

## **Ele.C.Tra - Electric City Transport National Supporting Group about the Implementation of Electric City Transport in Malta**

The Fortress Builders – Fortification Interpretation Centre,  
St Mark Street, Valletta, Malta  
Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2015

The Second Maltese National Support Group took place at The Fortress Builders – Fortification Interpretation Centre, St Mark Street, Valletta, Malta on Thursday the 24th of September 2015



The NSG was composed of the stakeholders of the transport and educational sector in Malta.

Present to the NSG were:

- Ms. Erika Massa from the Malta Intelligent Energy Management Agency,
- Prof. Carmel Pule from the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Malta



- Prof. Edward Mallia from the Department of Physics at the Faculty of Sciences in Malta
- Dr. Therese Bajada, Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development
- Mr. Stefan Calamatta from the Ministry for Transport and Infrastructure
- Mis Elizabeth Galea from the Ministry of Culture
- Mr. Edgar Farrugia from the Ministry of Culture
- Charlene Calleja from the Ministry of Culture
- Dr. Domenico Ruffa from the University of Unime of Calabria
- Mr. Marco Graziani from Fondazzjoni Temi Zammit
- Mr. Alex Borg from ITS-Malta.



Arch. Erika Massa

Ms. Erika Massa from the Malta Intelligent Energy Management Agency described the possibility of integrating the Ele.C.Tra App with other activities going on in Malta such as the solar car parks and the photovoltaic panels which have been installed at the Maltese Harbors. This topics were then tackled by Albert Falzon from MIEMA about the stakeholders' involvement within the mobility model being proposed by the Ele.C.Tra project.

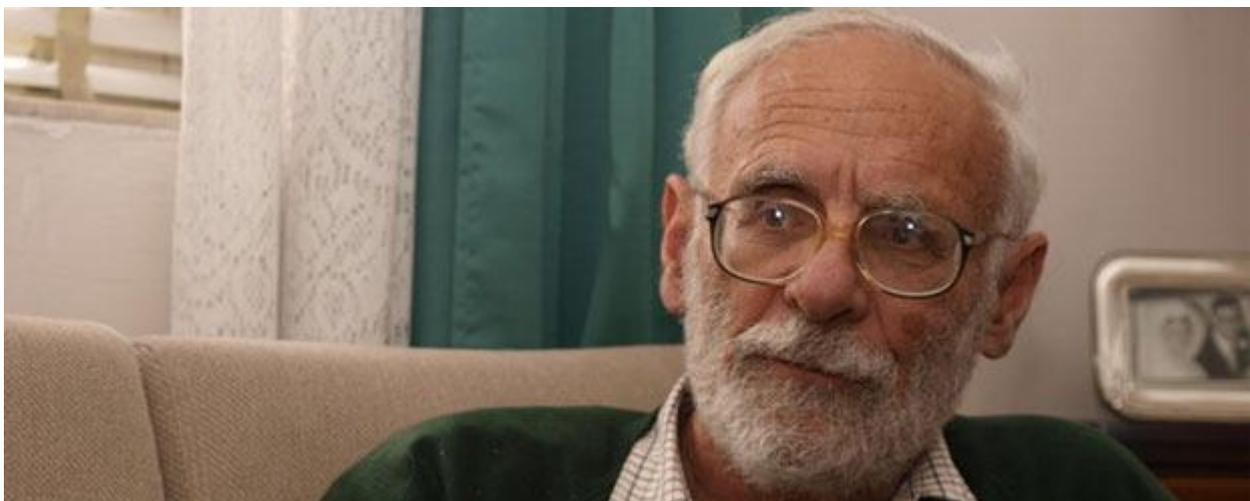




Prof. Carmel Pule

Prof. Carmel Pule from the Faculty of Engineering at the University of Malta highlighted the importance of daily commuting as key to the sustainability of the Maltese market. Prof. Pule mentioned the factors which can be attributed to the fact that Malta is an island and with the fact that the Maltese islands are overpopulated. He said that at the age of 70 he still utilizes a small engine motorcycle for his daily commuting and that youngsters at the University of Malta are taking example from him in shifting from cars to two-wheeled transport. This shift results in carbon savings, less congestion and better utilization of parking areas.

Prof. Pule went on to describe the latest research and development which is taking place at the Faculty of Engineering within the context of electric mobility. He described the projects which are being carried out about electric cars, scooters and fast battery charging systems. Prof. Pule also mentioned the need for more innovation at educational level. In this way engineering students can find and create strategic positions in industry so as to develop new technologies which can enhance daily commuting while contributing to more sustainable means of transport.



Prof. Edward Mallia



Prof. Edward Mallia from the Department of Physics at the Faculty of Sciences in Malta talked about the limitations and suppression he experienced when he converted an internal combustion car to a fully electric powered one. He went on to highlight how the latest technology has enabled practical and feasible fully electric cars and scooters. Prof. Mallia also mentioned that the Ele.C.Tra app overcomes one of the biggest obstacles to going electric: which is the location and availability of a charging pillars.



Dr. Therese Bajada

Dr. Therese Bajada is an active member of the Institute for Climate Change and Sustainable Development at the University of Malta. Dr. Bajada also makes part of the Green Travel Planning Committee. The Government has identified the GTPC as an important tool to achieve sustainable transport. Dr. Bajada described how with the GTPC, the Maltese Governments aims to implement initiatives linked with travel planning. Dr Bajada has carried out a study about computational estimation of high dimension autoregressive models for the geographical determination of air pollution in Malta. She went on to explain how the geographical determination of this work took place using the Spatio-temporal autoregressive (STAR). Dr Bajada highlight the fact that the zone of Valletta and the Grand Harbour is the area which is most afflicted by traffic induced air pollution and how the actions being proposed and implemented by the Ele.C.Tra project can easily alleviate this chaos.



Ing. Stefan Calamatta

Ing. Stefan Calamatta from the Ministry for Transport and Infrastructure said how the Ministry is





addressing the current mobility issues by deploying the latest technologies available on the market. This involves the use of technologies which have been tested and which can be implemented within the Maltese context. The Ministry and the Maltese Government is supporting Electromobility by selecting and presenting the right solutions for the Maltese context. Ing. Calamatta described how battery electric vehicles are much more efficient than conventional I-C-E cars. The Ministry is supporting the Ele.C.Tra project as part of its philosophy which aims at clean air and environmental sustainability.



Dr. Domenico Ruffa

Dr. Domenico Ruffa from the University of Unime of Calabria mentioned how the decarbonisation of transport may happen through the shift to biofuels as mandated by the Energy Union. Dr. Ruffa mentioned how the use of biofuels like biodiesel from microalgae can better reduce the carbon footprint of Green House Gasses. The members of the National Support Group agreed that in this way biofuels can transform the entire transport system to one which is zero emissions.

Dr. Ruffa went on to explain how the policy makers have the responsibility of promoting the use of biofuels for the production of electricity for electric vehicles. The availability of biofuels for the production and generation of electricity can help different modes of transport in switch to using alternative fuels.





Eng. Albert Falzon

Eng. Albert Falzon started his presentation by mentioning how between 1990 and 2010 Malta Experienced an increase of 49.1% in Malta's total carbon footprint and how in 2010, 87.5% of total emissions derived from the energy sector including transport.

Eng. Falzon went on to describe how Ele.C.Tra is promoting its own innovative model so as to supply useful solutions which address weak demand areas which cannot be fully solved by public transport local systems. He went on to describe the pilot projects which were carried out in 3 pilot actions as part of the fifth work package which were carried out in Genoa, Florence and Barcelona. In this manner Eng. Falzon mentioned the similar characteristics of the non-pilot cities.

