



# SAARC

Disaster Management Centre (IU)

**Country Name: Maldives**

## Climate Risk Management in a Changing Environment



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# Progress made in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

## State of International (Global) Commitments

- Maldives committed to phasing out single use plastics by 2023- ban on import of selected plastic products
- Plans to reduce 26% of emissions by 2030- various initiatives taken to increase renewable energy usage

# Progress made in Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)

## National Level Policies and Strategic Documents

Initial National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in 2001. It identified key vulnerabilities and proposed 12 high-priority adaptation and mitigation projects.

National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) was first adopted in 2007 with 12 targeted priority adaptation projects

In 2011, Maldives announced it had signed the world's first Strategic National Action Plan that integrates disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

In 2019, Maldives formulated a Strategic Action Plan 2019-2030, which interrogates climate adaptation and mitigation into all sectors

# Progress made in Policy to Support Climate Action

## Strategic Action Plan 2019 – 2023 (Maldives) : Climate relevant SAP priorities

**Fisheries and agriculture:** improved coral reef monitoring and conservation; gender and environment sensitive financial support to the growth and professionalization of smaller scale fisheries and agricultural production

**Tourism:** Extension of tourism in locally inhabited islands; implementation of Tourism Training program and Fund Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs): Targeted support to green SME initiatives

**Health:** Significantly improved health services overall, including regional hospitals and treatment centers; community health workers on all islands; better access to health services

**Housing:** climate proofing, e.g., in the context of new housing units for 20,000 families and support to tsunami affected families;

**Transport:** By 2023, 30% vehicle congestion reduction and 60% of population using public transport in Male; 90% of population with access to air and speed boat connectivity; operationalization of a public ferry service covering all islands

# Progress made in Policy to Support Climate Action

## Strategic Action Plan 2019 – 2023 (Maldives) : Climate relevant SAP priorities

**Environment:** introduction of user pays principle in biodiversity and ecosystem use; increase of protection and management of coral reefs, wetlands and mangroves; introduction of a comprehensive reef restoration and protection mechanism

**Clean energy:** introduction of green energy label; 20% increase of renewable energy in the national energy mix; reduction of 40 million liters of fuel used for electricity generation in 2018-2023

**Waste:** 50% less waste burned openly on all islands; phase out of single use plastic; 30% of waste management centers using solar energy for operation; new guidelines for chemical waste enforced throughout the country

**Water and sanitation:** provision to safe water supply and sanitation to all inhabited islands; 30% of water management facilities across the country using solar energy for operation

**Resilience:** 80% of local development plans are risk based; operationalization of emergency response teams on all inhabited islands; operationalization of an end to end early warning and emergency communication system; mobilization of USD 50 million climate finance through direct access and leveraging of at least USD 10 million private investment

# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

- Updated Nationally Determined Contribution to Paris Climate Agreement- In 2020
- Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF) is currently considering funding for an additional project that may address NAPA priorities. The majority of these proposed adaptation actions focus on risk reduction in coastal zones, as well as the building of infrastructure to reduce the vulnerability of coastal populations. Proposed project activities also address the areas of health, tourism, water, agriculture, nature and fisheries.
- Integration of Climate Change risks into the Maldives Safer Island Development Program,” explicitly addressing a priority need identified in Maldives’ NAPA.
- Identifies 12 priority adaptation actions in its NAPA, one of which is currently receiving funding through the LDCF: “Integration of future climate change scenarios into the Safer Island Strategy.” In addition, the
- Climate Trust Fund was established in December 2009 by the European Union and the World Bank for the Maldives. It aims to build a climate resilient economy through various mitigation and adaptation activities. The majority of projects are focused on policy formulation and integration, although the areas risk reduction, coastal zones, water, forestry and meteorology are also being addressed.

# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

### **Agriculture and Food security**

- Strengthen existing climate risk insurance mechanisms for building resilience against the loss of assets, livelihoods due to extreme events and enhancing relief efforts in the post disaster period taking into account national food and nutrition security.
- Scale-up investments in building public food reserves and stocks and expanding regional distribution mechanisms across the country as an adaptive measure to increase accessibility and availability to reduce risks of food shortages during extreme events and market irregularities.
- Promote research and development focusing on climate smart technologies and practices to address challenges facing the sector due to climate variability, seasonal changes and extreme events.
- Enhance capacity to implement climate smart and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies and practices towards reducing pest damages and pest induced crop losses to increase resilience on crop yields and food security.
- Facilitate and enhance access to finance via available national funds and other mechanisms including access to micro-credit, grants etc., to increase farmer's capacity to enhance food security and to increase investments on production systems



# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

### Infrastructure Resilience

- Enhancing the resilience and climate proofing of critical infrastructure such as airports, ports, power houses and other utilities etc.
- Enhancing the National Building Code to incorporate climate resilience including coastal infrastructure
- Increase the resiliency through better spatial planning and increased connectivity between the islands.
- Strengthen the legislative framework by establishment of a National Planning Act and Physical Planning Act. The legislation will facilitate integration of climate change into the development planning while considering the economies of scale for public services, land use planning and population consolidation.

# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

### Public Health

- Facilitate integration of climate change into the national health systems to ensure sustainable and climate resilient adaptation measures
- Enhance the institutional and human capacity to implement the existing vector surveillance programs covering all islands to address the emergence and re-emergence of such diseases and in implementing adequate food safety measures

# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

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# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

### Tourism

- Mainstream climate change risks into tourism sector policies to enhance resiliency and sustainability of the sector.
- Facilitate access to finance to increase the resilience and sustainable environmental management of the sector.
- Mainstream and promote clean energy and energy efficiency technologies to reduce the overall emission
- Establish an insurance mechanism to reduce the impacts on the tourism sector through risk sharing and risk management

# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

### Early Warning and Systematic Observation

- Promote research to understand the past and future climate trends and their associated impacts
- Continue strengthening and expansion of the meteorological network and early warning systems to cover the entire archipelago.
- Improve the climate and weather forecasting tools for decision making
- Strengthen the early warning systems and risk management tools

# Progress made in relevant SDGs

## Examples of multi-sectoral action to ensure climate action

### **Disaster Risk Reduction and Management**

- Strengthen the existing databases on disaster risk management
- Strengthen collaboration with the island communities to understand and obtain information on local impacts.
- Enhance mechanisms for collection of information on losses and damages
- Facilitate the promotion and participation of the public and private sector in the disaster insurance scheme

# Progress made in mainstreaming Climate Action in Development

## Good practices of climate change adaptation & mitigation

- Designated “protected areas” and “protected species”
- On going coral reef monitoring: 5 Tourist Resorts have currently signed MoUs with the Government to participate in coral reef monitoring which feed into the National Geographic Information System. The web enable data base has been designed and is operational.
- On going wetland conservation: 2 community based wetlands management and ecotourism plans have been prepared and endorsed by the communities and the local councils of Hithadhoo and Fuvahmulah.
- A water harvesting project with a reverse osmosis plant for desalinizing water, as back up, in selected islands – as a mitigation measure to water-stressed community

# Progress made in mainstreaming Climate Action in Development

## Good practices of climate change adaptation & mitigation

- Disaster Management Plans being formulated and Community Emergency Response Teams established at local level – 62 islands completed DM plans
- Scaling up Renewable Energy Programme- solar installations and waste to energy projects on going.
- Reduction in carbon emission: Target value 180 tCO<sub>2</sub> , Achieved 270 tCO<sub>2</sub>



# Thank you



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