Interreg Euro-MED

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ReMED

Pilot Site Data Sheet

Ministry for Gozo and Planning

External expert assisting the municipality: Czech Technical University in Prague

Pilot site: Victoria, Gozo

ReMED Lead Partner: University of Malta (UM)
ReMED (Towards Climate Resilient Mediterranean Cities) | remed@interreg-euro-med.eu

Extents and areas of the test site (Google earth map):





1 Stakeholders, participants, & roles

Organisation	Role
Gozo Regional Development Authority (GRDA)	formulates, streamlines and aids in the implementation of regional policies to ensure sustainable development in Gozo. It has also conducted several studies and possesses data about the island of Gozo which can be useful to the ReMED project. GRDA can help to incorporate conclusions from the ReMED project into regional policies.
Gozo Business Chamber (GBC)	represents and promotes the common interests of business operators in Gozo. Since the selected pilot area in Victoria includes a number of commercial establishments such as shops, restaurants, and cafés, the involvement of the GBC in the ReMED project is highly relevant, as it can effectively represent and communicate the concerns and needs of the local business present in the pilot area.
Building & Construction Authority (BCA)	responsible for the regulation of buildings and construction in Malta. It is relevant to the ReMED project since we will be evaluating how buildings in the pilot area are affected by climate change. BCA can also contribute to the project by providing data about buildings and structures in the pilot area.
Malta Tourism Authority (MTA)	the national body responsible for regulating and promoting tourism in Malta. Its role in the ReMED project is particularly relevant given that Gozo is a popular tourism destination and the selected pilot area includes the island's main bus terminus, a key transport hub for visitors. Any climate-related impacts affecting this area could directly influence tourist mobility, accessibility, and overall visitor experience.
Gozo Tourism Authority (GTA)	represents tourism operators across the island of Gozo. Within the ReMED project, the GTA plays an important role by acting as a direct link to tourism establishments located in the pilot area. Through its network, it can facilitate communication, gather feedback from operators, and support the dissemination and implementation of climate adaptation and resilience measures relevant to the tourism sector.
Environment & Resources Authority (ERA)	the national authority entrusted with safeguarding the local environment. It can provide valuable environment related data about the pilot site.

2 Urban categories most impacted

Businesses, Residents, Tourists, Schools, and Transport infrastructure.

3 Climate change challenges faced by site

Extreme heat: As all other villages in the Maltese islands, the pilot area In Victoria is affected by extreme heat especially the peak summer months due to the lack of shading by trees and reflective surfaces.

Air Pollution: The selected pilot area is one of the busiest areas in Gozo, comprising the administration centre of the Ministry for Gozo and Planning, residential dwellings, various businesses, cafés and restaurants, schools, as well as Gozo's main bus terminus. This high level of activity and traffic generates a significant amount of air pollution.

The main climate change challenge faced by the pilot site is extreme heat. Being in the centre of Victoria, Gozo, it experiences relatively high levels of urban activity, dense traffic, and extensively built surfaces such as roads and pavements.

These factors contribute to the urban heat island effect, where temperatures are significantly higher than in surrounding rural areas. During prolonged heatwaves coupled with lack of shading and/or reflective surfaces, this not only increases energy demand for cooling but also negatively impacts public health, particularly for vulnerable groups such as the elderly, children, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions.

4 Challenges faced as a pilot/test site

The pilot area hosts a high concentration of daily activities, including schools, retail outlets, offices, catering establishments, residential dwellings, and the main bus terminus. The primary challenge in using this site as a pilot area lies in coordinating and administering interventions within such a busy and multi-functional environment. Any pilot actions must take into account continuous public activity, traffic flow, business operations, public transport schedules, and school routines. This creates logistical and administrative complexity, as multiple stakeholders (including local authorities, business owners, transport operators, residents, and service providers) must be consulted and aligned.

5 Pilot/test site final goal

5.1 Municipality contribution to the project

The Ministry for Gozo and Planning will focus on strengthening the pilot site's resilience to climate-related hazards, particularly extreme heat and its impacts in the pilot area. The main objective is to reduce vulnerability and minimise damage through targeted, evidence-based interventions. By applying the ReMED tool, the Ministry for Gozo and Planning will be able to assess local climate risks, identify priority areas for action, and develop practical, site-specific solutions. These solutions will support informed decision-making at both the local administrative level and the national level, ensuring that climate adaptation measures are realistic, coordinated, and scalable.

5.2 Expected achievements by end of project

By the end of this project, our objective is to have acquired sufficient, high-quality data from the pilot site to facilitate the development of robust, evidence-based solutions through the analytical capabilities of the ReMED platform. These solutions will be tailored to the specific challenges observed on site, ensuring that the recommendations we compile are both practical and applicable. The outcomes will serve as a valuable resource for decision-makers to support more informed planning and policymaking in response to climate-related risks.





