

**United Nations Development
Assistance Framework
2016-2020,
Republic of Maldives**

**FINAL DRAFT
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DRAFT

Table of Contents

Foreword by the Government of the Republic of Maldives

Foreword by the Resident Coordinator of the United Nations in Maldives

Declaration of Commitment to the United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2016-2020

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Executive Summary

I. Introduction

- 1.1 A Defining Moment: Emerging Opportunities and Key Challenges
- 1.2 Maldives' Development Context
- 1.3 Collaborative Formulation of the UNDAF
- 1.4 UNDAF Principles and Key Strategies for Implementation

II. UNDAF Priority Areas and Outcomes/Outputs

- 2.1 Strategic Priority Area 1: Youth and Children
- 2.2 Strategic Priority Area 2: Gender
- 2.3 Strategic Priority Area 3: Governance
- 2.4 Strategic Priority Area 4: Environment and Climate Change

III. Estimated Resource Requirements

IV. Implementation, Management and Coordination Modalities

V. Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

VI. Commitments of the Government

Annex 1: UNDAF Results and Resources Framework

Acronyms and Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
CEDAW	Convention for the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
EMIS	Education Management Information System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GNI	Gross National Income
HDI	Human Development Index
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRBA	Human Rights Based Approach
ICTs	Information and Communications Technologies
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MIC	Middle Income Country
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NHDR	National Human Development Report
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OMT	Operations Management Team
PSG	Peer Support Group
QCPR	Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review
RBM	Results Based Management
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SPM	Strategic Prioritization Meeting
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UNAIDS	Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNCT	United Nations Country Team
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNCG	United Nations Communications Group
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNISDR	United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UN Women	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
WHO	World Health Organization

Executive Summary

This United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) is the strategic programme framework between the Government of the Republic of Maldives and the United Nations for the period 2016-2020. It draws on the full range of expertise and resources of the United Nations in the Maldives to deliver development results.

Overall, the UNDAF reinforces the partnership between the Government and the United Nations in support of national priorities and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for the post-2015 period, tailored to the local context. In particular, it is focused on benefitting the most vulnerable populations in the country, linked to Maldives' obligations under its ratification of various international Conventions and human rights instruments.

Four strategic focus areas have been selected that respond to national needs and make use of the United Nations' comparative advantages. These were identified and further detailed into Outcomes and outputs through an intensive consultation process with the Government:

- Youth and Children
- Gender
- Governance
- Environment and Climate Change

These focus areas serve as a mutual accountability framework among the Government, other partners and the United Nations. They are expected to provide the people of Maldives with a fuller range of choices and opportunities and to promote their human development and freedoms. UNDAF Outcomes will be achieved through a practical application of key elements of a Delivering as One approach to joint and complementary programming and implementation. A major element of this approach centres on having outcome groups responsible for joint planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting with national partners. A joint Steering Committee, including Government representatives, will provide formal oversight and management direction throughout the UNDAF cycle.

The UNDAF will be operationalized through Joint Work Plans that provide national partners, the United Nations and donors with a holistic overview of planned actions and required/available resources. In turn, these will serve as a basis for joint mobilization of resources and contribute to better delivery of the United Nations support. Full implementation of the UNDAF will require an estimated US\$53.79 million; including US\$8.48 million (15.76 percent) for Strategic Priority Area 1, Youth and Children; US\$1.98 million (3.68 per cent) for Strategic Priority Area 2, Gender; US\$12.89 million (23.97 percent) for Strategic Priority Area 3, Governance; and \$US30.45 million (56.59 percent) for Strategic Priority Area 4, Environment and Climate Change. Furthermore, US\$11.56 million (21.48 percent) of the Strategic Priority Areas 1, 3 and 4 are estimated to focus on gender mainstreaming. Thus, US\$ 13.54 million (25.24 percent) of the resources are expected to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment.

In the end, UNDAF represents a joint commitment by the Government of Maldives and the United Nations to work together in a spirit of cooperation with the people of Maldives toward the achievement of development results that will help all women and men, girls and boys live longer, healthier and have expanded choices for their own future.

I. Introduction

1.1 A Defining Moment: Emerging Opportunities and Key Challenges

Since its independence in 1965, Maldives and the United Nations have effectively collaborated to further human development in the country. Fifty years later, with new global and national realities emerging in an era of globalization, important development challenges still lie ahead for Maldives. In turn, these will be manageable only through the deepening of joint efforts under the strong Maldives-United Nations partnership that has been fostered over the last five decades.

As a strategic planning framework for cooperation at country level, the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2016-2020 provides a basis for increased collaboration, coherence and effectiveness of initiatives and support by the United Nations in the Maldives. It further aims to help ensure that Maldivians enjoy inclusive, equitable and sustainable prosperity, with dignity and social cohesion.

The 2008 Constitution of Maldives promotes equality and addresses systemic exclusion of population groups. At the same time, the United Nations in the Maldives has an obligation to focus on all the most vulnerable members of a society within the framework of the five United Nations principles: a human rights-based approach (HRBA), gender equality, environmental sustainability, results-based management (RBM), and capacity development (see also Section 1.5). As noted below, the UNDAF uses the definition of vulnerable groups highlighted in the National Human Development Report (NHDR) 2014, while also adding specific references to migrant workers¹ and persons with disabilities,² both key groups facing special challenges.

The UNDAF is a collective and integrated response to national priorities set out in the Government's political manifesto and other documents; a full medium- to long-term national development plan remains to be developed. These priorities address the situation for Maldives' estimated 399,939³ people and encompass an emphasis, among others, on effective education for a modern society, universal health and strengthened social protection; enhanced livelihoods, particularly in the areas of agriculture and fisheries, and furthering of benefits from tourism; ensuring women's meaningful participation in public and economic life; guaranteed sustainable energy for all; and environmental sustainability.

In addition, the Strategic Plan 2014-2018 of the Office of the Attorney General⁴ pledges to work toward establishing the necessary mechanisms to support the full enforcement of the Constitution, including institutionalizing democratic norms and practices within the Maldivian governance system, and promoting, protecting and assuring the rights and freedoms of all people in the country. Critically,

¹ Preliminary results of 2014 Population and Housing Census, November 2014, indicates total migrant worker population of 58,683. According to 2014 Trafficking in Persons Report by US Department of State, there are approximately 200,000 documented and undocumented migrant workers in Maldives. The growing migrant population is attributed to the high domestic demand for low-skilled labour, especially in the construction sector, combined with the growing supply of workers in the region. Many migrant workers, both documented and undocumented, are reported to face poor working conditions, including overcrowded housing, confiscation of documents, non-payment of wages, unfair dismissals, long working hours without time off, and forced labour conditions. When migrants are recruited for labour through false pretenses and forced to work in inhumane conditions, they are, according to national and international law, victims of trafficking in persons.

² Disability is of particular concern in Maldives. The percentage of persons with severe permanent functional limitations/disabilities has increased since 1980, from about 1 percent to 4.7 percent in 2009. According to the 2000 National Census, the most common disability among both men and women is mental disability. Available evidence suggests that in 2009 around 19 percent of children aged 5-14 years had some level of difficulty in at least one physical or mental function. A baseline assessment of disabilities from 2010 also revealed significant service gaps and challenges, including in consultation, early detection and interventions. Limited opportunities likewise exist for persons with disabilities, especially girls and women, to access education or employment, and they remain at high risk of abuse and neglect.

³ Total population of Maldives not accounting for migrant worker population is 341,256, Preliminary results of 2014 Population and Housing Census, November 2014, National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Treasury.

⁴ http://agoffice.gov.mv/pdf/downloads/Strategic_Plan_2014-2018.pdf

the Constitution also ensures the realization of a safe, healthy and ecologically diverse environment through the promotion of sustainable economic and social goals, including measures to foster conservation of natural resources and to prevent pollution, extinction of species and ecological degradation.

The UNDAF likewise reflects the aspirations of the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which build on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and the broader Millennium Declaration, and which bring together efforts to further the social, economic and environmental aspects of sustainable development. Moreover, it follows up or will build on conclusions and recommendations emanating from international review processes; these include the Universal Periodic Review (Maldives outcome document of UPR 2015 to be adopted by the Human Rights Council in September 2015), Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities (CRPD).

This UNDAF thus is intended to assist policymakers in capitalizing on opportunities to review achievements in the country, refine existing goals and chart the course for new development goals to ensure that the next generation of national goals has an even greater emphasis on quality, sustainability and equity. Nevertheless, it does not prevent individual Agencies of the United Nations in the Maldives from undertaking additional initiatives, within their mandates but outside the parameters of the UNDAF, that are in line with needs identified in collaboration with the Government.

Overall, the UNDAF has paramount significance given that it comes at a moment when the United Nations is redefining its role in Maldives. In particular, the United Nations in the Maldives⁵ is looking to (1) strengthen the United Nations strategic partnership with Maldives as a middle-income country (MIC), with more focused and strategic areas of viable partnership and engagement complemented by downstream interventions as necessary; and (2) improve coordination and performance of the United Nations in the Maldives. In this regard, the continuing guidance of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the United Nations' lead Government partner for the UNDAF formulation and implementation, has been essential, as has that of other key Government entities.

1.2 Maldives' Development Context

Maldives is a young democracy attempting to build on considerable economic and human development gains, but simultaneously still challenged by deep socioeconomic, environmental and political issues. Despite major external shocks to the economy from the 2004 tsunami and the 2008-2009 global financial crisis, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased substantially in recent years, and Gross National Income (GNI) per capita almost soared by 54 per cent over the past ten years from US\$ 3,630 in 2004 to US\$ 5,600 in 2013,⁶ largely due to the rapid expansion of tourism.⁷ At the same time, the graduation of Maldives from Least Developed Country status has increasingly affected the budget deficit and debt, as conditions for concessional loans and favourable trade conditions have deteriorated and engagement from international partners is increasingly directed toward upstream

⁵ The United Nations in the Maldives comprises of 20 organizations, both resident and non-resident. Resident Agencies include the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and World Health Organization (WHO). Non-resident Agencies include the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), International Labor Organization (ILO), International Organization for Migration (IOM), Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and World Bank. The Agencies vary in the levels of representation, scope of their work and staff resources available for joint United Nations activities.

⁶ According to World Bank, 2014

⁷ UNDP Country Programme Document 2016-2020 and UNICEF Country Programme Document 2016-2020 (draft). The share of tourism in GDP on average has remained high, at almost 30 percent for the past two decades.

policy support in a middle-income context. Meanwhile, Maldives is active among Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and is the current chair (2015-2016) of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS).

The Maldives' Human Development Index (HDI) has increased steadily from 0.599 in 2000 to 0.698 in 2013⁸, placing it 103rd of 187 countries at the top of the medium human development category and above the average for South Asia.⁹ Life expectancy at birth has increased for both women and men, child survival has improved significantly, and the maternal mortality ratio has declined sharply.¹⁰ In large part all these achievements have occurred because of the expansion of services, including universal immunization; high per-capita health spending; and improved antenatal care at atoll level.¹¹ Key reproductive health indicators such as skilled attendance at birth and coverage of antenatal care have been maintained at par with other middle-income countries.¹²

The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)¹³ for Maldives identifies multiple deprivations within the same household in education, health and standard of living. This shows that poverty is intrinsic to numerous development areas beyond income, and that these are therefore important when addressing pro-poor development themes and targeting interventions. The impact of poverty has been greatest on children (18 percent living in poverty) and adolescents with few job prospects (unemployment of 43 percent among 15- to 24-year-olds).¹⁴ Women in the atolls also are disproportionately affected when it comes to lower development outcomes.¹⁵

Overall, underlying disparities and exclusions will need to be addressed. When the value of the global HDI is adjusted for inequality in the distribution of various dimensions, for example, it falls to 0.521, a loss of slightly more than 25 per cent; like the MPI, this suggests there continue to be significant pockets of poverty and deprivation in the country.¹⁶ At the same time, the HDI value for Male' has been found to stand at 0.734, compared with a cumulative HDI value of 0.627 for all atolls.¹⁷ Remote islands with small populations, such as in low-performing regions,¹⁸ have limited access to services and job opportunities and face general isolation. The main source of disparity between Male' and the atolls, meanwhile, has been found in income status and wealth,¹⁹ which determines the ability to seek quality services where they are available. Dispersed and small population, economies of scale and high per capita cost of services challenges equitable service delivery to many islands.

Notably, Maldives has achieved five out of eight Millennium Development Goals ahead of the 2015 deadline.²⁰ Progress has been substantial in eradicating extreme poverty and hunger (MDG1),²¹ achieving universal primary education (MDG2), reducing child mortality (MDG4), improving maternal health (MDG5), and combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases (MDG6).²² Progress has been relatively slower toward achieving gender equality and women's empowerment (MDG3), universal

⁸ Human Development Report 2014 and UNDP Country Programme Document

⁹ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/table-1-human-development-index-and-its-components>

¹⁰ National Human Development Report 2014.

¹¹ Ibid.

¹² UNFPA Country Programme Document 2016-2020.

¹³ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/table-6-multidimensional-poverty-index-mpi>

¹⁴ UNICEF Country Programme Document 2016-2020 (draft), op.cit.

¹⁵ National Human Development Report, op.cit., cited in UNDP Country Programme Document 2016-2020, op.cit. The Gender Inequality Index in Male' is the lowest in Maldives, at 0.232, while the rest of the country has higher values, peaking at 0.741 in Thaa and Laamu Atolls.

¹⁶ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/content/table-3-inequality-adjusted-human-development-index>

¹⁷ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ In Male', the top 10 percent of households held almost half of total income in 2009-2010. Although poverty in Maldives decreased overall during the period 1997-2010, according to the Household and Income Survey 2012, poverty increased in Male', from 2 percent in 2003 to 7 percent in 2010 (UNICEF Mid Term Review 2013).

²⁰ Third National MDG Report, 2010.

²¹ A total of 8 percent of the population lived on less than US\$1.25 a day in 2010, according to the Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2009-2010.

²² Ibid.

access to reproductive health (MDG target 5b),²³ ensuring environmental sustainability (MDG7), and developing a global partnership for development (MDG8).²⁴ There is need for continued emphasis on economic development and social justice to ensure that gains made are consolidated and remaining gaps in certain indicators are addressed.

The Maldives has the highest total health expenditure rate and social sector budget allocation in South Asia, with an annual average growth of almost 20 percent since the 2004 tsunami²⁵. Despite the MDG achievements and high budget allocation to the health sector, the overall quality of health services continues to require further strengthening. The health system faces major human resource challenges and shows a high turnover of expatriate staff, who occupy most professional positions (doctors, nurses). Capacity gaps in staff remain a major challenge. Out-of-pocket expenses are high, especially among the poorest quintile.²⁶

Relatively high child malnutrition and stunting rates represent further key health challenges.²⁷ A total of 18.9 percent of children younger than age 5 years are stunted (persistent nutrition deprivation), with 10.6 percent wasted (acute under-nutrition); levels of wasting classify it as a serious public health issue. Overall, stunting and wasting are highest in the atolls of the north-central region.²⁸ In addition, obesity stands at 5.8 percent in under-5 children²⁹ and is prevalent among adolescents, making it a growing concern. Meanwhile, vaccine hesitancy and refusal with regard to universal immunization also may show potential risks to this achievement.³⁰

Quality of education also remains a concern at all levels,³¹ beginning with early childhood education. Although significant progress has been achieved in attaining universal primary education, access to secondary education will need to be strengthened further. For example, a sharp decline in transition from lower to higher secondary education has been observed, with higher secondary net enrollment standing at only 21 percent in 2013.³² Likewise, national assessments indicate poor learning outcomes at all levels and low achievement at secondary level in particular.³³ In addition, out-of-school children and children with disabilities require additional support to ensure inclusive education. While the country has a high education enrolment rate, non-attendance remains an issue. Children with disabilities particularly do not have adequate access to educational opportunities; only 52 out of 219 schools across the country provide some form of education for children with special needs.³⁴

While the Maldives face emerging development challenges, based on the UN's past experiences as well as comparative advantages, four broad development areas were identified in consultations with the Government as for the United Nations to focus on during this UNDAF cycle. These are Youth and Children, Gender, Governance and Environment and Climate Change.

First, about 28 percent of Maldivians are aged between 10 and 24 years,³⁵ illustrating the importance of this youthful population group. While Maldives has made remarkable progress to protect the rights of youth and children – for example, by reducing child mortality to a level comparable with developed

²³ Unmet need for family planning is high at 28 percent, with 16 percent of conceptions among married couples being unwanted. UNFPA Country Programme Document, op.cit.

²⁴ National MDG Report, op.cit.

²⁵ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

²⁶ World Bank, op.cit.

²⁷ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

²⁸ Ibid.

²⁹ Maldives Demographic Health Survey 2009.

³⁰ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

³¹ United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

³² Ibid.

³³ Secondary-level achievement rates stand at only 47 percent, with major disparities between Male' (58 percent) and the atolls (30 percent). World Bank, Human Capital for a Modern society: General Education in the Maldives, 2012.

³⁴ UNICEF Country Programme Document 2016-2020 (draft), op.cit.

³⁵ National Bureau of Statistics, Ministry of Finance and Treasury (projections based on 2006 Census)..

nations³⁶ – significant challenges remain to be addressed for the progressive and equitable realization of their potential. A critical social inclusion issue is the growing sense of disenfranchisement and exclusion that young Maldivians feel and the corresponding perception by adults that the country’s young people are “idle and disconnected from the fabric of society.”³⁷ Although disaggregated data are not available for youth and children with regard to numerous disparities, the patterns for the population at large can be expected to apply to children as well.

More than 20 percent of young men and 26 percent of young women are neither in school nor employed;³⁸ limited island economies; physical isolation; and increasingly conservative social values may affect their futures. Building the skills necessary to flourish in an increasingly global economy represents an urgent priority. In the atolls especially, many young women have been found to be eager to earn a livelihood, but often lack opportunities. Young men also aspire to new types of employment.

Youth and children also have limited access to recreation and sports, which may increase boredom or disengagement among some youth. All of this may further contribute to an increase in substance abuse, with most drug users in Maldives aged 15-25 years.³⁹ At the same time, while increasing emphasis is being placed on rehabilitation and treatment, rehabilitation services remain limited.⁴⁰

Unemployment also may be an underlying cause of rising gang violence in the country, which is considered a serious risk factor for youth.⁴¹ Findings from field-based research in 2014 showed that among 402 young men and young women surveyed, 4 percent said they belonged to a gang, while 32 percent said they had friends in gangs; 17 percent reported family members in a gang.⁴²

Harmful behaviours such as injecting drug use and unsafe sex also place youth and adolescents at risk of sexually transmitted infections, HIV/AIDS and unwanted pregnancies, although sex outside marriage is illegal. Further, the social stigma attached to these behaviours poses a significant hindrance to seeking timely support. Critically, young people, especially girls, lack adequate access to quality adolescent sexual and reproductive health information and services, including life skills education.⁴³ In addition, the mental health of adolescents and youth is a strong concern in Maldives.

A special youth manifesto of the Government⁴⁴ offers a 10-point plan to increase the quality of life of this large and important segment of the population, with a focus on widening job skills and opportunities, including in Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs); increasing higher education opportunities; providing state-of-the art sports and entertainment facilities for youth; introducing new services for young drug offenders; and enhancing support for youth clubs and organizations. Further indication of the high priority the Government gives to youth issues is found in the five-fold increase in the budget of the Ministry of Youth in 2014, from MVR 60 million to MVR 300 million.⁴⁵

³⁶ United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

³⁷ World Bank, *Youth in the Maldives: Shaping a New Future for Young Women and Men Through Engagement and Empowerment*, 2014.

³⁸ World Bank, *Youth in the Maldives*, op.cit.

³⁹ Ibid. Preliminary results of the National Drug Use Survey 2011-2012 also showed that 47.6 percent of drug users in Male’, compared to 18.4 percent in the atolls, are aged 15-19 years.

⁴⁰ According to 2012 Crime Statistics from the Maldives Police Service. Police records also indicate that between 2001 and 2007 alone, drug offences in Male’ increased by more than 500 percent and violent crimes in the capital by 200 percent. Further, a 2011 UNDP-Government study revealed that most prisoners were serving a sentence for drug-related offences, of which about 70 percent were for drug use.

⁴¹ World Bank, op.cit.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ The national family planning programme is couple-based. Only 25 percent of young women and 22 percent of young men say they have discussed reproductive health with anyone; among those who have, about two-thirds discussed it with friends. UNFPA Country Programme Document 2016-2020, op.cit.

⁴⁴ PPM Youth Manifesto, 2014.

⁴⁵ Information gathered from Ministry of Finance and Treasury, 28 August 2014.

Turning to the second key issue, gender equality must be promoted to address all development challenges. Maldives ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women in 1993, and gender equality and the advancement of women's rights are clearly recognized and articulated in national policies. The country also has taken a series of important steps to address women's particular vulnerabilities, with a Gender Equality Bill in process, a Government advocacy strategy for gender policies being developed, and a new National Gender Action Plan envisioned. The Constitution defines equality and stipulates affirmative action, while the Domestic Violence Act 2012 makes domestic violence a punishable offense. A Sexual Harassment Prevention Act and Sexual Offences Act 2014 also have been adopted,⁴⁶ as has a Prevention of Human Trafficking Act. The Penal Code defines punishments for criminal offenses including rape and child abuse; the Health Master Plan and the National Reproductive Health Strategy outline reproductive health and rights and identify gender-based violence as a public health issue.

Nonetheless, evidence-based data reveal that women are still at major risk of facing individual, institutional and structural challenges in both the public and private sectors. Sexual and gender-based violence is widespread, with 1 in 3 women aged 15-49 experiencing physical and/or sexual violence at some point in her life.⁴⁷ More than 1 in 10 women reported having experienced sexual abuse before their 15th birthday. Nonetheless, many people appear to accept domestic violence as a norm in women's lives, and a recent assessment found that women's personal concerns are related primarily to violence against them.⁴⁸ Violence against children and young people also is reported to be high,⁴⁹ with crucial gaps still existing in overall child protection systems⁵⁰ and for survivors of gender-based violence.

Other key constraints for women include political representation and access to decision-making structures, along with access to jobs, credit and property. The absence of women in the political sphere is acute, with women representing 6 percent of members of Parliament and holding three out of 17 Cabinet positions.⁵¹ In the local political sphere, women constitute only 5 percent of 942 island councillors.⁵² In the judiciary, the representation of women is even lower, at 3.8 percent.⁵³ Meanwhile, data on representation of women in employment reveal persistent horizontal and vertical disparities in all sectors, with women concentrated mainly in low-wage sectors and a wide gap between female and male labour force participation overall. Women's unemployment rate was 31 percent in 2010,⁵⁴ with 1 in 4 women citing family-related factors as the reason for being unemployed.⁵⁵ Across all sectors and industries, women's mean monthly income is lower than that of men, while gender stereotypes and attitudes may further reinforce traditional gender roles.

A third issue, of effective and equitable democratic governance in Maldives, is critical relative to all other challenges of sustainable development. In recent years a number of important achievements have occurred in democratic governance, rule of law and human rights in Maldives. These included the establishment of key independent institutions such as the Human Rights Commission, the Elections Commission and the Family Protection Authority, as well as the promulgation of a new Penal

⁴⁶ Presentation of Ministry of Law and Gender at UNDAF Maldives Strategic Planning Retreat, 28 January 2015.

⁴⁷ Ministry of Gender and Family, Maldives Study on Women's Health and Life Experiences, 2007.

⁴⁸ Ibid.

⁴⁹ A national study in 2009 (UNICEF, unpublished) indicated that 28 percent of boys and 19 percent of girls younger than age 18 years had undergone emotional or physical punishment at some point in their lives. Nationwide, 15 percent of children attending secondary school reported that they had been sexually abused at least once in their life, with prevalence rates of girls double those of boys. UNICEF Country Programme Document 2016-2020, op.cit.

⁵⁰ Ibid. Important pieces of legislation such as the Juvenile Justice Bill and Child Rights, Child Care and Protection Bill are still pending, while enforcement of the Child Rights Act 1991 and related provisions in existing legislation addressing violence against children requires strengthening.

⁵¹ UNDP Country Programme Document 2016-2020, op.cit.

⁵² United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

⁵³ Ibid.

⁵⁴ Household Income and Employment Survey 2009-2010, op.cit.

⁵⁵ Ibid. A total of 22 percent of women cited household chores as a reason, and another 3 percent objections from family members.

Code. Overall, however, important governance challenges remain, particularly with regard to issues of strengthening participation, transparency, accountability and rights-based approaches to development, as well as of mainstreaming environmental sustainability.⁵⁶

Financial and resource constraints and lack of expertise and familiarity with the new concepts of democracy have been found to reduce functional governance at all levels.⁵⁷ The development of effective and inclusive governance institutions and processes, consolidation of the rule of law, and evolution of an informed civil society and an independent, professional media thus all remain in their formative stages.⁵⁸

While a scarcity of overall data exists on citizen engagement in Maldives, a 2013 survey indicates 82 percent of Maldivians are cynical about politics, which may indicate citizens' lower propensity to engage in public affairs.⁵⁹ Interaction between the State and civil society, both in Male' and in the outer islands, thus can benefit from further strengthening. Public confidence in the judiciary likewise requires strengthening;⁶⁰ levels of trust with respect to the quality of justice are low.⁶¹ Access to justice remains limited, in part because of a lack of understanding of fundamental rights, with more than two-thirds of Maldivians preferring to settle disputes outside of court.

Issues relating to democratic institutions of the State have received considerable international attention in recent years. The Government has stated that such a high level of scrutiny has hindered the emergence of home-grown democratic institutions. An overall limitation of data exists to inform policy, planning and services; evidence-based approaches to policymaking thus have not always been applied effectively in Maldives, with a need for research, monitoring and evaluation to feed more adequately into this process. For example, social protection programmes require an objective basis and data for identifying target groups and beneficiaries for various transfer schemes.⁶²

Governance in human development-related sectors, especially the health sector, has particularly seen multiple transitions in recent years.⁶³ After initial steps toward decentralization of public health services (2009-2011), this process has been largely reversed since 2012. Health infrastructure, other than in Male', remains underutilized, with the average hospital bed occupancy rate for atoll hospitals standing at only 20 percent.⁶⁴ Critically, when the national universal health coverage scheme expanded its service coverage in 2014, this escalated costs to an estimated MVR 1.3 billion from MVR 70 million the previous year.⁶⁵ The growing proportion of an aging population and the high prevalence of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) place a further financial burden on the national health system. All this indicates the scale of the challenges faced in strengthening effective governance in Maldives overall, including establishing clear roles and responsibilities of key Government agencies, as well as effective monitoring systems and coordination systems.⁶⁶

Fourth, the urgent addressing of environmental and climate change issues in Maldives is increasingly important. The Environment Protection and Preservation Act of Maldives 1993 sets the basic principles and rules of environmental protection, calling the natural environment and its resources "a national heritage that needs to be protected and preserved for the benefit of future generations" and

⁵⁶ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁵⁷ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁵⁸ United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

⁵⁹ Transparency Maldives, Maldivian Survey of Democracy and Political Culture, 2013.

⁶⁰ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁶¹ Legal and Justice Sector Baseline Study, 2014, conducted with United Nations support.

⁶² National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁶³ United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

⁶⁴ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁶⁵ WHO, Medicines in Health Care Delivery: Situational Analysis in Maldives, 2014.

⁶⁶ United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

“important for the sustainable development of the country.” Yet although Maldives remains extremely reliant on fossil fuels, and heavily dependent economically on its biological diversity, including tourism, fisheries and agriculture (89 percent of GDP),⁶⁷ its biodiversity faces major threats arising from habitat destruction and overexploitation.

The public sector spends on average less than 2 percent of its budget on environmental protection. Institutional challenges include a multiplicity of agencies, plans, laws and programmes, although the division of mandates, responsibilities and standards also is not always clear.⁶⁸ Coordination in this sector requires the cooperation of many Government agencies and all Ministries, at both central and local/island levels. Evidence-based decision making with quality environmental data likewise is needed, including for planning related to economic development, land use and overall service delivery; in addition, legislative standards and regulations require particular strengthening with regard to environmental service delivery (water, energy, waste, sanitation).

Critical concerns include solid waste management and water security. The amount of solid waste generated per day is expected to reach 666 tonnes in 2020, up sharply from 175 tonnes in 2000.⁶⁹ Almost 1 in 4 households dispose of waste by the seaside, burn it in living areas, or throw it into the bushes; it also has been reported that resorts and safari vessels dump wastes in the sea.⁷⁰ Water security is urgent given that Maldives has no surface storage and relies on groundwater resources for daily use in the islands. However, these resources face the constant challenge of contamination from improper waste management practices, including the increased use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in agriculture,⁷¹ and from flooding.⁷²

At the same time, Maldives’ geographic characteristics and numerous other factors place the country at very high risk for the impacts of climate change and disaster. Intensive rainfall and storm surges are expected to be aggravated through sea level rise and climate change effects on weather patterns. This compounds trends of increasing coastal erosion and pressure on scarce land resources, and increases the vulnerability of island populations, infrastructure and livelihood assets. Climate change also poses significant health risks to the population.

Building resilience of communities through suitable adaptation mechanisms, including ecosystem-based measures to address these issues, is critical to the survival of the Maldivian population.⁷³ Almost half of all settlements and more than two-thirds of key infrastructure are located within 100 metres of the shoreline. It is estimated that the Maldives may face an annual loss of up to a 2.3 percent of GDP by 2050 because of costs related to adverse climate change effects and adaptation.⁷⁴ The root cause of increasing vulnerability to climate change has been found to be the lack of systematic adaptation planning and practice, combined with the still-fledgling institutional capacity.⁷⁵ Climate change risks and long-term resilience therefore need to be adequately integrated into island land use planning, coastal development and protection policies and practice. To improve energy security, the Government has committed to increase the use of renewable energies and promote energy conservation and efficiency.

Many middle-income countries share some, if not all, of the following basic commonalities: high economic growth; openness to trade and integration in the global economy; vulnerability to external

⁶⁷ <http://www.cbd.int/countries/profile/?country=mv>

⁶⁸ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁶⁹ United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

⁷⁰ Small Island Developing States National Report Maldives, 2013.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² United Nations Common Country Assessment, op.cit.

⁷³ National Human Development Report, op.cit.

⁷⁴ Asian Development Bank/UKAid, June 2014.

⁷⁵ UNDP Country Programme Document 2016-2020, April 2015.

shocks; low dependence on international assistance; considerable access to private capital and investments; and, crucially, an increase in the social exclusion of some groups, often disproportionately women and girls, from the benefits of development.⁷⁶ As more international development goals are achieved on aggregate, these countries, including Maldives, are focusing on social groups and development areas that lag behind, and promoting broader issues of socially and environmentally sustainable development. This marks a fundamental shift in the development paradigm.

Symptoms of the so-called “middle-income paradox” already can be observed in Maldives, as the analysis in Section 1.2 illustrates. These include extensive vulnerabilities; growing inequality, both income and non-income; low levels of economic diversification and competitiveness; and high youth unemployment. Should these fail to be effectively addressed, Maldives, like many MICs, may fail to move to the high-income level and also persistently face the risk of falling back below the poverty line.

1.3 Collaborative Formulation of the UNDAF

Not only does the UNDAF provide a framework for future collaboration, but it also results from a consultative, comprehensive and dynamic strategic priority-setting process. The United Nations was requested to provide priority support in the areas of **Youth and Children**, **Gender**, and **Governance**. The Government also has requested that the UNDAF Results and Resources Framework be produced at the output level. A fourth strategic priority area, **Environment and Climate Change**, was later included after additional high-level and technical-level discussions between the United Nations and the Government. Within these priority areas, cross-cutting issues of **a human rights-based approach, improving the overall evidence base, and specific capacity development for monitoring and evaluation** are reflected.

The potential for long-term impact on national goals and priorities has been paramount in determining the selection of common issues under each of these priority areas, as has impact on achievement of the post-2015 development agenda. Opportunities to strengthen national capacities, and to build on lessons learned during the current UNDAF cycle, have likewise been considered. United Nations Agencies that are members of the United Nations Development Group are committed to align their Country Programme Documents to support and reinforce the common vision and results expressed in the UNDAF.

Mid-term and final Evaluations of UNDAF 2011-2015 highlighted a number of lessons learned from the UNDAF 2011-2015. These concluded that the current UNDAF helped to add value to addressing development challenges in Maldives in several ways, including highlighting critical gaps in policies and issues on the quality of education, for example; addressing public health issues such as nutrition and adolescent sexual/reproductive health; and contributing to institutionalize social protection services for women, youth and children. At the same time, it was found that design of the current UNDAF was too broad and generic, with too many Outcomes, and did not sufficiently target vulnerable and disadvantaged groups; it also required strengthened coordination and was found not to have the expected impact on behaviour at community and individual levels, while reliable data and effective monitoring tools for assessment also required strengthening.

The final Evaluation of UNDAF 2011-2015 in particular recommended that the United Nations in the Maldives: (1) undertake a comprehensive assessment to re-position itself strategically to enhance its

⁷⁶ UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNICEF, UN Women and World Food Programme, Middle-Income Countries: The Role and Presence of the United Nations for the Achievement of the Internationally Agreed Development Goals. New York, January 2012.

relevance and effectiveness; (2) strengthen its role as a partner of choice for all stakeholders; (3) reduce the number of UNDAF focus areas and Outcomes; (4) strengthen UNDAF monitoring and reporting through use of the national indicator framework; (5) consider ways to strengthen joint programming; (6) ensure that project documents include a clear exit strategy and sustainability plan; (7) strengthen UNDAF coordination mechanisms, including Outcome Groups; and (8) strengthen capacity of the Resident Coordinator's Office. Accordingly, the UNDAF has ensured that these recommendations were taken into account to the extent possible.

In order to have bottom-up consultative processes, based on the agreed four UNDAF outcomes, Outcome Groups were formed, comprising representatives of the Government and the United Nations. Consultations through the Outcome Groups enabled the national counterparts and the United Nations to elaborate a Results and Resources Framework. This framework was further refined through a highly participatory Strategic Prioritization Meeting (SPM). The UNDAF benefited from strong national ownership and participation, extensive review by the Government, UNCT and quality support and advice from the Regional Inter-Agency Peer Support Group (PSG).

With its emphasis on equity and sustainability, the United Nations offers numerous strengths to help ensure a better future for all in Maldives. A 2014 analysis of the value added in the country by the United Nations highlighted the criticality of (1) the Organization's normative framework, which links rights, security and development, and its impartiality; (2) its global reach and ability to facilitate South-South cooperation; (3) its long-term presence in the country and national staff that give it unmatched local knowledge, contacts and access; (4) its role as an intermediary between the Government/people of Maldives and the international community; (5) its capacity to bring together international and local technical expertise to help identify and address development challenges; and (6) its unique convening power. These identified advantages all point to the United Nations' strengths in playing an important convening, coordinating, bridging, and knowledge-sharing role in Maldives during the UNDAF cycle.

It must be noted that the UNDAF is a living document, and hence flexible enough to respond to Maldives' evolving socioeconomic and environmental contexts. The UNDAF particularly offers important opportunities for stronger national leadership, ownership of and accountability for the development agenda. The framework actively supports the evolving national priorities, and is aimed at being better targeted and focused, achievable and inspiring – and, above all, at having impact.

1.4 UNDAF Principles and Key Strategies for Implementation

As also noted in Section 1.1, the UNDAF has been developed within the framework of the five inter-related United Nations principles that apply to the United Nations programming at all times, that give a basis for reasoning and action, and that have helped to identify possible strategies and programme responses: (1) human rights-based approach (HRBA); (2) gender equality; (3) environmental sustainability; (4) results-based management (RBM); and (5) capacity development.

All five are necessary for effective United Nations-supported country programming, which must balance the pursuit of international norms and standards with the achievement of national development priorities. The principles are universal, applying equally to all people; based in law, internationally agreed development goals and treaties, as well as national laws and commitments; and relevant to the Government-United Nations cooperation, everywhere and always. In particular, the two enabling principles (capacity development, RBM) offer the means to make the three

normative principles (HRBA, gender equality, environmental sustainability) operational in the UNDAF; they help demonstrate effectiveness and accountability for the use of the United Nations resources.⁷⁷

Several key strategies for effective UNDAF implementation have thus been identified and will be mainstreamed throughout the process. First is a focus on *strengthening institution building, systems development and policy implementation* as a fundamental for bolstering national capacity development and a continuing prerequisite for equitable, inclusive and sustainable development overall. This is implicit in all capacity development work outlined in the Results and Resources Framework and will be centred on results-based development Outcomes, effective management of human resources, and adequate tools and financial resources to achieve such results. For example, institutional capacity development will strategically address issues relating to policies, procedures and frameworks that allow organizations to deliver on their mandates, from improving public service delivery to strengthening overall governance for greater development impact.

The *national capacity development paradigm that represents the heart of the United Nations' mandate* thus will be heavily emphasized. This gives tangible expression to national ownership, and enables more informed choices and decisions at both organizational and individual levels. Capacity development also will be linked with Maldives' overall need for effective strengthening at sub-national level to address human development inequities, underscoring the national goal of equitable regional development. Critically, capacity development will be customized to each sector or Ministry based on sector-specific gap analysis and using evidence to engage in policy dialogue. Complementarities, ability to scale up initiatives, and impact and cost effectiveness also will be taken into account in capacity strengthening collaborations across sectors and islands/atolls. For example, the effort to provide development solutions at scale will use prototypes and pilots to leverage innovations, minimize risks and maximize effectiveness, and demonstrate concepts; this strategy for scaling up will be through ensuring national ownership of prototypes/pilots and systematically establishing practice-to-policy links.

Likewise, promoting *better distribution of development benefits* to ensure social inclusion, especially for women, youth and children, in programming outcomes is imperative, given that inequities in access to delivery of quality services are often among the root causes of lower-than-expected human development results in some parts of the country. In all, this will involve more effective targeting of programme activities. As noted above, opportunity exists for the United Nations to strengthen the human rights-based approach to development, specifically empowering women, youth, children and vulnerable groups and including the use of evidence and innovative tools to infuse their voices and views into decision making. For example, geographic targeting of underserved island communities, as well as Male', will be employed in some cases, with a specific focus on women and youth.

In addition, developing the capacity of the Government and other stakeholders in obtaining, analyzing and utilizing quality data, including on excluded populations, will be crucial to ensure sound policy and budgetary decisions to deliver effective policy implementation and accountability. This will be achieved through *improved knowledge management*, employing new mechanisms based on the findings of evaluation and impact approaches, as well as access to regional and global United Nations expertise and databases. In so doing, the United Nations will work to re-position itself in the role of a thought leader in Maldives, through the development of evidence-based knowledge products that

⁷⁷ Human rights, HRBA and gender equality share a basis in the norms and standards of international human rights treaties and instruments as well as other international agreements, such as the Millennium Declaration and the Beijing Platform for Action. Environmental sustainability offers a separate normative framework of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) in three broad clusters related to climate, biodiversity and chemicals. The basis for the two enabling principles is mainly in the Triennial Comprehensive Policy Reviews (TCPRs) of the United Nations, the outcome of the 2005 World Summit, the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness and Accra Agenda for Action, and the 2008 Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, all of which focus on national ownership and accountability.

address emerging development issues in the country and the proposal of strategic approaches that can be taken up by the Government. Specific focus will be given to enhancing national statistics capacities in the area of sustainable human development.

The UNDAF also reinforces the United Nations' obligation to *support, promote and monitor implementation of international agreements and obligations* of Maldives, and to practically contribute to the *reform and wider application of effective social policies and programmes to increase social cohesion and reach the most vulnerable groups*. Likewise, it can effectively promote inclusive development and socially and environmentally sustainable growth through its considerable analytical capacities.

Fundamentally, the United Nations in the Maldives will *foster deepened trust* as the basis of the partnership with the Government, civil society and other stakeholders at all levels. Moreover, UNDAF shall foster collaboration to bring the world to Maldives and take the achievements of Maldives to the world, particularly through an emphasis on South-South Cooperation to promote learning, knowledge exchange and foster collaboration for more equitable social services. Opportunities will particularly be explored to engage with other SIDS through AOSIS.

The United Nations' wide experience in strategic development visioning, with a focus on crosscutting themes and multi-sectoral issues, is underpinned by a set of effective accountability mechanisms. In particular, this UNDAF seeks to *build and expand strategic partnerships* with national and regional institutions, non-Government and civil society organizations, think tanks, academia, media and the private sector to push forward the development agenda, while also leveraging political will. For example, the strategy will be to step up engagement with the private sector/tourism industry with regard to low-carbon development and technical/vocational skills development for out-of-school adolescents, while new partnerships with academia will be considered in the areas of environmental sustainability, climate change resilience and disaster risk management. Efforts will capitalize on the United Nations expertise to deepen both horizontal linkages (between national-level institutions) and vertical linkages (between national and atoll/island levels).

These key means of implementation will be further refined during UNDAF implementation (see also Section IV); some may require collaborative or joint programming or funding. The United Nations will strive for robust joint programming and cooperation, and explore opportunities for resource mobilization and more "joined-up" approaches, applying, to the extent possible, the most appropriate and feasible elements of the United Nations Standard Operating Procedures for Delivering as One.

In sum, the United Nations will offer high-end, value-added interventions that generate and complement national knowledge and deliver results. The UNDAF will, in respect of each of the United Nations Agencies signing, be read, interpreted, and implemented in accordance with and in a manner that is consistent with the basic agreement between each Agency and the Government of Maldives, as detailed in Section 4. Results and activities to be undertaken by the United Nations are briefly described in Section II; the Results and Resources Framework, including Agency-specific programmatic contributions toward each Outcome, is detailed in Annex 1.

II. UNDAF Priority Areas and Outcomes/Outputs

2.1 Strategic Priority Area 1: Youth and Children

The 2014 Final Evaluation of the UNDAF 2011-2015, as well as other recent assessments of specific United Nations Agencies' development results in Maldives, reaffirm that issues of youth and children (aged 10-24 years) continue to require effective support, with capacity development representing the most significant barrier to sustained progress. As the analysis in Part I illustrates, inter-sectoral collaboration among key social sectors will be critical in tackling common barriers to deprivations facing youth and children. For example, the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Law and Gender, Maldives Police Service, Juvenile Justice Unit and Maldivian Red Crescent and CSOs working together, can be more efficient and effective to address child protection issues.

Both the Government and the United Nations recognize the importance of investing in youth and children, given that they represent Maldives' future. The overall goal will be to support the Government to reduce inequities and disparities and achieve the universal realization of the rights of youth and children, especially the most vulnerable and disadvantaged.

The United Nations in the Maldives will leverage its convening role to build partnerships with key social sectors and partners at national, sub-national and community levels, adopting a targeted upstream approach while responding to principal contextual bottlenecks, for example, in the enabling environment. Interventions will seek to influence actions at both national and sub-national levels of governance, with an emphasis on equity and areas/specific groups in situations of high risk and vulnerability.

The United Nations will give particular attention to support to evidence generation, policy dialogue and advocacy on behalf of youth and children. For example, to strengthen overall social inclusion, the United Nations will strengthen systems for generating evidence at national and sub-national levels for inclusive and equitable policies, plans and services, especially for the most disadvantaged, while social protection systems will be strengthened for improved targeting of the most vulnerable. Child- and gender-sensitive disaster resilience and climate change adaptation plans and programmes also will be institutionalized and operational at national and sub-national levels; for example, the development and use of child-centred multi-hazard risk assessments in development plans at national and local levels will be supported. Critically, capacities will be strengthened at national and sub-national levels to generate data and evidence for policymaking, planning and programme development, pre- and post-crisis data management, and periodic analysis of data on inequities, including among climatically vulnerable populations.

The United Nations in the Maldives will help to solicit high-level political commitment to improve health nutrition governance; to strengthen programme planning, particularly in regions with high malnutrition rates and poor health outcomes; and to implement multi-sectoral policies and plans addressing all determinants of undernutrition among children and adolescents; holistic development of the young child will be integrated into existing programmes. It will support the strengthening of human and institutional capacities to manage nutrition programmes at national and sub-national levels, as well as the establishment of a coherent monitoring framework and reporting and knowledge management systems. Focus also will be given to issues of obesity and implementation of anemia reduction.

Further, the United Nations will facilitate rights-based analyses to bridge any disconnect between policies and practice, while also strengthening the capacity of families/adolescents, service providers and local authorities for improved knowledge and skills to practice healthy behaviours. It will partner with policymakers, local non-Government organizations, academic and research institutions and civil society actors, as well as other stakeholders, including networks of scholars.

To ensure a continuum of care, the United Nations will focus on adolescents, particularly young people, engaging them in processes to remove legal barriers for young people to realize their reproductive rights and to promote gender equality, including addressing gender-based violence. Specific focus will be given to ensuring that duty bearers in Maldives are more accountable for and responsive to young people's rights to reproductive health information and services, which will address some of the implementation gaps and social barriers of existing laws, programmes and policies in providing equitable services to the unmarried and excluded youth. Advice on proven culturally sensitive policy alternatives will be facilitated. The United Nations also will support responses to the disproportionate vulnerabilities of young girls, especially those in remote island communities, by addressing key gaps in policy, and will advocate for and provide policy advice for the progressive integration of comprehensive reproductive health education.

With regard to education, the United Nations in the Maldives will support enhanced systems and institutional capacities to provide quality education beginning with Early Childhood Care and Education; will advocate for progressive integration of comprehensive reproductive health education in the school curriculum; and will strengthen alternative educational systems for the most vulnerable children and adolescents. Support will be provided to the Ministry of Education to operationalize the School Improvement and Quality Assurance Framework (SIQAF).

In particular, support will be given to strengthened institutional capacities for monitoring of child-friendly, inclusive, gender-sensitive education, including learning achievements, for improved standards and informing of inclusive policies and strategies; this also will include generation of data in emergencies. The United Nations also will offer technical support and capacity development to establish a functional nationwide Education Management Information System (EMIS) to provide useful and timely information on service coverage and bottlenecks, thereby assisting decision making and budgeting. Support likewise will be given to finalize the ICT in Education Master Plan and reinforce the ICT competency of teachers in Maldives. In addition, the United Nations will advocate and provide policy advice for the progressive integration of international-standard comprehensive reproductive health education in the school curriculum, as well as advocate for the establishment of a mechanism for out-of-school young people to access quality reproductive health information.

The United Nations in the Maldives will provide technical support and capacity development to review the national technical and vocational education and training (TVET) policy, as part of expanding opportunities for young people's skills development and preparing them for the labour market. Considering the emerging issues related to drugs and disengagement of young people, focus will be given to institutionalization of TVET, alternate education and life skills. In this regard, partnerships also will be developed with the private sector and the Ministry of Education to initiate alternative education programmes, especially for out-of-school children and adolescents; support likewise will be given to strengthen education sector planning and coordination in emergencies to ensure continuation and resumption of quality education during any emergency.

Strengthened systems and institutional capacities at national, atoll and community levels will be enhanced for holistic prevention, protection and response to violence against children and adolescents, for children in conflict with the law, and for prevention of drug abuse. Cross-sectoral linkages with the Ministries of Law and Gender and Home Affairs will be prioritized to address issues of child abuse and violence, children in conflict with the law, and access to basic social services. In particular, capacities will be developed for strengthened multi-sectoral coordination and monitoring mechanisms at all levels to identify children affected by violence and children in conflict with the law, and to ensure timely and effective responses. Creation of a framework for the provision of psycho-social support to victims of violence, including in humanitarian settings, will be supported.

Adolescents will be targeted for increased awareness on the negative effects of drug and substance abuse and for means of protecting themselves from drugs. In turn, this can be linked to strengthened capacities for alternative learning opportunities and support for development of related policies. In addition, assistance will be provided to institutions at island/community level to address negative beliefs, attitudes and practices that impact child protection. Partnerships will be sought with non-Government organizations mainly with regard to support for the strengthening of systems at local/island level, to monitoring and reporting on results, and to advocacy for child rights, and with the private sector for policy advocacy and leveraging of resources.

Youth and Children

National priorities and policies: PPM Youth Manifesto; PPM Manifestos on Education and Health; Health Master Plan 2006-2015, 2016-2025 (under draft); National Reproductive Health Strategy 2014-2018; Youth Health Strategy (draft), including National Adolescent and Youth Friendly Health Service Guidelines 2014; Public Health Act 2012; HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan 2014-2018; Integrated National Nutrition Strategic Plan 2013-2017; Strategic Action Plan for Education Sector, 2013/2014-2018; National Child Protection Policy for Educational Settings 2014; Disability Act 2010, Inclusive Education Policy 2013; School Health Policy 2010; Preschool Act 2012; Child Rights Act 1991; Domestic Violence Act 2012; Anti-Human Trafficking Act 2013; Special Measure for Perpetrators of Child Sexual Abuse 2009; Anti-Social Behaviour Act 2010; Penal Code 2014; Family Law 2000; Drugs Act 2011; Mental Health Policy (draft); National Youth Policy 2003; Youth Bill (under draft)

Outcome 1: By 2020, children and youth access equitable, inclusive and quality social services, and have increased opportunities for skills development

Output 1.1: By 2020, national and sub-national authorities have enhanced institutional and human capacity to offer equitable and quality child- and youth-friendly health services, including nutrition, child health, adolescent/youth sexual and reproductive health, and HIV/AIDS

Output 1.2: By 2020, national and sub-national systems have enhanced capacity to deliver quality inclusive education, including enhanced coordination, and efficient monitoring mechanisms for adherence to quality standards

Output 1.3: By 2020, institutions and communities have enhanced capacities and well-coordinated systems to prevent, protect and respond to violence against children and adolescents, and to children in conflict with the law

Output 1.4: By 2020, enhanced systems are in place to deliver services for prevention of substance abuse, and to provide rehabilitation, reintegration and after-care for children and youth

Output 1.5: By 2020, increased opportunities for skills development to prepare young people for the labour market, and for sport and recreation, are in place

2.2 Strategic Priority Area 2: Gender

The United Nations is particularly committed to ensure that UNDAF results contribute to national gender equality goals and commitments, with both a focus on integrated actions in programming to address persistent gender gaps and particular attention to strengthening inter-Ministerial or multi-

sectoral coordination of policies and programming in the area of gender. Gender equality will be mainstreamed into all UNDAF priority areas (see also Section 5).

All this is based not only on national goals and the analysis in Part I of the UNDAF, but also on the United Nations Charter, the Millennium Declaration, the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), the 2005 World Summit, the Beijing Platform for Action, and the Platform for Action of the International Conference for Population and Development. It is also based on women's human rights outlined in CEDAW and other international human rights treaties and instruments to which Maldives is a party. In this regard, the United Nations will foster more effective and sustainable partnerships with development partners, including civil society, to advance and monitor commitments to gender equality and women's empowerment, while also documenting good practices in achieving these goals.

The United Nations will support the Government to establish a gender-responsive framework for analysis, planning and budgeting in State institutions and in its efforts to strengthen the gender machinery. The United Nations will provide policy advice, technical assistance and training to pilot and scale up gender-responsive budgeting in particular, and to increase coordination and functioning of the gender machinery.

Key support will be given toward increasing the participation and representation of women in the political sphere by building the capacity of potential leaders and creating an enabling space for dialogue (see also Section 2.3, Strategic Priority Area 3: Governance). Capacity will particularly be strengthened at national and sub-national levels to integrate, manage and monitor economic policies and programmes from a gender perspective.

Further, the United Nations will work to advance women's rights and gender equality through strengthened accountability mechanisms to prepare for, report on and monitor gender-related national and international commitments, including the SDGs and the International Conference on Population and Development. Enhanced participation in inter-governmental processes will be emphasized, as will implementation of accepted recommendations, particularly from the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women and the UPR. Special attention also will be given to supporting national partners in strengthening their capacity for data collection, coordination and monitoring of CEDAW.

As detailed in Part I, sexual abuse and gender-based violence continues to represent the most extreme form of inequality experienced by women and girls in Maldives. In coordination with Government institutions and civil society stakeholders, the United Nations will support implementation and enactment of relevant legislation and monitor the implementation of policies to address gender-based violence. Coordination between State institutions, as well as referral mechanisms, will be enhanced to fully roll out the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and other relevant policies. The United Nations will further partner with a broad set of stakeholders, including civil society, religious groups and independent institutions, to advocate against gender-based violence and for respect of women's rights.

Gender

National priorities and policies: PPM Gender Manifesto (eliminate employment barriers; stop abuse and harassment of women; increase the number of women in politics; economically empower women; reduce hardship on families resulting from divorce; ensure rightful entitlement to property following divorce)

Outcome 2: By 2020, gender equality is advanced and women are empowered to enjoy equal rights and opportunities in access to social, economic and political opportunities

Output 2.1: By 2020, gender-responsive frameworks at national and sub-national levels have strengthened capacities to advance women's rights, gender equality and economic empowerment

Output 2.2: By 2020, State institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector are able to participate fully in CEDAW and other gender-relevant inter-governmental processes, monitor and report progress, and domesticate international obligations and commitments into the national policy framework

Output 2.3: By 2020, institutions are strengthened and legislation is implemented to effectively prevent and respond to gender-based violence

2.3 Strategic Priority Area 3: Governance

Key national strategies and policies point to the centrality of effective institutional public service capacities, at both national and atoll/island levels, to sustain Maldives' development gains. As the analysis in Part I highlights, limited voice and participation of underserved atoll/island communities, women, youth and children remains a key obstacle for the full realization of rights enshrined under the 2008 Constitution and for the consolidation of democracy in Maldives. Strengthened governance also will enable improved delivery of basic services, including health and education, and of social protection.

The United Nations in the Maldives is well-placed to address all this through support for developing initiatives to improve awareness and promote inclusiveness in policy- and decision-making, particularly by women, youth, children and vulnerable groups; to strengthen engagement between Government and civil society and between civil society organizations and vulnerable groups at grassroots level, while also promoting evidence-based policy research, planning, and monitoring; and to increase the protection of human rights and access to justice. In turn, this will aim to promote social cohesion and minimize inequities and disparities, as well as improve human dignity and security for sustainable human development. The United Nations is thus committed to building partnerships at both national and atoll/island levels, as well as with civil society, communities and the media.

Support to women's empowerment will be mainstreamed throughout this Outcome (see also Section 2.2, Strategic Priority Area 2: Gender), which will include initiatives to build women's leadership and promote their participation in public life through electoral and community-level activities. Because sexual and other violence against women and girls requires improved responses by the justice system, interventions will be focused on strengthening of the legal framework for prosecution of violence against women, including the development of a mechanism for legal aid services. Interventions to strengthen participatory lawmaking processes also will be prioritized, as will support to participation of women and youth in the political sphere, including through improved capacity of women to contest in elections.

The United Nations will build in sustainability strategies for its interventions, including measures to strengthen mandates of key institutions and their ability to function independently; this will include support to establishment of a national coordination process for implementation of legislative reform. Added value will be achieved through synergies between promoting the accountability of governance institutions and strengthening the capacity of civil society and media. The United Nations will particularly continue to support institutional strengthening of Parliament, the Elections Commission and other key institutions to perform their core functions, and will promote systems for decentralization and local governance, including through strengthening of capacities for planning and monitoring at local level. Enhanced capacities also will be supported at national and sub-national levels in monitoring results and using this information to improve service delivery, including via social protection systems, for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable populations, such as children and adolescents. In addition, capacity development and implementation of effective mechanisms on issues of migration also will be supported; particular focus will be given to development of a rights-based approach, enhanced knowledge and awareness, development of a comprehensive assistance network, and capacity building of regional stakeholders.

Civil society is an indispensable partner for achieving national development goals, with non-Government organizations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs) arising countrywide to convey the voice of the public and specific segments of society through social dialogue. To respond to these trends and create an enabling environment, a series of new measures will be needed to address the voice and aspirations of society at large, while encouraging stronger engagement by Government and CSOs alike with women, youth and vulnerable groups in particular.

Thus, enabling environments and frameworks will be created for communities to be able to engage in democratic debate on key issues and have their voices heard at the national policymaking level, thereby also furthering social cohesion. Raising public awareness of the Constitution, governance institutions and accessing the justice system will be prioritized, which will contribute to increased demand from communities to hold duty bearers accountable. Specific support will be given to establishment of a legal framework for freedom of association. To support the effective delivery of judicial services, especially at island/atoll level, the United Nations will focus on improving legislative drafting and establishment of a bar association. All this is expected to give rise to enhanced public confidence in the legal and justice sector.

In solidifying more effective governance, the Government and the United Nations in the Maldives also recognize the need for further capacity development at all levels to effectively implement, report on and monitor Maldives' important obligations under a range of international Conventions, treaties and agreements. Enhanced participation in inter- and intra-governmental processes will particularly be emphasized, along with strengthening of civil society capacities to advocate for harmonization of international obligations with national policies.

Strengthened policy research and analysis to inform policymaking also will be essential, as will support to evidence-based national development planning through development of the Government's capacity to make informed policy decisions toward more inclusive and equitable human development. Conducting of evidence-based policy analysis, with a focus on equity, will be emphasized, as will localization of the SDGs and adoption of measures for the Goals' implementation to ensure a holistic approach for sustainable development. The United Nations also can particularly highlight support for addressing data gaps that will lead to better implementation of the United Nations programming principles, including the Human Rights Based Approach (improved data on vulnerable groups, gender equality principles (sex disaggregation) and environmental sustainability (data on climate change and disaster risk and resilience). It also can help to focus on analytical reviews to better identify unmet needs among certain types of beneficiaries.

The pattern of economic growth and economic governance also will be vital in determining Maldives' sustainable support to inclusive human development. In particular, creation of a diversified and resilient economy will need to be underpinned by a labour market that increasingly values the human capital investments made in Maldivian youth and women, particularly those in island communities, and that offers more work opportunities for Maldivians that enhance the well-being of the active population. It likewise will need to provide clear signals indicating what and where high-productivity jobs are.

To realize all this, the United Nations in the Maldives will support the development of macroeconomic policies aimed at the creation of economic growth conditions conducive to job generation. It will provide extensive support to develop innovative solutions for the empowerment of youth through increased economic opportunities, such as through the Maldives Youth Entrepreneurship Programme, which is based on partnerships with the Government and private sector. This may, for example, have a positive impact on reducing youths' engagement in gang violence.

Related to this, the United Nations also will support policy and institutional reform in areas such as social protection, particularly including strengthening to cover vulnerable children and adolescents, and issues of rapid urbanization. Overall, a mechanism to track the effectiveness of social protection systems, disaggregated by sex and age of beneficiaries, will be supported. Further, the United Nations will support the formulation of an Industrial Relations Act and of an action plan to implement and monitor the national human resources development and employment policy.

In addition, the United Nations will give special attention to enhanced delivery of and equitable access to quality health services through strengthened governance, which again offers important linkages with all other UNDAF Outcomes. Particular support will be given to multi-sectoral policies, legislation, mechanisms and regulations to promote universal health coverage and prevent, treat and control non-communicable diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease. The health system will likewise receive support to further ensure access to quality essential maternal health care and equitable preventive and curative services. National and local authorities will be empowered with core capacities required by the International Health Regulations 2005, including on emergency preparedness and response.⁷⁸ Support will be provided to enhance the capacity of civil society and vulnerable groups to engage in national development processes. Mechanisms and frameworks will be developed to promote inclusive and sustainable growth with economic diversification, social protection and improved employment conditions for vulnerable groups.

Governance

National priorities and policies: All PPM Manifestos, Health Master Plan 2016-2025, Strategic Plan 2014-2018 of Attorney General's Office

Outcome 3: By 2020, citizen expectations for voice, sustainable development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance

Output 3.1: By 2020, institutional capacities are strengthened for implementation of legislative reform, oversight and local- and national-level evidence-based, inclusive, equitable and sustainable policies and planning

Output 3.2: By 2020, civil society and vulnerable groups have enhanced capacities to engage in, contribute to, and participate in national development processes

Output 3.3: By 2020, mechanisms and frameworks are developed to promote inclusive and sustainable growth, economic diversification, social protection and improved employment conditions for vulnerable groups

Output 3.4: By 2020, State institutions and civil society have enhanced capacities to participate in inter-governmental and intra-governmental processes, harmonize international obligations with the national policy frameworks, and monitor and report progress

Output 3.5: By 2020, governance systems are enhanced for improved performance in health care delivery

⁷⁸ For details of the interventions please refer to WHO CCS 2013-2017

2.4 Strategic Priority Area 4: Environment and Climate Change

Environmental sustainability means more under the post-2015 SDGs than what was discussed when the MDGs were formulated in 2000. No longer does it refer to environment as only a central focus area; rather, environmental sustainability has become a cross-sectoral concept, where inclusive social and economic development are also common concerns. Clearly, when the natural resource base is harmed, sustaining social and economic development becomes increasingly difficult, and inter-generational equity is compromised.

The acute risks and vulnerabilities of Maldives with regard to climate change, Disaster Risk Reduction and clean energy have been outlined and highlighted in Part I. Addressing these issues are areas where past United Nations assistance has established strong building blocks to reduce vulnerabilities and increase resilience, for example, through the Atoll Ecosystem-Based Conservation Initiative, which received international recognition with the declaration of the Baa Atoll Biosphere Reserve in 2011.

In line with the overall analysis in Part I, the United Nations in the Maldives will deepen alliances with national partners to continue facilitating the transition to climate-resilient, low-carbon development and improve ecosystem management for environmental protection. In all, this will aim at sustaining and improving local service delivery and at ensuring that disadvantaged island communities strengthen opportunities for recovery from environmental, social and economic shocks alike. This will be achieved through helping to improve evidence-based and climate-resilient and disaster-sensitive planning, policy formulation and monitoring that is backed up by the allocation of adequate annual financial resources. In turn, this will be coupled with enhanced capacities for the sustainable management of natural resources and solid waste, as well as better energy efficiency, at atoll/island level. The United Nations will particularly work to further scale up and apply innovative pilot solutions at atoll/island level in areas such as biodiversity conservation, water management, coastal adaptation, and climate data, including from other SIDS facing similar development challenges.

Climate change adaptation and mitigation will be enhanced through a comprehensive set of interventions to strengthen communities' adaptive capacities, including promoting integrated water resource and solid waste management; use of renewable sources of energy and energy-efficient practices; and support to natural resource management to encourage ecosystem-based adaptation. Priority targeting will be given to underserved communities and to women, including assistance to enhance capacities at national and local levels to address issues of gender and climate change. Improving capacities of duty bearers such as utility providers and regulatory bodies will include strengthening of frameworks such as tariff structures, which will be essential in the key areas of water, energy and waste. Building on the existing partnership with the Global Environment Facility (GEF) will underpin actions at community level in this regard. In addition, technical support will be provided to the education sector to enhance capacities for climate change education.

In Maldives, as in many countries, the link between increased per-capita consumption and the resulting increased demand for water, sanitation, energy, food and housing also continues to have significant impact upon environmental sustainability. At the same time, global economic models do not account for or value the essential benefits that nature provides to people. It is increasingly evident that a need exists to develop an economic model that accurately reflects benefits to people from the environment and the costs associated with ecosystem degradation, potentially through a "green economy" model – or, in the case of Maldives, a "blue economy." The win-win in a green/blue economy comes from the fact that there exists real potential through creating economically, environmentally and socially just jobs and technology transfer and innovation, which can be initially fostered through an emphasis on low-carbon development. "Greening" investment strategies to ensure that the public and private sectors alike favour greater resource efficiency will remain important.

Focus likewise will be given to improving the effectiveness of relevant institutions, including NGOs and utilities, for sustainable management of ecosystems and environmental services; this will include small grants. Capacities will be strengthened at the policy and regulatory levels, while better coordination, implementation and monitoring of existing policies and regulations also will be supported. Support also will be given to the identification of legal, policy and institutional frameworks for conservation/sustainable use/access to benefit sharing of resources, and to establishment of systems for these.

Ensuring long-term food security in Maldives is dependent on maintaining extremely limited environmental resources – land, water and others – through sustainable agricultural practices and sound water management. A shift is needed to better utilization of innovative approaches such as climate-smart agriculture, including greater national and international investments in research and development for adaptation. Nutrition issues also have important linkages, with an acute need in Maldives to increasingly address the issue of sustainable and diverse diets that are nutritionally adequate but economically fair and affordable, and with low environmental impacts amid increasing population pressure on diminishing land and agricultural resources. Critically, this calls for collaboration among the health, agriculture and rural development sectors. The United Nations will prioritize technical assistance, including capacity development at national and local levels, to practice climate-smart agriculture and to better regulate, manage and use natural resources, and will support the development of integrated water resource management systems.

Likewise, the United Nations will pursue advocacy and coordination for effective Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and climate change adaptation, emphasizing broader knowledge and understanding of structural and non-structural risks, and ensuring a multi-sectoral approach. Institutions and communities alike will be supported to improve their resilience to disasters, including climate change impacts, via development and implementation of gender-responsive sectoral DRR and adaptation plans and community-based disaster management plans; replication of successful DRR initiatives and climate change adaptation strategies at scale; and enhanced capacities in disaster preparedness and adaptation/mitigation, emergency response and early recovery. The United Nations also will mainstream the work initiated to strengthen emergency preparedness and the capacity for responding in a humanitarian situation. Particular support will be accorded to find and address gaps in systemic procedures – including human resources, institutional arrangements and operational procedures – to foster the establishment of mechanisms such as disaster preparedness and recovery plans; likewise, support will be provided to implement measures to demonstrate such plans. The United Nations also will contribute to the development of a standardized damage and loss accounting system, with sex- and age-disaggregated data collection and analysis. In addition, the establishment of coordination mechanisms will be supported based on the national climate change strategy and the Disaster Management Bill; implementation of the regulatory provisions of the latter will be supported through the formation of local-level institutional and enforcement mechanisms.

Drawing on its global experiences, the United Nations also can offer significant contributions toward the clean energy aspirations of Maldives, building on the work of the United Nations Sustainable Energy for All initiative launched in 2012, as well as on models from the United Nations' large-scale programming on energy efficiency and low-carbon energy strategies around the world. The United Nations will support the shift to a more resource-efficient, cleaner and environmentally sustainable development model, engaging its global experience in this area and facilitating best models for policies, institutions and technologies. Priority will be given to advocacy, brokering and convening of strategic partnerships, such as with the public sector, private sector, and civil society, to fund and/or deliver improved energy efficiency and/or sustainable energy solutions. Likewise, support will be given to preparation of the next National Communication to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), as well as to the national phasing out of hydrochlorofluorocarbons (HCFCs), which harm the Earth's ozone layer.

The United Nations will prioritize the improvement of disaggregated environmental data collection in one atoll to be selected, while also strengthening the capacities of national statistical agencies and environmental institutions in: (1) Producing and sharing environmental indicators in line with international practices; and (2) Preparing sound environmental assessments based on indicator analysis. It will help to define national standards for environmental data and indicators, and to conduct an assessment of sectoral data availability for a core set of environmental statistics. In addition, it will help to link environmental statistics stored in multi-purpose databases and disseminate them to local planners via development of a knowledge portal in one atoll. Capacity development of relevant stakeholders in this atoll on data collection, management and analysis will be emphasized. Particular gaps in rural statistics related to agriculture will be identified and national data and indicators defined, with support to develop a framework for agricultural statistics.

Environment and Climate Change

National priorities and plans: PPM Manifestos (Agriculture, Energy, Fisheries, Health); Environment Protection and Preservation Act and associated policies and regulations; Maldives Climate Change Policy Framework (draft); Energy Policy and Strategies 2010; Water Act (draft); Provision of Utility Services Act; Disaster Management Bill

Outcome 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

Output 4.1: By 2020, national and sub-national authorities have strengthened, effective knowledge-based mechanisms that incorporate relevant sector data related to climate change, natural and human-induced disasters and sustainable environmental management, and that are accessible for evidence-based, gender-sensitive decision making

Output 4.2: By 2020, key tools are introduced so that development issues related to water, sanitation, waste management, energy, food security and natural resource management are more widely mainstreamed, effectively coordinated, and promote ecosystem-based environmental and economic sustainability

Output 4.3: By 2020, national and local-level systems are enhanced to prepare for, respond to and be resilient to natural and human-induced disasters, including climate change, and benefit from enhanced dialogue among relevant stakeholders in all sectors, with a special focus on vulnerable groups and women

III. Estimated Resource Requirements

The estimated United Nations financial resources for each UNDAF Outcome/output, and by Agency, are presented in the tables below, while the UNDAF Results and Resources Framework in Annex 1 presents resources in core and non-core categories. These contributions include “hard” resource allocations by each participating United Nations Agency, as well as “soft” commitments and unknown other resources that organizations expect to mobilize during the UNDAF cycle. The figures, while presented as targets, are as accurate as possible at the time of the UNDAF drafting.

Resource targets will continue to be updated and confirmed in Agency programme documents and workplans, according to procedures and approval mechanisms of each Agency. Resource requirements also will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect the different cycles of specialized and non-resident Agencies.

The total anticipated resources to be mobilized in support of UNDAF Outcomes during 2016-2020 amounts to an estimated US\$53.79 million at the time of writing. About 15.76 percent of the total resources will be spent under Strategic Priority Area 1 (Youth and Children) (US\$8.48 million); 3.68 percent under Strategic Priority Area 2 (Gender) (US\$1.98 million); 23.97 percent under Strategic Priority Area 3 (Governance) (US\$12.89 million); and 56.59 percent under Strategic Priority Area 4 (Environment and Climate Change) (\$US30.45 million). Furthermore, 21.48 percent (US\$11.56 million) of the Strategic Priority Areas 1, 3 and 4 are estimated to focus on gender mainstreaming. Thus, 25.24 percent (US\$ 13.54 million) of the resources are expected to enhance gender equality and women’s empowerment.

This reflects both national development priorities as well as provides for aligning the United Nations cooperation with overall development assistance. The UNDAF also is expected to benefit from substantial technical support from various Regional Offices of the United Nations.

UNDAF Resource Indicators by Outcome Area			
Outcome Area	Indicative Resources		
	Core	Non-Core	Total
Outcome 1: Youth & Children	\$3,638,207.31	\$4,838,632.26	\$8,476,839.57
Outcome 2: Gender	\$1,373,142.27	\$605,345.84	\$1,978,488.11
Outcome 3: Governance	\$3,784,846.73	\$9,109,548.16	\$12,894,395.89
Outcome 4: Environment & Climate Change	\$2,250,741.98	\$28,195,787.02	\$30,446,529.00
Total	\$11,046,938.29	\$42,749,313.28	\$53,796,252.57

UNDAF Resource Indicators by Agency			
	Indicative Resources		
Agency	Core	Non-Core	Total
FAO	\$1,250,000.00	\$2,000,000.00	\$3,250,000.00
ILO	\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00
UNDP	\$1,750,000.00	\$23,850,000.00	\$25,600,000.00
UNEP		\$4,800,000.00	\$4,800,000.00
UNESCO	\$85,000.00	\$775,000.00	\$860,000.00
UNFPA	\$1,500,000.00	\$370,000.00	\$1,870,000.00
UNICEF	\$4,186,296.29	\$5,192,280.28	\$9,378,576.57
UNODC		\$500,000.00	\$500,000.00
UNOPS		\$3,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00
UN WOMEN	\$250,000.00	\$89,400.00	\$339,400.00
WHO	\$1,925,642.00	\$2,172,633.00	\$4,098,275.00
Total	\$11,046,938.29	\$42,749,313.28	\$53,796,251.57

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UNDAF Resource Indicators by Agency and Outcome Area					
Agency	Outcome 1: Youth & Children	Outcome 2: Gender	Outcome 3: Governance	Outcome 4: Environment & Climate Change	Total per Agency
UNDP		\$550,000.00	\$6,650,000.00	\$18,400,000.00	\$25,600,000.00
UNICEF	\$6,349,960.57	\$418,488.11	\$1,832,998.89	\$777,129.00	\$9,378,576.57
UNFPA	\$990,000.00	\$760,000.00		\$120,000.00	\$1,870,000.00
WHO	\$286,879.00		\$3,811,396.00		\$4,098,275.00
UN WOMEN		\$250,000.00		\$89,400.00	\$339,400.00
UNOPS				\$3,000,000.00	\$3,000,000.00
ILO			\$100,000.00		\$100,000.00
FAO				\$3,250,000.00	\$3,250,000.00
UNESCO	\$850,000.00			\$10,000.00	\$860,000.00
UNODC			\$500,000.00		\$500,000.00
UNEP				\$4,800,000.00	\$4,800,000.00
Total per Outcome	\$8,476,839.57	\$1,978,488.11	\$12,894,394.89	\$30,446,529.00	\$53,796,251.57

UNDAF Resource Indicators by Output			
	Indicative Resources		
Output	Core	Non Core	Total
Outcome 1: Youth & Children			
Output 1.1	\$1,492,643.06	\$1,681,096.41	\$3,173,739.47
Output 1.2	\$1,225,620.16	\$1,433,016.69	\$2,658,636.85
Output 1.3	\$634,530.96	\$931,521.91	\$1,566,052.87
Output 1.4	\$100,000.00	\$100,000.00	\$200,000.00
Output 1.5	\$185,413.13	\$692,997.25	\$878,410.38
Total	\$3,638,207.31	\$4,838,632.26	\$8,476,839.57
Outcome 2: Gender			
Output 2.1	\$243,142.27	\$75,345.84	\$318,488.11
Output 2.2	\$460,000.00	\$150,000.00	\$610,000.00
Output 2.3	\$670,000.00	\$380,000.00	\$1,050,000.00
Total	\$1,373,142.27	\$605,345.84	\$1,978,488.11
Outcome 3: Governance			
Output 3.1	\$887,466.65	\$2,502,974.21	\$3,390,440.86
Output 3.2	\$275,000.00	\$1,525,000.00	\$1,800,000.00
Output 3.3	\$668,391.08	\$1,710,679.95	\$2,379,071.03
Output 3.4	\$163,142.00	\$1,350,345.00	\$1,513,487.00
Output 3.5	\$1,790,847.00	\$2,020,549.00	\$3,811,396.00
Total	\$3,784,846.73	\$9,109,548.16	\$12,894,394.89
Outcome 4: Environment & Climate Change			
Output 4.1	\$400,000.00	\$820,000.00	\$1,220,000.00
Output 4.2	\$860,000.00	\$21,589,400.00	\$22,449,400.00
Output 4.3	\$990,741.98	\$5,786,387.02	\$6,777,129.00
Total	\$2,250,741.98	\$28,195,787.02	\$30,446,529.00

IV. Implementation, Management and Coordination Modalities

Cooperation/Assistance Agreements between the Government of the Maldives & UN Agencies:

Whereas the Government of the Republic of Maldives (hereinafter referred to as “the Government”) has entered into the following:

a) WHEREAS the Government and the United Nations Development Programme (hereinafter referred to as UNDP) have entered into a basic agreement to govern UNDP’s assistance to the country (Standard Basic Assistance Agreement (SBAA)) [or other agreement], which was signed by both parties on 25 January 1978. Based on Article I, paragraph 2 of the SBAA, UNDP’s assistance to the Government shall be made available to the Government and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent UNDP organs, and subject to the availability of the necessary funds to the UNDP. In particular, decision 2005/1 of 28 January 2005 of UNDP’s Executive Board approved the new Financial Regulations and Rules, and along with them, the new definitions of ‘execution’ and ‘implementation’ enabling UNDP to fully implement the new Common Country Programming Procedures resulting from the undg simplification and harmonization initiative. In light of this decision, this UNDAF, together with a work plan (which shall form part of this UNDAF, and is incorporated herein by reference) concluded hereunder, constitute together a project document as referred to in the SBAA [or other appropriate governing agreement].

b) With the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) the first official agreement signed between Government of Maldives on 6 April 1970 and a Basic Cooperation Agreement (BCA) concluded between the Government on 19 April 1994.

c) The Basic Agreement concluded between the Government and the United Nations Development Programme on 25 January 1978 (the “Basic Agreement”) mutatis mutandis applies to the activities and personnel of UNFPA, in accordance with the agreement [concluded by an exchange of letters] between UNFPA and the Government which entered into force on 4 May 2014. This UNDAF together with any work plan concluded hereunder, which shall form part of this UNDAF and is incorporated herein by reference, constitutes the Project Document as referred to in the Basic Agreement.

d) For non-resident and specialized Agencies: Assistance to the Government shall be made available and shall be furnished and received in accordance with the relevant and applicable resolutions and decisions of the competent governing structures of WHO, UNOPS, UN Women, ILO, FAO, UNESCO, UNODC and UNEP.

Details of Implementation:

The programme will be nationally executed under the overall co-ordination of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Finance & Treasury (Government Co-ordinating Authority). Government coordinating authorities for specific UN System Agency programmes are noted in Annex 1. Government Ministries, NGOs, INGOs and UN System Agencies will implement programme activities. The UNDAF will be made operational through the development of joint work plan(s) (JWPs) (As per the undg Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for countries adopting the “Delivering as One” approach) and/or Agency-specific work plans and project documents as necessary which describe the specific results to be achieved and will form an agreement between the UN System Agencies and each implementing partner as necessary on the use of resources. To the extent possible the UN System Agencies and partners will use the minimum documents necessary, namely the signed UNDAF and signed joint or Agency-specific work plans and project documents to implement programmatic initiatives. However, as necessary and appropriate, project documents can be prepared using, inter alia, the relevant text from the UNDAF and joint or Agency-specific work plans and/or project documents. In the case of UNDP, the Government Coordinating Authority will nominate the Government Co-operating Agency directly responsible for the Government’s participation in each UNDP-assisted work plan. The reference to “Implementing Partner(s)” shall mean “Executing Agency(s)” as used in the SBAA. Where there are multiple implementing partners identified in a work plan, a Principal Implementing Partner will be identified as who will have responsibility for convening, co-ordinating and overall monitoring (programme and financial) of all the Implementing Partners identified in the work plan to ensure that inputs are provided and activities undertaken in a coherent manner to produce the results of the work plan.

Details of United Nations Support:

The UN System Agencies will provide support to the development and implementation of activities within the UNDAF, which may include technical support, cash assistance, supplies, commodities and equipment, procurement services, transport, funds for advocacy, research and studies, consultancies, programme development, monitoring and evaluation, training activities and staff support. Part of the UN System Agencies’ support may be provided to Non-Governmental [and Civil Society] organizations as agreed within the framework of the individual work plans (WPs) and project documents.

Additional support may include access to UN organization-managed global information systems, the network of the UN system agencies’ country offices and specialized information systems, including rosters of consultants and providers of development services, and access to the support provided by the network of UN Specialized Agencies, Funds and Programmes.

The UN System Agencies shall appoint staff and consultants for programme development, programme support, technical assistance, as well as monitoring and evaluation activities.

Subject to annual reviews and progress in the implementation of the programme, the UN system agencies’ funds are distributed by calendar year and in accordance with the UNDAF. These budgets will be reviewed and further detailed in the work plans (WPs) and project documents. By mutual consent between the Government and the UN System Agencies, funds not earmarked by donors to the UN system agencies for specific activities may be re-allocated to other programmatically equally worthwhile activities.

Agreement of the Implementing Partners:

Implementing Partners agree to cooperate with the UN System Agencies for monitoring all activities supported by cash transfers and will facilitate access to relevant financial records and personnel responsible for the administration of cash provided by the UN System Agencies. To that effect, Implementing Partners agree to the following:

1. Periodic on-site reviews and spot checks of their financial records by the UN system agencies or their representatives, as appropriate, and as described in specific clauses of their engagement documents/ contracts with the UN system agencies'
2. Programmatic monitoring of activities following the UN system agencies' standards and guidance for site visits and field monitoring,
3. Special or scheduled audits. Each UN organization, in collaboration with other UN System Agencies (where so desired and in consultation with the respective coordinating Ministry) will establish an annual audit plan, giving priority to audits of Implementing Partners with large amounts of cash assistance provided by the UN System Agencies, and those whose financial management capacity needs strengthening.

Management and Coordination

Specific coordination, management and partnership arrangements have been made to help ensure the success of the UNDAF. In particular, these arrangements will support the use of national systems for implementation, management and monitoring, in line with the focus on institutional capacity development, and will consider best practices from other countries.

A light governance structure will be applied: A high-level UNDAF Steering Committee, comprising co-chairs of the four Outcome Groups and relevant senior Government officials as well as representatives of the United Nations, will provide strategic direction and oversight to implementation of the UNDAF, as needed. The Steering Committee will be co-chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the United Nations Resident Coordinator; it will annually review progress against the UNDAF Results and Resources Framework and encourage joint programming. The UNCT, under the leadership of the Resident Coordinator, will be responsible for the overall effectiveness of the United Nations development activities, especially in cases where resources may be combined; in addition, a joint resource mobilization strategy will be supported (see box below).

UNDAF Outcome Groups, comprising representatives of the Government and the United Nations, will meet regularly (see also Section 5) and will serve as the main mechanisms for implementing the UNDAF. The Office of the UN Resident Coordinator will provide a strengthened secretariat and working-level UNDAF coordination mechanism, and will offer substantive support to tracking achievement of the Outcomes. Regional cooperation also will be supported and encouraged with the Government.

The overall objectives of the Delivering as One Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) are to provide an integrated package of clear, straightforward and internally consistent guidance on programming, leadership, business operations, funding and communications for country-level development operations, considering Agencies' mandates, rules and procedures; these SOPs have been signed by Executive Directors of the Agencies of the United Nations Development Group.

Striking a balance between flexibility and standardization so as to be applicable and useful for all Agencies in a variety of contexts, the Delivering as One SOPs that will be applied by the United Nations will support joint focus on results at country level. They promote six key principles: (1) Strong ownership by governments and other national stakeholders and leadership by national governments; (2) Significant simplification and reduction of programming, business and service transaction costs for governments, development partners and the United Nations, including by further integrating and harmonizing common and Agency-specific business processes; (3) Empowerment of UNCTs, under the

leadership of the United Nations Resident Coordinator, to address country-level needs, based on good practices and experiences in Delivering as One countries; (4) Flexibility to allow for innovation by UNCTs; (5) Drive toward common delivery of results and strengthened accountability, including on crosscutting issues; and (6) Emphasis on the shared values, norms and standards of the United Nations. In turn, all this supports the call within the post-2015 development agenda for policy and programme responses that are more integrated and multi-sectoral in nature, to address sustainable development.

Communication

During the UNDAF cycle the United Nations in the Maldives will apply the Delivering as One concept of Communicating as One. In particular, a United Nations joint communication strategy will be developed by UN Communications Group (UNCG) based on the four UNDAF priority areas. The UNCG comprised of communication focal points of UN agencies will work towards promoting awareness and understanding of UN's contribution to the national development process through common messages of UNDAF and enhancing strategic partnerships with the key stakeholders. The UNCG will foster greater inter-agency cooperation and enhance communications mechanisms, systems and processes of the UN in the Maldives. The UNCG will also work towards increasing public outreach, improving media relations and civil society engagement.

Operations Management

HACT Agencies: Cash Transfers and Audits

(i) Cash Transfers

All cash transfers to an Implementing Partner are based on the Work Plans (WPs5) agreed between the Implementing Partner and the UN system agencies.

Cash transfers for activities detailed in work plans (WPs) can be made by the UN system agencies using the following modalities:

1. Cash transferred directly to the Implementing Partner:
 - a. Prior to the start of activities (direct cash transfer), or
 - b. After activities have been completed (reimbursement);
2. Direct payment to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the Implementing Partners on the basis of requests signed by the designated official of the Implementing Partner;
3. Direct payments to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by UN system agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners.

Cash transfers for activities detailed in work plans (WPs) can be made by the UN system agencies using the following modalities:

1. Cash transferred to the [national institution] for forwarding to the Implementing Partner:
 - a. Prior to the start of activities (direct cash transfer), or
 - b. After activities have been completed (reimbursement).
2. Direct payment to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the Implementing Partners on the basis of requests signed by the designated official of the Implementing Partner.
3. Direct payments to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by UN system agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners.

Where cash transfers are made to the [national institution], the [national institution] shall transfer such cash promptly to the Implementing Partner. Direct cash transfers shall be requested and released for programme implementation periods not exceeding three months. Reimbursements of previously authorized expenditures shall be requested and released quarterly or after the completion of activities. The UN System Agencies shall not be obligated to reimburse expenditure made by the Implementing Partner over and above the authorized amounts.

Following the completion of any activity, any balance of funds shall be refunded or programmed by mutual agreement between the Implementing Partner and the UN System Agencies. Cash transfer modalities, the size of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of assurance activities may depend on the findings of a review of the public financial management capacity in the case of a Government Implementing Partner, and of an assessment of the financial management capacity of the non-UN* Implementing Partner. A qualified consultant, such as a public accounting firm, selected by the UN System Agencies may conduct such an assessment, in which the Implementing Partner shall participate. The Implementing Partner may participate in the selection of the consultant. Cash transfer modalities, the size of disbursements, and the scope and frequency of assurance activities may be revised in the course of programme implementation based on the findings of programme monitoring, expenditure monitoring and reporting, and audits.

In case of direct cash transfer or reimbursement, the UN System Agencies shall notify the Implementing Partner of the amount approved by the UN System Agencies and shall disburse funds to the Implementing Partner in [here insert the number of days as per UN system agency schedule]. In case of direct payment to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the Implementing Partners on the basis of requests signed by the designated official of the Implementing Partner; or to vendors or third parties for obligations incurred by the UN System Agencies in support of activities agreed with Implementing Partners, the UN System Agencies shall proceed with the payment within [here insert the number of days as agreed by the UN system agencies].

The UN System Agencies shall not have any direct liability under the contractual arrangements concluded between the Implementing Partner and a third party vendor.

Where the UN System Agencies and other UN System Agency provide cash to the same Implementing Partner, programme monitoring, financial monitoring and auditing will be undertaken jointly or coordinated with those UN System Agencies.

(ii) Audits:

The audits will be commissioned by the UN System Agencies and undertaken by private audit services.

*For the purposes of these clauses, "the UN" includes the IFIs.

The Operations Management Team (OMT) will be crucial to maintaining the efficiency of business operations during UNDAF, and to harmonizing business practices, including common services such as the Harmonized Approach to Cash Transfers (HACT) and, if any, common premises. This will entail constant communication and strengthened linkages between the business operations and programme areas of expertise, which will be key to the development of shared operational services and efficiently functioning programmes. In turn, this is expected to strengthen the reputation of the United Nations as a strategic, coherent and (cost-) effective partner working together as one. It also will help to reduce operational costs through the reduction of monetary and labour costs realized by leveraging economies of scale, simplifying procedures and reducing duplication, and will enhance transparency and accountability for the delivery of joint operational results through improved monitoring of expenditures and progress.

UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF are the Agencies in Maldives that are part of the country-level UN Working Group for HACT (see HACT implementation details in box above)⁷⁹. Common management clauses of the United Nations Agencies also apply. HACT is a risk-based management approach and the sole framework applied by adopting Agencies when transferring cash to implementing partners. Emphasis is on reducing transaction costs while ensuring joint operationalization with respect to country macro assessments, as well as assessments/audits of shared partners.

Joint Programming

Lastly, the continuation or introduction of joint programmes within relevant areas of interest during the UNDAF cycle will be a critical feature of implementation as part of the United Nations' renewed emphasis on joint programming and cooperation, noted in Section I. For example, the US\$9.2-million Low Emission Climate Resilient Development (LECRd) programme, a joint United Nations endeavour initially envisioned for the period of 2013-2016, addresses UNDAF Outcome 4 and builds on the comparative strengths of Agencies including UNDP, UNICEF, UNOPS, UNFPA, UN Women, WHO and FAO. It seeks to mainstream LECRd issues into local-level development planning and service delivery in Laamu Atoll and its islands for greater community-level ownership and sustainability of programme benefits; to establish early lessons through a learning-by-doing approach; and to build demand for LECRd planning and management for replication and scaling up. Based on this success, opportunities for other joint programmes will be further explored.

⁷⁹ For further information on HACT, please refer to the UNDG HACT Framework: <https://undg.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/2014-UNDG-HACT-Framework-English-FINAL.pdf>

V. Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanisms

The United Nations in the Maldives and the Government of Maldives are committed to rigorously monitor progress of the UNDAF and will use key indicators, accompanied by baselines, targets and means of verification, that have been formulated for each Outcome and output. Lead Agencies for each of the UNDAF strategic priority areas will be responsible for ensuring a smooth monitoring and evaluation (M&E) process with special attention to monitoring gender mainstreaming. To the extent possible, monitoring of the UNDAF will be done using existing national performance monitoring tools and data available from national sources. In addition, the UNDAF monitoring process will be strongly linked to the critical need to strengthen national data systems, including support to the establishment of a decentralized national monitoring system and national database, as well as to strengthening of national monitoring capacity. A fuller UNDAF M&E calendar may be developed to provide a tentative schedule of major M&E activities by each of the Outcome Groups.

Throughout the UNDAF cycle, internal United Nations meetings will be essential to enhance coordination of UNDAF monitoring and evaluation, as well as to discuss UNDAF-related issues in general. Internal UN Outcome Group meetings thus will be held three times a year; Outcome Group meetings also will be held twice-yearly with Government. The high-level UNDAF Steering Committee will meet once a year to plan for the following year and monitor results of the previous year.

An annual United Nations Country Results Report is a required core element under the Standard Operating Procedures for Delivering as One. This report, which will be evidence-based, results-oriented and reader-friendly, will address primarily a country-level audience; the format for the national report, using a suggested template,⁸⁰ will be discussed and agreed. It will have the overall purpose to demonstrate results through a consolidated overview of progress to date, and to inform decision making.

To enable both the Government and the United Nations to take advantage of new opportunities or adjust expectations in response to changes in the external environment, the Steering Committee may organize a Mid Term Review of the UNDAF under agreed terms. The Outcome Groups will provide inputs based not only on the status of the implementation of Outcome Group workplans, but also building on and incorporating feedback from sector- and Agency-specific evaluations and analysis. These procedures will nurture an institutional culture of transparency, mutual accountability and national ownership through results-based management and reporting, as well as facilitate validation of best practices/lessons learned during UNDAF progress to assist in the preparation of new workplans.

Lastly, a detailed evaluation of the UNDAF will be undertaken in the penultimate year of the UNDAF cycle. This evaluation will assess, in particular, the contribution made to national development priorities and goals; relevance of UNDAF Outcomes/outputs and the United Nations programming strategies; effectiveness and efficiency by which results have been achieved; and sustainability of results. A particular focus will be on the extent to which the United Nations in the Maldives has been able to effectively contribute to substantively strengthening national institutional and human capacities, as well as to the extent of change in the context of rights of vulnerable groups. The evaluation also will assess the operational effectiveness of the United Nations resulting from the contextual use in Maldives of the SOPs for Delivering as One. As appropriate, the evaluation will inform the design of the next development framework and ensuing Country Programmes and projects by individual Agencies.

⁸⁰ The United Nations Development Group has noted that this template is a living document that will be periodically review and, if necessary, revised.

Gender Mainstreaming

Gender equality, women's rights and women's empowerment are essential ingredients to create more equitable and just world for all.⁸¹ The Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review⁸² (A/RES/67/226) urges the United Nations Development System to increase investments in and focus on gender equality results which at country level can be addressed through the UNDAF. A simple way of measuring the seriousness of UNDAF commitments to gender equality is by the extent of resources devoted to such outcomes and to gender outputs in all the outcome areas.⁸³

For the UNDAF 2016-2020, a simple analysis has been carried out for the indicative resources of UNDAF outputs within areas other than Gender: Youth and Children, Governance and Environment and Climate Change. This analysis examined the output indicators for the gender aspects integrated and planned monitoring through disaggregated data. The analysis is based on two premises: (1) If disaggregated data are being used to measure the progress, then half of the applied resources allocated will benefit women and young children; (2) If gender aspects are incorporated into the output indicators, there will be a contribution to gender equality and women's empowerment.

Gender Mainstreaming in UNDAF 2016-2020				
Outcome	Output	Total Indicative Resources	Estimated % on gender mainstreaming	indicative resources for interventions with gender mainstreaming
Youth & Children	Output 1.2	\$2,658,636.85	50	\$1,329,318.43
	Output 1.3	\$1,566,052.87	25	\$391,513.22
	Output 1.4	\$200,000.00	50	\$100,000.00
	Output 1.5	\$878,410.38	25	\$219,602.60
Governance	Output 3.2	\$1,800,000.00	50	\$900,000.00
	Output 3.3	\$2,379,071.03	25	\$594,767.76
	Output 3.5	\$3,811,396.00	25	\$952,849.00
Environment & Climate Change	Output 4.1	\$1,220,000.00	50	\$610,000.00
	Output 4.2	\$22,449,400.00	25	\$5,612,350.00
	Output 4.3	\$6,777,129.00	12.5	\$847,141.13
Total Resources		\$43,740,096.13		\$11,557,542.12

As per this analysis 21.48 percent of the indicative resources in the 3 specified Outcomes are estimated to focus on gender mainstreaming. Thus, by taking into account the dedicated resources in the gender outcome and gender mainstreaming, 25.24 percent of the UNDAF 2016-2020 resources are expected to enhance gender equality and women's empowerment.

However, it is acknowledged that estimating resources for Gender Mainstreaming is a complex exercise. Ultimately utilization of the resources and the impact of the implementation on gender equality and women's empowerment need rigorous monitoring at Outcome/output and activity levels. Hence, the UNDAF Steering Committee will ensure the following for the UNDAF 2016-2020 cycle:

⁸¹ UNDG Task Team on Gender Equality (2014). Resource Book for Mainstreaming Gender in UN Common Programming at the Country Level

⁸² The QCPR is the primary policy instrument of the General Assembly to define

⁸³ UNDG Task Team on Gender Equality (2010). Strengthening Gender Equality in the United Nations Development Frameworks

- Ministry of Law & Gender and UN Women to be represented in all Outcome Groups to ensure monitoring of gender mainstreaming
- Ministry of Law & Gender to lead a Gender Scoring of Youth and Children, Governance and Environment and Climate Change priority areas within the annual reporting process.
- Communications Strategy with common messages to be utilized for programming and advocacy throughout implementation period of new UNDAF 2016-2020
- Inclusion of gender analysis, human rights and other normative principles as part of UNDAF annual reporting by each Outcome area.

VI. Commitments of the Government

For HACT Agencies:

A standard Fund Authorization and Certificate of Expenditures (FACE) report, reflecting the activity lines of the work plan (WP), will be used by Implementing Partners to request the release of funds, or to secure the agreement that [UN organization] will reimburse or directly pay for planned expenditure. The Implementing Partners will use the FACE to report on the utilization of cash received. The Implementing Partner shall identify the designated official(s) authorized to provide the account details, request and certify the use of cash. The FACE will be certified by the designated official(s) of the Implementing Partner.

Cash transferred to Implementing Partners should be spent for the purpose of activities and within the timeframe as agreed in the work plans (WPs) only.

Cash received by the Government and national NGO Implementing Partners shall be used in accordance with established national regulations, policies and procedures consistent with international standards, in particular ensuring that cash is expended for activities as agreed in the work plans (WPs), and ensuring that reports on the utilization of all received cash are submitted to [UN organization] within six months after receipt of the funds. Where any of the national regulations, policies and procedures are not consistent with international standards, the UN system agency financial and other related rules and system agency regulations, policies and procedures will apply.

In the case of international NGO/CSO and IGO Implementing Partners cash received shall be used in accordance with international standards in particular ensuring that cash is expended for activities as agreed in the work plans (WPs), and ensuring that reports on the full utilization of all received cash are submitted to [UN organization] within six months after receipt of the funds.

To facilitate scheduled and special audits, each Implementing Partner receiving cash from [UN organization] will provide UN system agency or its representative with timely access to:

- all financial records which establish the transactional record of the cash transfers provided by [UN system agency], together with relevant documentation;
- all relevant documentation and personnel associated with the functioning of the Implementing Partner's internal control structure through which the cash transfers have passed.

The findings of each audit will be reported to the Implementing Partner and [UN organization]. Each Implementing Partner will furthermore:

- Receive and review the audit report issued by the auditors.
- Provide a timely statement of the acceptance or rejection of any audit recommendation to the [UN organization] that provided cash (and where the SAI has been identified to conduct the audits, add: and to the SAI) so that the auditors include these statements in their final audit report before submitting it to [UN organization].
- Undertake timely actions to address the accepted audit recommendations.

Report on the actions taken to implement accepted recommendations to the UN system agencies (and where the SAI has been identified to conduct the audits, add: and to the SAI), on a quarterly basis (or as locally agreed).

The Government will support the United Nations' efforts to raise funds required to meet the needs of this UNDAF and will cooperate with the United Nations including: encouraging potential donor Governments to make available to the United Nations the funds needed to implement unfunded components of the programme; endorsing the United Nations efforts to mobilize resources, including raising funds for the programme from other sources, including the private sector both internationally and in Maldives; and by permitting contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations in and outside Maldives to support this programme, which will be tax-exempt for the Donor, to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

Cash assistance for travel, stipends, honoraria and other costs shall be set at rates commensurate with those applied in the country, but not higher than those applicable to the United Nations (as stated in International Civil Service Commission circulars).

The Government will honour its commitments in accordance with the provisions of the cooperation and assistance agreements outlined above, in the section on Basis of the Relationship. The Government shall apply the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations agencies to the Agencies' property, funds, and assets and to its officials and consultants. In addition the Government will accord to the Agencies and their officials and to other persons performing services on behalf of the Agencies, the privileges, immunities and facilities as set out in the cooperation and assistance agreements between the Agencies and the Government. The Government will be responsible for dealing with any claims, which may be brought by third parties against any of the Agencies and its officials, advisors and agents. None of the Agencies nor any of their respective officials, advisors or persons performing services on their behalf will be held responsible for any claims and liabilities resulting from operations under the cooperation and assistance agreements, except where it is mutually agreed by Government and a particular Agency that such claims and liabilities arise from gross negligence or misconduct of that Agency, or its officials, advisors or persons performing services.

Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Government shall insure or indemnify the Agencies from civil liability under the law of the country in respect of vehicles provided by the Agencies but under the control of or use by the Government.

(a) Nothing in this Agreement shall imply a waiver by the UN or any of its Agencies or Organizations of any privileges or immunities enjoyed by them or their acceptance of the jurisdiction of the courts of any country over disputes arising of this Agreement.

(b) Nothing in or relating to this document will be deemed a waiver, expressed or implied, of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations and its subsidiary organs, including WFP, whether under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13th February 1946, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21st November 1947, as applicable, and no provisions of this Note Verbal or any Institutional Contract or any Undertaking will be interpreted or applied in a manner, or to an extent, inconsistent with such privileges and immunities.

Annex 1: UNDAF Results and Resources Framework

UNDAF Outcome 1 – Youth and Children

Outcome Area 1: Youth and Children

Outcome/Output	Outcome/Output Indicator Statement	Baseline	Target	Monitoring Responsibility for Outcome/Output	Means of Verification	Agency Specific Contribution to Output	Partners	Indicative Resources		
								Core	Non Core	Total
Outcome 1: Children and youth access equitable, inclusive and quality social services, and have increased opportunities for skills development	1.1. % of students passing 5 or more subjects in their secondary school completion examinations	48% (2013)	60% (2020)	UNICEF	MoE Statistics	UNICEF, UNESCO, UNFPA and WHO will work together to: - Strengthen institutional capacity to prevent malnutrition and promote child health - Enhance systems and institutional capacity to provide quality education, advocate for progressive integration of comprehensive education in school curriculum, and strengthen alternative educational systems for the most vulnerable children and adolescents - Strengthen systems and capacities to prevent, protect and respond to violence against children and adolescents, and to children in conflict with the law - Enhanced capacity for increased awareness among the adolescents on effects and protection of themselves	MoE, MoYS, MoH, MoLG, MoHA, NDA, PIMS	\$4,503,412.31	\$4,686,548.26	\$9,189,960.57
	1.2. % of children with malnutrition	1. 18.9% (2009) Stunted children under five	1. < 15% Stunted (children under 5)	UNICEF	DHS, MoH records					
		ii. 10% Wasted children U5 (Weight for height < -2SD)	ii. <5% Wasted children U5 (Weight for height < -2SD)							
	iii. 7% overweight/obese children: baseline	iii. < 5 % overweight/obese children								

	iv. 23.5 % overweight/obese adolescents girls aged 15 – 19 years	iv. < 15 % overweight/obese adolescents girls aged 15 – 19 years			from use of drugs and substance abuse - Strengthening capacity for alternative learning opportunities, and support to develop policies on it
1.3. Neonatal mortality rate	4 per 1000 live births	2 per 1000 live births	WHO	VRS, MoH records	
1.4. % of atolls with functional child protection system	0 atolls	50% of atolls (10 out of 20 atolls)	UNICEF	Maldives Child Protection Database (MCPD), DHS, MoLG & PIMS statistics	
1.5. Adolescent birth rate	10 per 1000 women	8 per 1000 women	UNFPA	DHS, MoH statistics	
1.6 % of children 12 -23 months of age fully immunized for vaccine preventable diseases mandated by the national immunisation schedule	i. 93% (national)	i. 98% (national)	WHO	WHO / UNICEF Joint Report	
	ii. 88% (Atolls with low vaccine prevalence)	ii. 93% (Atolls with low vaccine prevalence)			
1.7 % of pregnant women and adolescents with anemia	i. 15.4% Proxy indicator - among women of reproductive age	i. 10%	UNICEF	DHS, MoH statistics	

Output 1.1: By 2020, National and sub-national authorities have enhanced institutional and human capacity to offer equitable and quality child and youth friendly health services, including nutrition, child health, A/YSRH, HIV/AIDS	1.1.1. Proportion of children 6–23 months of age who receive a minimum acceptable diet (apart from breast milk)	58% (Proxy IYCF)	75%	UNICEF	DHS, MoH records	UNICEF: - Strengthen institutional capacity to prevent malnutrition and provide comprehensive child nutrition interventions, especially in the regions with high malnutrition rates - Enhance capacity to develop and revise policies and strategies for implementation and monitoring of inclusive and equitable child health programmes	MoH, NGO, MNU	UNICEF: \$1,057,848.06	UNICEF: \$1,379,012.41	UNICEF: \$2,436,860.47
	1.1.2. % of health facilities implementing at least 60% of recommended actions in the National Adolescents and Youth Friendly Service Guidelines	0	10	UNFPA	DHS, MoH records	UNFPA: - Work with policy makers and convene civil society actors and religious scholars to remove legal barriers for young people to realize their reproductive rights and promote gender equality.		UNFPA: \$300,000	UNFPA: \$150,000	UNFPA: \$450,000
	1.1.3. Health Information System with real time data developed and functioning	Not in place	Functioning in 30% of public health facilities	UNICEF	DHS, MoH records	WHO: - Support to immunization and child health		WHO: \$134,795	WHO: \$152,084	WHO: \$286,879

	1.1.4. % of facilities delivering comprehensive essential newborn care and care of special/ sick newborn as per facility standard package of services.	2% (2014) (proxy data, based on trained staff)	60% (with upgraded services and facilities for newborn care)	UNICEF	MoH records					
Output 1.2: By 2020, national and sub-national systems have enhanced capacity to deliver quality inclusive education, including enhanced coordination, and efficient monitoring mechanisms for adherence to quality standards	1.2.1. % of students (girls and boys) with SEN in mainstream schools having Individual Education Plans	IEP in SEN Units 100%; IEP in mainstream schools 0	100%	UNICEF	MoE records	UNICEF: - Strengthened institutional capacity for implementation and monitoring of child-friendly, inclusive gender sensitive education, including learning achievements UNFPA: - Advocate and provide policy advice for the progressive integration of comprehensive education in school curriculum, advocate for the establishment of out-of school mechanism for young people to access quality reproductive health information. UNESCO: Technical support and capacity development to: - Strengthen national capacity to design and implement evidence-based policies, plans and monitoring - Establish functional national-wide EMIS system - Finalize the ICT in Education Master	MoE (including NIE), MNU (FE)	UNICEF: \$635,620.16	UNICEF: \$1,083,016.69	UNICEF: \$1,718,636.85
	1.2.2. % of schools meeting the minimum Child Friendly Schools standards	6% (proxy indicator of schools (14) trained on CFBS in 2014)	20% increase from baseline	UNICEF	MoE records			UNESCO: \$50,000	UNESCO: \$350,000	UNESCO: \$400,000
	1.2.3. % of children accessing and learning through alternative education programmes	0 (7% OOSC - Proxy from Net enrollment)	20% of the OOSC population (of the baseline 7%)	UNICEF	EMIS, MoE records			UNFPA: \$540,000		UNFPA: \$540,000
	1.2.4. % of students (girls	i. 22% students receiving LSE	i. 100%	I. UNICEF						

	and boys) receiving Life Skills education that adheres to minimum level of international standards through the integrated curriculum	ii. 10% (UNESCO topics integrated)	ii.67%	II. UNFPA	EMIS, MoE records	Plan; - Reinforce the ICT Competency of Teachers in Maldives - Address key policy gaps in integration of comprehensive sexual reproductive health education into Life Skills education				
	1.2.5. % of Preschools that meet the ECE quality standards	79% - (proxy indicator of trained teachers - from Certificate level. Criteria will be revised in 2015-2016, & data updated)	95% - (proxy indicator of trained teachers - from Certificate level. Criteria will be revised in 2015-2016 & data updated)	UNICEF	EMIS, MoE records					
Output 1.3: By 2020, institutions and communities have enhanced capacities and well coordinated systems to prevent, protect and respond to violence against children, adolescents, and children in conflict with the law	1.3.1. A functional coordination mechanism in place at national and Atoll level (Atolls with high prevalence of child abuse)	i. National - no mechanism in place ii. Atoll level: not in place	i. National - In place ii. Atoll level: 4 Atolls with mechanisms	UNICEF	MoLG records	UNICEF: - Institutional capacity at national, atoll and community level enhanced to prevent, protect and respond to VAC, CiCWL, and for prevention of drug abuse, by 2020. - Capacity increased for strengthening monitoring mechanisms at all levels to identify VAC and CiCWL and timeliness and effectiveness of response	MoLG, JJU, MPS, WDC, AC, IC	UNICEF: \$634,530.96	UNICEF : \$931,521.91	UNICEF: \$1,566,052.87
	1.3.2. Diversion options and alternate sentencing systems and mechanisms in	Not in place	Established and operational	UNICEF	MPS records, MoLG records	- Enhanced capacity for increased awareness among the adolescents on effects and protection of themselves from use of drugs and substance abuse				

	place at national and atoll level									
	1.3.3. Monitoring mechanisms including functional data systems available at national and atoll level	i. National - no mechanism in place ii. Atoll level: not in place	i. National - In place ii. Atoll level: In Place	UNICEF	MPS records, MoLG records & JJU records		PGO, MPS, JJU			
	1.3.4. Number of regulations for the new child protection act drafted	0	10	UNICEF	Government Gazette		MoLG, MPS, JJU			
	1.3.5. % of cases of sexual violence against children responded and successfully closed as defined by standardized operational procedures and by trained professionals	0%	75%	UNICEF	MPS records & MoLG records		MoLG, MPS			
Output 1.4: By 2020, enhanced systems are in place to deliver services for	1.4.1 % of girls and boys with knowledge and skills on substance abuse	To be established	Increase of 20%	UNICEF	NDA Statistics, MoE records	UNICEF: - Enhanced capacity for increased awareness among the adolescents on effects and protection of themselves	NDA, MoE, JJU, MoYS,	UNICEF: \$100,000	UNICEF : \$100,000	UNICEF: \$200,000

prevention of substance abuse, and to provide rehabilitation, reintegration and after-care for children and youth	prevention and safe behaviour					from use of drugs and substance abuse	MoE, MoLG			
	1.4.2. A mechanism developed for community reintegration of girls and boys who are abusing substances	Not in place	Established and operational	UNICEF	NDA records					
Output 1.5: By 2020, increased opportunities for skills development to prepare young people for the labour market, and for sport and recreation, are in place	1.5.1. % of secondary students (girls and boys) who have access to TVET stream	F = 435 M = 481	Every year: F = 700 M = 700	UNICEF	MoE records	UNICEF: Strengthening capacity for alternative learning opportunities UNESCO: technical support and capacity development to Review national TVET policy	MoE	UNICEF: \$160,413.13	UNICEF: \$267,997.25	UNICEF: \$428,410.38
	1.5.2. Number of young people (Male and Female) enrolled in skills-development education / training programme	15 enrolments in internship program, 30 in skills development	150 enrolments	UNICEF	Sector records		MoE, MoYS	UNESCO: \$25,000	UNESCO: \$425,000	UNESCO: \$450,000

**Outcome Area 2:
Gender**

Outcome/Output	Outcome/Output Indicator Statement	Baseline	Target	Monitoring Responsibility for Outcome/Output	Means of Verification	Agency Specific Contribution to Output	Partners	Indicative Resources		
								Core	Non-Core	Total
Outcome 2: Gender equality advanced and women empowered to enjoy equal rights and opportunities in access to social, economic and political opportunities.	2.1 % of appointed cabinet, state and deputy ministers posts held by women	15.3 (17 out of 111)	22	UNFPA	President's Office	UNFPA, UN Women, UNICEF and UNDP will work together to: - Strengthen the analysis, planning and budgeting process to advance gender equality and economic empowerment of women -Strengthen accountability mechanisms to monitor gender related national and international commitments -Strengthen accountability of the state institutions to prevent and response to gender based violence	MoLG, MOE, MoFT, FPA, MOED, CSO	\$1,373,142.27	\$605,345.84	\$1,978,488.11
	2.2 % of men and women who think that a husband or partner is justified in hitting or beating a wife or partner under certain circumstances	Men: 25.7 Women: 45.1	Men: 20 Women: 40	UNFPA	DHS/Right side of life					

	2.3 Female labour force participation rate	54%	58%	UN Women	HIES								
	2.4 % difference between mean monthly income of women and men BL: 20% (mean monthly income male: 7036, female: 4674; % difference: $[(7036-4674)/total*100]$)	20 (mean monthly income male: 7036, female: 4674; % difference: $[(7036-4674)/total*100]$)	15%	UN Women	HIES								
Output 2.1 By 2020, gender responsive frameworks and mechanisms at national and subnational levels have strengthened capacity to advance women's rights, gender equality and economic empowerment	2.1.1 # state institutions that implement gender-responsive and socially inclusive planning and budgeting	0	4	UN Women	Review by MoLG/MoTF	UN Women: - Assist the national and sub-national institutions to increase knowledge and build capacity to enhance gender responsiveness in planning, budgeting and accountability mechanisms in policies and programmes. UN Women will also aid in conducting GRB analysis of select sectors. - Assist in strengthening capacity at national and sub-national levels to integrate, manage and monitor economic policies and programmes from a gender perspective. UN women will also assist in undertaking research, build capacity and advocate for access to decent work, enhanced livelihoods and economic opportunities for women.	MoGL, MoFT, CSO	UN Women: \$150,000	UN Women: TBD	UN Women: \$150,000			
	2.1.2 # UN recommendations, substantiated by evidence, on gender issues submitted to Ministry of Law and Gender	0	5	UN Women	UN Women records						UNICEF: \$93,142.27	UNICEF: \$75,345.84	UNICEF: \$168,488.11
	2.1.3 # of state institutions with new affirmative action policies for economic empowerment, established	0	5	UN Women	PO records of cabinet meetings (Agenda and minutes)								

						UNICEF: - Support child friendly and gender sensitive delivery of social services				
Output 2.2 By 2020, State institutions, civil society organizations and private sector are able to participate fully in CEDAW and other gender relevant intergovernmental processes, monitor and report progress and domesticate international obligations and commitments in national policy framework.	2.2.1 # of state and shadow reports duly submitted for the 6th and 7th reporting period.	0	2 state reports, 2 shadow reports.	UN Women	MoLG/MoFA records	UNFPA: - Aid government entities in the full participation, domesticating and national monitoring of implementation of relevant international commitments, including the International Conference on Population and Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Universal Periodic Review as well as the monitoring of implementation of national policies. UNFPA will mobilize civil society actors, including women and young people, based on sound data and analysis.	MoGL, MoFA, HRCM, CSO	UNFPA: \$360,000	UNFPA: \$100,000	UNFPA: \$460,000
	2.2.2 Extent to which operational institutions have the capacity to support fulfilment of CEDAW Concluding observations.	1	3	UNDP	MoLG/MoFA records civil society annual reports	UNDP: - Support national partners in strengthening their capacity for data collection, coordination and monitoring of CEDAW. UNDP indicator will be measured as follows; 1. Not adequately: No action has yet been taken and/or activities have been carried out 2. Very Partially: through UNDP support the institutions have seen an increase (limited) in their		UNDP: \$50,000	UNDP: \$50,000	UNDP: \$100,000
	2.2.3 Existence of a functioning tracking and reporting system to follow up on the implementation of accepted women's rights and reproductive rights recommendations and obligations from the	No	Yes		UNFPA	MoLG records			UN Women: \$50,000	UN Women: \$50,000

	Universal Periodic Review and Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women					<p>capacity</p> <p>3. Partially: through UNDP support the institutions has seen a significant increase in thier capacity.</p> <p>4. Largely: the institution has extensive capacity and there is demonstrable evidence that this is leading to fulfillment CEDAW concluding observations</p> <p>UN Women: Assist the government and civil society to participate, domesticate, implement and monitor international commitments and obligations relating to gender equality and women’s rights. UN Women will further assist in strengthening advocacy for Intergovernmental processes with the government and key multi-stakeholders.</p> <p>UNICEF: Strengthening institutional capacity for addressing Gender violence and increasing gender sensitive programmes for children</p>				
Output 2.3 By 2020,Institutions strengthened and legislations implemented to effectively prevent	2.3.1 No. of coordinated budget advocacy plans developed and implemented by stakeholders	1	4	UN Women	Review by MoLG and MoFT	UNFPA: - Analyze the effects and benefits of an adequate health sector response to gender based violence and provide policy advice address gaps in policies based on	MoH, MoGL, AGO, PGO, MoHA (Police	UNFPA: \$300,00 0 UNDP: \$150,00		UNFPA: \$300,00 0 UNDP: \$450,00

and respond to GBV	2.3.2 # of GBV survivors identified by the health sector annually by 2020	0	100	UNFP A	MoH records/HMIS	<p>sound analysis of data and international best practices. UNFPA will work to include gender based violence prevention in school curriculum and strengthen accountability and monitoring of the DV act and related policies implementation.</p> <p>UNDP: - Improve access to justice sector institutions by GBV victims through the establishment of legal clinics and conduct training of multi-sector stakeholders on their mandate under key legislation including legal aid Act. Indicator will assess the impact of UNDP direct support in this area. - Indicator 2.3.7 measures the no: of people that have increased access to justice sector institution through UNDP interventions such as the establishment of legal aid at local level</p> <p>UNICEF: - Institutional capacity strengthened for prevention, identification, and addressing gender based violence</p> <p>UN Women: - Assist key stakeholders to advocate on eliminating gender based violence including for effective implementation of</p>), FPA, CSO, HRCM, MoE,	0	0	0
	2.3.3 % of reported GBV cases that received responses by trained professionals and successfully closed as defined by standardized operational procedures	0	50	UNICE F	MoLG, MPS and FCSC Records			UNICEF: \$170,000	UNDP: \$300,000	UNICEF: \$250,000
	2.3.4 % of cases of VAC that received response and successfully closed as defined by standardized operational procedures, and by trained professionals	0	75	UNICE F	MoLG, MPS and FCSC Records			UN Women: \$50,000	UNICEF: \$80,000	UN Women: \$50,000
	2.3.5 % of UNESCO sub-topics on gender and gender based violence integrated in Life Skills Education in national curriculum and resource materials	0	75	UNFP A	MoE records					
	2.3.6 # of people with access to legal aid disaggregated by sex	0	50	UNDP	AGO					
	2.3.7 Existence of new and strengthened legal aid and justice	0	1	UNDP	Statistics Book, Public					

	services to prevent and address GBV				perception survey	legislature and policies. UN Women will also work to build and strengthen the capacity of relevant actors to address the issue of violence against women including DV and promote gender equality and women's empowerment.				
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Outcome Area 3: Governance

Outcome/Output	Outcome/Output Indicator Statement	Baseline	Target	Monitoring Responsibility for Outcome/Output	Means of Verification	Agency Specific Contribution to Output	Partners	Indicative Resources		
								Core	Non-Core	Total

Outcome 3 - By 2020 Citizen expectations for voice, sustainable development, the rule of law and accountability are met by stronger systems of democratic governance	3.1 % of councils with five year development plans	16%	20%	UNDP	Local Government Authority Website & records	<p>UNDP, UNICEF, ILO, IOM and WHO will work together to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UN support will focus on improving awareness of governance issues and participation in policy and decision making especially of youth, women and vulnerable groups, and increase the protection of their human rights and their access to justice. - Strengthening engagement between government and civil society and between CSOs and vulnerable groups at the grassroots level, as well as promoting evidence based policy research, inclusive planning, enhancing monitoring capacity and analysis to feed into national and local level planning, service delivery and policy making. - Strengthen mechanisms and framework including social protection system aimed at improving conditions for the vulnerable groups. - Strengthen capacity at all levels to implement intergovernmental mechanisms, harmonize and monitor international obligations especially those that protect the rights of vulnerable groups including migrant workers. 	<p>Local Government Authority, Department of Judicial Administration, Civil Society Groups. Ministry of Finance and Treasury, Local Government Authority, National Bureau of Statist</p>	<p>\$3,784,846.73</p>	<p>\$9,109,548.16</p>	<p>\$12,894,395.89</p>
	3.2 Access to justice services, disaggregated by type of service	0	0.3	UNDP	UNDP Public Perception Survey & Department of Judicial Administrative records					
	3.3 % of women in national Parliaments	6%	10%	UNDP	Election Commission Website & records					
	3.4 % of budget allocated for children by sectors	0	4	UNICEF	Reports, publications, database					
	3.5 # of sectors with functional monitoring (and data) systems	0	9	UNICEF	Reports, publications, database					
	3.6 # of strategies/programmes established benefiting the most vulnerable	0	5	UNICEF	Reports, publications, database					

	3.7 % of vulnerable children and adolescents benefiting from social protection schemes	0	40%	UNICEF	Reports, publications, database		ics, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Law and Gender, National Social Protection Agency			
	3.8 % of councillors elected who are women	5.6 (61 out of 1091 councillors)	10	UNDP	Election Commission website & records					
Output 3.1 - By 2020, institutional capacities strengthened for implementation of legislative reform, oversight and local and national level evidenced based inclusive equitable	3.1.1 Establishment of a national coordination process	TBD	TBD	UNDP	Minutes of the meeting held to establish the national coordination process	UNDP: - Parliaments, Electoral institutions enabled to perform core functions for improved accountability, participation and representation - Establishment of a national coordination process - Enhanced public confidence in legal and justice sector - Councils with improved capacity	PO, Parliament, AGO, Judiciary, Ministry of Finance and	UNDP: \$405,000 ILO: \$50,000 UNICEF: \$432,466.65	UNDP: \$2,100,000 UNICEF:	UNDP: \$2,505,000 ILO: \$50,000 UNICEF:

and sustainable policies and planning	3.1.2 Number of proposals for legal reform to fight discrimination have been adopted	1	4	UNDP	AGO website	for planning and monitoring at local level. - Statistical capacity building in areas where data gaps remains - Developing institutional capacity for evidence based policy analysis - Evidence based policy analysis conducted - Developing frameworks and development pathways to localize and integrate SGDs in national planning - Improved capacity of women to contest in upcoming elections and increasing representation at the political sphere	Treasury, LGA, Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Tourism, Employment Tribunal, National Bureau of Statistics, LRA, Ministry of Education		\$402,974.21	\$835,440.86
	3.1.3 Number of diagnostics carried out in this country to inform policy options on national response to globally agreed development agenda, including with analysis of sustainability and risk resilience, with post-2015 poverty eradication commitments and targets specified)	1	3	UNDP	line ministry, AGO, civil society annual reports, database	ILO: - Follow up with the MED on finalize the bill and shared with Attorney General's Office - Follow up with MED on submission to the president offices - MED to follow up with president office to send to the cabinet and followed to the parliament				
	3.1.4 % of councils which has shown improved capacity for planning and monitoring at local level.	38%	45%	UNDP	# of Annual plans, LGA Annual Reports	UNICEF: - Systems for generating evidence are strengthened at national and sub national levels for inclusive and equitable policies, plans and services, especially for the most disadvantaged. - Enhanced capacities at national				
	3.1.5 Establishment of the Industrial Relations Act	0	IR Act	ILO	Majlis and President's Office website					
	3.1.6 Key sector indicators required for equitable policies are established and incorporated into	0	4	UNICEF	Reports, publications, database					

	monitoring systems for timely use					and subnational levels in Monitoring results and using the information to improve service delivery, especially for the most disadvantaged children				
	3.1.7 # of periodic analytical reports on key indicators and disparities	0	20	UNICEF	Reports, publications, database					
Output 3.2 - By 2020 civil society and vulnerable groups have enhanced capacities to engage, contribute & participate in national development processes	3.2.1 Degree of effectiveness of mechanisms/platforms to engage women's groups	1	2	UNDP	Annual Report, Ministry of Home Affairs Transparency Maldives website	UNDP: - Frameworks and dialogue processes engaged for effective and transparent engagement of civil society - Legal framework established for freedom of Association - Enhancing capacities and mechanisms for civil society, women and youth to participate in national development	CSOs, Parliament, AGO, Ministry of Home Affairs, LGA	UNDP: \$275,000	UNDP: \$1,525,000	UNDP: \$1,800,000
	3.2.2 Degree of effectiveness of mechanisms/platforms to engage youth groups	1	2	UNDP	Annual Report, Ministry of Home Affairs Transparency Maldives website					
	3.2.3 Number of women participating as candidates in local and national elections supported by UNDP	5	20	UNDP	Election Commission Website & records					

Output 3.3 - By 2020, mechanisms and frameworks developed to promote inclusive and sustainable growth, economic diversification, social protection and improved employment conditions for vulnerable groups	3.3.1 Extent to which policies, systems and/or institutional measures are in place at the national and sub-national levels to generate and strengthen employment and livelihoods. (Rating scale (1 to 4))	1	3	UNDP	Government and institutional records/reports on policy reform, such as national policy papers, published budgets and legislation	UNDP: - Supporting the development of macroeconomic policies aimed at creation of growth conditions conducive to job generations - Supporting the development of policies to enable investment and business Development - Development of comprehensive innovative package of services provided towards youth entrepreneurship - Supporting policy and institutional reform in areas such as Social protection, urbanization - Support actions aimed at establishing comprehensive implementation of intergovernmental mechanisms and building capacities on issues of migration. Particular focus on development of rights-based approach, enhancing knowledge and awareness, establishing a comprehensive assistance network and building capacities of regional stakeholders	Ministry of Economic Development, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Tourism, Presidents Office, Ministry of Youth and Sports, Anti-Human trafficking Steering Committee.	UNDP: \$200,000	UNDP: \$1,300,000	UNDP: \$1,200,000					
	3.3.2 No. of new business startups under government's GetSet initiative that are successful	0	15	UNDP	Ministry of Economic Development	IOM: - Support actions aimed at establishing comprehensive implementation of intergovernmental mechanisms and building capacities on issues of migration. Particular focus on development of rights-based approach, enhancing knowledge					ILO: \$50,000	UNICEF: \$418,391.08	UNICEF: \$410,679.95	ILO: \$50,000	UNICEF: \$829,071.03
	3.3.3 Intergovernmental mechanisms established to facilitate effective collaboration between stakeholders over issues specific to migrants, including exploitation.	Draft National Action Plan (NAP) and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) relating to trafficking in persons	Validation of NAP and SOPs by Anti-Human Trafficking Steering Committee	IOM	Ministry of Economic Development										

	3.3.4a Existence of action plan for implementation and monitoring of National Human Resources Development and Employment Policy	National Human Resources Development and Employment Policy submitted to MED	Action plan for NHREP monitoring and implementation	ILO	Action Plan Document at the MED	and awareness, establishing a comprehensive assistance network and building capacities of regional stakeholders ILO: - Supporting to the development of action plan for NHREP monitoring framework - Support on establishing NHREP implementation plan				
	3.3.4b Functioning social protection system in place providing services to most disadvantaged children (Index: 1. coordination, 2. targeting 3. monitoring and all three must work)	0	3	UNICEF	Report, Publication, reviews, assessments	UNICEF: - Social protection systems strengthened to cover children and adolescents living below poverty line and vulnerable adolescents				
Output 3.4 - State institutions and civil society have enhanced capacities to participate in intergovernmental & intragovernmental processes, harmonize international obligations into national policy framework and	3.4.1 Extent to which operational institutions have the capacity to support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations (Rating scale (1 to 4))	1	3	UNDP	The International Coordinating Committee for National Human Rights Institutions (ICC)	UNDP: - Operational institutions with the capacity to Support fulfilment of nationally and internationally ratified human rights obligations UNICEF: - Supporting reporting obligations of CRC UNODC: - Capacity building/technical assessment and advise for the strengthening of international cooperation mechanism	HRCM, MOLG, CSOs	UNDP: \$70,000	UNDP: \$775,000	UNDP: \$845,000
	3.4.2 Number of NGOs engaged in inclusive and equitable	3	25	UNICEF	Reports, publications			UNICEF: \$93,142	UNICEF: \$75,345	UNODC: \$500,000

monitor and report progress	development for realization of child rights								\$500,000	
Output 3.5 - Governance systems enhanced for improved performance in health care delivery	3.4.3 No: of capacity development measures on international cooperation mechanism	2	15	UNODC	UNODC Newsletter; project progress reports	<p>WHO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Enhancing delivery of and equitable access to quality health services through strengthened governance, which again offers important linkages with all other UNDAF Outcomes. - Support multi-sectoral policies, legislation, mechanisms and regulations to promote universal health coverage - Support interventions to prevent, treat and control non-communicable diseases (NCDs) such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease. - Support to ensure access to quality essential maternal health care and equitable preventive and curative services. - Empower national and local authorities with core capacities required by the International 	MOH, MNDF, HPA, N SPA	WHO: \$1,790,847	WHO: \$2,020,549	WHO: \$3,811,396
	3.5.1 % of achieved core public health capacities required by the International Health Regulations (2005)	66%	100%	WHO	Member State Report to the World Health Assembly					
	3.5.2 Out of pocket expenditures as % of total health expenditures	51%	20%	WHO	National Health Accounts Report					
	3.5.3 Relative reduction in overall mortality from cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes, or chronic respiratory diseases	63%	47%	WHO	Annual NCD Estimates					
	3.5.4 Maternal mortality ratio per 100,000 live births	31	20	WHO	Maternal mortality estimations by Inter-Agency Group					

	3.5.5 Mechanism available to track effectiveness of Social Protection, disaggregated by sex and age of beneficiaries	initiated	available	WHO	Annual Report, NSPA reviews	<p>Health Regulations 2005, including on emergency preparedness and response.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support will be provided to enhance the capacity of civil society and vulnerable groups to engage in national development processes. - Mechanisms and frameworks will be developed to promote inclusive and sustainable growth with economic diversification, social protection and improved employment conditions for vulnerable groups. 				
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Outcome Area 4: Environment and Climate Change										
Outcome/Output	Outcome/Output Indicator Statement	Baseline	Target	Monitoring Responsibility for Outcome/Output	Means of Verification	Agency Specific Contribution to Output	Partners	Indicative Resources		
								Core	Non-Core	Total
OUTCOME 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	4.1 Number of atolls where natural resource management is practiced	1	2	UNDP and other partnering agencies	Environment Status reports, Gazetted resource management policies	UNDP, UNFPA, UNOPS, FAO, UNESCO and UNEP will work together to: - Improve evidence based and climate resilient planning, policy formulation, awareness, monitoring, scaling up as well as applying innovative pilot solutions, including from other SIDS facing similar development challenges, and on-the-ground implementation in the areas of water, waste and coastal management, energy efficiency, climate smart agriculture, natural resource management, climate and disaster risk management, response and ecosystem-based interventions	MEE, MoFA, NDMC, NBS, MoFT, MoE, LGA, Laamu Atoll Council, Island Councils of Laamu Atoll, Utility Service Providers	\$2,250,741.98	\$28,196,787.02	\$30,446,529

4.2 Extent to which national and subnational disaster and climate risk management setups are functioning	Not adequately	Partially	UNDP and other partnering agencies	Gazetted legal instruments, Progress report of NDMC on status if subnational disaster management committees, Status of sectoral disaster management plans and community disaster management plans					
4.3 Sex disaggregated population requesting emergency water supply during dry periods	Female 26,982 and Male 27,816 (2014)	halved by 2019	UNDP	NDMC reports on emergency water supply					

<p>Output 4.1: By 2020, national and sub-national authorities have strengthened, effective knowledge-based mechanisms that incorporate relevant sector data related to climate change, natural and human-induced disasters and sustainable environmental management, and that are accessible for evidence-based, gender-sensitive decision making</p>	<p>4.1.1 Extent to which updated and disaggregated data is used to monitor progress on national development goals aligned with post-2015 agenda (UNDP)</p>	<p>Very partially</p>	<p>Partially</p>	<p>UNDP</p>	<p>Project reports for projects supporting national and local statistical capacities, Reports of the National Bureau for Statistics</p>	<p>UNDP: - Improve disaggregated data collection at least in one atoll - collect disaggregated environmental data - support strengthen data collection system UNFPA: - Contributing to the same indicator: a) Define national standards for data and indicators, including environmental statistics in coordination with UNESCAP and UNSD b) Conduct assessment of sectoral data availability for core set of environment statistics in the UNSD 'Framework for Development of Environment Statistics' c) Link environment statistics stored in multi-purpose databases and disseminate to the local planners in the form of a knowledge portal (analysis tools), in Laamu Atoll. d) Training of relevant stakeholders in Laamu Atoll on data collection, management and analysis FAO: - Identify gaps in rural statistics related to agriculture and define national data and indicators. Develop a framework for agriculture data statistics. Train the relevant stakeholders in Laamu on data collection management and analysis</p>	<p>NBS, MEE, MoFA, LGA, Laamu councils NBS, UNESCAP, UNSD, LGA, NCIT, Laamu Atoll and Island Councils</p>	<p>UNDP: \$50,000 FAO: \$715,000</p>	<p>UNDP: \$300,000 FAO: \$200,000 UNFPA: \$120,000</p>	<p>UNDP: \$350,000 FAO: \$915,000 UNFPA: \$120,000</p>
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						- Technical assistance including capacity development at national and local level to practice climate smart agriculture.				
	4.1.2 Number of farmers collecting gender disaggregated agricultural statistics	0	50% of registered farmers	FAO	Agricultural statistics collected by MoFA		MoFA, Councils, NBS, LGA			
Output 4.2: By 2020, key tools are introduced so that	4.2.1 Number of new partnership mechanisms with funding for sustainable management	4	15	UNDP	Signed agreements, MoUs,	UNDP: - Partnerships developed among with NGOs, utilities, and other local institutions to manage ecosystems	MEE, MoFA, MoT,	UNDP: \$300,000	UNDP: 12,500,000	UNDP: \$12,800,000

<p>development issues related to water, sanitation, waste management, energy, food security and natural resource management are more widely mainstreamed, effectively coordinated, and promote ecosystem-based environmental and economic sustainability</p>	<p>solutions of natural resources, ecosystem services, chemicals and waste at national and/or sub-national level</p>				<p>Project reports</p>	<p>and environmental services. This will also include small grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support development and implementation of plans, strategies, policies, and programmes that are backed- up by the allocation of annual financial resources - Support to identify (legal, policy, institutional) frameworks for conservation / sustainable use / access to benefit sharing and help establish systems for these. - Advocacy, brokering and convening to fund and/or deliver improved energy efficiency and/or sustainable energy solutions. - Support develop and establish integrated water resource management systems <p>FAO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical assistance including capacity development at national and local level to practice climate smart agriculture. <p>UNOPS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support establishment of integrated water resource management systems <p>UNEP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strengthening low carbon energy strategies; support to preparation of UNFCCC national communications; Support to National HCFC phase out plan; 	<p>NGOs, utilities</p>	<p>FAO: \$550,000</p> <p>UNESCO: \$10,000</p>	<p>FAO: \$1,200,000</p> <p>UNOPS: \$3,000,000</p> <p>UNEP: \$4,800,000</p> <p>UN Women: \$89,400</p>	<p>FAO: 1,750,000</p> <p>UNESCO: \$10,000</p> <p>UNOPS: \$3,000,000</p> <p>UNEP: \$4,800,000</p> <p>UN Women: \$89,400</p>
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						support to development of natural resource use and management strategies				
						UNESCO : - Technical support the education sector in enhanced capacity for Climate change education in curriculum and teaching				
4.2.2 Extent to which there is a strengthened system in place to access, deliver, monitor, report on and verify climate finance	Not adequately	Partially	UNDP	Signed agreements, Project reports			MEE, MoFA, MoFT, LGA			
4.2.3 Extent to which implementation of comprehensive measures - plans, strategies, policies, programmes and budgets – to achieve low-emission and climate-resilient development objectives has improved	Very partially	Partially	UNDP	Project reports, official government plans & strategies			MEE, MoFA, LGA, Laamu atoll councils			
4.2.4 Extent to which legal, policy and institutional frameworks are in place for conservation, sustainable use, and access and benefit sharing of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems	Very partially	Partially	UNDP	Project reports, published frameworks			MEE, EPA, LGA, MoFA, MoT			

4.2.5 Number of new development partnerships with funding for improved energy efficiency and/or sustainable energy solutions targeting underserved communities/groups and women	0	5	UNDP	Agreements / MoUs signed, Project reports		MEE, MEA, Utility companies, selected target islands		
4.2.6 Methods of soil conservation using sustainable land management/ sustainable forest management approaches available and practiced by farmers.	0	10 major islands using sustainable methods	FAO	Annual reports, Project reports , BoR		MoFA, Councils, LGA		
4.2.7 Methods for sustainable irrigation and water harvesting/storage developed in farming areas and practiced by farmers	0	10 major islands using sustainable methods	FAO	Annual reports, Project reports , BoR		MoFA, Councils, LGA		
4.2.8 Improved pest and disease protection for climate smart agriculture available and used by farmers	0	10 major islands using integrated pest management	FAO	Annual reports, Project reports , BoR		MoFA, Councils, LGA		

	4.2.9 Volume of solid waste collected through integrated waste management schemes in the Maldives.	312,075 tonnes (2010)	4% increase in each year	UNOPS	Quarterly reports		MEE, Councils, FENAKA			
	4.2.10 Number of islands with functioning Integrated Water Resource Management schemes in the Maldives.	9 (2015)	32	UNOPS	approved operating license issued		MEE, FENAKA, USAID			
	4.2.11 Existence of climate change education framework for adaptation in education curricula	Very partially	partially	UNESCO	Project report		MoE- Maldives National Commission for UNESCO, MEE			
Output 4.3: National and local-level systems are enhanced to prepare for, respond to and be resilient to natural and human-induced disasters, including climate change, and benefit from enhanced dialogue among relevant stakeholders in all sectors, with a special focus on vulnerable groups and women	4.3.1 Number of islands vulnerable to disasters that have the capacity for planning, mitigation and response	0	50	UNICEF	Council annual reports, LGA annual reports & Database	UNICEF: - Improvement of institutional capacity at national and local levels to promote resilience, climate change adaptation and mitigation from disasters UNDP: - Support establish appropriate institutional frameworks & coordination mechanisms based on the climate change strategy and DM bill. Support develop community based disaster management plans, Support develop sectoral DRR & adaptation plans; support implementation of such plans - Support enactment of DM bill and help implement regulatory provisions at national and local	LGA, NDMC, MRC	UNICEF: \$390,741.98 UNDP: \$250,000 FAO: \$350,000	UNICEF: \$386,387.02 UNDP: 5,000,000 FAO: \$400,000	UNICEF: \$777,129 UNDP: \$5,250,000 FAO: \$750,000

					<p>levels through formation of local level institutional setups and enforcement mechanisms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to find and address gaps in systemic procedures (including human resources, institutional arrangements, operational procedures, etc) to establish mechanisms such as preparedness and recovery plans; support to implement measures to demonstrate such plans <p>UN Women: Provide assistance to enhance capacities at national and local levels to address issues of gender and climate change through capacity building and advocacy.</p> <p>FAO: - Assist to improve capacity to regulate, manage and use natural resources. Technical assistance to strengthen policy, regulatory framework and standards on natural resource management.</p>				
4.3.2 Number of sectors that have resilience plans integrated into sectoral development plans	0	7	UNICEF	Sector agency reports, Publications		MEE, NDMC, Sector agencies			
4.3.3 Number of island councils that have resilience plans integrated into local development plans	0	50	UNICEF	Council annual reports, LGA annual reports, Database		LGA, NDMC, MRC			

4.3.4 Existence of standardized damage and loss accounting systems with sex and age disaggregated data collection and analysis, including gender analysis	Does not Exist	Partially	UNDP	Project Progress Report		NDMC
4.3.5 Number of disaster risk reduction and/or integrated disaster risk reduction and adaptation plans, and dedicated institutional frameworks and multi-stakeholder coordination mechanisms, which are gender responsive	0	6	UNDP	Project reports, officially approved plans/mechanisms		NDMC, MEE, Selected sector lead institutions
4.3.6 Existence and effectiveness of legislative/or regulatory provisions at national and sub-national levels for managing disaster and climate risks	not adequately	moderately	UNDP	Official information on enactment of DM bill, project reports, assessment reports,		MEE, NDMC, Laamu atoll
4.3.7 Extent to which mechanisms exist at national and sub-national level to prepare for and recover from disaster events with adequate financial and human resources, capacities and operating procedures	7 plans	30 plans	UNDP	Project reports, verifiable reports from other UN agencies & national institutions, Response and		NDMC, MEE, MRC,

				recovery progress reports & plans from Government and key non-government actors				
4.3.8 Regulatory framework on natural resource management mandates the use of ecosystem based approach of natural resource management for fisheries and agriculture development in place	Fisheries law, Plant Protection law	30% of the NRM users practicing ecosystem based approaches	FAO	Annual Report, Project reports,		MoFA, LGA, UNDP		
4.3.9 Natural resource users are equipped with better knowledge of climate variabilites	0	No.of users provided with awareness	FAO	Annual reports, Training reports,		MoFA, UNDP		
4.3.10 Stock analysis of vulnerable/least threatened fishery species available	0	Stock analysis completed	FAO	Annual reports , Project reports		MoFA		