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**Country programmes and related matters**

**Country programme document for Maldives (2022–2026)**

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## I. UNDP within the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework

1. Maldives is an upper-middle-income country, with a 2019 Human Development Index of 0.74,<sup>1</sup> placing the country in the high human development category. Since 1990 mean years of schooling have increased by 3 years, life expectancy by 17.4 years and gross national income by 132 per cent. The population is projected to reach 568,362 by the end of 2021.<sup>2</sup> High-end tourism is an engine of rapid economic growth, contributing to improvements in socioeconomic indicators, and economic growth averaged 5.1 per cent annually from 2000 to 2019.<sup>3</sup> Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita stands at \$18,914 as of 2019.<sup>4</sup>

2. Deep-rooted socioeconomic, structural and systemic vulnerabilities have undermined the inclusiveness, sustainability and resilience of development gains. Suboptimal economic diversification, the dominance of ‘enclave’ tourism offering limited employment and opportunities for locals to integrate into value chains, a weak environment for private sector growth and inadequate investments in human capital have hampered equitable development.<sup>5</sup> Geographical dispersion limits opportunities for economies of scale, and providing services in the country’s outer islands is costly.

3. As a small island developing state (SIDS), Maldives is among the countries most vulnerable to climate change. With 80 per cent of its coral islands less than 1 metre above sea level, it faces existential threats from global warming, sea level rise and climate and geophysical hazards.<sup>6</sup> Maldives relies heavily on imported fossil fuels.<sup>7</sup> The biggest sources of greenhouse gas emissions are electricity generation (67 per cent) and transportation (25 per cent).<sup>8</sup>

4. Maldives has progressed on some Sustainable Development Goals (the Goals). It has reduced poverty (which affected 2.1 per cent of the population in 2019; the 2020 estimate is 7.2 per cent),<sup>9</sup> improved health and well-being, and raised levels of education.<sup>10</sup> The Multidimensional Poverty Index<sup>11</sup> revealed that 28 per cent of the population experienced poverty prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, which exacerbated inequalities between people living in the capital, Malé, and atoll islands, and between men and women.<sup>12</sup> A third of the country’s population is foreigners from neighbouring countries,<sup>13</sup> and 53 per cent of the population living in Malé is migrants.<sup>14</sup>

5. COVID-19 threatens to reverse the country’s progress towards poverty alleviation.<sup>15</sup> It affected health and socioeconomic conditions, brought the tourism industry to a standstill, weakened the country’s economy and increased food insecurity due to global supply chain disruptions. The government relied on external borrowing to finance recovery efforts, leading to high levels of debt, and the economy contracted an unprecedented 29 per cent in 2020.<sup>16</sup> This underscored the urgency of re-imagining tourism and diversifying the economy. COVID-19 also highlighted the need for more effective social protection and wealth distribution systems. The government’s quick response to the pandemic included provision of income support for vulnerable groups and micro, small and medium-size enterprises (MSMEs) and establishment of emergency shelter and repatriation programmes to reduce the impact on migrants. As of

<sup>1</sup> UNDP, ‘Briefing notes for countries on the 2020 Human Development Report – Maldives’, <http://hdr.undp.org/sites/default/files/Country-Profiles/MDV.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> Maldives Bureau of Statistics, <http://statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/WPD-2021.pdf>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/648151/cps-mld-2020-2024.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> UNDP, Maldives human development indicators, <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/MDV>.

<sup>5</sup> Asian Development Bank, ‘Country Partnership Strategy’, September 2020.

<sup>6</sup> Asian Development Bank, ‘Multi-hazard Risk Atlas of the Maldives’, March 2020.

<sup>7</sup> Ministry of Environment, ‘Updated Nationally Determined Contribution of the Maldives’, 2020.

<sup>8</sup> Ministry of Environment, ‘Maldives First Biennial Update Report’, 2019.

<sup>9</sup> World Bank, ‘Maldives Development Update: A digital dawn’, April 2021.

<sup>10</sup> Ministry of Environment and Energy, ‘Voluntary National Review’, July 2017.

<sup>11</sup> [statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Multidimensional-Poverty-in-Maldives-2020\\_4th-june.pdf](http://statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Multidimensional-Poverty-in-Maldives-2020_4th-june.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> UNDP Maldives, ‘Maldives Human Development Report’, 2014.

<sup>13</sup> Maldives Bureau of Statistics, ‘World Population Day’, July 2021.

<sup>14</sup> Maldives Bureau of Statistics, ‘Household Income Expenditure Survey’, 2019.

<sup>15</sup> UNDP Maldives, ‘Rapid Livelihood Assessment’, August 2020.

<sup>16</sup> Ministry of Finance. Quarterly update, Q1-2021.

September 2021, the country had vaccinated over 84 per cent of eligible populations, providing free vaccination for all migrants. It is working to revive primary health care service delivery with quality, equity and better access.

6. There is potential to strengthen democratic processes and enhance accountability, transparency and justice for all. Internal migration and urban poverty have compounded socioeconomic inequalities. Violent extremist ideologies pose a significant threat to development gains, the root causes of which are manifold and inter-connected.<sup>17</sup> Multifaceted interventions are needed to prevent violent extremism and hate speech. The United Nations Human Rights Council reviewed the country's human rights record under the Universal Periodic Review mechanism in 2021, and Maldives fully accepted 187 of its 259 recommendations. Strengthening capacities of civil society and protecting civic space remain critical to ensuring sustainability in areas including gender equality and human rights.

7. Women occupy 4.6 per cent of seats in Parliament. Their labour force participation rate is 45.6 per cent, but men's gross national income per capita (\$1,529) is triple that of women's (\$527).<sup>18</sup> COVID-19 is expected to push more women out of jobs permanently.<sup>19</sup> Intimate partner violence is high, with 42.4 per cent of ever-married women aged 15-49 having experienced some form of abuse.<sup>20</sup> Young people, women, migrant workers, persons with disability and older persons have a limited role in policy formulation, increasing their risk of remaining vulnerable, disadvantaged and at risk of mental health conditions or addiction.<sup>21</sup> Some social protection schemes exist for single parents, foster parents and persons with disability, but reaching target beneficiaries has been challenging.<sup>22,23</sup>

8. The government's UNDP-supported Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2019-2023 articulates the principle of leaving no one behind and prioritizes the blue economy, dignified family, good governance and *Jazeera Dhiriulhun* (island life). The National Resilience and Recovery Plan 2020-2022 was developed in response to COVID-19, prioritizing key elements of SAP and identifying sector-specific strategies to diversify the economy, decentralize government and build resilience. United Nations efforts to support the formulation of a national planning act are a crucial step towards an inclusive, long-term national development plan (NDP).

9. The country programme evaluation in 2019 recommended an adaptive management approach to respond to likely shifts in the political environment and focus on interventions with potential for cross-party support, given the political and human rights context at that time. The evaluation also recommended matching programming ambitions with the limited resources available so UNDP can align its comparative advantage with national priorities, while focusing on addressing the gender gap.

10. In response to COVID-19, UNDP re-programmed its support to the government's health and social sectors. It emphasized legal aid and protection for women and migrant workers, continuity of essential public services, economic livelihoods, food security and supporting MSMEs, while ensuring environmental sustainability. UNDP heavily invested in digital technologies and other innovations across sectors, laying the foundation for an integrated programme offer built around UNDP's six signature solutions.<sup>24</sup> Building on the SDG Fund's joint programme with the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and World Health Organization (WHO) to develop a national financing strategy for the 2030 agenda, UNDP will further engage in joint efforts to strengthen

<sup>17</sup> UNDP, 'Youth Vulnerability Assessment', February 2019.

<sup>18</sup> UNDP, 'Human Development Report 2020'.

<sup>19</sup> UNDP Maldives, 'Rapid Livelihood Assessment', August 2020.

<sup>20</sup> National Bureau of Statistics, 'Demographic and Health Survey', 2017.

<sup>21</sup> UNDP, 'Youth Vulnerability Assessment', February 2019.

<sup>22</sup> International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, 'COVID-19 and social protection in South Asia: Maldives', [https://ipcig.org/pub/eng/OP451\\_COVID\\_19\\_and\\_social\\_protection\\_in\\_South\\_Asia\\_Maldives.pdf](https://ipcig.org/pub/eng/OP451_COVID_19_and_social_protection_in_South_Asia_Maldives.pdf)

<sup>23</sup> London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, 'Impact of the Disability Allowance in the Maldives', <https://doi.org/10.17037/DATA.00001698>.

<sup>24</sup> Integrated responses to development in the areas of poverty, governance, gender, resilience to crises, environment and energy.

disaster and climate change adaptation at the local level. It will also work with the Global Fund for Coral Reefs (GFCR) on local financing mechanisms.

11. In supporting United Nations efforts led by the Resident Coordinator, and while positioning itself in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2022-2026 (UNSDCF) as an integrator of the Goals, UNDP will draw on its comparative advantage to address complex development challenges requiring coordinated interventions. Aligned with the UNSDCF's priorities,<sup>25</sup> UNDP will add value in developing social and economic policies, promoting inclusive governance systems and strengthening climate and disaster resilience. It will anchor its innovation expertise through its Accelerator Lab and regional economist network (in conjunction with UNDP's Global Policy Network) to scan development trends, scale up grassroots solutions and experiment with pilot projects. UNDP will strengthen partnerships with United Nations entities, encouraging collaboration across thematic areas and leading the COVID-19 socioeconomic response. Pursuant to the Secretary-General's recommendation, UNDP has scaled up its SIDS offer supporting climate action, blue economy, digital transformation and innovative financing, while adopting common approaches for United Nations collaboration.

12. In line with the UNSDCF's theory of change, the country programme theory of change is built on the premise that *if* inclusive, sustainable and thriving livelihoods are in place, and *if* an anticipatory and accountable government is functioning for and by the people, and *if* natural resources are managed in a sustainable, climate-friendly and disaster-resilient manner, *then* the people of Maldives – especially the most vulnerable – will benefit from an inclusive, resilient, healthy, tolerant and skilled society. There, people will meaningfully participate in and equitably benefit from sustainable socioeconomic development and environmental protection, leading to achievement of the Goals. While managing risks and assumptions, this requires flexible development solutions that will (a) lead to structural transformation supporting a sustainable, inclusive and equitable future; (b) prioritize gender equality and ensure no one is left behind, working from a human rights approach; and (c) build resilience.

## II. Programme priorities and partnerships

13. Based on national and UNSDCF priorities, building on achievements of the previous programme, and drawing on recommendations from evaluations, studies and lessons learned from the COVID response, UNDP will focus on enhancing the capabilities of rights-holders and duty-bearers to make sustainable and equitable choices, especially targeting marginalized and vulnerable populations.

14. As a trusted development partner in Maldives, UNDP's comparative advantage has been its ability to form solid partnerships with a broad range of stakeholders, across all levels of government, civil society, academia, the private sector and local and global networks. Through national and joint consultations with stakeholders, including UNICEF and UNFPA and with government endorsement, UNDP identified three priorities for the new country programme (described below). Enabling an adaptable work force (future proofing), decentralization and resilience building underpin UNDP's work, while digitalization, data-driven solutions and development financing support accelerating achievement of results. Support will be provided for equitable COVID-19 recovery, including reversing its deleterious effects on gender equality. UNDP will engage in a United Nations system-wide programme for strengthening gender equality and empowerment of women, and will undertake the Gender Equality Seal initiative to contribute to transformative results. Inclusion of youth and people with disability will be prioritized.

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<sup>25</sup> (1) Shared prosperity and inclusive human development for all; (2) sustainable and climate-resilient environment; (3) gender-responsive, rights-based and accountable governance and justice.

**Programme priority 1: Inclusive, sustainable and thriving livelihoods** (supporting UNSDCF outcome 1). Key results:

15. *Development of policies for economic diversification, inclusivity, private sector engagement and investment.* UNDP will support the development of an economic diversification strategy (aligned with a blue economy framework) and of policies and strategies to increase labour force participation of marginalized groups, such as women and people with disability. In collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), UNICEF, UNFPA, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNDP will support the government to establish a robust labour market information and monitoring system with high-quality data for evidence-based policies. Assistance will be provided to national efforts to formulate an economic census survey and undertake the nation's first labour force survey.

16. *Strengthened blue, green and digital value chains.* UNDP will support skills-building for women, young people, people with disability and those recovering from addiction to acquire technologies and digital and extension services so they can meaningfully contribute to blue, green and digital value chains. UNDP will work with United Nations partners as well as ministries, island councils, civil society organizations, academia, international financial institutions (IFIs) and the private sector at national and subnational levels to leverage data-driven solutions and innovation platforms focusing on inclusive livelihood opportunities for women and men.

**Programme priority 2: Sustainable natural resource management and climate resilience** (supporting UNSDCF outcome 3). Key results:

17. *Reduction in carbon footprint in priority sectors.* UNDP will assist the government to fulfil its commitment to the Paris Agreement and implementation of its nationally determined contribution and net zero emissions target by 2030. UNDP will promote integration of renewable energy in tourism, fisheries and the agriculture sector, along with renewable energy innovations in the private sector and households. Data analysis of these sectors will inform low-carbon policies to support a transition towards practices that are market oriented and environmentally sustainable. Interventions will incubate a new generation of MSMEs, focusing on women entrepreneurs. UNDP will support the government's climate education and public awareness initiatives for responding to climate change. Access to sustainable financing will be facilitated to improve sustainable environmental practices to protect ecosystems.

18. *Enhanced capacities to integrate disaster risk management (DRM) and climate adaptation and mitigation into development planning.* UNDP will support the government to advance its national adaptation planning process to address medium- and long-term priorities for climate change adaptation. This includes strengthening national/subnational capacities for planning that is evidence informed, gender responsive, inclusive and participatory, incorporating as core principles land-use planning that integrates disaster risk reduction as well as climate adaptation and mitigation. National information systems will be strengthened to collect and analyse environmental data for informed development planning. Technical support will be provided for reporting on climate change and disaster risk to international treaties and protocols. UNDP will collaborate with UNICEF, the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and WHO to provide technical support in disaster preparedness and response, and in health emergencies.

19. *Strengthened policies, regulatory frameworks and capacities for sustainable management of water and waste resources.* A systems-based approach to water conservation will be promoted, focusing on women's role as beneficiaries and environment managers, and ensuring their participation in decision-making. UNDP will support the adoption and implementation of policies based on circular economy principles for integrated solid waste management. Regulatory and policy frameworks for sound management, monitoring and disposal of chemicals, persistent organic pollutants and waste will be strengthened. Formulation

of national policies and plans to address marine litter and microplastics will be supported. Institutional strengthening of the National Ozone Unit will continue.

**20. *Increased engagement of civil society organizations, communities and individuals on climate action.*** UNDP will promote sustainable lifestyles, raising public knowledge on the relationship between human behaviours and the environment, disasters and climate change. Behavioural change research will be used to tailor communication strategies, and deep listening methodologies will be implemented to help understand structural barriers and social norms. UNDP will work with the government, UNICEF, UNFPA, WHO and IFIs to mainstream climate change education in school curricula and with youth groups to amplify voices on climate action. Through the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme (GEF-SGP), UNDP will accelerate local solutions supporting climate-resilient communities.

**Programme priority 3: Anticipatory and accountable governance for and by the people** (supporting UNSDCF outcome 4). Key results:

**21. *Strengthened capacities to effectively plan, finance and implement development policies and strategies.*** UNDP will strengthen its support for national planning, including a national planning act and NDP. This will include capacity building for national and local government authorities (LGAs), local councils and women’s development committees (WDCs). UNDP will technically support and advise on resource allocations in results-based, evidence-informed, gender-responsive, resilient and forward-looking local development planning, and effective management of human and financial resources. It will work to integrate these efforts with subnational climate mitigation and adaptation capacity-building under priority 2. With support from United Nations partners, UNDP will facilitate government efforts to establish and implement an integrated national financing framework to mobilize public and private financing for achievement of the Goals; use of diagnostics such as development finance assessments; and partnerships with the private sector, development partners and IFIs. It will also catalyse climate-responsive investments through budget-tagging, investor mapping and innovative financing instruments to expand opportunities for action on the blue economy and climate change.

**22. *Digitalization of public administration and service provision in an efficient and equitable manner.*** UNDP will reinvigorate its support to the government, started during COVID-19, to enable digital access to justice and business continuity. Reflecting the increasing demand for digital transformation, UNDP will help to build inclusive and ethical digital societies and bridge socioeconomic inequalities. This entails ensuring that digital services are affordable, accessible and relevant for all, and that communities and institutions have the skills to use them.

**23. *Strengthened rule of law, human rights and access to protection and justice.*** UNDP will support the implementation of effective legal aid mechanisms, with attention to continuing partnerships with civil society organizations in providing pro-bono legal aid for victims of sexual- and gender-based violence, and for migrant workers concerning labour rights. Learning from the legal and justice sector baseline study and the ‘rights side of life’ study, and working with duty-bearers, rights-holders and United Nations partners, efforts will be undertaken to strengthen access to justice, protection of human rights and establishment of an independent and impartial justice sector. UNDP will support the government in judicial reform, including addressing unequal gender representation in the judiciary.

**24. *Inclusive civic space and effective participation of citizens.*** UNDP will seek to increase citizen voice and participation to strengthen governance by establishing stronger linkages among government, civil society and communities, and by promoting inclusive policymaking mechanisms. The emphasis will be on incorporating voices of excluded groups, especially women, persons with disability, migrant workers and people living outside Malé. In line with the United Nations Maldives disability inclusion strategy, UNDP will focus on empowering persons with disability through leadership programmes, social protection mechanisms and policy advice. Building on its engagement with the government in achieving reservation of 33 per cent of seats for women in local councils, UNDP will continue to emphasize women’s political participation. It will capitalize on progress made in initiating unprecedented dialogues within and between political parties. The internal structure of political parties, especially

women's wings, will be strengthened, and structural and cultural barriers preventing women from contesting elections and achieving political leadership will be addressed. UNDP will support implementation of the national action plan on preventing violent extremism, focusing on empowering young people and women as peacebuilders and change agents, coupled with a United Nations system-wide effort across the country.

25. To successfully deliver the programme, UNDP will partner with the government, civil society, development actors and the private sector. In addition to fostering a UNSDCF common agenda with resident and non-resident organizations, UNDP will contribute to country team coherence across policy, programme and operations. South-South and triangular cooperation will be facilitated through technical assistance and sharing of knowledge and experience, including on digitalization and COVID-19 response.

26. UNDP will further apply its experiences with SIDS and countries in the Asia Pacific region. This includes experience with the Global Centre for Technology Innovation and Sustainable Development in Singapore, for support of data management to the Maldives Bureau of Statistics (MBS) through South-South and triangular cooperation. Partnership with UN Volunteers will be explored to tap into volunteer expertise. Coalitions with bilateral entities and IFIs will be pursued. Bilateral support from Australia, China, the European Union, Japan and the United Kingdom will be complemented by collaboration with emerging partners. UNDP will continue to work with vertical funds including the Adaptation Fund, GEF, Green Climate Fund and blended financing mechanisms such as GFCR to catalyse private investments, while expanding its partnership with the Multi-Partner Trust Fund. Partners for each outcome are shown in the Annex.

27. Given the range of interventions involving the private sector, a private sector engagement strategy will be developed to help nurture a common agenda for achievement of the Goals. Partnerships with civil society will be strengthened through exploration of alternative and sustainable financing mechanisms.

### **III. Programme and risk management**

28. 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 are prescribed in the Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures and the Internal Control Framework.

29. The programme will be nationally executed. If necessary, national execution may be replaced by direct execution for part or all the programme to enable response to force majeure. The harmonized approach to cash transfers will be used in a coordinated fashion with other United Nations organizations to manage financial risks. Cost definitions and classifications for programme and development effectiveness will be charged to the concerned projects.

30. The theory of change identified several risks that could affect programme implementation and development objectives: economic crisis, climate change, protracted COVID-19 pandemic, continued political polarization, lack of shared vision for national development across the political spectrum, shortfall in financial resources, lack of access to quality data, natural disasters and delayed implementation, leading to diminishing trust and affecting achievement of the Goals.

31. UNDP will strengthen risk identification, mitigation and diversification procedures throughout the project life cycles in line with UNDP's social and environmental standards and accountability mechanisms, while ensuring a robust pipeline of projects. Risk mitigation and management arrangements will be built into the programme as per UNDP's enterprise risk management policy. Assurance activities including micro-assessments, spot checks and audits will be conducted in line with the harmonized approach to cash transfers. Systems will ensure holistic approaches to complex problems including response to emerging trends. Frequent

monitoring of the political economy and operating context will inform programme modifications.

32. To mitigate the impact of political cycles on the programme, UNDP will work closely with a broad spectrum of stakeholders. In addition to conventional partners in the government, civil society and the private sector, this includes political parties, religious scholars, WDCs, collectives, academic institutions, think tanks and minority groups. Participation of groups marginalized because of geographic location, gender, disability, income, education, migration status, race, health conditions or any other excluded minorities will be ensured through targeted engagement. Digital solutions and platforms will be leveraged to ensure efficient programme implementation. If resource mobilization opportunities are limited, UNDP will focus on policy advisory services informed by selected area-based interventions.

#### **IV. Monitoring and evaluation**

33. UNDP will partner with United Nations organizations and data-generating entities such as the MBS and the Ministry for National Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (MNPHI) to strengthen national capacity for monitoring achievement of the Goals while updating selected global indices such as the planetary-pressure-adjusted Human Development Index, inequality-adjusted Human Development Index, Gender Social Norms Index and material footprint per person. Innovative methods will be used for monitoring, and to support evidence-based real-time decision-making and anticipatory governance, using reliable gender-disaggregated data. At least 15 per cent of the budget will be allocated for gender-specific results across the programme. The gender marker will be used for integration of gender equality, with 70 per cent of active projects having gender markers. At least 5 per cent of programme resources will be allocated for monitoring and evaluation and communication of results.

34. The country office will establish a protocol for results-based monitoring and evaluation and report it at project and portfolio level. The evaluation plan will be closely monitored and adequately resourced. Recommendations and lessons learned from independent evaluations/assessments will strengthen dialogue with partners, and will be utilized to revisit project design and make course corrections.



**Annex. Results and resources framework for Maldives (2022-2026)**

<b>NATIONAL PRIORITY:</b> Strategic Action Plan sector – Blue economy; Sustainable Development Goals 1, 9, 14				
<b>UNDP OUTCOME 1 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 1):</b> By 2026, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work				
<b>RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME:</b> Outcome 1 – Structural transformation accelerated, particularly green, inclusive and digital transitions				
<b>UNSDCF outcome indicators</b>	<b>Data source, frequency of data collection, responsibilities</b>	<b>Indicative country programme outputs</b>	<b>Major partners</b>	<b>Estimated cost by outcome (USD)</b>
<p><b>1. Proportion of population living below the national poverty line, by sex, age, employment status</b>  <i>Baseline:</i>                      Male: 8.1%; female: 8.2%                      Children (0-14): 10.1%                      Working age population (15-64): 7.5%                      Elderly (65+): 6.2%  <i>Target:</i> Reduce by 50%</p> <p><b>2. Unemployment rate, by sex and persons with disability</b>  <i>Baseline</i> (2019): Both sexes: 5.3 (2019)                      Male: 5.6, female: 4.8                      Persons with disability, both sexes: 7.1%                      Male: 4.2%, female: 10.2%  <i>Target:</i> Under 5% overall</p> <p><b>3. Proportion of youth (aged 15–24) not in education, employment or training</b>  <i>Baseline</i> (2019): Both sexes: 29%; male, 15%; female, 41%  <i>Target:</i> Below 10%</p> <p><b>4. Manufacturing added value as a proportion of GDP</b>  <i>Baseline</i> (2019): 2.20  <i>Target</i> (2030): 4.4%</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> HIES  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p>	<p><b>Output 1.1. Government capacities are strengthened to formulate and implement policies that promote economic diversification and facilitate private sector engagement and investment</b></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.1.1:</i> Number of policies implemented to support inclusive livelihoods, private sector growth and innovation [SPIRRF* 4.2.2]  <i>Baseline:</i> 0  <i>Target:</i> 2  <i>Source:</i> MED, Civil Service Commission  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually                      *Strategic Plan Integrated Results and Resources Framework</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ministry of Economic Development (MED)</li> <li>• Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology (MoECCT)</li> <li>• Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture (MoFMRA)</li> <li>• Ministry of Tourism (MoT)</li> <li>• Ministry of Higher Education</li> <li>• Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services (MGFSS)</li> <li>• MBS</li> <li>• Maldives Pension Administration Office</li> <li>• Civil Service Commission</li> <li>• Maldives Polytechnic</li> <li>• Business Centre Corporation (BCC)</li> <li>• Maldives National Skilling Authority</li> <li>• LGAs</li> <li>• Local councils</li> <li>• WDCs</li> <li>• Civil society organizations</li> <li>• ILO</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• UNFPA</li> <li>• UN Women</li> <li>• IOM</li> <li>• UNESCAP</li> <li>• United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Regular:</b>  <b>\$360,000</b></p> <p><b>Other:</b>  <b>\$7,730,000</b></p>
	<p><b>Source:</b> HIES/Census  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p>	<p><b>Indicator 1.1.2:</b> Status of implementation of BCC’s strategic action plan for MSME development [SPIRRF 1.3]  <i>Baseline:</i> Action plan developed  <i>Target:</i> Action plan fully operationalized  <i>Source:</i> BCC  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p>		
	<p><b>Source:</b> Census/HIES  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p>	<p><b>Output 1.2. Innovative development solutions ensure inclusive and meaningful livelihoods, contributing to blue, green and digital value chains for sustainable economic growth</b></p> <p><i>Indicator 1.2.1:</i> Number of partners applying innovative, data-driven solutions and inclusivity criteria to ensure meaningful livelihoods for all [SPIRRF E.2.2]  <i>Baseline:</i> 0  <i>Target:</i> 15 – Ministries, 5; island councils, 5; civil society organizations, 3; private sector, 1; academia, 1  <i>Source:</i> MED, MOF  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p>		
	<p><b>Source:</b> Economic update reports  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS, Maldives Monetary Authority</p>	<p><i>Indicator 1.2.2:</i> Number of new enterprises contributing to lucrative value chains in blue, green and digital economies. [SPIRRF 4.1.1]  <i>Baseline:</i> 0  <i>Target:</i> 2,000 (70% led by women, youth, recovering addicts, persons with disability)</p>		

<p><b>7. Women’s labour force participation rate</b>  <i>Baseline (2019): 45.6%</i>  <i>Target: Above 60%</i></p>	<p><b>Source:</b> HIES  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p>	<p><i>Source:</i> United Nations, MoT, AGRONat, polytechnic, MED and schools;  <i>Frequency:</i> Midterm evaluation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</li> <li>• United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)</li> <li>• World Trade Organization</li> <li>• International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)</li> <li>• World Bank</li> <li>• Asian Development Bank</li> <li>• Islamic Development Bank</li> </ul>	
<p><b>NATIONAL PRIORITY:</b> SAP sectors – <i>Jazeera Dhiriulhun</i> and blue economy; Goals 1, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14</p>				
<p><b>UNDP OUTCOME 2 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 3):</b> By 2026, national and subnational institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner</p>				
<p><b>RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME:</b> Outcome 3 – Resilience built to respond to systemic uncertainty and risk</p>				
<p><b>1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services by sex</b>  <i>Baseline (2019): 61.7%</i>  <i>Target: 85%</i></p> <p><b>2. Renewable energy share of total final energy consumption</b>  <i>Baseline (2018): 4%</i>  <i>Target (2023): 24%</i></p> <p><b>3. Proportion of urban solid waste regularly collected and with adequate final discharge out of total generated by cities</b>  <i>Baseline: 0%</i>  <i>Target: 30%</i></p> <p><b>5. Existence of a gender-sensitive and integrated policy/strategy/plan that increases Maldives’ ability to adapt to climate change and foster climate</b></p>	<p><b>Source:</b> Household income expenditure survey (HIES), progress reports on national water and sewerage strategic plan  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS, MoECCT, MNPHI, NDMA</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Goals data update (SDU), State of the Environment report.  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS, MoECCT</p> <p><b>Source:</b> SDU; State of the Environment report.  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS, MoECCT</p> <p><b>Source:</b> SDU  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p>	<p><b>Output 2.1. Enabling environment and multisector engagement for carbon footprint reduction in priority sectors</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.1:</b> Number of sectors integrating and implementing gender-sensitive sustainable practices, policies and strategies [SPIRRF 1.1.2]  <i>Baseline: 0</i>  <i>Target: 7</i>  <i>Source:</i> MoECCT  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.2:</b> Percentage of government sectors prioritized within nationally determined contributions for climate change adaptation and mitigation in planning, budgeting and financing mechanisms [SPIRRF 1.1.1]  <i>Baseline: 0%</i>  <i>Target: 100%</i>  <i>Source:</i> MoECCT  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Output 2.2. Government institutions at national/subnational levels have enhanced capacities to integrate DRM and climate adaptation and mitigation into development planning</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.2.1:</b> Number of councils with island development plans incorporating evidenced-based, gender-sensitive, climate-resilient disaster risk reduction strategies and enhanced protection, governance and management of terrestrial and marine ecosystems [SPIRRF 1.1.1]</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President’s Office</li> <li>• MoECCT</li> <li>• MoFMRA</li> <li>• MED</li> <li>• MoT</li> <li>• Ministry of Transport</li> <li>• MNPHI</li> <li>• National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)</li> <li>• BCC</li> <li>• SME Development Finance Corporation</li> <li>• AgroNat</li> <li>• Fenaka Corporation Limited</li> <li>• State Electric Company Limited)</li> <li>• Waste Management Corporation Limited</li> <li>• LGAs</li> <li>• Local councils</li> <li>• WDCs</li> <li>• Civil society organizations</li> <li>• UNESCAP</li> <li>• UNDRR</li> <li>• UNEP</li> </ul>	<p><b>Regular:</b>  <b>\$360,000</b></p> <p><b>Other:</b>  <b>\$34,890,000</b></p>

<p><b>resilience and low greenhouse gas development without threatening food production</b>  <i>Baseline:</i> Partially established  <i>Target:</i> Fully established and partially operationalized</p> <p><b>6. Proportion of national exclusive economic zones managed using ecosystem-based approaches</b>  <i>Baseline:</i> 0.0006%  <i>Target:</i> 20% of the exclusive economic zones under protected area management</p> <p><b>7. Status of phase-out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs) and hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) consumption</b>  <i>HCFC baseline:</i> 4.60 ozone depleting potential  <i>HFC baseline:</i> Average consumption 2020-2022 plus 65% of baseline  <i>Target:</i> Phase out HCFC consumption by 2025</p> <p><b>8. Percentage reduction of greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors that contribute to achievement of the national determined contribution targets.</b>  <i>Baseline:</i> No baseline required  <i>Target:</i> 50%</p> <p><b>9. Existence and implementation of national DRM plan in line with the Sendai Framework</b>  <i>Baseline:</i> None  <i>Target:</i> Plan adopted and being implemented</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> SDU  <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Montreal Protocol Article 7 report  <b>Responsibility:</b> MoETCC (National Ozone Unit)</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Biennial update reports  <b>Responsibility:</b> MoETCC</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Sendai Framework reporting  <b>Responsibility:</b> NDMA</p>	<p><i>Baseline:</i> 10  <i>Target:</i> 60  <i>Source:</i> LGAs  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.2.2:</b> Production frequency of disaggregated early warning alerts, disaster preparedness, and climate change information and data [SPIRRF 3.1.2]  <i>Baseline:</i> Non-existent  <i>Target:</i> Annual  <i>Source:</i> NDMA, MoECCT  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Output 2.3. Policies, regulatory frameworks and capacities at national/subnational levels strengthened for sustainable management of water and waste resources</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.3.1:</b> Existence of regulatory frameworks for sound management and disposal of chemicals, persistent organic pollutants and waste [SPIRRF 4.1.2]  <i>Baseline:</i> No  <i>Target:</i> Yes  <i>Source:</i> MoECCT  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.3.2:</b> Number of islands supported by UNDP practising gender-responsive, decentralized, sustainable waste and water management [SPIRRF 4.1.2]  <i>Baseline:</i> 12  <i>Target:</i> 52  <i>Source:</i> GEF-SGP, LGAs  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Output 2.4. Increased engagement of civil society organizations and individuals on climate action</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 2.4.1:</b> Number of civil society organizations implementing localized programmes on natural resource management, sustainable energy transitioning, conservation and related areas [SPIRRF 2.4.5]  <i>Baseline:</i> 77  <i>Target:</i> 152  <i>Source:</i> GEF-SGP  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.4.2:</b> Percentage of local councils with programmes for community education, awareness and engagement for climate change action [SPIRRF 4.1.1]  <i>Baseline:</i> Not available  <i>Target:</i> 20%  <i>Source:</i> LGAs  <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WHO</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> <li>• UNFPA</li> <li>• IFAD</li> <li>• UNDRR</li> <li>• World Bank</li> <li>• FAO</li> <li>• Multi-Partner Trust Fund</li> <li>• UNCDF</li> <li>• Government of Japan</li> <li>• Japan International Cooperation Agency</li> <li>• GEF</li> <li>• Green Climate Fund</li> <li>• GFCR</li> </ul>	
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<b>NATIONAL PRIORITY:</b> SAP sectors: <i>Jazeera Dhiriulhun</i> , caring state, dignified families and good governance; Goals 5, 17				
<b>UNDP OUTCOME 3 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 4):</b> By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law so people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy, and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society				
<b>RELATED STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOME:</b> Outcome 2 – No one left behind, centring on equitable access to opportunities and a rights-based approach to human agency and human development				
<p><b>1. Percentage of seats held by women in (a) national parliament and (b) local governments.</b> <i>Baseline</i> (2020): (a) 4.3% (2019), (b) 6% <i>Target</i>: (a) 33%, (b) 33%</p> <p><b>2. Existence of systems to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women's empowerment.</b> <i>Baseline</i>: No <i>Target</i>: Yes</p> <p><b>3. Percentage of women and men aged 15-49 who consider a husband to be justified in hitting or beating his wife for at least one of the specified reasons</b> <i>Baseline</i>: Women, 25.8%; men, 20.7 <i>Target</i>: Women, 15%; men, 10%</p> <p><b>5. Existence of a gender-responsive and inclusive mechanism to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development.</b> <i>Baseline</i>: No <i>Target</i>: Yes</p> <p><b>7. Percentage of accepted Universal Periodic Review recommendations implemented by the government</b> <i>Baseline</i>: 6% <i>Target</i>: 80%</p>	<p><b>Source:</b> Election records <b>Responsibility:</b> Elections Commission</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Tracking system <b>Responsibility:</b> MOF</p> <p><b>Source:</b> DHS <b>Responsibility:</b> MBS</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Annual report <b>Responsibility:</b> MNPFI</p> <p><b>Source:</b> Implementation updates <b>Responsibility:</b> Attorney General's Office (AGO)</p>	<p><b>Output 3.1. Government capacities at national/subnational levels are strengthened to effectively plan, finance and implement development policies and strategies</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 3.1.1.</b> Extent of alignment of local development plans with long-term national development vision (NDP) and extent to which they are gender sensitive and results based [SPIRRF-1.1.1] <i>Baseline</i>: Long-term NDP and mechanism not in place <i>Target</i>: Long-term NDP in place and local development plans are fully aligned, gender-responsive and results-based <i>Source</i>: MNHPI and LGAs <i>Frequency</i>: Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.1.2.</b> Number of financing frameworks, standards, instruments and mechanisms developed and resourced at national/subnational levels to mobilize public and private financing towards achieving Goals and facilitating climate action [SPIRRF 2.1.3] <i>Baseline</i>: National, 0; island, 0 <i>Target</i>: National, 1; island, 20 <i>Source</i>: Ministry of Finance <i>Frequency</i>: Annually</p> <p><b>Output 3.2. State capacities are enhanced to digitalize public administration and service provision in an efficient and equitable manner</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 3.2.1.</b> Number of interventions to implement the pillars<sup>26</sup> of national digital transformation [SPIRRF E.1.1] <i>Baseline</i>: 0 <i>Target</i>: 5 <i>Source</i>: UNDP, NCIT <i>Frequency</i>: Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.2.2.</b> Number of digital solutions for (a) delivery and monitoring of public service; (b) citizen engagement for monitoring; (c) access to and protection of information; (d) legal identity and civil registration [SPIRRF E.1.2] <i>Baseline</i>: 0 <i>Target</i>: 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• President's Office</li> <li>• MNPFI</li> <li>• Ministry of Finance</li> <li>• Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment</li> <li>• MoECCT</li> <li>• National Centre for Information Technology (NCIT)</li> <li>• Ministry of Home Affairs</li> <li>• Ministry of Health</li> <li>• MGFSS</li> <li>• AGO</li> <li>• LGAs</li> <li>• Local councils</li> <li>• WDCs</li> <li>• Department of Judicial Administration (DJA)</li> <li>• Judicial Service Commission</li> <li>• National Counter Terrorism Centre</li> <li>• Elections Commission</li> <li>• Human Rights Commission of the Maldives</li> <li>• MBS</li> <li>• Ombudsperson's Office on Transitional Justice</li> <li>• NCIT</li> <li>• Bar Council of Maldives (BCM)</li> <li>• Academia</li> <li>• Faith-based organizations</li> <li>• Civil society organizations</li> <li>• WHO</li> <li>• UNFPA</li> <li>• UNICEF</li> </ul>	<p><b>Regular:</b> <b>\$360,000</b></p> <p><b>Other:</b> <b>\$7,490,000</b></p>

<sup>26</sup> The five pillars of an inclusive, whole-of-society digital transformation as articulated by UNDP: Infrastructure, government, regulation, business, people.

		<p><i>Source:</i> UNDP, NCIT <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Output 3.3. Strengthened rule of law, human rights and access to protection and justice</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 3.3.1.</b> Number of gender-sensitive policy, legal and regulatory frameworks on rule of law, business, and human rights and justice developed and rolled out [SPIRRF 2.2.1] <i>Baseline:</i> 0 <i>Target:</i> 4 <i>Source:</i> DJA, BCM, AGO <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.3.2.</b> Number of people receiving legal aid including vulnerable groups [SPIRRF 2.2.3] <i>Baseline:</i> 150 (2020) <i>Target:</i> 10,000 <i>Source:</i> UNDP <i>Frequency:</i> Quarterly</p> <p><b>Output 3.4. Inclusive civic space and effective participation of citizens, especially vulnerable groups, in decision-making, and enhanced social cohesion.</b></p> <p><b>Indicator 3.4.1.</b> Proportion of women contesting in local and parliamentary elections [SPIRRF 6.2.1] <i>Baseline:</i> To be determined <i>Target:</i> 40% each <i>Source:</i> Election Commission <i>Frequency:</i> Per election cycle</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.4.2.</b> Number of at-risk individuals reached through social cohesion and prevention of violent extremism interventions annually [SPIRRF 3.2.2] <i>Baseline:</i> 85 (2020) <i>Target:</i> 1,000 (constituting 15% persons with disability, 15% youth at risk, 50% women) <i>Source:</i> UNDP <i>Frequency:</i> Annually</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime</li> <li>• ILO</li> <li>• IOM</li> <li>• United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights</li> <li>• UN Women</li> <li>• UNESCO</li> <li>• Government of Australia</li> <li>• Government of China</li> <li>• Government of Japan</li> <li>• Government of United Kingdom</li> <li>• European Union</li> </ul>	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<p><b>Regular: \$1,080,000</b> <b>Other: \$50,110,000</b> <b>Total: \$51,190,000</b></p>	