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**Country programmes and related matters**

Draft country programme document for Maldives (2016-2020)

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## I. Programme rationale

1. Maldives consists of 1,190 small islands clustered in 26 ring-like atolls and spreads across 90,000 square kilometres. The total population is approximately 400,000, including over 59,000 migrant workers. With high-end tourism and fishing as the main economic drivers[[1]](#footnote-1), the country is a development ‘success story’, having achieved five of the Millennium Development Goals before 2015 and graduated from being a least developed country in 2011. Per-capita gross national income soared by 54 per cent over the past ten years, from $3,630 in 2004 to $5,600 in 2013. Eight per cent of the population lived on less than $1.25 a day in 2010. The human development index ranking of Maldives has increased steadily, from 0.599 in 2000 to 0.698 in 2013, placing it 103rd of 187 countries, at the top of the ‘medium human development’ category and above the average for South Asia.
2. At the national aggregate level, however, the ranking falls to 0.521 when adjusted for inequality. In addition, the national aggregate conceals underlying disparities. The spatial disparity between the capital, Malé, and other atolls contributes greatly to the human development gap, mostly in the form of income and education choices. This is exacerbated by gender disparity: women living in the atolls are disproportionately affected when it comes to lower development outcomes.[[2]](#footnote-2)
3. Indeed, notwithstanding its high socio-economic development, Maldives is a typical example of the ‘island paradox’, with multi-dimensional development issues. Its relative prosperity through domestically generated income coexists with increasing vulnerability to climate change, increases in global fuel prices, contraction of the tourism sector, and high structural costs due to its particular geographical characteristics. Furthermore, the absence of a clearly articulated national development plan, coupled with limited national capacity in collecting and analysing credible data, has hindered the emergence of a robust system of evidence-based policymaking.
4. Environmental sustainability, and climate change and disaster resilience, are the central development challenges. Intensive rainfall and storm surges are expected to be aggravated through the effects of climate change on weather patterns. This compounds trends of increasing coastal erosion and pressure on scarce land resources, and increases the physical vulnerability of island populations, infrastructure and livelihood assets. Almost half of all settlements and over two thirds of critical infrastructure are located within 100 metres of the shoreline. Maldives may face up to a 2.3 per cent loss of its annual gross domestic product by 2050 due to costs related to adverse climate change effects and adaptation.[[3]](#footnote-3)
5. The root cause of increasing vulnerability to climate change is the limited systematic adaptation planning and practice, and weak institutional capacities to tackle it. Since almost all the natural disasters facing .Maldives are of a hydro-meteorological nature, disaster risk management and climate change adaptation need to be addressed together. Climate change risks and long-term resilience need to be integrated into island land use planning, coastal development and protection policies and practice. To improve energy security, the Government has committed to increasing the use of renewable energies and promoting energy conservation and efficiency.
6. As part of the peaceful democratic transition, a new constitution was ratified in 2008. Subsequently, the separation of powers, a multi-party system and decentralization were introduced. Independent key institutions such as the Supreme Court, the Human Rights Commission and the Elections Commission were established. While an unexpected transfer of power in 2012 led to political turmoil, the largely peaceful national election of a new president in 2013 and parliament in 2014 resulted in restoration of stability.
7. Data on citizen engagement in Maldives is scarce. A 2013 survey indicates that 50 per cent of the population are interested in politics, and one in four Maldivians is politically active. However, 82 per cent were found to be cynical about politics, interpreted as emotional disengagement and distrust of the political classes in society, which may indicate a low propensity to engage in public affairs.[[4]](#footnote-4)
8. Development of effective, inclusive governance institutions and processes, establishment of rule of law and the emergence of an informed and vocal civil society and an independent, professional media are still in their formative stages.[[5]](#footnote-5) Access to justice remains limited, with over two thirds of Maldivians preferring to settle disputes outside the courtroom. These challenges are coupled with increased social and religious conservatism together with growing levels of sexual and gender-based as well as gang-related violence[[6]](#footnote-6), which the justice system needs to address more effectively.
9. Although the constitution guarantees equal rights to women and men, significant obstacles for women’s participation in decision-making processes persist due to cultural, social and economic barriers, and there is no strong legal framework for gender mainstreaming.[[7]](#footnote-7) Women hold a mere 6 per cent of seats in both the national parliament and local councils, and 2 out of 15 positions in the Cabinet. The unemployment rate for women stood at 39 per cent in 2010, against 19 per cent for men. One in four women cites family factors as the reason for being unemployed. Across all sectors and industries, women’s mean monthly income is lower than that of men. Sexual and gender-based violence is widespread. One in three women aged 15-49 reports having experienced physical and/or sexual violence. Although key legislation was adopted (Domestic Violence Prevention Act, 2012; Sexual Harassment Prevention Act and Sexual Offences Act, 2014), significant improvements are still awaited.
10. Youth unemployment is high, at 34 per cent in the atolls and 17 per cent in Malé, with young women more affected than men. The Asian Development Bank finds that the supply of domestic labour does not meet the demands of the growing economy, caused mainly by a mismatch of skills. Many in the large potential workforce of youth do not continue to higher education after completing primary school because of lack of incentives, insufficient secondary schools, and limited, often poor-quality skills training programmes. The country increasingly depends on expatriate workers, whom employers often prefer due to lower expectations for wages and working conditions. Considering that nearly half of the population is under the age of 25, the lack of opportunities and resulting discouragement have the potential to lead to socio-political instability.
11. The assessment of development results and other evaluations defined the comparative advantages of UNDP in Maldives as: (a) long-standing programmatic engagement and presence: UNDP has present in Maldives since 1978; (b) expertise, especially working on environmental issues, climate change and governance; (c) flexibility and responsiveness; and (d) being the key development partner on the ground, due to the limited number of resident development partners.
12. That assessment, and the 2014 evaluation of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, 2011-2015, reaffirm that gender equality and youth continue to require effective support in Maldives, and capacity needs to be strengthened significantly for sustained progress. The evaluation further notes that United Nations support was spread sparsely across 15 outcomes, of which UNDP contributed to 11. Other evaluations highlighted the need to strengthen the capacity of both government and UNDP in implementation, oversight, and support. Exit strategies were not systematically integrated into programme design.
13. In its largest programme area – environmental sustainability and climate change – UNDP has a strong track record in designing and implementing pilot initiatives at the atoll/island level, including in biodiversity conservation, water management, coastal adaptation, and climate data. The UNDP-supported atoll ecosystem-based conservation initiative is regarded as the first and most successful large environmental project in Maldives, receiving international recognition in 2011 as the UNESCO-declared Baa Atoll Biosphere Reserve. Evaluation findings note that pressing development issues such as water security and climate change adaptation need to be comprehensively addressed at the national policy level in a more catalytic and strategic manner.
14. A 2015 review of the UNDP integrated governance programme reaffirmed the relevance and importance of supporting increased legal awareness and strengthening decentralization frameworks and access to justice, especially for those on outlying atolls. It emphasized the added value of achieving synergies between promoting accountability of governance institutions and strengthening the capacity of civil society and media.
15. Based on its comparative advantages, and incorporating lessons learned, the new UNDP programme seeks to contribute to a Maldives that is effectively governed, with wide participation of citizens who enjoy equal opportunities to realize their aspirations, and which is environmentally sustainable and resilient to the effects of climate change. The underlying theory of change is that creating an enabling environment for citizens’ engagement, especially for young people and women, while increasing their confidence in an independent, transparent and accessible legal system, and promoting equitable and inclusive policies for increased employment opportunities, will lead to reduced societal tensions, improved citizen security and more human dignity for sustainable human development. Improved government capacities for climate- and disaster-sensitive, evidence-based national and local-level planning and policies, coupled with enhanced capacities for the sustainable management of natural resources and solid waste, as well as better energy efficiency at the atoll/island community level, will increase the resilience of people and fragile ecosystems to shocks.

## II. Programme priorities and partnerships

16. The Government led the formulation process of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, 2016-2020, in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders including civil society and development partners, and ensured that the framework is thematically aligned with the national priorities articulated in government manifestos and the strategies of line ministries and state entities. The UNDP country programme, as an integral part of the framework, is nationally owned, and is aligned with the sustainable development goals framework, the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway, and the UNDP strategic plan, 2014-2017.

1. Five key design principles underpin the country programme.

(a) UNDP will geographically target underserved island communities in Noonu, Raa, Baa, Lhaviyani, GaafuAlifu and GaafuDhaalu Atolls, as well as in Malé, where 39 per cent of the total population lives. The specific target will be women and youth, with priority for those facing multiple levels of vulnerability such as spatial setting, income and identity according to the analysis in the national human development report, 2014.

(b) UNDP will systematically build opportunities for participation of beneficiaries in the different stages of the programme/project cycle.

(c) UNDP will provide development solutions at scale, informed by results of prototypes and pilots that demonstrate innovative solutions while minimizing risks and maximizing effectiveness. The strategy for scaling up will ensure national ownership of prototypes/pilots and systematic practice-to-policy links. UNDP will promote knowledge exchanges and replication/adaptation of successful practices across atolls.

(d) To ensure the sustainability of results, UNDP will develop solid exit strategies during project formulation and monitor them during implementation.

(e) To promote South-South and triangular cooperation, national partners and UNDP will explore opportunities to engage other small island developing States through the Association of Small Island States[[8]](#footnote-8), and identify areas where Maldives can exchange knowledge with other middle-income countries facing similar development challenges.

1. With this programme, UNDP aims to reposition itself as a thought leader in Maldives. UNDP will develop evidence-based knowledge products, including a national human development report, that propose strategic approaches to emerging development issues such as urbanization, youth unemployment, and ecosystem conservation. Knowledge products will be accompanied by proposals for prototyping/piloting interventions and policy implementation support. UNDP will contribute to two United Nations Development Assistance Framework outcomes, aiming to enhance the synergies between them. Increased participation in decision-making, especially of women and youth, and improved service delivery at the atoll level will extend to climate change and disaster resilience. Ownership of climate change adaptation and disaster risk mitigation solutions will be bolstered by establishing institutional mechanisms that allow for systematic community engagement in designing the solutions and monitoring their implementation.
2. **Outcome A. Citizen expectations for voice, sustainable development, the rule of law, and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance.** Limited participation of underserved atoll/island communities, women and youth remains an obstacle to the full realization of rights enshrined in the constitution and to the consolidation of democracy in Maldives. Given its past engagement in this area, UNDP is well placed to promote inclusiveness in policy and decision-making, and enhancing human rights protection and access to justice. UNDP will deepen engagement with key governance institutions at the national level and atoll/island level, civil society organizations, community-based groups and media. UNDP will work with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UNFPA, the International Labour Organization, and UN-Women to achieve joint results in this area of contribution.
3. UNDP will support women’s empowerment through initiatives to develop leadership capacities and promote participation in public life and decision-making processes, including in the area of elections and at the community level. Since sexual and other violence against women and girls is inadequately addressed by the justice system[[9]](#footnote-9), UNDP will build on its partnership with the Attorney General’s Office and civil society organizations to strengthen the legal framework by developing of a mechanism for legal aid services to prosecute violence against women.
4. UNDP will continue to support the strengthening of key institutions and promote systems for decentralization and local governance. To support the effective delivery of judicial services especially at the island/atoll level, UNDP will focus on improving capacity in legislative drafting and supporting the establishment of a bar association. UNDP will support the development of the legislative agenda of the Government and will utilize it strategically to monitor progress on reforms. Sustainability strategies will include legislative reforms to strengthen the mandates of institutions and their ability to function independently. Enabling environments and frameworks will be created for communities to engage in democratic debate on key issues and have their voices heard at the national policymaking level, which will improve social cohesion.
5. The lack of inclusive policies targeting underserved communities remains a key development challenge for Maldives. UNDP will support evidence-based national development planning and policymaking to enable inclusive growth by strengthening national statistical and planning capacities. Emphasis will be placed on localizing the sustainable development goals and providing policy advice on holistic approaches to sustainable human development. UNDP will support the formulation and implementation of the Maldives national development strategy, expected in 2016.
6. The empowerment of youth through increased economic opportunities could have a positive impact on reducing their high unemployment rate and propensity to engage in violent behaviours and substance abuse. UNDP will provide extensive support to developing innovative solutions such as the Maldives Youth Entrepreneurship Programme, based on partnerships with the Government and the private sector.
7. **Outcome B. Growth and development are inclusive, sustainable, increase resilience to climate change and disasters, and contribute to enhanced food, energy and water security and natural resource management.** Addressing climate change, disaster risk and environmental sustainability are critical areas for Maldives, as evidenced by the impact of 2004 tsunami, which damaged the economic and social infrastructure by an estimated 62 per cent of gross domestic product. Under this country programme, UNDP will deepen alliances with national partners to continue facilitating the transition to climate-resilient low-carbon development, and improve ecosystem management for environmental protection.
8. The high vulnerability of the population to climate change will be reduced by: (a) improving evidence-based, climate resilient planning, policy formulation and monitoring; (b) scaling up and applying innovative pilot solutions, including from other small-island developing States facing similar challenges; and (c) on-the-ground implementation in the areas of water, waste and coastal management, energy efficiency, climate and disaster risk management and response, and ecosystem-based interventions.
9. Building on the UNDP partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF), climate change adaptation and mitigation will be bolstered through interventions to strengthen the adaptive capacities of island/atoll communities. These will include promoting integrated water resource and solid waste management, use of renewable energy and energy-efficient practices, and support to natural resource management to encourage ecosystem-based adaptation. It will be essential to increase the capacities of water, energy and waste utility providers and regulatory bodies as duty bearers, and to strengthen their institutional frameworks, including tariff structures.
10. To promote synergies among United Nations organizations in strengthening resilience to disasters, partnerships will be developed with UNICEF, UN-Women and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). UNDP will develop a standardized damage and loss accounting system similar to the ‘DesInventar’ system led globally by UNDP, with disaggregated data collection and analysis to mitigate, prepare for and respond to disasters. UNDP will support the Government in establishing gender-responsive disaster risk reduction and adaptation plans, and help create dedicated institutional frameworks and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms. At both national and subnational levels, UNDP will promote the establishment of legislative provisions to put in place adequate capacity and resources for managing disaster and climate risks.
11. To enhance environmental sustainability, reduce development pressures and improve biodiversity and ecosystem management in national economic development, especially in the tourism sector, support will be provided to strengthen capacity at the policy and regulatory levels, and to improve the coordination, implementation and monitoring of existing policies and regulations. This builds upon partnerships with the line ministries on environment and tourism, and related private sector groups. UNDP will collaborate with UNICEF, FAO and UNOPS in these areas.

# III. Programme and risk management

1. This country programme document outlines UNDP contributions to national results and serves as the primary unit of accountability to the Executive Board for results alignment and resources assigned to the programme at the country level. Accountabilities of managers at the country, regional and headquarters levels with respect to country programmes is prescribed in the [programme and operations policies and procedures](http://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/operations/accountability/programme_and_operationspoliciesandprocedures.html) and the [internal controls framework](https://info.undp.org/global/popp/rma/Pages/internal-control-framework.aspx).
2. The country programme will be nationally executed to ensure national ownership through a mix of implementation modalities. Considering the small size of the programme and the national capacities and frameworks for financial management, procurement, monitoring and reporting, the share of directly implemented UNDP projects and projects that are nationally implemented with UNDP support services may increase compared to the previous programme. To be more strategic and reduce transaction costs, UNDP will pursue a portfolio-based approach with fewer, larger projects. The recently approved ‘delivering as one’ standard operating procedures will be implemented jointly with other United Nations organizations.
3. Key risks for the programme in Maldives are related to national implementation capacities, the narrow donor base affecting financial sustainability, the possibility of renewed political instability, and the possible occurrence of environmental disasters. UNDP will track and manage these risks proactively.
4. To inform its risk mitigation strategies, UNDP will conduct capacity assessments of its proposed national implementing partners and participate in United Nations micro-assessments of partners, in line with the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers. To strengthen programme management for results, UNDP will develop portfolio-specific theories of change with baselines and annual milestones, and will link staff performance plans and evaluations to the achievement of these.
5. Strong partnerships, backed by resource mobilization, will be essential for UNDP to develop tailored, scalable development solutions and contribute to results. While the number of development partners in Maldives has decreased sharply, mainly due to its middle-income status, the Government has resources to finance its development priorities. The UNDP strategy will be to strengthen its partnership with the Government while deepening relations and enhancing cooperation synergies with development partners active in Maldives, including United Nations organizations, the World Bank, and the Asian Development Bank. UNDP will expand its cooperation with civil society, academia and the private sector, especially in regard to youth and the tourism sector.
6. Maldives remains a priority country for environment and climate-related vertical funds. Tapping into rounds 6 and 7 of the GEF, and mobilizing resources from new sources such as the Green Climate Fund for implementation at scale of the concepts that UNDP has successfully demonstrated, will be critical for this programme cycle. Opportunities for government cost-sharing will be explored.
7. Given the fluid nature of the political environment, renewed political instability risks slowing down programme implementation. Mitigation strategies include facilitating dialogue between the Government, other state actors and civil society, and maintaining strong programme partnerships with independent institutions. Flexible, scenario-based programme planning will help to avoid a potential slowdown in implementation.
8. An environmental disaster could cause a shift in UNDP programme priorities. In addition to its programmatic support to disaster preparedness and management, UNDP could help the government access additional external assistance as early as possible so that the country could recover expeditiously from shocks.

# IV. Monitoring and evaluation

1. UNDP will use relevant indicators of its strategic plan and outcome indicators of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework to monitor programme progress. Where possible, country-level disaggregated data will be obtained from national instruments such as the Census and Household Income and Expenditure Survey. UNDP will support national counterparts in identifying gaps in data, and will support the transition from Millennium Development Goals to sustainable development goals monitoring. Programme outcome evaluations will be timed to yield maximum information on relevance and effectiveness. Innovative solutions piloted will be systematically evaluated to generate evidence of their viability before being scaled up.
2. At the output level, UNDP will emphasize the establishment of robust, results-based monitoring and evaluation systems in projects. Reliable data will be obtained against the output-level indicators. A programme portfolio approach will be applied for monitoring to gain efficiencies and strengthen synergies across the projects. UNDP will ensure involvement of the government, development partners, civil society organizations and other stakeholders in programme oversight, mutual accountability and risk management through project boards as key forums for decision-making, joint monitoring visits, and evaluations.
3. UNDP will intensify its efforts to communicate results more effectively and enhance its visibility and relevance in Maldives by developing and implementing a comprehensive communication strategy.
4. Audit recommendations will guide UNDP to increase its operational effectiveness and efficiency in achieving development results.

**Annex. Results and resources framework for Maldives (2016-2020)**

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| **National priority or goal: Democratic governance** | | | | |
| **United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) or equivalent outcome involving UNDP No 3**. ***By 2020 citizen expectations for voice, sustainable development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance.*** | | | | |
| **Related strategic plan outcome 2. *Citizen expectations for voice, development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance.*** | | | | |
| **UNDAF outcome indicator(s), baselines, target(s)** | **Data source and frequency of data collection, and responsibilities** | **Indicative country programme outputs**  ***(including indicators, baselines and targets)*** | **Major partners / partnerships**  **Frameworks** | **Indicative resources by outcome (in thousands of dollars)** |
| ***1. Percentage of women in national parliaments***  Baseline: 6 % (2014)  Target: 10 % (2020)  ***2. Percentage of councils with five year development plans***  Baseline: 16% (2014)  Target: 20% (2020)  ***3. Access to justice services, disaggregated by type of service (children/adult)***  Baseline: 0 (2014)  Target: 0.25 (2019) | Source: Election Commission website  Frequency: Every 5 years  Responsibilities: Election Commission of Maldives’  Source: Local government authority records  Frequency: Every 5 years  Responsibilities: Local government  authority  Source: Public perception survey  Frequency: Every 5 years  Responsibilities: UNDP | 1.1 Parliaments, constitution-making bodies and electoral institutions enabled to perform core functions for improved accountability, participation and representation, including for peaceful transitions  *1.1.1 Number of women supported by UNDP who participate as candidates in local and national elections*  Baseline: 5 (2015)  Target: 20 (2018 and 2019)  Data source: Election Commission of Maldives website,  Frequency: Annually  1.2 Capacities of human rights institutions strengthened.  *1.2.1 Extent to which human rights institutions support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations.*  Baseline: 1 (not adequately) (2015)  Target: 3 (partially) (2020)  Data source: The International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions  Frequency: Annually  1.3 Frameworks and dialogue processes effectively and transparently engage civil society in national development.  *1.3.1 Degree of effectiveness of mechanisms/platforms to engage women’s groups.*  Baseline: Low (2015)  Target: Medium (2020)  Data source: Annual report, Ministry of Home Affairs, and Transparency Maldives website  Frequency: Annually  *1.3.2 Degree of effectiveness of mechanisms/platforms to engage youth groups.*  Baseline: Low (2015)  Target: Medium (2020)  Data source: Annual report, Ministry of Home Affairs, and Transparency Maldives website  Frequency: Annually  1.4 Legal reform enabled to fight discrimination and address emerging issues such as environmental and electoral justice.  *1.4.1 Number of proposals adopted for legal reform to fight discrimination*  Baseline: Planned (2015)  Target: Adopted (2020)  Data source: Annual report and website of Attorney General’s Office.  Frequency: Annually  *1.4.2 Establishment of a national coordination process*  Baseline: No  Target: Yes  Data source: Minutes of meeting held to establish the national coordination process  Frequency: Annually  *1.4.3 Percentage of Councils that have shown improved capacity for planning and monitoring at the local level*  Baseline: 38%  Target: 45%  Data source: Annual plans, Local Government Authority, annual reports  Frequency: Annually  1.7 Measures in place and implemented across sectors to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence  *1.7.1. No. of people with access to legal aid through UNDP- supported initiatives, disaggregated by sex*  Baseline: 0 (2015)  Target: 50: 25 men, 25 women (2020)  Data source: Attorney General’s Office website, Department of Judicial Administration annual report and website  Frequency: Annually  *1.7.2 Existence of new and strengthened legal aid and justice services to prevent and address sexual and gender-based violence*  Baseline: No (2015)  Target: Yes (2020)  Data source: Attorney General’s Office annual report and website, Department of Judicial Administration annual report and website  Frequency: Annually  1.8  *Extent to which operational institutions have the capacity to support fulfilment of the concluding observations from the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women*  Baseline: Not adequately (2015); Target: Partially (2020)  Data source: Records from Ministry of Law and Gender , civil society annual reports  Frequency: Annually  1.9 National and subnational systems and institutions enabled to achieve structural transformation of productive capacities that are sustainable and employment- and livelihoods-intensive  *1.9.1 Extent to which policies, systems and/or institutional measures are in place at national and subnational levels to generate and strengthen employment and livelihoods.*  Baseline: Not adequately (2015*)*  Target: Partially (2020)  Data source: Ministry of Economic Development reports and  Attorney General’s Office reports  Frequency: Annually | Office of the President.  Attorney General’s Office/ Ministry of Law  and Gender.(MLG)  Prosecutor General’s  Office  Ministry of Home Affairs  Ministry of Finance and  Treasury (MFT)  Ministry of Youth and  Sports  Ministry of Economic  Development  Ministry of Fisheries and  Agriculture (MFA)  Ministry of Environment  and Energy  National Bureau of  Statistics  Supreme Court  Family Court  Maldives Police Service  Human Rights  Commission  Elections Commission  Parliament  Local Government  Authority/local  councils/women’s  development committees.  Civil society organizations  Academia | **Regular:**  1,150 |
| **Other:**  6,050 |
| **National priority or goal: Environment and Climate Change** | | | | |
| **UNDAF (or equivalent) outcome involving UNDP No 4.** ***By 2020, growth and development are inclusive, sustainable, increase resilience to climate change and disasters, and contribute to enhanced food, energy and water security and natural resource management.*** | | | | |
| **Related strategic plan outcome 5. *Countries are able to reduce the likelihood of conflict and lower the risk of natural disasters, including from climate change.*** | | | | |
| ***1. Number of atolls where natural resource management is practiced***  Baseline:1  Target: 3 (2020)  ***2. Extent to which national and subnational disaster and climate risk management setups are functioning***  Baseline: Not adequately  Target: Partially (2020) | Source: Environment status  reports  Gazetted resource management policies  Frequency: Annually  Responsibilities: Ministry of Environment and Energy, Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture  Source : Gazetted legal  instruments,  Progress report of NDMC on status of subnational disaster management committees  Status of sectoral disaster management plans and community disaster management plans  Frequency: Annually  Responsibilities: National Disaster Management Centre, Ministry of Environment and Energy | 2.1 Effective institutional, legislative and policy frameworks in place to enhance the implementation of disaster and climate risk management measures at national and sub-national levels  *2.1.1 Extent to which disaster risk reduction and/or integrated disaster risk reduction and adaptation plans, and dedicated institutional frameworks and multi-stakeholder coordination* *mechanisms, are in place*  Baseline: 1 (2015)  Target: 2 (2018)  Data source: Project progress reports, NDMC and officially-approved plans/mechanisms, MEE, NDMC.  Frequency: Annually  *2.1.2 Existence and effectiveness of legislative and/or regulatory provisions at national and subnational levels for managing disaster and climate risks.*  Baseline: Not adequately  Target: Moderately (2018)  Data source: Official information on enactment of disaster management bill, project progress reports, assessment reports  Frequency: Annual progress reports and assessment reports whenever released.  2.2 Mechanisms in place to assess natural and man-made risks at national and subnational levels  *2.2.1 Existence and effectiveness of standardized damage and loss accounting systems with sex and age disaggregated data collection and analysis, including gender analysis*  Baseline: Does not exist (2015)  Target: Partially (2020)  Data source: Project progress reports, NDMC.  Frequency: Annually  *2.2.2* Number *of plans and programmes that are informed by multi-hazard national and subnational disaster and climate risk assessments, taking into account differentiated impacts (e.g., on women and men).*  Baseline: 4 (2015)  Target: 10 (2020)  Data source: Project progress reports  Frequency: Annually  2.3 Gender-responsive disaster and climate risk management is integrated into development planning and budgetary frameworks of key sectors (e.g., water, agriculture, health and education).  *2.3.1 Number of national/subnational development and key sectoral plans being implemented that explicitly address disaster and/or climate risk management, disaggregated by those that are gender responsive*  Baseline: 1 (2015)  Target: 4 (2020)  Data source: Project progress reports, NDMC, MEE, MFA  Frequency: Annually  2.4 Scaled up action on climate change adaptation and mitigation across sectors funded and implemented.  *2.4.1 Extent to which climate finance is being accessed by government and non-government institutions.*  Baseline: Partially (2015)  Target: Largely (2020)  Data source: Projects signed by Government with climate finance, annual reports published by governments on activities implemented  Frequency: Based on release of reports and project documents  *2.4.2 Extent to which there is a strengthened system in place to access, deliver, monitor, report on and verify climate finance.*  Baseline: Not adequately (2015)  Target: Partially (2018)  Data source: Projects signed by Government with climate finance, annual reports published by governments on activities implemented  Frequency: Based on release of reports and project documents  *2.4.3 Extent of improvement of implementation of comprehensive measures – plans, strategies, policies, programmes and budgets – to achieve low-emission and climate-resilient development objectives.*  Baseline: Very partially (2015)  Target: Partially (2020)  Data source: Project reports, official government plans and strategies published, verifiable reports from other United Nations and national institutions  Frequency: Annually, and based on publication of government and other United Nations documents  2.5 Preparedness systems in place to effectively address the consequences of and response to natural hazards (geo-physical and climate related) and man-made crisis at all levels of government and community  *2.5.1 Extent to which mechanisms exist at national and sub-national levels to prepare for and recover from disaster events with adequate financial and human resources, capacities and operating procedures*  Baseline: 7 (2015)  Target: 20 (2020)  Data source: Project progress reports, verifiable reports from other United Nations organizations and national institutions, response and recovery progress reports and plans from NDMC, and key non-government actors  Frequency: Annual progress reports and reports from United Nations and national organizations as they are released.  2.6 Inclusive, sustainable solutions adopted to achieve increased energy efficiency and universal modern energy access (especially off-grid renewable energy sources).  *2.6.1 Number of new development partnerships with funding for improved energy efficiency and/or sustainable energy solutions targeting underserved communities/groups and women*  Baseline: 0  Target: 5 (2018)  Data source: Agreements, memorandums of understandings, project progress reports  Frequency: Annually  2.7 Legal and regulatory frameworks, policies and institutions enabled to ensure the conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit-sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems, in line with international conventions and national legislation.  *2.7.1 Extent to which legal, policy and institutional frameworks are in place for conservation, sustainable use, access and benefit-sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems.*  Baseline: Very partially (2015)  Target: Partially (2020)  Data source: Government-published/gazetted laws, regulations and institutional setups; project progress reports.  Frequency: Annually  *2.7.2 Extent to which capacities to implement national and local plans for integrated water resources management have improved*  Baseline: Not improved (2015)  Target: Partially improved (2020)  Data Source: Ministry of Environment annual reports, project progress reports  Frequency: Annually  2.8 Solutions developed at national and subnational levels for sustainable management of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste  *2.8.1*  *Number of new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national and/or subnational level*  Baseline: 4 (2015)  Target: 15 (2020)  Data source: Signed agreements, memorandums of understanding and project reports.  Frequency: Annual progress reports and memorandums of understanding/agreements. | Ministry of Environment and Energy (MEE).  Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture.  National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC).  National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Treasury  Local Government Authority.  Laamu Atoll Council.  Island Councils of Laamu Atoll.  Utility Service Providers. | **Regular:**  600 |
| **Other:**  17,800 |



1. For the past two decades the average gross domestic product share of tourism has remained high, at almost 30 per cent. The share of fisheries, however, has dropped from 22 per cent of GDP in 1978 to less than 3 per cent in 2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Gender Inequality Index in Malé is the lowest in Maldives, at 0.232. The rest of the country has higher values, peaking at 0.741 in Thaa and Laamu Atolls, where men hold all the seats in parliament and only 15.5 per cent of women have at least secondary education. (National human development report, 2014) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Assessing Cost of Climate and Adaptation in South Asia (Asian Development Bank), June 2014 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Maldivian Survey of Democracy and Political Culture 2013, Transparency Maldives [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. World Bank governance indicators remained fairly static during 2008-2013. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Asia Foundation, 2012 [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. “Women face legal obstacles to their participation in development […] including property rights, inheritance and provision of legal evidence”. (National MDG report, 2010) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. **A** coalition of small-island, low-lying coastal countries that share similar development challenges, especially their vulnerability to the adverse climate change effects. Maldives is chair in 2015-2016. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. The yearly statistics book, 2012, of the Department of Judicial Administration shows no convictions on rape charges. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)