

**eBussed**  
Interreg Europe



European Union  
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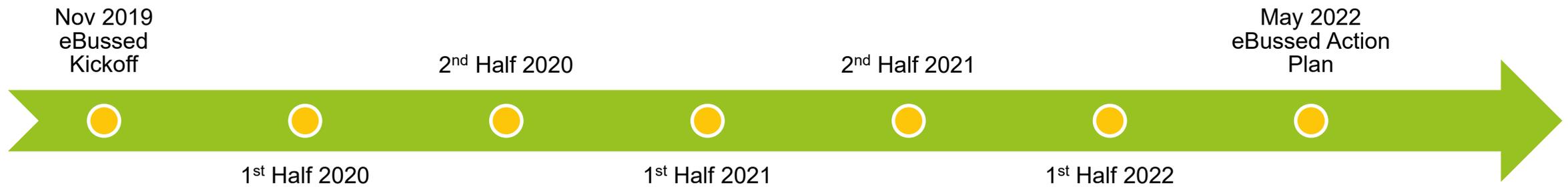
## ***Gozo - What happened since the eBussed kick-off meeting and where are we going?***

**Final Seminar - Hamburg**

**eBussed** - Building capacities for European-wide e-bus deployment

18<sup>th</sup> May 2022

# Timeline



- 2 Partners from Malta were present for the kick-off
  - Ministry for Gozo (2 participants)
  - Transport Malta (1 participant)
  
- Policy instrument (in application form)
  - Operational Programme I: Fostering a Competitive and Sustainable Economy to meet our Challenges - Priority Axis Seven 7: Shifting towards a more low-carbon Transport sector
  - Policy Responsible Organisation – Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure & Capital Projects

# eBussed Kickoff

## ➤ Status Quo about e-Buses

- 6 Foton e-Buses had been bought by the Ministry for Gozo through the SMITHS project
- E-Buses were not yet in operation



# First half 2020

- First eBussed Stakeholder Meeting in Gozo – February 2020
  - Organized together with Transport Malta
  - Stakeholders Present – Ministry for Gozo, Gozo Channel, Gozo Business Chamber, Transport Malta
  - Agenda
    - Introduction of eBussed Project to Stakeholders
    - Information for Status Quo Report



# First half 2020

- Thematic Article
  - Electromobility in Malta
  
- Newsletter Article
  - De-Carbonising Gozo
  
- Participation in TWG meetings

# Second half 2020

- Participation in TWG meetings
  
- Withdrawal of Transport Malta from Project
  - Decision if Ministry for Gozo will stay in the eBussed Project
  - Decision if MGOZ will take the budget of Transport Malta
  - Decision if MGOZ is to influence a different policy instrument
  
- Started to identify Good Practices
  
- Finalization of Tender for Technical Consultancy Service

## ➤ Second eBussed Stakeholder Meeting (online) – March 2021

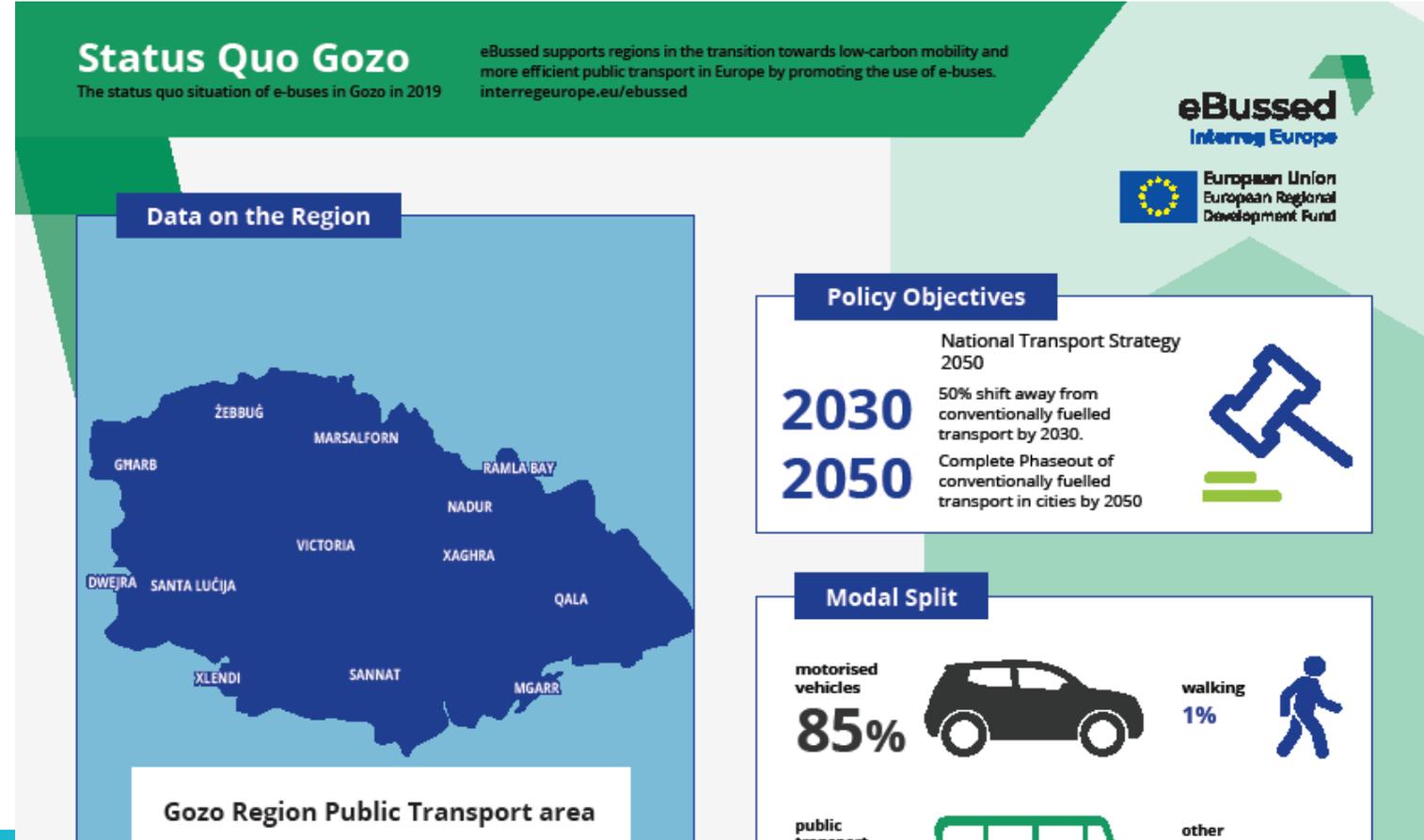
- Stakeholders Present – Ministry for Gozo, Gozo Channel, Gozo Business Chamber, Transport Malta, Malta Public Transport
- Agenda
  - Updates about the eBussed Project
  - Update about the 6 e-Buses in Gozo and the Park & Ride
  - Discussion about local Good Practices

The screenshot displays a Zoom meeting interface. At the top left, the time is 51:16. The top right contains controls for video, audio, chat, and a red 'Leave' button. The main area is a grid of video thumbnails for participants. The bottom right features a 'Participants' sidebar with a search bar, a 'Share invite' button, and a list of 13 attendees. The list includes names and roles such as 'Konrad Pule External', 'Piscopo Joseph at MGOZ-Eco...', 'Agius Gilbert at Transport External', 'Camilleri Janice at MGOZ-Eco...', 'Cordina Christian at MGOZ-M...', 'Cordina Roderick A at MGOZ-...', and 'Cutajar Joseph at MGOZ-Eco...'. A tooltip for 'Camilleri Janice at MGOZ-EcoGozo' is visible over the list.

# First half 2021

- Technical Consultancy Tender Awarded
  - Awarded to Tallinja Technology Limited
    - Provided Information for Thematic Reports
    - Helped to disseminate questionnaires icw TWG 3
    - Provided missing information for Status Quo factsheet

## ➤ Status Quo Factsheet Completed



- Third eBussed Stakeholder Meeting (online) – May 2021
  - Stakeholders Present – Ministry for Gozo, Malta Public Transport, EMCS
  - Agenda
    - Meeting focused on the identification of Good Practices
    - Good Practices identified from the e-bus pilot which Malta Public Transport did in January 2021 with a TAM bus.
  
- 4 Good Practices identified
  - CBA (Prior to the purchase of the 6 e-buses in Gozo)
  - Good Practices from TAM bus pilot in Malta
    - Logbook for monitoring of driver feedback
    - Pre-testing as training for drivers and technical staff
    - Pilot project with an e-bus prior to the procurement of a large e-bus fleet
  
- Good Practices uploaded to PLP

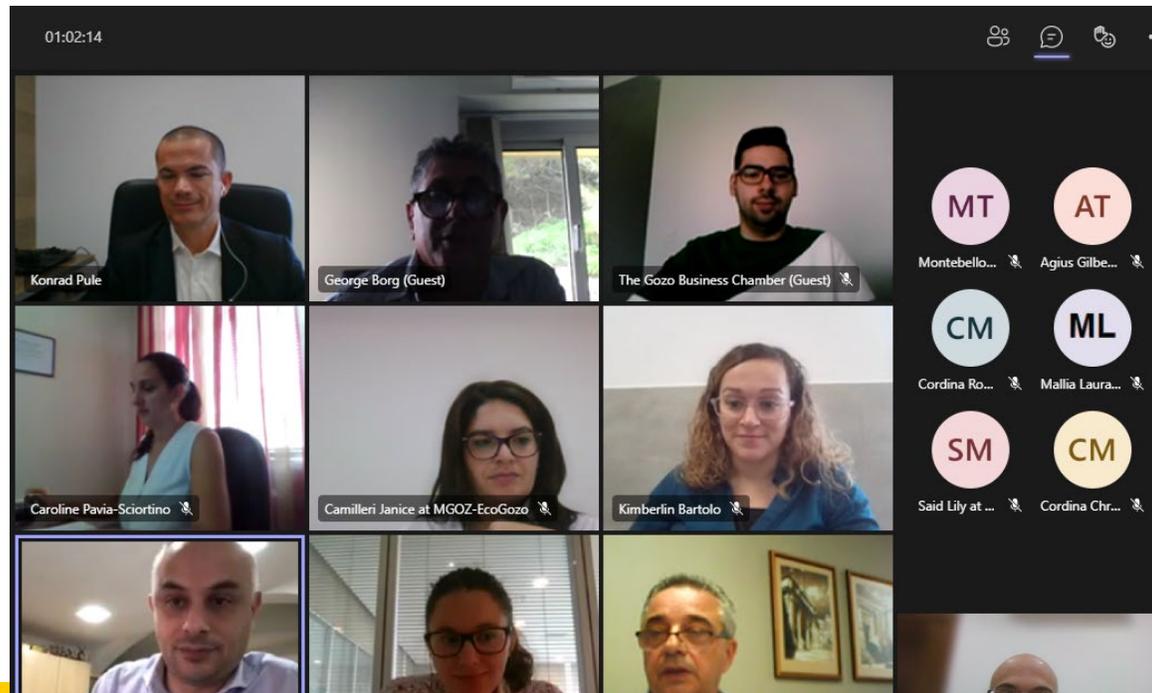
# Second half 2021

- Summary slides for the local Good Practices were done
  
- E-Bus Park & Ride Service started to operate in Gozo – November 2021
  - Using the e-Buses that had been bought by the Ministry for Gozo through the SMITHS project
  - Location of Park & Ride was changed temporarily due to logistical reasons.

# Second half 2021

## ➤ Fourth eBussed Stakeholder Meeting (online) – November 2021

- Stakeholders Present – Ministry for Gozo, Gozo Channel, Gozo Business Chamber, Transport Malta, Malta Public Transport, EMCS.
- Agenda
  - Meeting focused on choosing of Good Practices for the Action Plan
  - Good Practices identified by Gozo were presented to stakeholders
  - A shortlist of Good Practices which were the most relevant for Gozo were presented and those which were of most interest to stakeholders were highlighted



- It was decided to change the policy instrument which the eBussed local Action Plan will be influencing
  - Reason – Original Policy instrument was during its final stages and the opportunities for support from it were limited
  - New Policy Instrument – Gozo Regional Development Strategy 2021 – 2030
  - Letter of support from Policy Owner (Gozo Regional Development Authority – GRDA) was obtained

# First half 2022

- Video about eBus situation in Gozo and local Good Practices was done.
  - This video was done since in-person event in Gozo was not going to be done
  
- Utrecht Good Practice Event
  - Local Video was shown
  - Presentations
    - E-bus deployment in Gozo
    - Local Good Practices
    - Drivers & Barriers to electrification in the Maltese islands
  
- Action Plan accepted after 3 Drafts
  - Action 1 - Updating the Gozo Regional Development Strategy 2021 – 2030
  - Action 2 - Initiating the e-bus transition in Gozo

## ➤ Action 1: Updating the Gozo Regional Development Strategy 2021 – 2030

- Currently, Measure 1.6 of the Gozo Regional Development Strategy 2021 – 2030 only refers to the electrification of the Ministry for Gozo’s car fleet and **there is no mention about the electrification of the bus fleet** used for public transport.
- This action will promote the update of the current Gozo Regional Development Strategy 2021 – 2030 so that it will be in line with National and European zero emission strategies.
- The update which is being proposed is that Measure 1.6 of the strategy which currently only includes measures for the “greening” of commercial and private vehicles will be updated to include measures for Sustainable Mobility in **both** the private and public sectors.
- Specifically, a measure is to be included which refers to the **gradual conversion of the current public transport fleet in Gozo to electric**. For the measure to be implemented (that is the actual shift of the bus fleet in Gozo to e-buses) the policy owner will have time until 2030 which is until the end of the period of the strategy and is also in line with the National and European policies.

## Action 2: Initiating the e-bus transition in Gozo

- Action 2 will start the shift to electric buses in Gozo, where a new electric bus will be integrated in the public transport fleet of Gozo (thus replacing a diesel bus) and will be in operation.
- MPT has recently procured 2 electric buses, with the aim of fully testing these buses on different routes and eventually integrating them in the public transport fleet. Through this action it is being proposed that one of these buses is brought to Gozo and integrated in the public transport fleet. To have a successful integration it is being proposed that first there is a pilot phase on a current public transport route and after that actual operation with passengers will commence.
- It is proposed that this new electric bus will be operating on a route that connects the Mgarr Ferry to Victoria (the capital of Gozo Island). This route is very popular with Gozitans, Maltese travelling to Gozo for vacation and also with tourists. In this way, the local community will have the opportunity to travel via electric buses, so this action will have multiple positive outcomes. This action will:
  - promote electric mobility with users;
  - provide the operators with the experience of operating electric buses models on existing routes in Gozo to facilitate further expansion;
  - commence the implementation of the new policy recommendation as described in Action 1.

## Action 2: Initiating the e-bus transition in Gozo

- Given that Gozo is characterised by a hilly topography, short distance between bus stops and high operating temperatures during the summer months (requiring use of air-conditioning), this electric bus will be utilised in Gozo to assess how the selected brand of e-bus varies with the following:
  - use of air conditioning;
  - different passenger capacity;
  - different road gradients;
  - different operation temperatures (Winter vs Summer).
- The operation of this e-bus will indicate how the performance varies with all the elements that characterise Gozo as well as give an indication on the electric bus consumption during operation, power consumption required for the charging and the daily range (kilometres) that can be operated by this electric bus in Gozo.
- Other lessons learned from this action:
  - knowledge will be obtained on how different electric buses operate in the island of Gozo.
  - ideal technical specifications of e-buses to be able to operate in Gozo can be better defined.



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Q & A

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Ministry for Gozo