MALDIVES STATUS REPORT
31 March 2006

Coordination

FAO is collaborating with agencies involved in waste management projects, which includes UNDP, Australian Red Cross, Canadian Red Cross, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Planning, FAO technical expertise in soil fertility.

Fisheries

All 20 bokkuras being constructed in the commercial boat yard of Thulushdhoo were completed in February 2006. On the three islands of Kudahuvadhoo, Naalafushi and Maroshi, construction of the remaining 69 bokkuraas is on-going and completion is anticipated for the end of April. The in-kind contribution of 89 boat engines from the People’s Republic of China worth US$1.1 million were delivered to FAO and these engines will be mounted on the FAO-built bokkuras.

Distribution of fishing gear, which includes feather hooks, compasses, fins, navigation lights, snorkels, underwater torches, fishing lines and ropes is on-going. To date, 67 per cent of the total damaged vessels have benefited from FAO assistance.

Agriculture

The second distribution phase of agricultural inputs is on-going to islands in the South of the country. Distribution of fertilizer, seedlings and agriculture kits is on-going and expected to be completed by end of April, benefiting a total of 4,058 families. The agriculture kit includes 72 grams of vegetable seeds; 100 kg compost; 100 kg manure; 29.5 kg inorganic fertilizers; one hoe; one rake; one shovel; one sprayer; one bush knife; one watering can; one wheel barrow and a selection of seedlings.

Forestry

A plan of operations for forestry activities on six islands namely Kela, Filladhoo, Baarah, Utheemu in Haa Alifu Atoll and Naivaadhoo and Nellaidhoo in Haa Dhadlu Atoll. A site to construct a tree nursery in Utheemu was identified and a list of saplings from each island is being finalized for FAO technical clearance. Furthermore, a workshop organized jointly with the MoFAMR and in collaboration with ADB was held in Male covering key nursery propagation strategies (e.g. use of compost and composting methods, methods of pruning and grafting trees and cutting and air-layering).