Malta’s Sustainable Development Vision for 2050

Background Note

The Sustainable Development Act mandates Government to mainstream sustainable development in its workings. By virtue of the delegation of portfolios, the Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change was designated as the Competent Authority for Sustainable Development as prescribed by the Act. Amongst the responsibilities emanating from the Act, is the development and implementation of Malta’s Sustainable Development Strategy.

Sustainable development at a global level is currently governed by the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. In September 2015, Malta became a signatory to the Agenda 2030 and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The adopted Outcome Document “Transforming our world: the 2030 agenda for sustainable development” acknowledges that, “each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development” and encourages “all member states to develop as soon as possible practicable ambitious national responses to the overall implementation of this Agenda. These can support the transition to the SDGs and build on existing planning instruments, such as national development and sustainable development strategies.”

Given that the first Sustainable Development Strategy for the Maltese Islands expired in 2016 and the national, EU and international developments that have taken place in various policy sectors since then, it is an opportune moment to develop a new Strategy.

In formulating a clear direction for the long-term development of the Maltese Islands, a Vision that defines our strategic focus and outlines the image of Malta that we all want to see in the future is a key and fundamental step.
About the Vision

Malta’s Sustainable Development Vision for 2050 sets out our aspirations and priorities for mainstreaming sustainable development up till the year 2050. It is set to become our main guiding principle for developing policies and when planning and implementing projects. The Vision itself answers the question of why we need to think about the future today. It motivates us to face the challenges of the modern world and helps us achieve common objectives, while also giving meaning to our actions.

The Sustainable Development Vision 2050 is being structured and designed upon the three dimensions of sustainable development – the economic, environment and social pillars:
Consultation Questions

Q1. Are there any other aspects do you think are crucial to secure sustainable development by 2050?

Q2. What developments would you expect to see in Malta’s economic policy to further reduce the decouple its growth from consequential negative impacts on the environment?

Q3. What developments would you expect to see in Malta’s social policy to further support social inclusion and ensure a dignified life for all, and where everyone is enabled to fulfil his or her potential within a healthy environment?

Q4. How can Malta’s environment policy support the valorisation of our limited natural resources whilst contribute to our competitiveness or well-being?

Q5. What financial instruments could complement this Vision for a sustainable future?