an improved coordination and coherence between the local, regional, national and European policy level. Also good relations must be in place within each level, for example between different activity areas within a municipality, for processes to run smoothly. This we call Multi-Lateral Governance.

In short, good cooperation is vital for success of projects. Both multi-level and multi-lateral governance is a key concept for SMILEGOV and for this manual.



The examples of projects included in this manual are the ones concerning the Cluster of Malta. The manual points on known barriers and suggests a number of different solutions that can be used to overcome them. This manual does not provide all the answers and tools needed but it presents a



context on why MLG is crucial together with good examples, and how the MLG work could be organized in order to overcome barriers.

2 Outline of the Projects and Barriers

The projects encountered include an energy efficient street lighting project and an educational campaign on adopting an energy-efficient behaviour at home. The barriers encountered include effective participation by the target groups, and ownership of the project once it ends.

3 Barrier A - Effective Participation of the Public

To save energy and adopt sustainable water and waste management practices in Gozitan households involved house visits from trained personnel on sustainable management. When new ideas and theories are presented to the public, not all suggestions are understood well and/or accepted. This tends to happen in educational campaigns where the aim is to educate the population on how to reduce and save water and electricity from their homes.

3.1 Examples from good practices

The home visits involved trained people explain and demonstrate energy saving and water-reducing measures. Most of the households were cooperative and feedback from residents was overwhelmingly positive. In some cases people asked for a second follow up visit to ask further information. There were very few refusals. Following the positive suggestions by the public, the project was extended to small businesses.

3.2 The role of Multilevel Governance

Multilevel governance in this project was overly positive, the project planning proceeded with minimal difficulty and the public was involved, informed and could understand the importance of the project thanks to the home visits and physical contact.

3.3 Step-by-step methodology to overcome the barrier

The success of this good practice lies in having one entity to take care of the project. The project management and implementation was effective under the responsibility of one entity, which was also competent in the educational themes to be delivered. The availability of the trainers should be addressed effectively and an agreement should be reached with the trainers to ensure commitment throughout the project until completion, to avoid unnecessary delays. Also, the success is attributed to the good communication strategy, flexibility in setting up meetings with residents and active engagement that led to better awareness among the public.



4 Barrier B - Ownership of Project once it ends

This barrier was brought up by a project led by the Ministry for Energy and Health (National authority) aimed to convert all existing street lighting in the island of Gozo to an energy efficient system through retrofitting. Due to ownership subdivisions of street lighting, involvement and cooperation with the following government entities was essential:

- Transport Malta (National authority related for main road network);
- Enemalta (National authority related to energy supply); and
- 14 Gozitan local councils (Local authorities related to certain secondary road networks).

4.1 Examples from good practices

All entities were involved, informed and all could understand the importance of the project, enabling success in the implementation and running of the project. The success of the project lies in the compromise with government entities at all levels, reached through good communication strategy, good intent, sharing of responsibilities without imposing impractical burdens and sharing of benefits.

4.2 The role of Multilevel Governance

The main positive aspect in the implementation of the project was that all relevant entities were involved in open discussions, decision-making, and project planning from the initial stages. The main barriers included the establishment of ownership of the existing street lighting, whether there will be any ownership changes after the project implementation, whether the project would entail any new responsibilities, which entity would be funding the project, which entity would be responsible for the maintenance, and who would benefit from costs saved, and whether this would mean any changes in the current budget allocations.

4.3 Step-by-step methodology to overcome the barrier

Ownership of street lighting should be clearly established, and to this end an agreement can be reached between all parties involved to improve it. The lower resourced authorities should not be burdened with impractical responsibilities and costs, whilst to encourage their involvement and acceptance of the projects, the benefits from the project should be shared with them. Good communication and engagement of all stakeholders involved is encouraged and essential from the beginning whilst decisions are being taken.



5 Summary table

Barrier	Examples	Role of MLG	Key steps of the methodology
Effective participation of the public	Reduce and Save: Eco-Gozo Home Consultancy Visits	The Ministry for Gozo was the project leader – their contribution was funding and overseeing the project.	Entrusting an educational campaign project in an entity that specializes in education. In this case it was the Institute of Sustainable Energy at the University of Malta.
Ownership of the Project once it ends	Energy efficient street lighting project	To communicate effectively with all entities and share responsibilities and costs accordingly	Ownership of street lighting should be clearly established