



ASSOĊIAZZJONI KUNSILLI LOKALI
MALTA

Local Councils' Association

MALTA

January 2011

Mayors' Meeting held in Gozo

The first Mayors' Meeting for the year 2011 has been held at the Calypso Hotel, Marsalforn, Gozo on Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd January 2011. The first session on Friday dealt with the actions required by Local Councils that have adhered to the Covenant of Mayors. Mr. Jimmy Magro, Executive Secretary of the LCA, stated that it was not only required to submit the Sustainable Energy Action Plan, but Local Councils must have the required structures to implement the measures contemplated in the report. The Covenant of Mayors Office (COMO) has to be submitted with a report every two years.

The next topic for discussion was the value of human resources training to face the challenging issues of local governance in the next decade. Mr. Joe Gerada, CEO of the Foundation for Human Resources Development, made a detailed presentation on how Local Councils should lead the way to engage in HR training in order to ensure better governance at the local level.

The meeting was also addressed by Mr. Jesmond Aquilina, Mayor of Qormi, who dealt with his experience in local government.

The Saturday session was opened by a detailed address by the President of the LCA, Mr. Michael Cohen. He spoke about various issues and meetings that have been held with major stakeholders. He also gave information on how local councils are benefitting from the EU projects being undertaken by the LCA. Mr. Cohen also referred to the issue of new road works by local councils whereby the WSC is demanding local councils to pay for the water services expenses when no funds have been allocated for these works. He stated that the issue has been presented to the Government and the LCA is waiting for a sustainable solution.

WATER MANAGEMENT

The Local Councils' Association is holding a national conference on water management on Friday 18th February, 2011 in Valletta. The conference is being organised as part of the INTERREG project - SHARP. The conference is being organised together with the Malta Resources Authority and the Chamber of Engineers.

Those wishing to attend are requested to send an email to lca@lca.org.mt

LCA NEWS

1. AWARDS

1.1. The Local Councils' Association has won the second prize of the National Enterprise Support Awards 2010 for the public entities and NGO section. The LCA entered the competition through the Philoxenia Project, a MED co-financed project that will create 18 micro-enterprises in Malta and Gozo.

1.2. The Local Councils' Association has received a recognition award from Green MT, one of the leading green companies operating in Malta. The LCA was rewarded for its primary role in establishing green policies in Malta and Gozo.

1.3. The Local Councils' Association has been awarded the BEST NEW ENTRANT for 2011 for IT Training by the leading IT training company TCTC. The award was presented to the LCA in recognition of its commitment to IT training whereby it has started the training of more than 400 persons under the ICT4ALL scheme being run by the Malta Communications Authority.

2. EGOV4U

Mr. Anthony Meehan and Mr. Mike Grimsley were in Malta during the 25-28th January as part of the EGOV4U project under the CIP-ICT programme. The Open University delegation met several stakeholders to discuss the evaluation of the initiatives being taken by the LCA and FTZ in order to encourage the use of e-gov services especially by those in disadvantaged groups.

3. PHILOXENIA

The LCA has signed six agreements with new entrepreneurs that will be setting up a new enterprise with the assistance of the Philoxenia Project, being carried out under the MED programme. The entrepreneurs will receive a maximum of €4500 grant to finance part of their initial requirements of setting up their business.

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