

HOPE EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2023

Climate and Environment: Challenges for Hospitals and Healthcare Services
in Malta

Introduction

National Coordinator

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Contents – „A maltese village“

Typical houses



„Take a look at Malta & Climate Change“

(Food-) Market



„Buy solutions to climate change“

Church



„Connection to nursing topics“

Contents

- **Actions to mitigate climate change**
 - Policy: Climate Action Board (CAB)
 - Planning: Foundation for Medical Services (FMS)
 - Action: Department for Technical Engineering at Mater Dei Hospital
- **Mental Health Services**
 - Mater Dei Hospital
 - Mental Health In-Patient and Out-Patient (Mount Carmel Hospital, Mental Health Clinic Qormi and Paola)
 - Gozo General Hospital

Malta

- Archipelago situated in the Mediterranean Sea
- Three inhabited islands – Malta, Gozo, Comino
- Population: 514,564 in 2019



© Google Maps

Climate Change in Malta

- **Climate in Malta**
 - Warm to hot temperatures
 - High humidity
 - Dusty air
- **Limited water resources**
- **Climate Change**
 - Prolonged and intensified periods of heat
 - More shortage of rain
 - Higher intensity and frequent storms



© Travel2Malta



Policy - Climate Action Board (CAB)

- Set up under the 2015 Climate Action Act (chapter 543) of the Laws of Malta
- Representatives of different ministries
- Advising the government on climate exchange issue
- Road-based traffic (Private cars and public busses)
 - Average Distance of a Travel - **5km**
 - Average Speed of a Travel - **15km/h**



© Oh My Malta



© Intelligent Transport

Policy - Climate Action Board (CAB)

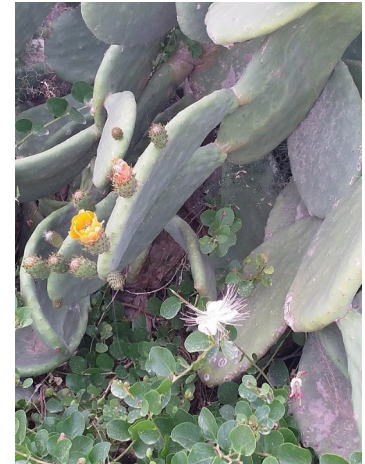
- Possible solutions

- Education of the public:

„There is a climate change.“ (-)

„The climate change is a danger to you and your family.“ (+)

- Implementation of pedestrian areas
- Improvement of micro mobility (E-Bikes)



Planning - Foundation for Medical Services (FMS)

- **Providing Health Care Infrastructures**

- Refurbishment of old hospital buildings
- Implementation of new buildings

- In both options consider:

Climate Change has specific requirements in buildings, their designs and services



© Facebook FMS

Planning - Foundation for Medical Services (FMS)

- Before - „Culture of open windows“
 - High ceilings
 - Use of the natural ventilation
- Today - „Culture of closed windows“
 - Cooling by air condition



St. Luke's Hospital



Mater Dei Hospital

Planning - Foundation for Medical Services (FMS)

- Site Visit at Paola Hub Project –
Primary Health Care Centre
 - Creating a healing atmosphere
 - Building materials that reduces noise levels
 - Psychiatric Outpatients:
Only department with a terrace



© Facebook FMS

Action - Department for Technical Engineering at Mater Dei Hospital



© Facebook MDH



© Google Maps

Mater Dei Hospital uses as much energy as the whole island of Gozo

Action - Department for Technical Engineering at Mater Dei Hospital

- Implementation of a new ventilation system
 - First cooling the air, before it goes to the wards – heat it
 - Remove humidity in summer, warm the air in winter

**Saves 1,1 million of litres fuel and
3,000 tons of CO2-emissions per year**

**Public Service Award 2023
„Best Green Initiative“**

- Lightning: Change to LED



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Research - Climate Change and Mental Health

- Study in 2021 by Abdullah Mohammed Hassan Ramadan and Ahmed G. Ataallah
- Countries with least emissions – highest effects
- Example: Air pollution and urban birth – link to early onset of schizophrenia or dementia



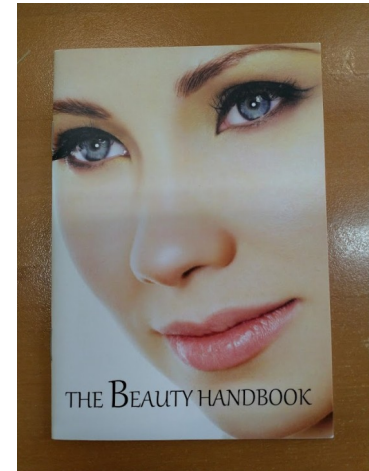
© Pixabay

Mater Dei Hospital

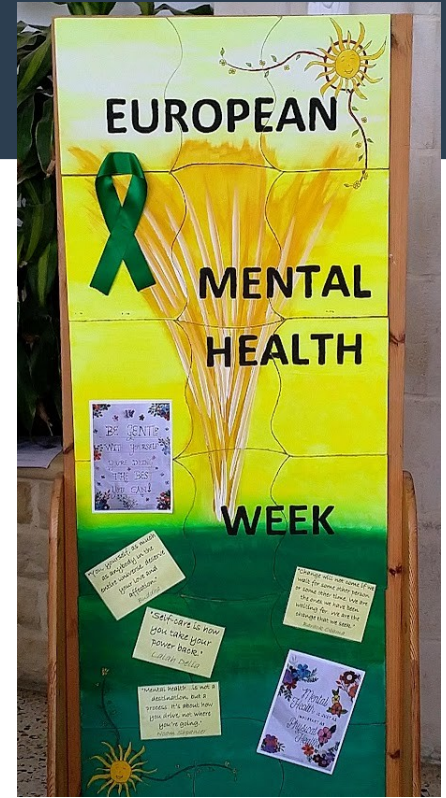
- Largest general hospital – 1,243 beds - public
- Nurses from Clinical Education facilitated the exchange at MTH
- Many ways of informal, psychological support like visiting the garden, Beauty Day for oncology patients, ...



© Facebook MDH



Mount Carmel Hospital



- Only psychiatric hospital in Malta
- Presentation about (psychiatric) nursing in Austria
- Treasure Hunt to find puzzles – European Mental Health Week

Gozo General Hospital

- Only hospital in Gozo – 312 beds – public
- 2019 opening of Barts Medical School
→ Benefit from students who have their clinical placements at the hospitals and medical consultants from Malta who cross to Gozo to teach students
- Gozo Hospital is now a Teaching Hospital



