



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK

REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES
2022–2026



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Committing for positive change

This document represents a collaborative partnership and commitment by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Government of Maldives to support the Maldivian women, men and youth through decent livelihoods in fisheries and agriculture and aims to equip them with new techniques and technologies that improve productivity and marketability. It focuses on marginalized community groups who need to be more food and nutrition secure and aims to help the vulnerable to be more resilient to environmental changes. The proposed programming framework will also support the communities to preserve the country's marine and land resources.

The Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture (MoFMRA,) takes a lead role, supported by the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology, and the Ministry of Health.

Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture on behalf of the Government of Maldives		Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	
Signature		Signature	
Name	Dr Hussain Rasheed Hassan	Name	Vimlendra Sharan
Title	Minister of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture	Title	FAO Representative for Sri Lanka and the Maldives
Date	08 March 2022	Date	8 th March 2022



Executive summary

This Country Programming Framework (CPF) is the planning and programming tool that translates the FAO Strategic Framework into actions for Maldives for the period 2022-2026. It is conceived in partnership with the government of the Maldives and is intended to support government priorities, planning, implementation and reporting vis-à-vis the 2030 Agenda.

A small island developing state, the Maldives is an upper middle-income country consisting entirely of atolls, coral reefs, and low-lying coral islands with a population of 568 362, dispersed across 187 inhabited islands and around 150 resorts. With 80 percent of its coral islands less than 1 meter above sea level, it faces existential threats from global warming, sea level rise, and climate and geophysical hazards.

Fisheries and agriculture combined, accounted for less than 5 percent of the GDP in 2019. Both industries, however, continue to play a critical role in generating employment and livelihood opportunities. The sustainability of fisheries is increasingly threatened by overfishing, high fuel costs and rising ocean temperatures. Agriculture and food safety risks include losses of arable land and food safety issues.

The small contribution of agriculture to the economy is due to the scarcity of arable land and fresh water, the limited size of the domestic market and high transport costs for agricultural products. Given the

high dependence on imports, unreliable distribution patterns, and inadequate decentralized storage facilities, the rural population in the Maldives faces serious risks of periodic food insecurity.

Strong partnerships for development are needed for the Maldives to address challenges, recover from the pandemic's economic and social damage and to limit potential reversal in progress toward sustainable development.

FAO will support the government of the Maldives to build back better, to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, while building resilience to further shocks and addressing development deficits.

The formulation of this Country Programming Framework is based on the most recent UN Common Country Analysis and is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022-2026, with contributions through a series of strategic consultations with the government. It is informed by policy priorities and objectives articulated in the National Fisheries and Agriculture Policy, the National Food Safety Policy, and the Health Master Plan. These master plans are aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and incorporated in the government's five-year Strategic Action Plan (2019-2023).

FAO's support to Maldives will help the country move closer to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). The CPF will further help in contributing to the three pillars outlined in the UNSDCF (i) shared prosperity and inclusive development for all; (ii) a sustainable and climate resilient environment; and (iii) gender-responsive, rights-based and accountable governance and justice. Gender, youth and inclusion dimensions, including reducing rural-urban gap, will be mainstreamed in all programs and initiatives supported by FAO.

In order to accelerate progress towards attainment of SDGs by 2030 through work under the 'four betters' – FAO will apply four cross-cutting “accelerators” – technology, innovation, data and complements (governance, human capital and institutions).

FAO's interventions under the CPF 2022-2026 are fully aligned with and contribute to FAO's global vision: **a world free from hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner.**

By adopting an integrated and multidimensional programming approach, in line with the “five P's” of the 2030 Agenda (people, prosperity, planet, peace and partnerships), the Cooperation Framework identifies how working on and advancing one SDG can maximize synergies and positive impacts and manages potential trade-offs.

FAO seeks to accelerate results and achieve desired changes under each of the four UNSDCF Outcomes by adopting them as its own CPF outcomes, and would work towards delivering on these in partnership with the Government, UN agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs) and the private sector.

The CPF 2022-2026 works through a very strong linkage between the Maldives UNSDCF 2022-2026 priority areas and FAO's three global goals, namely,

- **Goal 1 : Eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition**, progressively ensuring a world in which people at all times have sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.
- **Goal 2 : Elimination of poverty and driving forward of economic and social progress for all**, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Goal 3 : Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources**, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

The CPF presents four priorities:

Priority 1: Economic transformation, improved production and decent work

Priority 2: Nutrition, food security and sustainable agriculture

Priority 3: Sustainable Management of Natural Resources and Resilience to Climate Change

Priority 4: Inclusive Growth

FAO will work with partners towards the achievement of eleven Outputs under the four UNSDCF Outcomes. Outputs were selected through a process of prioritization, informed by immediate needs and gaps that were identified in consultation with government stakeholders. They can be achieved within the timeframe of this Cooperation Framework and take into consideration the government's capacity to implement.

FAO will Support the Government, in particular the Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture (MoFMRA,) the Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology and the Ministry of Health (MoH) (Health Protection Agency and Maldives Food and Drug Authority) to improve the policy and legal framework in the agriculture and fisheries, nutrition, social protection and marine ecosystems; also support these ministries through programmes that improve agricultural standards, introduce nutrient dense crops, promote the diversification of food sources in rural areas and the atolls; support behavioral change strategies on nutrition, improve the safety of food for consumption, reduce food waste, promote e-agriculture, improve occupational safety of fishermen, support the collection of sex disaggregated data in fishery and agriculture, empower and build resilience of female farmers and support sustainable fishing practices. FAO will continue to collaborate closely with UN agencies working on fisheries agriculture, food security, nutrition and climate change.

FAO's support to the Maldives will contribute to build a more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food system for better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life in the Maldives and to ensure that no one is left behind.

The four betters represent how FAO intends to contribute directly to SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 2 (Zero hunger), and SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities,) as well as how it supports the achievement of the broader SDG agenda, which is crucial for attaining FAO's overall vision as enunciated by the member nations, including the Maldives.

An estimated USD 6 680 000 will be required to implement the 2022-2026 CPF for the Maldives. FAO estimates that USD 995 000 is available from on-going and new Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP) projects. A further USD 5 685 000 will be available through joint UN Agency and other partner programmes, the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or mobilized through further resource mobilization efforts over the coming years.





1. COUNTRY CONTEXT ANALYSIS

1. The Maldives is an upper middle-income country consisting entirely of atolls, coral reefs, and low-lying coral islands. There are 22 geographical atolls comprising of about 1 200 islands, which are divided into 20 administrative units. The population, dispersed across 187 inhabited islands and around 150 resorts, is projected to reach 568 362 by the end of 2021.¹ A third of the country's population is foreigners from neighboring countries,² and 53 percent of the population living in the capital are migrants.³
2. High-end tourism is an engine of rapid economic growth, contributing to improvements in socioeconomic indicators, and economic growth averaged 5.1 percent annually from 2000 to 2019.⁴ Gross domestic product (GDP) per capita stands at USD 18 914 as of 2019.⁵ The growth has been largely driven by international tourism and more recently by construction, with tourism accounting for 26.3 percent of the GDP in 2019.
3. Fisheries and agriculture combined, account for less than 5 percent of the GDP in 2019. Both industries, however, continue to play a critical role in generating employment and livelihood opportunities. The sector employs 7.4 percent of the labour force nationally and 14.4 percent in the rural atolls. Fisheries, being the only merchandise export, contributes to much needed foreign exchange earnings.
4. The small contribution of agriculture to the economy (1.2 percent of GDP) is due to the scarcity of arable land and fresh water, the limited size of the domestic market and high transport costs for agricultural products. There is limited public and private investment in the sector, and the country relies heavily on imported agricultural products. Fifty four percent of the 7 600 farmers registered nationally, are women. Youth employment in the sector accounts for only 6.9 percent.⁶ Though insignificant in economic terms, mariculture is an emerging new sub sector, with a high potential for sector diversification, livelihood creation, food and nutritional security.
5. Maldives has progressed on some Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It has improved health and well-being, raised levels of education,⁷ and reduced poverty (which affected 2.1 percent of the population in 2019); the 2020 estimate is 7.2 percent largely due to the halt of economic activities caused by COVID-19.⁸ Twenty-eight percent of the population suffer from multi-dimensional poverty,⁹ out of which 87 percent live in the atolls, while 8 percent

¹ Maldives Bureau of Statistics, <http://statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/WPD-2021.pdf>

² Maldives Bureau of Statistics, 'World Population Day', July 2021.

³ Maldives Bureau of Statistics, 'Household Income Expenditure Survey', 2019.

⁴ <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/648151/cps-ml-d-2020-2024.pdf> .

⁵ <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/648151/cps-ml-d-2020-2024.pdf> .

⁶ <https://statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/international-youth-day-2021/>

⁷ Ministry of Environment and Energy, 'Voluntary National Review', July 2017.

⁸ World Bank, 'Maldives Development Update: A digital dawn', April 2021.

⁹ statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Multidimensional-Poverty-in-Maldives-2020_4th-june.pdf.

of the population are affected by monetary poverty;¹⁰ 17 percent of children under 5 years are underweight. Undernutrition, obesity and micronutrient deficiencies associated with unhealthy dietary habits are major developmental challenges.

6. COVID-19 threatens to reverse the country's progress towards poverty alleviation.¹¹ It affected health and socioeconomic conditions, brought the tourism industry to a standstill, weakened the country's economy and increased food insecurity due to global supply chain disruptions. Growing inequities particularly around an urban-rural divide, in the use of technology, education levels, and climate vulnerabilities are key challenges for achieving SDGs. Additionally, high levels of food insecurity, poor nutrition, youth unemployment and low participation rate of women in the workforce are factors adversely impacting sustainable and inclusive development.
7. As a small island developing state (SIDS), Maldives is among the countries most vulnerable to climate change. With 80 percent of its coral islands less than 1 meter above sea level, it faces existential threats from global warming, sea level rise, and climate and geophysical hazards.¹² Limited cultivable land (4 000 hectares of arable land of which only 573 hectares are cultivated) limits the agriculture sector's expansion potential. Short land tenure, logistics, market access, supply inconsistency, quality, storage, improper use of fertilizers and pesticides, are among the significant challenges impacting the sector. Farming is mostly practiced on a limited scale. Poor quality of ground water, salt-water intrusion to freshwater lenses, gradual rise in the sea level, and change in rainfall patterns and increase in frequency of extreme climatic events impact the sector's development, necessitating a shift to climate smart agriculture.
8. The sustainability of fisheries is increasingly threatened by overfishing, high fuel costs and rising ocean temperatures. Fluctuations in international market prices and low levels of domestic value addition limit export revenues. As an active member of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Maldives are committed to sustainable fishery, advocacy for catch control and monitoring of tuna stock, and control of illegal, unregulated and unreported fisheries.
9. Agriculture and food safety risks include losses of arable land and food safety issues. Due to low levels of agricultural output, 90 percent of food consumed in the country is imported; staples are imported from single source countries, which poses a major food security risk. There are no consistent safety checks of imported foods, and no control or monitoring mechanisms of fertilizer and pesticide use in local agriculture. These factors make Maldives one of the most food insecure and vulnerable countries to external shocks, such as COVID-19, and changes in global food supply and prices. Given the high dependence on imports, unreliable distribution patterns, and inadequate decentralized storage facilities, the rural population in the Maldives face serious risks of periodic food insecurity.
10. COVID-19 has impacted the country's progress towards reducing poverty registering a 32 percent decline in the nominal GDP for 2020, predominantly as a result of its overdependence on tourism and food imports. Travel restrictions affected overseas healthcare, the economic downturn had implications on fishers and farmers due to the sudden loss of markets, labor issues and financial constraints reduced tourism-based incomes and revenues, weakened the country's economy and increased food insecurity due to global supply chain disruptions. COVID-19 has brought to the forefront, the significance of investing in the development of a resilient domestic food system, and by extension, the fisheries and agriculture sectors in the country.

¹⁰ statisticsmaldives.gov.mv/nbs/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Multidimensional-Poverty-in-Maldives-2020_4th-june.pdf.

¹¹ UNDP Maldives, 'Rapid Livelihood Assessment', August 2020.

¹² Asian Development Bank, 'Multi-hazard Risk Atlas of the Maldives', March 2020.

11. In response to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis and to address disruptions to food supply, the government accelerated its plans to enhance generated revenues, and address food security. The import substitution program has identified 17 crops to be produced in 44 inhabited islands dedicated to contract farming. Sparse land in islands were allocated for farming free of rent for three years, ensured guaranteed purchase at predetermined prices and established the Agro National Corporation as a platform to market and sell agri-business produce. The Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture is also closely monitoring 69 uninhabited commercial farming islands leased for long term food production.
12. The reef systems of the Maldives are the seventh largest globally and are highly rich and diverse, hosting several globally significant species. Biodiversity contributes to 71 percent of the nation's employment, 49 percent of public revenue, 62 percent of foreign exchange, 98 percent of exports and 89 percent of GDP; the sectors that depend entirely on biodiversity such as the tourism industry, fisheries and agriculture contribute significantly to the country's GDP.¹³ The coastal and marine environment plays an important role in providing food security, livelihoods, and income. Wetlands or mangrove areas are found in about 74 islands. Loss of habitat associated with coastal modification, pollution, exploitation of resources, invasive alien species, pests and pathogens, unsound land use practices, poor land tenure policies and climate change including increase in sea surface temperatures are the main threats to biodiversity.
13. The government's Strategic Action Plan (SAP) 2019-2023 articulates the principles of leaving no one behind and prioritizes the blue economy, dignified family, good governance and Jazeera Dhiriulhun (island life). Amendments to the Decentralization Act in December 2019, provided more fiscal and legal autonomy to city, atoll and local councils along with allocation of a third of the council seats for women. Councils are empowered to formulate local level development and land use plans in line with national land use policies and plans. Decentralized control and management of natural resources and agricultural land offers a significant opportunity to equip and build capacity of local level leaders and decision makers to promote food security, responsible production and consumption practices in rural islands and atolls.
14. The National Resilience and Recovery Plan 2020-2022 was developed in response to COVID-19, prioritizing key elements of SAP and identifying sector-specific strategies to diversify the economy, decentralize government and build resilience.
15. Strong partnerships for development are needed for the Maldives to address development challenges, recover from the pandemic's economic and social damage, and limit any potential reversal in sustainable development progress. Based on national and UNSDCF priorities, building on achievements of the previous programme, and drawing on recommendations from evaluations, studies and lessons learned from the COVID-19 response, FAO will support the government of the Maldives to build back better, to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic while building resilience to further shocks and addressing development deficits.
16. The development of this Country Programming Framework (CPF) is based on the most recent UN Common Country Analysis and is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) 2022-2026, and a series of strategic consultations with the government. It is informed by the policy priorities and objectives articulated in the National Fisheries and Agriculture Policy 2019-2029, National Food Safety Policy (2017-2026) and Health master Plan (2016-2025). These master plans are aligned with the SDGs and incorporated in the government's five-year Strategic Action Plan (2019-2023) and are also aligned to the CPF.

¹³ MEE (2015), National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan of the Maldives 2016-2025



2. FAO'S SUPPORT

2.1 Theory of change

The theory of change outlines the pathway that will enable addressing the challenges and accelerate actions to achieve Sustainable Development Goals as outlined in Agenda 2030.

The UN Cooperation Framework (CF) in the Maldives (2022-2026) will support realization of the transformative vision of the 2030 Agenda towards social, environmental and economic sustainability under four outcome results derived from three overarching strategic priorities. The vision desired to be realized through the interventions of CF is that ***“the Maldives is an inclusive, resilient, healthy, caring, tolerant, and skilled society where all people meaningfully participate in, contribute to and benefit equitably from sustainable cultural, economic and social development and environmental protection, leading to achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs”.***

To achieve the overarching vision, it is necessary for Maldives to ensure that there is (i) shared prosperity and inclusive development, (ii) availability and accessibility of quality social services, (iii) sustainable and climate resilient environment, and (iv) gender-sensitive, rights-based and accountable governance and justice.

The theory of change is articulated under the following four outcomes and depicted in **annex 3**.

UNSDCF/ CPF Outcome 1 : By 2026, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work.

The conditions for change relevant to FAO's work under this outcome are:

If an enabling economic diversification environment is promoted through accessible opportunities for all;

If skills are improved for sustainable development in the agriculture and fisheries sector;

If institutions are strengthened, and sound policies are developed and implemented

If capacities are strengthened to implement national plans in the fisheries and agriculture sector;

If funding for organic agriculture, concessional loans to farmers are available and if systems are developed for free technical advice to farmers;

If climate-smart policies and practices are implemented in the fisheries and agriculture sector;

If implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is improved;

If men, women and youth have a decent working environment in the agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries sectors, improve their livelihoods and contribute actively to the economy,

Then, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work.

UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 2: By 2026, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity.

The conditions for change relevant to FAO's work under this outcome are:

If food sources are diversified, agricultural standards are improved, and nutrient dense crops are cultivated;

If capacities to implement and monitor food safety standards are improved;

If regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen are developed and enforced;

If food waste and waste management is reduced at household level and in the tourism sector;

If women and youth generate income in the agriculture and fishery value chains including through collaborative partnerships with the private sector,

Then, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity.

UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 3: By 2026, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner.

The conditions for change relevant to FAO's work under this outcome are:

If climate-smart policies, techniques and mitigation are introduced and applied in the fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture sector;

If sustainable agriculture and fishing practices are applied;

If women, youth and people working in the agriculture and fisheries sector acquire and use climate-smart techniques;

If agriculture information dissemination system delivers adequate advisory services,

Then, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner.



UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 4: By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society.

The contribution to change relevant to FAO's work under this outcome are:

If women are empowered to access resources and strengthen their technical capacities in the fisheries and agriculture sector;

If sex-disaggregated data and statistics inform decisions to better address the challenges faced by rural women,

Then, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society.



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2.2 Strategic priorities

Through the CPF, FAO's support to Maldives will help the country move closer to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, in particular SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities). The CPF will further help achieve FAO's global vision and global goals while contributing to the three pillars outlined in the UNSDCF (i) shared prosperity and inclusive development for all, (ii) a sustainable and climate resilient environment, and (iii) gender-responsive, rights-based and accountable governance and justice. Gender, youth and inclusion dimensions, including reducing rural-urban gap, will be mainstreamed in all programs and initiatives supported by FAO.

In order to accelerate progress towards attainment of SDGs by 2030 through work under four betters – FAO will apply four cross cutting “accelerators” – technology, innovation, data and complements (governance, human capital and institutions)

FAO's interventions under the CPF 2022-2026 are fully aligned with and contribute to FAO's global vision: **a world free from hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner.**

FAO seeks to accelerate results and achieve desired changes under each of the four UNSDCF Outcomes by adopting them at its own CPF outcomes and would work towards delivering on those in partnership with the Government, UN agencies and CSOs and private sector.

The CPF 2022-2026 works through a very strong linkage between Maldives UNSDCF 2022-26 priority areas and FAO's three global goals, namely,

- **Goal 1** - Eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, progressively ensuring a world in which people at all times have sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.
- **Goal 2** - Elimination of poverty and driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Goal 3** - Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

In doing so, the CPF strives to transform to a more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food systems for achieving the following the '**four betters**', through issue-based Programme Priority Areas and application of cross cutting accelerators – technology, innovation, data and complements:



**BETTER
PRODUCTION**



**BETTER
NUTRITION**



**BETTER
ENVIRONMENT**



**BETTER
LIFE**



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CPF Priority 1

Economic transformation, improved production and decent work

UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 1 offers strong linkages with FAO's Global Goal 2 which supports the elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods.

The 4 CPF outputs under Outcome 1 contribute to the achievement of the following programme priority areas (PPAs) under **Better Production**:

- BP1 - Green innovation,
- BP2 - Blue transformation, and
- BP4 - Small-scale producers' equitable access to resources.

FAO will support institutional and technical capacities at Government level to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy (2019-2029), and incorporate climate adaptive research; foster the development of blue economy through activities related to the fisheries,

agriculture and aquaculture sector, including sound policies integrating technical, social and economic solutions, and climate-resilient practices; support the government to implement, monitor and report on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing; empower women and youth working in the agriculture and fisheries sector to access equitable opportunities and resources and improve their livelihoods; support investments in market driven technical and entrepreneurial skills development, especially for women, youth and marginalized poor living in rural islands along with a shift to climate smart and digital technology aided environment friendly cultivation practices, coupled with access to finance and markets.



CPF Priority 2

Nutrition, food security and sustainable agriculture

UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 2 contributes towards achievement of **FAO Global Goal 1** of “eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, progressively ensuring a world in which people at all times have sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.”

The 2 CPF outputs under Outcome 2 contribute to the achievement of the following PPAs under **Better Nutrition**:

- BN1 – healthy diets for all
- BN3 – safe food for everyone

FAO will promote healthy nutrition practices and ensure the implementation of food safety and security policies; and support women and youth to generate income and build collaborative partnerships through the private sector.

FAO will Support the Government, in particular the Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture (MoFMRA), the Ministry of Health (MoH) (Health Protection Agency and Maldives Food and Drug Authority) to improve the policy and legal framework in the agriculture and fisheries, nutrition, social protection and marine ecosystems; support programmes that improve agricultural standards, the introduction of nutrient dense crops, and promote the diversification of food sources in rural areas and the atolls; support the implementation of policies and behavioral change strategies on nutrition, and improve the safety of food for consumption.



CPF Priority 3

Sustainable management of natural resources and resilience to climate change

UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 3 aligns and supports **FAO's Global Goal 3** of “sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.”

The 4 CPF outputs under Outcome 3 contribute to the achievement of the following PPAs under **Better Environment and Better Nutrition**:

- BE 1 – climate change mitigation and adaptation
- BN4 - reducing food loss and waste

FAO's work includes programmes promoting sustainable natural resource management practices; promoting a blue economy and sustainable livelihoods.

FAO will promote adoption of climate-smart and digital technology, foster innovation in agri-food value chain and rely on data to guide formulation of evidence informed policies, programmes, interventions and work towards reduction of food waste at household level and in the tourism sector.



CPF Priority 4 Inclusive growth

UNSDCF / CPF Outcome 4 *strengthens FAO's endeavor under all three Global Goals.*

The one CPF output under Outcome 4 contributes to the achievement of the following PPA under **Better Life**:

- BL1 – gender equality and rural women's empowerment

FAO will support collection and analysis of harmonized and sex-disaggregated data to inform decision making and support women development committees to address challenges faced by rural communities.

FAO works to promote gender equality and rural women's empowerment would include strengthening the capacity of public sector institutions to pursue evidence informed policy formulation and standards, backed by sex-disaggregated and coordinated data and statistics in partnership with a wide spectrum of local and external stakeholders. This is consistent and in line with FAO's normative and standard setting work.

2.3 Intended development results

Support under the CPF will be channeled to help deliver and achieve SDG targets, with a focus on reducing poverty (SDG 1), reducing hunger (SDG 2), reducing inequalities (SDG 10), conserving and sustainably using the ocean (SDG 14) in line with FAO's Strategic Framework (2022-2031), UNSDCF (2022-2026) and all government plans and policies in this regard, specifically the five themes of SAP. Contributions will be made to complement and deliver on SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 6 (water and sanitation), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), and SDG 15 (life on land).

FAO's support to the Maldives through CPF (2022-2026) will contribute to build a more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agri-food systems for better production, better nutrition, a better environment and a better life in Maldives and to ensure that no one is left behind.

The four betters represent an organizing principle for how FAO intends to contribute directly to SDG 1 (No poverty), SDG 2 (Zero hunger), and SDG 10 (Reduced inequalities) as well as to supporting achievement of the broader SDG agenda, which is crucial for attaining FAO's overall vision as enunciated by the member nations, including Maldives. The betters reflect the interconnected economic, social and environmental dimensions of agri-food systems. As such, they also encourage a strategic and systems-oriented approach within all FAO's interventions. FAO's interventions also contribute to all three strategic priority areas of the Cooperation Framework and contribute to achievement of outcomes and outputs detailed in section 2.4., thus truly working in a One UN approach to development.

In line with the development priorities of the Government of Maldives outlined in the Strategic Action Plan (2019-2023), National Resilience and Recovery Plan (2020-2022), National Fisheries and Agriculture Policy (2019-2029), and UN Cooperation Framework (2022-2026), the specific interventions under the CPF will contribute to poverty reduction especially in the outer island communities; eliminate hunger and malnutrition including food insecurity, reduce inequalities and bridge rural-urban gap, contribute to economic diversification while fostering growth and competitiveness of agri-food trade in a manner that is resilient to climate and shocks; promote sustainable natural resources and ecosystems management; and build capacity for evidence informed policy formulation and implementation.

Targeting interventions in the rural islands and the marginalized poor, women and youth will help to reduce inequalities and income levels, contributing to realization of the goals on reducing poverty, eliminating hunger and malnutrition, and inequalities.

FAO's interventions through the CPF will support the country led realization of the following global and national SDG targets and indicators:

Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere

in particular: Equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology and economic resources (1.4)

Goal 2: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

in particular: End hunger and ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round; 2.2, End all forms of malnutrition; 2.3, Double the agricultural productivity and incomes of small-scale food producers; 2.4, Ensure sustainable food production systems including information dissemination

Goal 5 : Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, in particular: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, and natural resources, in accordance with national law

Goal 8 : Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, particularly: 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high value-added and labor-intensive sectors; 8.8 Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers

Goal 12 : Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns through reducing food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses and those in the tourism sector

Goal 13 : Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, through: (13.b) Promoting mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women and youth.

Goal 14 : Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, in particular: (14.4) effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield; (14.7) increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism. (14.6.1) progress and the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing.



2.4 CPF outcomes and outputs

The CPF outcomes were generated from the above-mentioned UNSDCF strategic priorities/ outcome statements. To develop the outputs under the UNSDCF outcomes, FAO has conducted consultations with the MoFMRA, MoH, United Nations partner agencies and local actors in the last quarter of 2021. The UNSDCF's Strategic Priorities and outcomes relevant to FAO's work that are necessary for Maldives to progress towards the SDGs are in line with FAO's vision and global goals and addresses challenges highlighted in the Common Country Analysis and the Maldives Strategic Action Plan 2019-2031.

Outputs were selected through a process of prioritization, informed by FAO's mandate, capacities and comparative advantage. They can be achievable within the timeframe of this Cooperation Framework and take into consideration the government's capacity to implement. The Results Framework (**annex 1**) establishes the linkages with SDGs, UNSDCF outcomes and mentions indicators and targets, while the Results Framework visual (**annex 4**) presents logical correlations with FAO strategic priorities and PPAs. Detailed interconnections and linkages between the UN Cooperation Framework (2022-2026) for the Maldives and FAO's Strategic Framework 2022-2031 are mapped out in **annex 5**.

UNSDCF/ CPF OUTCOME 1 : By 2026, more people in the Maldives, particularly youth, women and others at risk of being left behind contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering entrepreneurship and decent work.

The following outputs will support realization of the above outcome.

UNSDCF Output 1.1: The Government has strengthened capacity to establish and implement policies and initiatives which promote a dynamic, diversified and sustainable economy that delivers prosperity and opportunities to all, particularly for women.

- CPF Output 1.1.1 - Strengthened government and other stakeholder capacities to develop and enforce regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen.
- CPF Output 1.1.2 - The Government develops stronger institutional and technical capacities to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy (2019-2029), incorporating climate adaptive research in addressing key impacts and drivers.
- CPF Output 1.1.3 - Strengthened government capacity to develop and implement the Maldives fisheries management plans, including government and fisher capacities in the implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing.



Under Outcome 1 through sub-outputs 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3 FAO intends to provide technical advice and capacity development at the appropriate levels to improve the management of natural resources and combat environmental degradation. This includes specific training and support to Implement, Enforce and Monitor the National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate IUU fishing. FAO aims to provide technical assistance and capacity to the Government of Maldives in expanding the domestic production of diversified food commodities that can be cost-effectively grown in the islands and consumed locally, and that can constitute a sustainable source of income through sale to resorts and urban centers. These commodities will mainly include fruits and vegetables with a focus of products with a high nutritional and commercial value.

UNSDCF Output 1.3 : The Government, public and private sector have enhanced capacities to design and deliver inclusive, adaptive, and market-relevant, lifelong learning, and skills development opportunities that meet real market needs and prospects.

- CPF Output 1.3.1 - Women and youth improve their capacities in technical and entrepreneurial skills using innovative and progressive technologies, including e-agriculture solutions to generate income in the agriculture and fishery value chains through private sector partnerships.

Under Outcome 1 through sub-output 1.3.1 FAO will support diversification of the agriculture and fisheries sector with the aim to improve the livelihood opportunities of the sector, particularly for youth and women. This includes improved aquaculture production and processing, and support to initiatives aimed at increasing the level of in-country processing of fish catches. The technical assistance from FAO can include advice related to policy, strategies, regulatory frameworks and guidelines, but also capacity development and the sharing of best practices. FAO will support market

driven upskilling programs and technical trainings on innovative, climate-smart agricultural practices targeting mainly rural farmers, women and youth. Programs will be conducted to assist community level production based on food security needs and market/demand assessments for inclusive and sustainable value chain development in agri-food sector. Technical capacity building of government will include the development and implementation support of regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen.

For emerging new sub-sectors such as mariculture and aquaculture, to complement the ongoing initiatives, FAO will provide support to carry out detailed market and demand assessment studies to develop a sustainable, market driven mariculture industry in Maldives. In addition, support will be provided to address availability of sector specific disaggregated data gaps and much needed research to inform policies and programs for sector diversification and growth.

Resource requirements: for the 4 sub-outputs under Outcome 1 are equivalent to USD 625 000.



UNSDCF/ CPF OUTCOME 2: By 2026, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity.

Under Outcome 2, FAO will partner with other development partners working on health, nutrition and social security mandate in the country. Support will be provided to carry out surveys and research to aid evidence-based decision making and to improve the contribution of food systems to food and nutrition security, including monitoring food security and safety, and sustainable agriculture.

The following outputs and sub-outputs will support realization of the above outcome.

UNSDCF Output 2.1 : The Government at all levels and other stakeholders have improved capacities to deliver equitable, high-quality and gender-responsive health, nutrition and care services that promote preventative physical and mental well-being throughout the life course.

- CPF Output - 2.1.1 : Regulatory measures are developed and implemented to improve food safety and quality standards in produced, prepared, packaged and imported foods and consumer habits influenced in improving nutritional status.
- CPF Output 2.1.2 - Sustainable diversification of agricultural practices, including urban agriculture and products for environmental, economic, and social benefits to the surrounding communities, especially women and youth and enhanced food security and nutrition.

Under Outcome 2 through sub-output 2.1.1 and 2.1.2, FAO will support achieving the food security and nutrition targets set by the Maldives and highlighted in the UNSDCF.

Specific support will be provided to conduct outreach and advocacy programs, to change consumption behaviors and to prepare nutritious healthy meal plans using locally grown crop varieties. FAO will also promote application of food safety standards and diversification of farming systems to ensure access to safe, healthy and nutrition balanced diets for all. Digital technology will be promoted to support service delivery, quality assurance, traceability and marketability. Training on food standards, post-harvest food handling and value addition will be provided.

The interventions will be guided and refined based on surveys conducted to track and assess consumption levels of locally grown nutritious crops, intake of micronutrients and other relevant topics. Under this Outcome, FAO will partner with other development partners working on health, nutrition and social security mandate in the country. Support will be provided to carry out surveys and research to aid evidence-based decision making and to improve the contribution of food systems to food and nutrition security, including monitoring food security and safety, and sustainable agriculture.

Resource requirements: for the 2 sub-outputs under Outcome 2 are equivalent to USD 3 105 000, out of which USD 120 000 are available through existing TCPs.



UNSDCF/ CPF OUTCOME 3 : By 2026, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner.

The following output will support realization of the above outcome.

UNSDCF Output 3.1: The government at all levels, communities, the people and other stakeholders in the Maldives are better able to sustainably manage natural resources and protect vital ecosystems.

- CPF Output 3.1.1 - Women development committees are capacitated and operate effectively to address issues faced by rural women in agriculture and fisheries.
- CPF Output 3.1.2 - The newly established e-agriculture information dissemination system for the delivery of agriculture advisory services is expanded and enhanced.

UNSDCF Output 3.2: The government at all levels, communities, the people and other stakeholders in the Maldives have enhanced capacities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and disaster risks.

- CPF Output 3.2.1 - Smallholder farmers, fishermen and aquaculture operators adopt climate smart technologies and sustainable cultivation and fishing practices and improve their livelihoods through exports and linkages with the tourism sector.
- CPF Output 3.2.2 - Food waste prevented and reduced in tourism sector, commercial food services and households within the urban population and rural communities



Under Outcome 3 through sub-outputs 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, and 3.2.2 FAO will partner with other development agencies to provide support to the Government and private sector actors to improve management of natural resources including the marine ecosystems, protect the rich biodiversity and foster development of a more resilient and climate smart agriculture industry. FAO will work with local women development committees and Councils to enhance their management capacities and respond to challenges faced by rural women including secure access to land and natural resources for farming, aquaculture and agri-business activities.

Specific support will be provided to the Government to identify opportunities for enhanced protection, governance and management of terrestrial and marine ecosystems and resources and to integrate sustainable biodiversity conservation practices in fisheries and agriculture and other related sub-sectors. FAO will also leverage internal technical expertise to provide assistance for more effective protected area conservation and marine spatial planning. Assistance will be provided to transition fisheries and agriculture towards market-oriented environmentally sustainable ventures and to adopt business models that integrate principles of environmental sustainability and conservation. Support will also be provided to assess the technical skills requirements needed to strengthen

institutional capacity of Marine Research Institute to carry out natural resource and ecosystem management functions.

FAO will work closely with the Government and communities to increase climate resilient food security and reduce reliance on imports and support scaling up agricultural management through contract farming, technical capacity building for farmers, and transport and supply chain linkages for decentralized sustainable markets.

Capacity of agriculture research centers will be strengthened, and rural communities will be supported to adopt good agricultural practices, green technology and climate resilient cultivation methods. Setting up of community owned and climate smart food storage options will be supported to manage food shortages and food security levels and reduce food waste.

Support and technical assistance will be provided to promote localized, nature-based and innovative solutions for sustainable natural resource management, conservation and sustainable environmentally friendly practices in close collaboration with research institutes, UN partners and civil society organizations (CSOs).

FAO will leverage its sector specific expertise, to establish partnerships with local and internal funding partners to facilitate access to low-cost finance for investment needs and foster development of an enterprise ecosystem for agri-business start-ups and small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

Mainstreaming use of climate smart technologies in agri-food sector, better conservation and ecosystem management practices backed by improved research capacity will assist in building resilience and sustainability of agri-food sector. A more resilient agri-food sector will create more decent jobs and livelihood opportunities, improve productivity and production levels there by contributing to reduce food security in the country.

Resource requirements: for the 4 sub-outputs under Outcome 3 are equivalent to USD 2 675 000 out of which USD 125 000 are available through existing TCPs.

UNSDCF/ CPF OUTCOME 4: By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society.

The following output and sub-output will support realization of the above outcome.

UNSDCF Output 4.4 The Government has enhanced capacity to collect, manage and analyses disaggregated data for monitoring, decision-making and for reporting on progress towards SDG achievement and on human rights treaties and other regional and international commitments.

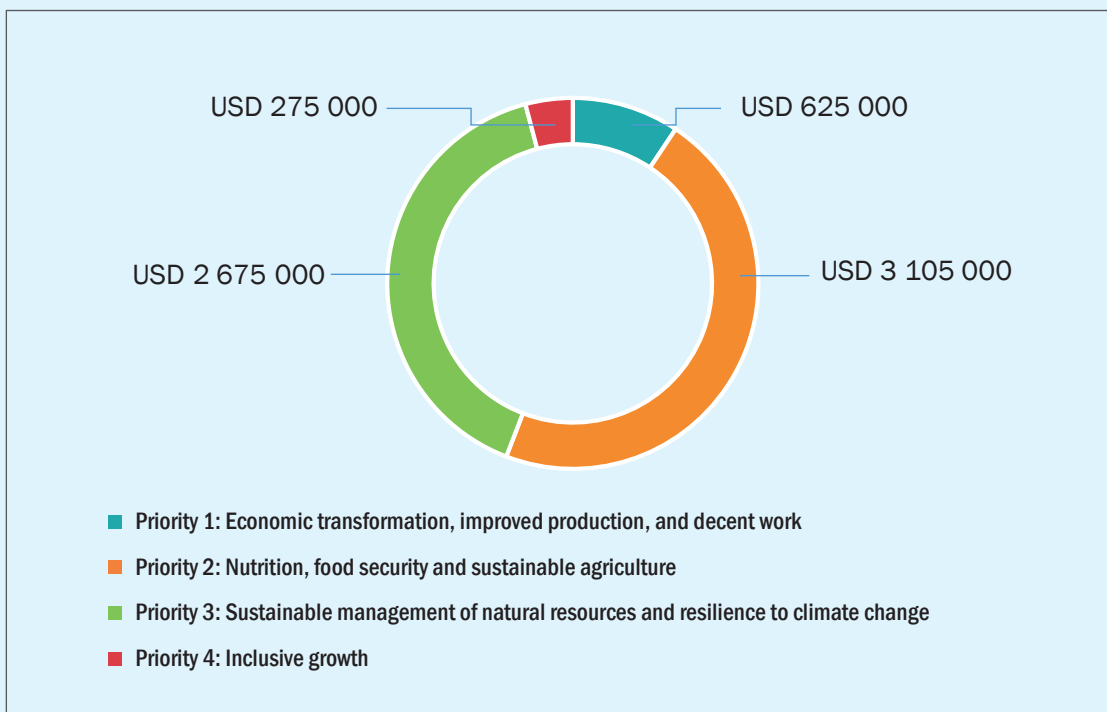
- CPF Output 4.4.1 - Sex-disaggregated data and gender-specific statistics are available, and used for monitoring, informing evidence-based programmes, planning and budgeting in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.



Under Outcome 4 through sub-output 4.4.1, FAO will conduct special programs to generate information that facilitate gainful employment of rural poor, women and youth in agri-business livelihood activities and work with local women development committees and Councils to secure access to land and natural resources for farming, aquaculture and agri-business activities. FAO will increase the availability, access and disaggregated nature of data and statistics for improved monitoring and agricultural-related policy design into its technical interventions. In addition, assistance will be provided to carry out surveys to assess impacts and progress of the fisheries and green technology adoption in agri-food sector and refine policy interventions.

Resource requirements: for the sub-output under Outcome 4 are equivalent to USD 275 000

CPF PRIORITY - WISE PROPOSED RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION



ASSUMPTIONS FOR ALL CPF OUTPUTS:

- Government counterparts (especially MoFMRA, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology (MoECCT); Ministry of Tourism (MoT); Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Service (MoGFSS); (MoH), Local Government Authority (LGA), value FAO knowledge and expertise.
- Continued investment from international financial institutions (IFIs) and international donor community in the agriculture and fisheries sector.
- Strong commitment from government authorities to implement the National Fisheries and Agriculture policies and Maldives National Fisheries Management Plans and other stakeholders' commitment and contribution to the long-term vision of change.
- Support is provided to establish better storage and distribution networks and investment in climate-smart agriculture based on research and evidence; this will help to improve food security conditions and reduce dependence on imported crop varieties.
- Strong commitment from government authorities to implement the National Food Safety Policy.
- Private sector companies in the tourism sector are interested to engage on food waste initiatives.
- Women and youth express interest in improving their skills and expand relations with the private sector.
- Women development committees are empowered to be part of decision-making at national and local levels.
- Interest and commitment from Ministries and Government technical staff at all levels to incorporate climate-smart practices, gender-

inclusive approaches to achieve equality, resilience building, natural resource management, technical innovation and inclusive value-chain development.

- Fisheries and agriculture extension services maintain commitment to effectively disseminate their services.
- Improved access to low-cost finance, new investments in development of agriculture and mariculture value chains, provision of market driven skills.

RISKS FOR ALL CPF OUTPUTS:

- A lack of political will, political instability, and low interest at the highest levels of decision making as it regards, budgeting, laws and policies are a significant threat to the achievement of this program's goals.
- Competing financing priorities and resource mobilization challenges in the new context of COVID-19.
- Lack of funding could hamper FAO's ability to properly implement the programme as planned.
- Growing unemployment and loss of livelihoods due to the socio-economic downturn and extreme climatic conditions, heightens the risk of social unrest and disruption of key services.
- Extreme climate events, and related natural and human induced disasters and hazards pollution of marine and terrestrial environment adversely impact biodiversity and natural habitat on which fisheries and agriculture industry depend and thrive. Degradation of environment will impact agricultural and fisheries output, impact livelihoods and income of rural poor and adversely impact national food security.



3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Partnership

The Government of the Maldives will be the main counterpart of FAO programmes with alignment to the Country SAP. FAO will work with key institutional focal points which are mainly the MoFMRA and the MoEnv. FAO will work closely and collaborate with government authorities including key partners such as the MoFMRA, MoH, and UN partners to mobilize resources, form strategic public-private partnerships, and leverage its global network to ensure the country's commitments and SDG goals are met in the above sectors.

Based on the areas of support under the CPF, close collaboration will be established with UN Agencies. To leverage funding for resilient development of the agri-food sector, FAO will collaborate with multilateral banks, local finance institutions such as SME Development Bank and other relevant public sector corporations. Community mobilization, outreach and advocacy programs will be implemented in partnership with international and local NGOs and CSOs operating in the Maldives. Strong collaborations will be established with environmental, women and youth non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and CSOs ongoing initiatives.

Implementing partners for CPF Outputs:

- Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture
- Maldives Marine Research Institute,
- Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology,
- Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Service,
- Ministry of Tourism,
- Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Service,
- Ministry of Health,
- Maldives Food and Drug Authority,
- Atoll Councils,
- Local Government Authority
- Women development committees (WDCs)
- CSOs, and private sector partners.

FAO collaborates closely with UN agencies working on fisheries agriculture, food security, nutrition and climate change.

3.2 Financing outlook and funding opportunities

An estimated **USD 6 680 000** will be required to implement the 2022-2026 CPF for Maldives. FAO estimates that USD 995 000 is available from on-going and new TCP projects. A further USD 5 685 000 will be available through joint UN Agency and other partner programmes and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) or mobilized through further resource mobilization efforts over the coming years. The resources matrix shows yearly resource requirements and funding sources and is available in annex 2.

Under the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), FAO will strengthen Agribusiness Producer Organizations in the Maldives through enterprise eco-system development and deployment of digital solutions. USD 2.6 million is available under this sanctioned project. FAO will study the EU-IFAD funded Asia Pacific Farmers Program for the Maldives in regard to support for Farmer Organizations.¹⁴

The Maldives Green Climate Fund Country Programme publication earmarks two proposed initiatives to be implemented in the Maldives with FAO support. FAO considers taking forward the Blue Growth framework programme to strengthen the livelihoods of fishers, fish farmers and those whose livelihoods depend on the sector in the Maldives. It proposes the development and implementation of a climate proofed ecosystem approach to Fisheries, incorporating e-plans for the sector, while diversifying livelihoods and building resilience, aligned with SAP implementation. The target outcome of is outlines as enhanced national capacity to achieve food security while addressing the impacts and drivers of climate change in its fisheries management systems.

Under the frameworks of 2030 Agenda, FAO's Strategic Objectives, FAO South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) Strategy, FAO

commits to facilitating knowledge, technical know-how, and human and financial resource from southern partners and triangular partners to support the implementation of the 2022-2026 CPF for Maldives. Specifically,

- To contribute to CPF priority 1, the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (RAP) SSTC team, together with the FAO Representation for Sri Lanka and the Maldives, and FAO liaison office in the Republic of Korea (ROK), will explore interest from ROK on mobilizing fishery knowledge, technology, technical know-how, and other resources to support fishery development in Maldives.
- Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) office in Maldives is providing cooperation primarily in the renewable energy field with solar power,¹⁵ echoing FAO's CPF priority 3. The FAO Representation for Sri Lanka and the Maldives will explore collaboration opportunities with JICA on climate-smart and sustainable technologies.
- China and Maldives commits to expanding cooperation into youth, education, agriculture and the ocean.¹⁶ RAP SSTC team and the FAO Representation for Sri Lanka and the Maldives will pursue opportunities with China to work on digital agriculture, youth entrepreneurship, and value chain development for fruits and vegetables, contributing to the overall CPF outputs.

Potential resource and funding partners include:

FAO TCP Funds; Bilateral Donors; Multilateral Financial Institutions; GAFSP; Global Environment Facility (GEF); Green Climate Fund; European Union; UN Trust Funds; UN SDG Fund; Development partners (JICA, KOICA, CIDCA), private sector companies.

¹⁴ <https://asiapacificfarmersforum.net/asia-pacific-farmers-program/>

¹⁵ <https://www.jica.go.jp/maldives/english/index.html>

¹⁶ http://mv.chineseembassy.org/eng/zmgx/202102/t20210201_1623639.htm

4. MONITORING, REPORTING AND EVALUATION

FAO will actively participate in relevant Results Group(s) of Cooperation Framework strategic priorities as well as in the monitoring and evaluation (M&E) groups. As a contributing UN entity, FAO will monitor and report on progress towards Cooperation Framework results and provide periodic inputs to update the UN Common Country Analysis (CCA) for

adaptive programming. With support from the Resident Coordinator and the M&E group, FAO will use the online platform UN INFO to monitor and report results delivered by FAO individually and jointly with other UN entities. FAO may participate in the Joint Cooperation Framework evaluations as necessary and in consultation with the Office of Evaluation.



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ANNEXES

ANNEX 1 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK RESULTS MATRIX

CPF Priority 1: Economic transformation, improved production, and decent work			
<p>Related Global SDG Target(s):</p> <p>Goal 1 : End poverty in all its forms everywhere, in particular: Equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology and economic resources (1.4)</p> <p>Goal 2 : End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, in particular: End hunger and ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round</p> <p>Goal 5 : Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, in particular: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, and natural resources, in accordance with national law</p> <p>Goal 8 : Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, particularly: 8.2 Achieve higher levels of economic productivity through diversification, technological upgrading and innovation, including through a focus on high value-added and labor-intensive sectors</p> <p>Goal 14 : Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development: (14.4) effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in order to restore fish stocks to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield; (14.6.1) progress and the degree of implementation of international instruments aiming to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.</p>			
<p>Related FAO Regional Initiative Priority: Enhancing green and blue agri-food systems in the Pacific SIDS; BP1: Green Innovation - BP2: Blue Transformation - BP4: Small-scale producers' equitable access to resources</p>			
<p>Related National SDG Target(s) : Same as UNSDCF priorities on Blue Economy</p>			
<p>Outcome 1 : By 2026, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work.</p>			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Results Group/Chair
1 (e) Value of Fisheries to the GDP	MVR 2 779.1m (2019)	MVR 5 558.2m (double) by 2030	National Bureau of Statistics/ Maldives Monetary Authority
<p>Output 1.1 - The Government has strengthened capacity to establish and implement policies and initiatives which promote a dynamic, diversified and sustainable economy that delivers prosperity and opportunities to all, particularly for women.</p>			
<p>CPF Output 1.1.1 - Strengthened government and other stakeholder capacities to develop and enforce regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen.</p>			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Partners
Mechanism for fishing vessels monitoring established and enforced	Not existent	Monitoring framework established	Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture Maldives
Government electronic system to disseminate weather forecasting information to fishers established	Not existent	System established	Marine Research Institute,

ANNEX 1 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK RESULTS MATRIX CONTD...

Indicator	Baseline	Target	Partners
Percentage or number of fishers trained on occupational safety	N/A	25%	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology Atoll Councils
CPF Output 1.1.2 - The Government develops stronger institutional and technical capacities to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy (2019-2029), incorporating climate adaptive research in addressing key impacts and drivers.			
Status/number of initiatives under the national fisheries and agriculture policy implemented	Partially implemented	4 policy actions fully implemented	Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture Maldives
Number of initiatives under the national fisheries and agriculture policy incorporating climate adaptive research in addressing key impacts and drivers.	N/A	At least two initiatives incorporating climate adaptive research	Marine Research Institute, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology; Atoll Councils
CPF Output 1.1.3 - Strengthened government capacity to develop and implement the Maldives fisheries management plans, including government and fisher capacities in the implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, Eliminate IUU fishing.			
Fisheries management plans developed and implemented	Plans partly developed and implemented	At least 20% of the planned activities implemented	Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture Maldives
Monitoring mechanism established for IUU fishing	No monitoring mechanism available	Monitoring mechanism established	Marine Research Institute,
Number of fishers and types of training provided to fishers on IUU requirements and compliance	Zero	At least 50% (in-person or virtual)	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology; Atoll Councils
Number of training sessions for judiciary officers	Zero	1 training session annually (in-person or virtual)	
Output 1.3 : The Government, public and private sector have enhanced capacities to design and deliver inclusive, adaptive, and market-relevant, lifelong learning, and skills development opportunities that meet real market needs and prospects.			
CPF output 1.3.1 - Women and youth enhance their capacities to develop technical and entrepreneurial skills to generate income in the agriculture and fishery value chains including through collaborative partnerships with the private sector.			
Number of new technologies introduced for women and youth	Zero	At least 5	
Percentage of women using new technologies in agriculture, aquaculture and fishery processing activities	N/A	20%	Women development committees (WDCs) Urban Local Governments, CSOs, and private sector partners.
Number of youth-centric technology and innovative initiatives implemented	N/A	At least 3	

ANNEX 1 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK RESULTS MATRIX CONTD...

CPF Priority 2: Nutrition, food security and sustainable agriculture			
<p>Related Global SDG Target(s): Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere, in particular: Equal rights to ownership, basic services, technology and economic resources (1.4) Goal 2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture, in particular: End hunger and ensure access by all people to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, in particular: Undertake reforms to give women equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to ownership and control over land and other forms of property, financial services, and natural resources, in accordance with national law</p>			
<p>Related FAO Regional Initiative Priority: Transforming agri-food systems for sustainable production and healthy diets; BN1: Healthy diets for all (SDG 1.3, 2.1, 2.2); BN3: Safe food for everyone (SDG 2.1, 2.2)</p>			
<p>Related National SDG Target(s): Same as UNSDCF priorities on Caring State</p>			
<p>Outcome 2 : By 2026, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity</p>			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Results Group/Chair
2 (b) Prevalence of malnutrition (SDG indicator 2.1.1)	Under 5 children: i. Stunted U5: 15% ii. Wasted U5: 9% ii. Overweight /obese U5: 5% (DHS 2016-17)	i. less than 13%. ii. less than 7% iii. maintain at <5%.	Ministry of Health, Demographic and Health Survey
2 (c) Prevalence of anemia amongst women of reproductive age	63% (2016/17)	Less than 50%	Ministry of Health, Demographic and Health Survey
<p>Output 2.1: The Government at all levels and other stakeholders have improved capacities to deliver equitable, high-quality and gender-responsive health, nutrition and care services that promote preventative physical and mental well-being throughout the life course.</p>			
<p>CPF output 2.1.1- Regulatory measures are developed and implemented to improve food safety and quality standards in cultivated, prepared, packaged and imported foods and consumer habits influenced in improving nutritional status</p>			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Partners
Number of trainings / initiatives for government functionaries on food safety and quality standards	N/A	1 annually	Ministry of Health Maldives Food and Drug Authority
Number of policy regulations on nutritional improvement in cultivated, prepared and packed processed foods revised and enforced	N/A	At least 2	
Implementation of the Food Based Dietary Guideline Action Plan	Plan not implemented	Action plan implemented	

ANNEX 1 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK RESULTS MATRIX CONTD...

CPF Output 2.1.2 - Sustainable diversification of agricultural practices, including urban agriculture and products for environmental, economic, and social benefits to the surrounding communities, especially women and youth and enhanced food security and nutrition			
Number of nutrient dense crops being cultivated	17 crops	4 nutrient dense crops cultivated	MoFMRA Maldives Food and Drug Authority
CPF Priority 3: Sustainable management of natural resources and resilience to climate change			
<p>Related Global SDG Target(s): Goal 2. 2.4, Ensure sustainable food production systems including information dissemination Goal 13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts, through: (13.b) Promoting mechanisms for raising capacity for effective climate change-related planning and management in least developed countries and small island developing States, including focusing on women and youth. Goal 14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, (14.7) increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture, tourism.</p>			
<p>FAO Regional Initiative Priority: Accelerating sustainable natural resources management for biodiversity conservation and climate action - BE1: Climate change mitigating and adapted agri-food systems - BP5: Digital Agriculture</p>			
<p>Related National SDG Target(s): Blue Economy; Climate change – SDG targets in line with UNSDCF</p>			
Outcome 3 : By 2026, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Results Group/ Chair
3 (d) Existence of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) national action plan mainstreamed as a priority or a target into national policies (SDG indicator 12.1.1)	No	Yes	SDG Data Update by National Bureau of Statistics
3 (e) Existence of a gender-sensitive and integrated policy/strategy /plan which increases the Maldives ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production (including a national adaptation plan, nationally determined contribution, national communication, biennial update report or other) (SDG indicator 13.2.1)	Partially Established	Fully established and partially operationalized	SDG Data Update by National Bureau of Statistics
c. 3.2.3 Number of islands implementing integrated solid waste management with circular economy principles through UN support	9 islands	FAO – 2 (1 pilot project)	

ANNEX 1 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK RESULTS MATRIX CONTD...

Output 3.1 : The government at all levels, communities, the people and other stakeholders in the Maldives are better able to sustainably manage natural resources and protect vital ecosystems			
CPF Output 3.1.1- Women development committees are capacitated and operate effectively to address issues faced by rural women in agriculture and fisheries.			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Partners
Number of WDCs that are fully operational	61 WDCs registered	15 WDCs fully operational	WDCs
Percentage of WDC that contribute to fisheries and agriculture programs implemented in the island	N/A	At least 25%	
CPF output 3.1.2 The newly established e-agriculture information dissemination system for the delivery of agriculture advisory services is expanded and enhanced.			
Government has installed the required infrastructure to host and have retained the necessary human resources to manage the established e-agriculture advisory system as a key platform for agriculture information dissemination	No	Yes	Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture
E-extension for equipping farmers to cultivate high yielding varieties	No	4 varieties	
Percentage of farmers trained on the use of the e-agriculture advisory platform	N/A	At least 50% (in-person or virtual)	
UNSDCF Output 3.2: The government at all levels, communities, the people and other stakeholders in the Maldives have enhanced capacities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and disaster risks.			
CPF Output 3.2.1 - Smallholder farmers, fishermen and aquaculture operators adopt climate smart technologies and sustainable cultivation and fishing practices and improve their livelihoods through exports and linkages with the tourism sector.			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Partners
Percentage of farmers adopting climate-smart technologies and practices	N/A	30%	Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture
Percentage of farmers with knowledge on best cultivation practices of high yielding varieties	N/A	30%	Maldives Marine Research Institute, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology; Atoll Councils
CPF output 3.2.2 - Food waste prevented and reduced in tourism sector, commercial food services and households within the urban population and rural communities			
Number of programmes targeting food waste prevention and reduction	3	At least 20 (Male' + 2 Atolls)	Ministry of Tourism

ANNEX 1 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK RESULTS MATRIX CONTD...

CPF Priority 4: Inclusive growth			
<p>Related Global SDG Target(s): Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls Goal 16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</p>			
<p>FAO Regional Initiative Priority: Supporting inclusive rural transformation for sustainable agri-food systems and equitable rural society; BL1: Gender equality and rural women's empowerment</p>			
<p>Related National SDG Target(s): Caring State; Good governance pillar</p>			
<p>Outcome 4: By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralised and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society.</p>			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Results Group/Chair
4(b) Existence of a system/s to track and make public allocations for gender equality and women empowerment. (SDG 5.c.1)	No	Yes	Ministry of Finance
<p>Output 4.4 : The Government has enhanced capacity to collect, manage and analyses disaggregated data for monitoring, decision-making and for reporting on progress towards SDG achievement and on human rights treaties and other regional and international commitments.</p>			
<p>CPF output 4.4.1 - Sex-disaggregated data and gender-specific statistics are available, and used for monitoring, informing evidence-based programmes, planning and budgeting in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.</p>			
Indicator	Baseline	Target	Partners
Number of technical studies/ data sets collected in relation to women and gender in the agriculture and rural sectors	Basic gender assessment	Government with capacity to collect sex-disaggregated data in at least 2 areas	Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Service National Bureau of Statistics

ANNEX 2 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK ANNUALIZED RESOURCES MATRIX

Result	Indicative Resources Required (R) and Available * (A) annualized * Available should refer to the figure represented in FPMIS												Implementing Partners	Resource Partners (existing or potential)				
	Voluntary Contribution such as Government Cooperative Programme /GCP (including Unilateral Trust Funds) : VC TCP / Assessed contributions: TCP																	
	2022			2023			2024			2025			2026					
	Required	Available	Gap=R-A	Required	Available	Required	Available	Required	Available	Required	Available	Required	Available					
VC+TCP	VC+TCP	VC+TCP	VC	TCP	VC	TCP	VC	TCP	VC	TCP	VC	TCP	VC	TCP				
TOTAL	6 680	3 630	3 050															
UNSDCF OUTCOME 1	625	400	225															
OUTPUT 1.1.1	160	160	0				80					80						
OUTPUT 1.1.2	40	40	0												40			
OUTPUT 1.1.3	300	150	150		60	150		90										
Output 1.3.1	125	50	75											75				50
UNSDCF OUTCOME 2	3 105	2 755	350															
OUTPUT 2.1.1	470	120	350	125	120	225												FAO or Bilateral
OUTPUT 2.1.2	2 635	2 635	0	200			600				800		1 035					GASP

ANNEX 2 - COUNTRY PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK ANNUALIZED RESOURCES MATRIX CONTD...

Result		Indicative Resources Required (R) and Available * (A) annualized * Available should refer to the figure represented in FPMIS												Implementing Partners	Resource Partners (existing or potential)				
		Voluntary Contribution such as Government Cooperative Programme/GCP (including Unilateral Trust Funds): VC TCP/ Assessed contributions: TCP																	
		2022			2023			2024			2025					2026			
Required VC+TCP	Available VC+TCP	Gap=R-A VC+TCP	Required VC	Required TCP	Available VC	Available TCP	Required VC	Required TCP	Available VC	Available TCP	Required VC	Required TCP	Available VC	Available TCP	Required VC	Required TCP	Available VC	Available TCP	
UNSDCF OUTCOME 3	2,675	275	2,400																
Output 3.1.1	300		300	150			150												
Output 3.1.2	225	125	100	50		125	50												
Output 3.2.1	1 825		1 825								400								
Output 3.2.2	325	150	175			75	25				75	75							
UNSDCF OUTCOME 4	275	200	75																
Output 4.4.1	275	200	75								60	75					80		60

ANNEX 3 - THEORY OF CHANGE
FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK MALDIVES 2022-2026

FAO Global Goals	Goal 1 - Eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition, progressively ensuring a world in which people at all times have sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life; Goal 2 - Elimination of poverty and driving forward of economic and social progress for all, with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods; Goal 3 - Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources for the benefit of present and future generations.			
UNSDCF Outcomes	1: By 2026, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work.	2: By 2026, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity	3: By 2026, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner	4: By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society
CPF Strategic priorities	Priority 1 : Economic transformation, improved production and decent work			
The 4 Betters and PPAs	BETTER PRODUCTION BL2, BL4, BP1, BP2, BP4	BETTER NUTRITION BN1, BN2, BL7	BETTER ENVIRONMENT BE1, BP5, BN4	BETTER LIFE BL1
FAO CPF Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthened government and other stakeholder capacities to develop and enforce regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory measures are developed and implemented to improve food safety and quality standards in cultivated, imported, prepared, packaged and imported foods and consumer habits influenced in improving nutritional status 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women development committees are capacitated and operate effectively to address issues faced by rural women in agriculture and fisheries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sex-disaggregated data and gender-specific statistics are available, and used for monitoring, informing evidence-based programmes, planning and budgeting in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

ANNEX 3 - THEORY OF CHANGE
FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK MALDIVES 2022-2026 CONTD...

<p>FAO CPF Outputs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Government develops stronger institutional and technical capacities to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy (2019-2029), incorporating climate adaptive research in addressing key impacts and drivers. • Strengthened government capacity to develop and implement the Maldives fisheries management plans, including government and fisher capacities in the implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, Eliminate IUU fishing. • Women and youth improve their capacities in technical and entrepreneurial skills using innovative and progressive technologies, including e-agriculture solutions to generate income in the agriculture and fishery value chains through private sector partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable diversification of agricultural practices, including urban agriculture and products for environmental, economic, and social benefits to the surrounding communities, especially women and youth and enhanced food security and nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The newly established e-agriculture information dissemination system for the delivery of agriculture advisory services is expanded and enhanced. • Smallholder farmers, fishermen and aquaculture operators adopt climate smart technologies and sustainable cultivation and fishing practices and improve their livelihoods through exports and linkages with the tourism sector. • Food waste prevented and reduced in tourism sector, commercial food services and households within the urban population and rural communities 	
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ANNEX 3 - THEORY OF CHANGE
FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK MALDIVES 2022-2026 CONTD...

<p>Key Strategies and interventions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support institutional and technical capacities at Government level to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy including implementation, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing. • Promote private sector collaboration, youth-centric/ entrepreneurship programmes and, that will add value to products, contribute to blue economy transformation and income in the green economy. • Technically support government and stakeholder's capacities to develop and enforce regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen. • Empower women and youth working in the agriculture and fisheries sector to access equitable opportunities and resources and improve their livelihoods and support investments in market driven technical and entrepreneurial skills development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support programmes that improve agricultural standards, the introduction of nutrient dense crops, and promote the diversification of food sources in rural areas and the atolls. • Support implementation of policies and behavioral change strategies on nutrition, safety of food to consume, and food waste at household level and in the tourism sector. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build institutional and local capacities in the fisheries, aquaculture and agriculture sector, while introducing climate-smart and sustainable technologies • Support the expansion and improvement of newly established e-agriculture information dissemination system to deliver agriculture advisory services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote improved, coordinated and sex-disaggregated data and statistics required to achieve SDGs related to food and agriculture and inform decision-making for planning and budgeting. • Leveraging ICT for research and data collections across the agri-food value chain will assist institutions to refine and reformulate programs based on evidence and redress any potential externalities impacting the sustainability and resilience of the agri-food sector and the natural ecosystems on which the sector relies.
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ANNEX 3 - THEORY OF CHANGE
FAO COUNTRY PROGRAMME FRAMEWORK MALDIVES 2022-2026 CONTD...

Desired changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Government and stakeholders develop, implement and monitor policies for sustainable management in the agriculture and fisheries sector. Increased local capacity, climate-adaptation and technical know-how in the fisheries and agriculture sector Men, women and youth working in the agriculture, aquaculture and fisheries sectors generate income, improve their livelihoods and contribute actively to the economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved capacities to implement and monitor food safety standards. Improved health and nutrition Diversification of food sources, increased agricultural standards, and cultivation of nutrient dense crops. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate-smart techniques and mitigation are introduced and applied Sustainable management of natural resources and climate-smart policies and practices in the fisheries and agriculture sector Reduced food waste and waste management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women and vulnerable groups are empowered to access resources and strengthen their technical capacities in the fisheries and agriculture sector
Challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Larger investments and clear policies needed on agricultural standards and support to blue and green economy. Multidimensional poverty affects 87% of the population in the Atolls. Smallholder farmers and those working in the fisheries sector have limited access to the tourism sector and export market. Lack of enabling policy for occupational safety of fishers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of enabling policy and legal frameworks for management of natural resources / larger investments and clear policies needed on agricultural standards. Prevalence of malnutrition in the islands due to shortage of locally produced nutrient dense foods, high dependence on imports, and unhealthy diets Lack of capacities to monitor and implement food safety standards. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited investment in climate change mitigation in agriculture and fisheries sector. Lack of monitoring capacities on IUU fishing Low technical capacity and know-how on sustainable management and standards in the sectors of agriculture and fishery Food waste locally and in the tourism sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rural women have limited capacities and access to resources. Lack of sex-disaggregated data collection and analysis in the agriculture and fishery sectors

ANNEX 4 – MALDIVES CPF RESULTS FRAMEWORK

FAO VISION

A world free from hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contribute to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner

CPF Strategic priorities

Priority 1 - Economic transformation, improved production and decent work

Priority 2 - Nutrition, food security and sustainable agriculture

Priority 3- Sustainable management of natural resources and resilience to climate change

Priority 4 - Promote inclusive growth

UNSDCF OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: By 2026, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work

Outcome 2: By 2026, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity

Outcome 3: By 2026, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, and natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner

Outcome 4: By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society

The 4 Betters and PPAs

BETTER PRODUCTION

BP1: Green innovation (SDGs 2.3, 2.4 & 6.4);
BP2: Blue transformation (SDG 2.1., 2.2)
BP4: Small-scale producers' access to resources (SDG 1.4, 5.b)

- 1.1.1 - Strengthened government and other stakeholder capacities to develop and enforce regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen
- 1.1.2 - The Government develops stronger institutional and technical capacities to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy (2019-2029), incorporating climate adaptive research in addressing key impacts and drivers.
- 1.1.3 - Strengthened government capacity to develop and implement the Maldives fisheries management plans, including government and fisher capacities in the implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, Eliminate IUU fishing.
- 1.3.1 - Women and youth improve their capacities in technical and entrepreneurial skills using innovative and progressive technologies, including e-agriculture solutions to generate income in the agriculture and fishery value chains through private sector partnerships

BETTER NUTRITION

BN1: Healthy diets for all (SDG 1.3, 2.1, 2.2)
BN3: Safe food for everyone (SDG 2.1, 2.2)

- 2.1.1 Regulatory measures are developed and implemented to improve food safety and quality standards in produced, prepared, packaged and imported foods and consumer habits, influenced in improving nutritional status
- 2.1.2 Sustainable diversification of agricultural practices, including urban agriculture and products for environmental, economic, and social benefits to the surrounding communities, especially women and youth and enhanced food security and nutrition

BETTER ENVIRONMENT

BE1: Climate change mitigation & adapted agri-food systems (SDG 13.1, 13.2, 13.b, 14.3);
BE2: Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture (SDG12.2, 12.4 & 12.5)

- 3.1.1 Women development committees are capacitated and operate effectively to address issues faced by rural women in agriculture and fisheries.
- 3.1.2 The newly established e-agriculture information dissemination system for the delivery of agriculture advisory services is expanded and enhanced.
- 3.2.1 Smallholder farmers, fishermen and aquaculture operators adopt climate smart technologies and sustainable cultivation and fishing practices and improve their livelihoods through exports and linkages with the tourism sector.
- 3.2.2 Food waste prevented and reduced in tourism sector, commercial food services and households within the urban population and rural communities

BETTER LIFE

BL1: Gender equality & rural women empowerment (SDG 2.3, 5.4, 5.a, 5.c);







- 4.4.1 Sex-disaggregated data and gender-specific statistics are available, and used for monitoring, informing evidence-based programmes, planning and budgeting in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.

FAO accelerators

Technology - Innovation – Data - Complements (Governance, human capital and institutions)

Partnerships: Ministry of Fisheries, Marine Resources and Agriculture; Maldives Marine Research Institute; Ministry of Environment, Climate Change & Technology; Ministry of Tourism; Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Service; Ministry of Health; Maldives Food and Drug Authority; Atoll Councils; Urban Local Governments; Women development committees (WDCs); CSOs, and Private sector partners.

ANNEX 5 - INTERCONNECTIONS AND LINKAGES BETWEEN THE UN COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (2022-2026) FOR THE MALDIVES AND FAO'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2022-2031

Cooperation Framework Priorities	Strategic Priority 1: Shared Prosperity and Inclusive Human Development for All	Strategic Priority 2: Sustainable and Climate Resilient Environment	Strategic Priority 3: Gender-Responsive, Rights-Based and Accountable Governance and Justice
SAP Theme			
Agenda 2030 Pillar	People 	Planet 	Peace 
SDGs	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10	7, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17
Outcomes	<p>Outcome 1: By 2026, youth, women and others at risk of being left behind, contribute to and benefit from inclusive, resilient, sustainable economic and human capital development, fostering innovation, entrepreneurship and decent work.</p> <p>Outcome 2: By 2026, people in the Maldives, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized benefit from increased access to and use of quality, equitable, inclusive and resilient social and protection services, and have enhanced relevant skills and live fulfilled lives with wellbeing and dignity.</p>	<p>Outcome 3: By 2026, national and sub-national institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner.</p>	<p>Outcome 4: By 2026, Maldives has strengthened decentralized and accountable governance under the rule of law where people are empowered, meaningfully participate in transparent and transformative processes for public policy and fully enjoy access to justice, public services, human rights, gender equality and women's empowerment in a tolerant and peaceful society.</p>
FAO Global Goals	<p>Goal 1: Eradication of hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition (SDG 1)</p> <p>Goal 2: Elimination of Poverty (SDG 2)</p>	<p>Goal 3: Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources (SDG 12, 13, 14, 15)</p>	Complements (Governance, Gender equality, Human capital)
FAO's Guiding /Custodian/ Contributing SDGs	1,2,5,6,10	12, 14, 15	
FAO's 4 betters (Aspirational impacts)	Better Production (SDGs 2 & 6) Better Nutrition (SDGs 1 & 2)	Better Environment (SDGs 12, 13, 15) Better Production (SDG, 14)	Better Nutrition (SDG 12) Better Life (SDGs 5, 8 & 10)

ANNEX 5 - INTERCONNECTIONS AND LINKAGES BETWEEN THE UN COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (2022-2026) FOR THE MALDIVES AND FAO'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2022-2031

FAO Strategic Framework	PPAs contributing to 4 betters and CF SP and Outcomes	Better Production	<p>BP1: Blue Green innovation (SDGs 2.3, 2.4 & 6.4)</p> <p>BP2: Blue transformation (SDG 2.1, 2.2)</p> <p>BP4: Small-scale producers' equitable access to resources (SDG 1.4, 5.b)</p>	<p>BP1: Blue Green innovation (SDG 15.2)</p> <p>BP2: Blue transformation (SDG 14.2, 14.4, 14.6, 14.7, 14.b, 14.c)</p> <p>BP3: One Health (SDG 15.8)</p> <p>BP5: Digital agriculture (SDG 1.4 & 5.b)</p>	
		Better Nutrition	<p>BN1: Healthy diets for all (SDG 1.3, 2.1, 2.2)</p> <p>BN3: Safe food for everyone (SDG 2.1, 2.2)</p> <p>BN5: Transparent markets and trade (SDG 2.b, 2.c, 10.a)</p>	<p>BN1: Healthy diets for all (SDG 12.8 & 14.b)</p> <p>BN4: Reducing Food loss and waste (SDG 2.1 & 2.2)</p>	
		Better Environment	<p>BE1: Climate change mitigation and adapted agri-food systems (SDG 2.4)</p> <p>BE3: Biodiversity and ecosystem services for food and agriculture (SDG 2.5)</p>	<p>BE1: Climate change mitigation and adapted agri-food systems (SDG 13.1, 13.2, 13.b, 14.3)</p> <p>BE2: Bioeconomy for sustainable food and agriculture (SDG12.2, 12.4 & 12.5)</p>	
		Better Life	<p>BL2: Inclusive rural transformation (SDG 1.1, 8.3, 8.5, 10.1, 10.2, 10.7)</p> <p>BL3: Achieving sustainable urban food systems (SDG 1.1, 2.1)</p> <p>BL5: Resilient agri-food systems (SDG 1.3, 1.5, 2.4)</p> <p>BL7: Scaling up investment (SDG 1.b, 2.a, 10.1, 10.2, 10.b)</p>	<p>BL2: Inclusive rural transformation (SDG 14.b)</p> <p>BL3: Achieving sustainable urban food systems (SDG 121.1)</p>	<p>BL1: Gender equality and rural women's empowerment (SDG 2.3, 5.4, 5.a, 5.c)</p>
	FAO standard setting/ normative work related to CP	Institutional development			
	FAO's accelerators relevant for delivery of CPF	Technology Innovation Data Complements (human capital and institutions)	Technology Innovation		Data complements –(governance, human capital and institutions)

ANNEX 5 - INTERCONNECTIONS AND LINKAGES BETWEEN THE UN COOPERATION FRAMEWORK (2022-2026) FOR THE MALDIVES AND FAO'S STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2022-2031 COND...

<p>FAO Strategic Framework</p>	<p>CPF Outputs contributing to CF outcomes</p>	<p>1.1.1.1 - Strengthened government and other stakeholder capacities to develop and enforce regulatory mechanisms on occupational safety of fishermen</p> <p>1.1.1.2 - The Government develops stronger institutional and technical capacities to coordinate, monitor and implement the national fisheries and agricultural policy (2019-2029), incorporating climate adaptive research in addressing key impacts and drivers.</p> <p>1.1.1.3 - Strengthened government capacity to develop and implement the Maldives fisheries management plans, including government and fisher capacities in the implementation, enforcement, monitoring and reporting on the Maldives National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter, Eliminate IUU fishing.</p> <p>1.3.1 - Women and youth improve their capacities in technical and entrepreneurial skills using innovative and progressive technologies, including e-agriculture solutions to generate income in the agriculture and fishery value chains through private sector partnerships</p> <p>2.1.1 - Regulatory measures are developed and implemented to improve food safety and quality standards in produced, prepared, packaged and imported foods and consumer habits influenced in improving nutritional status</p> <p>2.1.2- Sustainable diversification of agricultural practices, including urban agriculture and products for environmental, economic, and social benefits to the surrounding communities, especially women and youth and enhanced food security and nutrition</p>	<p>3.1.1.1 - Women development committees are capacitated and operate effectively to address issues faced by rural women in agriculture and fisheries.</p> <p>3.1.2 - The newly established e-agriculture information dissemination system for the delivery of agriculture advisory services is expanded and enhanced.</p> <p>3.2.1 - Smallholder farmers, fishermen and aquaculture operators adopt climate smart technologies and sustainable cultivation and fishing practices and improve their livelihoods through exports and linkages with the tourism sector.</p> <p>3.2.2 - Food waste prevented and reduced in tourism sector, commercial food services and households within the urban population and rural communities</p>	<p>4.4.1 Sex-disaggregated data and gender-specific statistics are available, and used for monitoring, informing evidence-based programmes, planning and budgeting in the agriculture and fisheries sectors.</p>

FAO Representation for Sri Lanka and the Maldives
FAO-LK@fao.org
www.fao.org/srilanka

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
No 202, Bauddhaloka Mawatha,
Colombo, Sri Lanka

