

Food and Agriculture Organization

Maldives Country Programming Framework

2013-2017



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADMP	Agriculture Development Master Plan
CPF	Country Program Framework
CPI	Consumer Price Index
DP	Development Partners
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GoM	Government of Maldives
GST	General Service Tax
HEIS	Household Expenditure and Income Survey
IFAD	International Fund for Agriculture Development
IPPC	International Plant Protection Convention
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MDHS	Maldives Demographic Health Survey
MED	Ministry of Economic Development
MFF	Mangroves for the Future Initiative
MMA	Maldives Monetary Authority
MoE	Ministry of Environment
MoFA	Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
MoH	Ministry of Health
MSC	Marine Stewardship Council
MT	Metric Tons
NAPA	National Adaptation Plan of Action
NGO	Non Governmental Organization

NRRP	National Recovery and Reconstruction Program
OIE	Animal Health Organization
SAP	Strategic Action Plan
SPC	South Pacific Commission
TCP	Technical Cooperation Program
UN	United Nations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDG	United Nations Development Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Program

FOREWORD

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has been working closely with the Government of Maldives (GoM) and other development partners for over three decades in supporting the GoM in its efforts to develop the fisheries and agriculture sectors. Both these sectors are vital to Maldives' food security and rural development goals, notably improvements in the livelihood of fishermen and farmers. Both the FAO and GoM share a common vision that both these sectors must be developed in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner.

The Country Programming Framework (CPF) is formulated to sharpen the focus and define the priorities for the next five years. It will be used as a road map and a medium term framework for programming collaboration between FAO and the GoM.

The CPF represents the outcome of a series of extensive discussions and brainstorming meetings, awareness raising and validation workshops led by FAO to ensure national ownership of the document. This process was also supported by detailed analysis of the situation and issues, sectoral policies and FAO's comparative advantage in the Maldives. The process resulted into four main priority areas for the CPF, namely improving crop and animal productivity and competitiveness through climate smart agriculture (CSA); advancement of small scale aquaculture; improving bait fisheries; and ensuring quality of '*Maldivefish*'. Respective outcomes and outputs have also been identified for each priority areas. The proposed interventions aim at building technical and institutional capacity of the country to strengthen food security and rural livelihood. The CPF also recognizes the need for mainstreaming cross cutting issue such as environment, gender and youth empowerment.

By endorsing the CPF 2013-2017, the GoM is committed to providing collaboration, to the fullest possible extent with regard to available capacity and resources, to facilitate the achievement of the objectives and actions proposed in this document.

The CPF will be pursued in partnerships as broad as possible and in alignment with the joint efforts of the GoM and the donor community for enhanced coordination and aid effectiveness. The GoM and FAO look forward to seeking collaboration and support from all concerned partners for the successful implementation of the CPF.

For the Government of Maldives

**For the Food and Agriculture
Organization of the United Nations**

Name:

Name:

**Title: Minister
Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture**

**Title: FAO Representative to the
Republic of Maldives**

1. INTRODUCTION

FAO is one of the largest United Nations (UN) agencies specialized in providing technical support to reducing global poverty and improving food security to ensure that all people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead an active and healthy life. Maldives became a member of FAO in 1971 and was accredited to the FAO Representative's Office in Sri Lanka in 1979. Since then, FAO is committed to continue supporting Maldives in its vision for development in the FAO's mandate areas specifically assisting the country towards achieving its Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through strengthening rural livelihood.

The CPF is a framework for agreed priority interventions in the cooperation between FAO and the Government of Maldives (GoM). The Government's food security and rural development objectives focused on strengthening the fisheries and agriculture (including forestry) sectors which are the key support areas for FAO. CPF will be a medium term plan that will be used as a planning tool to assist FAO in collaboration with the GoM to prioritize, guide and manage its development assistance programme in the country. The document will enable both FAO and GoM to strategize the development assistance in a coherent and comprehensive approach. The CPF is jointly owned and led by FAO and GoM through Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture (MoFA) and therefore falls within the national development framework articulated in the Strategic Action Plan (SAP) and sector development master plans. In addition the document ensures consistency with UN System operations through alignment with United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF 2011-2015) for Maldives which gives priority for the MDGs.

The CPF contains four strategic components identifying priorities for FAO assistance and details for the programming requirements and strategic outcomes of the assistance. The development process of CPF involved high level consultation with Government and development partners' which enabled the confirmation on the top strategic priorities as described below:

1. Review of key Government policy and strategic documents and international frameworks and analyze the gaps, challenges and opportunities emanating from the documents
2. Consult key Government officials and prioritize the Government development areas, needs and resource requirements to achieve the principle agriculture and fisheries development policies; and
3. Confirmation of priority areas through consultation with stakeholders including private sector and civil society participation through national and regional workshops.

2. COUNTRY PROFILE

2.1 Economy

The Maldivian economy continued to grow in 2011, despite an uncertain external economic environment. Following a growth of 5.7 percent in 2010, the real economy expanded by 7.5 percent in 2011 underpinned by a strong growth of the tourism industry (MMA 2012). However, the forecast for 2012 was expected to be weaker perhaps due to the political and economic instability. The primary and secondary sector's performance is volatile and the growth of the tertiary sector is critical to achieve progress to the country's developmental agenda. With over 900 thousand tourists recorded in 2011, the Government of Maldives has set a new record target of one million tourists for 2012. Nonetheless, due to the economic and political instability in the domestic economy and a highly uncertain external economic environment, the Maldivian economy may not grow as predicted (MMA, 2012). The GDP per capita growth (annual %) in Maldives was last reported at 6.06 in 2011 and the Real per capita GDP at MRF 50,385 (equivalent to US\$ 3,936).

Tourism is the main player in the local economy, which accounts for 28 percent of GDP and more than 60 percent of foreign exchange receipts. Over 90 percent of government tax revenue comes from import duties and tourism-related taxes. Revenues from the tourism sector play a significant role in employment, income and addressing the food import bills. The real sector developments, following a growth of 15.8 percent in 2010, the sector recorded a growth of 13.6 percent in 2011. However, the economic dependency upon the vagaries of international tourism has brought in several challenges; including marginalization of rural communities and issues of social disharmony.

The contribution of fisheries to the economy is declining. The fisheries sector continued to be affected by the persistent decline in fish catch, owing to both environmental factors and higher fuel prices. Total fish catch declined by 12 percent in 2011. Nonetheless, the fish export sector performed favourably as a result of higher tuna prices in the international market. The total volume of fish exports rose by 14 percent, while earnings on such exports recorded a significant increase of 77 percent in 2011 (MMA 2012).

The importance of agriculture in the country in the past has been underestimated since its contribution has been measured on the grounds of its value added to GDP. The contribution to GDP is low yet from a livelihood and employment perspective, it is vital to the economy in terms of its economic and social welfare value. It is estimated that 14,000 fisherman and 9,000 farmers are actively engaged in both sectors supporting a large group of rural families. Recent statistics indicate a slow but steady growth in the agriculture sector contributing 1.6 percent of GDP.

Inflation: Inflationary pressures in the domestic economy further intensified in 2011, influenced by both international and domestic factors. Inflation, as measured by the percentage change in the 12-month average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for Male', soared to 11.3 percent at the end of 2011 from 6.2 percent at the end of 2010. The trend continued to grow and at the end of the first quarter of 2012, it reached a record high of 19.8 percent. Domestic price pressures

during early 2011 reflected the surge in global food and energy prices during the first half of 2011. Inflation in the first quarter of 2012 was largely driven by the increase in food prices, especially fish prices, owing to the continued decline in fish catch. Meanwhile, increases in the prices of other food items largely reflected the increase in the rate of Goods and Services Tax (GST) from 3.5 percent to 6.0 percent in January 2012 (MMA).

2.2 Population & Socio-economic setting

Population growth rate: Maldives population has grown steadily during the past 25 years and had reached 319,738 in 2010, with a sex ratio at birth estimated at (male/female) 1.05. This represents a 57 percent increase in population size over the past 25-year period. Recent statistics indicate that the Maldives has an average population growth rate of 1.33 percent (world average 1.17 percent), ranking it as the 70th fastest growing population in the world. The Maldivian population is widely dispersed, inhabiting 194 islands out of the total of 1,190 islands in the archipelago. The average population size per island is estimated at 900 people. In the 194 inhabited islands, 128 have a population less than 1,000. Besides Male' (capital) only 2 islands have a population more than 5,000. The estimated population in the capital is over 100,000 which accounts for a third of the total population. The population density nationally is 977 per square kilometer; making it among the highest in the world.

Employment: The Maldives has one of the lowest labor force participation rates in South Asia, especially among women. According to HIES (2011), overall employment stands at 64 percent with 75 percent male and 54 percent of female labor force participating. In the economy as a whole, unemployment increased from 16 percent to 28 percent from 2006 to 2010. Issues related to job creation and access to jobs were felt in both the capital, Male', as well as in the rural communities living in the islands.

Poverty: The incidence of poverty is considered marginal. However, the gap between lower income groups and the affluent is widening. There are considerable socio-economic and socio-cultural divides between urban and the rural islands, gender and age groups with access to basic social services. It should also be noted that the nature of poverty and related food insecurity is a concern in the Maldives as a large segment of the population are highly susceptible to external global shocks and have only a limited ability to effectively manage this risk. Furthermore, the impact of climate change on the low-lying archipelago and the devastation caused by natural disasters such as December 26, 2004 tsunami, represent further risks to an already tenuous situation.

Gender: The Maldives rank 101st overall out of the 135 countries in the Gender Gap Index, with the score of 0.648 (Global Gender Gap Report, 2011), reflecting a considerable gap in women's opportunities in actively taking part in nation building. In general, the pace and progress of women empowerment has been painfully uneven and slow in the country. The new Constitution 2008 of Maldives guarantees the same rights and freedoms and upholds the principles of non-discrimination and equality to men and women. Over the past, the 'National Development Plans' identified female empowerment, among its development objectives. More recently, the Strategic Action Plan (SAP2009 – 2013) was also formulated with a strong focus on gender mainstreaming in all economic, social and service sectors.

3. FISHERIES AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR

Fishing and agriculture are the most important economic activities in almost all of the inhabited islands. Both sectors contribute considerably to the rural economies and sustainability of rural livelihoods. On aggregate, the sector's share in the GDP is around 5 percent (Fig 1). Unfortunately employment in both sectors is grossly underestimated at 10.6 percent of the labour force is reported to be engaged in both sectors. Both activities still retain traditional subsistence characteristics due to the constraints that exist for these activities to expand into full-fledged commercial activities. This pattern is more noticeable in the field of agriculture where there has been limited intervention through programmes that would help the sub-sector to become commercial.

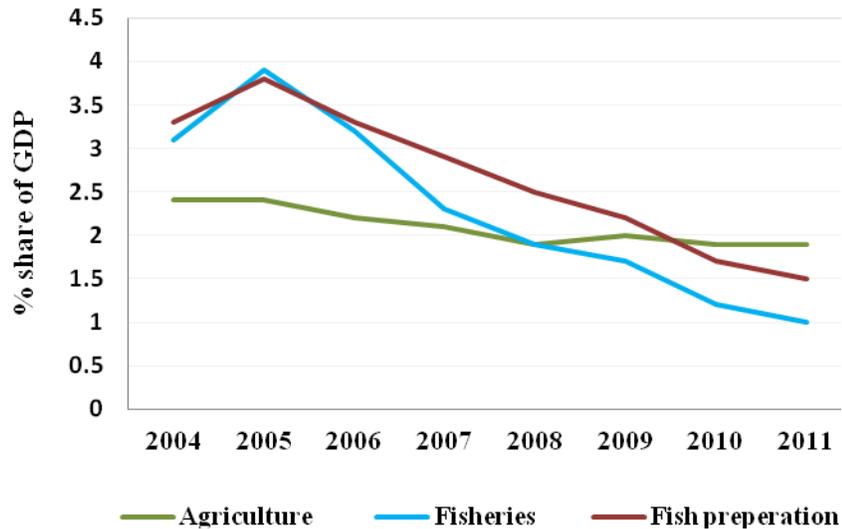


Figure 1: Percentage shares of GDP (at constant prices) (Source: Statistical Year Book, 2011)

3.1 Agriculture sector

The agriculture sector is prominent in the livelihoods of the rural population of Maldives and plays an important role in food and nutrition security, especially for those who are residing in the rural areas. Agriculture is important for food security in two ways; it provides food for consumption and perhaps even more important it provides the primary source of livelihood for over 7,000 farmers and their families (MoFA, 2012). Despite the decline in importance as a part of GDP, agriculture production has been increasing in recent years and sector revenue has shown an upward trend (Fig 2). Growth in the agriculture sector is critical for the country's economy in the face of global climate change and its likely impact on the economy.



Figure 2: Agricultural production and earning (Source: MoFA 2012)

The contribution of the agriculture sector to GDP is significantly low yet from a livelihood and employment perspective agriculture is vital to the economy in terms of its economic and social welfare value. Although the resource base for agriculture is narrow, as the coral islands lack adequate fertile soil and water, agricultural activities are a key part of livelihoods in more than two thirds of the inhabited islands. The agriculture sector provides a significant proportion of both food and vital non-food items such as timber, betel leaf, cordage, traditional medicines, firewood and so on. In many islands, field crops, such as sweet potatoes, taro, cassava, chilies, watermelons, papaya eggplant, green leaves cabbage, gourds, and pumpkins are grown year round. Seasonal crops such as mango, breadfruit and drumstick fetches good prices in the market and contributes significantly to the farmers' income. In certain islands, especially those in the South where low-lying swampy areas are available, the growing of root crops such as taro is important. Root crops and breadfruit together represent traditional staple crops that are grown. Some islands have developed specialized production of certain crops, such as Feevah in banana, Thoddoo in watermelon, and Fuahmulah in taro. Maldives has the potential to attain self sufficiency in selected field crops. However, production efficiency has to be achieved. The cost of production is currently high due to the use of imported inputs. There are various types of agricultural inputs required due to the diversity of the Maldives with respect to the distribution and size of islands, natural environment, type of activities carried out and the availability of resources. Proper management systems must be in place to replace some of the inputs with local products.



Picture 1: Banana trading near local market in the capital Male'

Livestock and poultry: In the Maldives, livestock is limited to goat production mainly due to lack of land and limited feed availability. Chicken farming in cages, contained free range and backyard poultry is practiced widely throughout the country. For chicken farming, feeding materials are imported and production costs are high. However, there is a high demand for both chicken meat and eggs and goat meat in the country. The shortage of available land limits the expansion of goat production, although feed can be supplied from materials available in roadside live fences, the undercover of forest lands and lands cultivated with perennial crops. There is also a potential for supplying goat milk and cottage cheese production. Goat milk is a traditional drink which is considered to be nutritious, and would be a good option for responding to the poor nutrition of children of schooling ages.

Forestry: Information regarding the forestry sub-sector is very scarce. The country's available forest resources have not been surveyed and inventoried, although the same exercise that estimated the total agricultural area reported the total forest area to be 3,716 ha (ADB, 2005). Thus there is no accurate estimate of the composition of total forest area or the available forest resources, except coconut and breadfruit that are grown in forest areas. Many islanders have access to community forestland, where they can plant forest trees or tree crops (mango, breadfruit, coconut and other fruit trees) or practice intercropping with field crops. Some categories of land on inhabited islands can also be the subject of a Government lease under MoFA regulations. Apart from backyard garden areas on inhabited islands, people on some islands are also given communal land free of charge for farming of annual crops. However, these lots do not remain with the same grower every year, and hence little is done to maintain and improve soil fertility. Nevertheless there is general agreement that the littoral forests and bushes play an important role in coastal protection of the islands of the Maldives.

Mangroves are a part of the forest ecosystem in the Maldives which is found in five different environmental conditions namely;

1. In the fringe area of some of the islands, where wave energy and wind speed is less, and brackish water is present due to mixing of seawater with the margin of the freshwater lens,
2. In the deposits of sediments,
3. Along the borders of lagoons that are connected to the sea,
4. Along the borders of lagoons that have lost connections to the sea but receive seawater periodically through seepage, and
5. In the shallow depressions where rain water accumulate

Mangroves provide a home for many plants, animals, fishes, crustaceans and micro-organisms and protect the islands from storm surges etc. thus support the livelihood in the islands. In the past, mangrove fruits were a delicacy in the Maldives and have been reported to be an important source of food especially during food shortages. Mangrove utilization and management is a poorly practiced in the Maldives and its threatened to disappear as a result of the practices dumping of wastes, cutting down trees and extensive logging. Waste material dumped into mangroves and swamps include household organic waste as well as plastic and other types of non-biodegradable packaging and dredge material from harbor dredging etc. These wastes adversely affect the habitat by clogging the network of connections beneath the coral stone

which brings the sea water into the system. Further, the cumulative effects of these may induce toxicity which may affect the microbes and other living organisms, thus jeopardizing the whole ecosystem. Maldives is an active member of the ‘Mangroves for the Future Initiative (MFF), working towards restoration of the mangroves ecosystems.

3.1.1 Challenges in the agriculture sector

The longer-term prospects for sustainable agriculture in the Maldives is challenged by the shortage of land, labour with appropriate technical skills, capital and investment. There is a definite shortage of arable terrain, coupled with issues of appropriate land allocation, utilization and land tenure systems in both inhabited and uninhabited islands.

Labour shortage and the lack of skilled labour are an important impediment to sustainable agriculture. The age distribution of the population actively engaged in farming on some of the islands is growing as younger people are joining the sector. However, the national capacity to adequately train and provide extension support is absent. Women have a very limited role in the management of farms and financial management. Instead their role is limited to providing basic farm labour. Many women are unaware of the revenue earned for their crops, the quantities harvested or the cost on inputs. Moreover, there is an influx of expatriate cheap labour which is replacing most of the female participation in the production sphere.

Agriculture credit is not among the priorities for micro-finances institutions, as it is perceived as a low profit sector. Commercial bank loans for agriculture amount to a negligible proportion (less than 1 percent) of the total loans granted to all the major economic groups. Commercial banks are not willing to lend sufficient finance for the investment needs of agricultural development. Attempts to initiate commercial agriculture ventures often fail because locals do not possess the means to procure financing to start profitable agricultural projects.

National resource allocations fail to match the critical importance of the sector. The level of financial resources currently allocated to the sector is almost negligible at less than one percent of the total Government budget. There is also a clear shortfall in the infrastructure critically needed for agriculture development such as transport, harbours and jetties.

Reliable and up-to-date information and data are basic and fundamental elements in agricultural development as these can impact decisions taken related to the sustainability and the productivity objectives of the sector. Although some rudimentary agricultural statistics is being collected by MOFA, it suffers from a number of limitations such as:

- lack of timeliness in collection, compilation and dissemination;
- complete lack of supervision and scrutiny of collected data;
- paucity of trained human resources to be deployed for collection of agricultural statistics; and
- weak coordination among data collecting agencies.

The identified deficiencies in the agricultural statistics system should be addressed and appropriate remedial measures taken to bridge the data gaps to facilitate efficient generation of reliable statistics for use by planners, policy makers, and other stakeholders

The present extension service requires upgrading. Currently training and extension provided by Government staff stationed centrally in Male' and regionally at HDh Hanimaadhoo Agriculture Centre. Their outreach to the farmers is limited and adhoc. The functions and tasks of extension should be geared towards increased participation of multiple organisations both from the public and private sectors. As well as the traditional government extension service, non-profit non-governmental organisations (NGOs), for-profit private companies, commercial farming enterprises engaged in contract farming with small-holder farmers, and other agribusiness enterprises should be encouraged to get more involved as extension providers.

It is imperative that technical capabilities within the agriculture be strengthened as the presently employed staffs are neither sufficient in number nor capable to undertaking their mandated duties and functions. Particular attention should be given to enhancing the knowledge and ability of the staff to implement projects using analysis principles, from formulation to post-evaluation of projects, through specialised short-term as well as long-term degree training programme.

Maldives agriculture is challenged by the increasing number of pests, diseases and weeds attacking the crops and plantations. Without proper quarantine facilities, many invasive species enter into the country with imported products such as coco-peat, manure and seedlings. Introduction of invasive species is a challenge and risk not only to agricultural production but to the unique biodiversity of the country. Maldives needs to join the regional efforts to combat the invasive species in order to protect the country's biodiversity and agricultural production.

Private sector participation in the sector is minimal. However, it is convincing to observe that the private sector has emerged as a major supplier of agricultural inputs in the country and made minor investments in commercial farming. The private sector has opportunities to enter into agribusiness when it finds it financially attractive. The challenge lies in ensuring this attractiveness. At present, imported fresh and processed products are cheaper than domestically produced ones, and this has posed as a major disincentive for entrepreneurs to enter into agribusiness. Efforts need to be concentrated in increasing farm productivity and lowering production costs through adoption of appropriate technologies that will expand the production frontier of the Maldivian agriculture. This is most likely to make domestic agricultural products competitive with imported items and pave the way for attractive and expanding opportunities for agribusinesses (ADMP, 2005).

3.2 Fisheries sector

The fisheries sector plays a critical role in food supply and economic development in the Maldives and is a major contributor to food availability and access. Given the fact that the 99percent of the Maldivian territory is comprised of ocean, fish especially tuna is the primary source of protein in the local diet. Per capita consumption of fish is high in the Maldives and on average it is estimated to be 0.2 MT per person per year (Sinan, 2012). Reef fish are widely used in the local tourism cuisine and communities depend on reef fishery as a source of income.

Although the relative economic importance of the fisheries sector has declined since the late 1970s due mainly to the rapid growth of tourism, its role in Maldivian livelihoods remains significant. In 2011, it accounted for only 1.4 percent of GDP but 11 percent of the labour force and despite the recent sharp fall in landings it currently generates the equivalent of approximately USD110 million in export (MOFA, 2012). The sector is also an important contributor to food security, since fish is a staple food in the Maldives and one of the main sources of protein for the population.

The current fish catch consists of skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*), yellowfin tuna (*Thunnus albacores*) and a variety of reef fish. Skipjack tuna, caught almost entirely with pole-and-line, is considered to be the most important species caught in the Maldivian fisheries and comprised approximately 50 percent of the total catch in 2011.

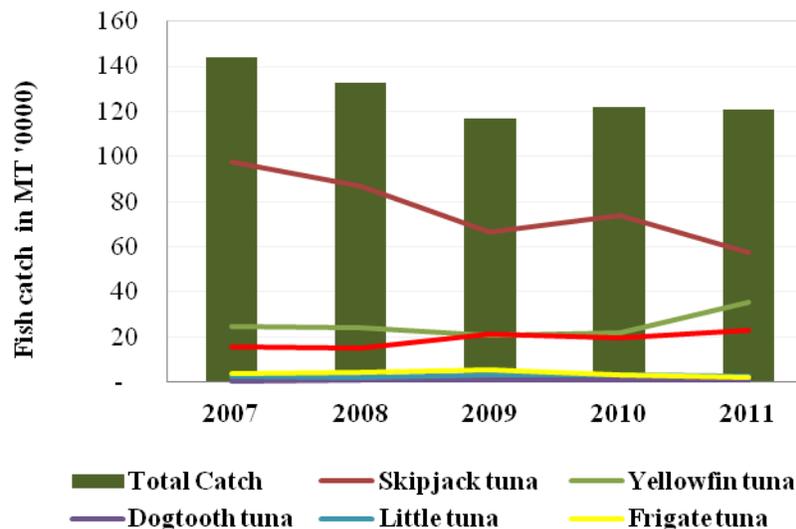


Figure 3: Fish catch by type (Source: MoFA, 2012)

The fish-harvesting sector in the Maldives has expanded greatly since the 1960s, with landings increasing from 21,542 MT in 1966 to 180,981 MT in 2006. However, the upward trend in the fish-harvesting sector has reversed after 2006, with landings falling to 141,074 MT the following year. This seems to have been due to a combination of factors, the main ones being (i) increased fuel costs (making vessel owners less willing to leave port) and (ii) higher water temperatures (affecting the aggregation of tuna and reducing their catchability) (Sinan & Whitmarsh, 2010).

Overall the fisheries sector continued to be affected by the persistent decline in fish catch, owing to both environmental factors and higher fuel prices. Total fish catch declined by 12 percent in 2011. Nonetheless, the fish export sub-sector performed favorably as a result of higher tuna prices in the international market. The total volume of fish exports rose by 14 percent, while earnings on such exports recorded a significant increase of 77 percent in 2011 (Fig 3).

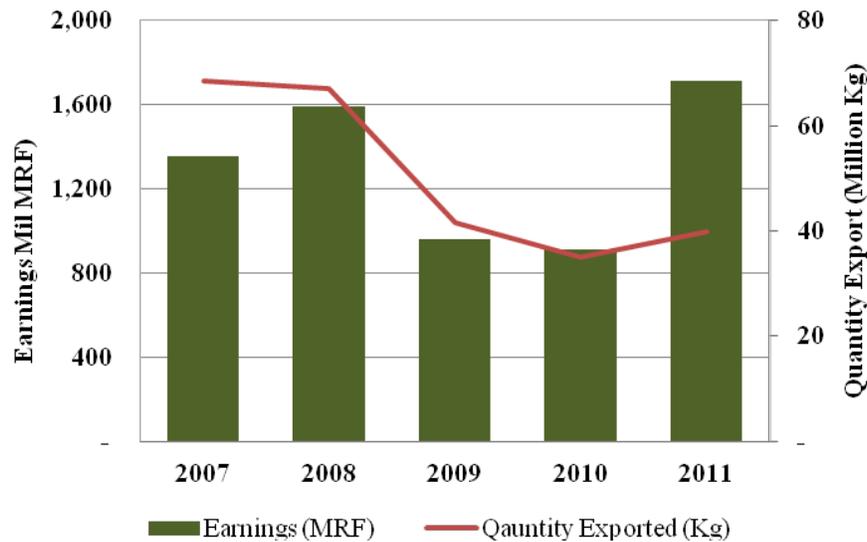


Figure 4: Fish export and earnings (Source: MoFA 2012)

Skipjack tuna fisheries: The live-bait; pole and line for skipjack tuna (*Katsuwonus pelamis*) fisheries is the most important fishery in the Maldives and has been practiced in the Maldives for centuries (Anderson and Hafiz, 1996). Though the share of skipjack tuna has been on the decline in the last five years, its role in the livelihood of the islanders remains significant. Apart from the fishermen who are involved in the harvesting sector, women are heavily involved in the production of dried or smoked fish (commonly known as ‘*MaldivFish*’). Dried fish exported to Sri Lanka by the cottage¹ industry is vital for export earnings.

Yellow-fin tuna fisheries: Yellow-fin tuna (*Thunnus albacores*) is the second most important fish species in the Maldives; it comprises approximately 17percent of the total national catch. In the past, there was no targeted yellow-fin tuna fishery since there was no demand. However, with the increase in the access to overseas fresh fish markets, demand for large yellow-fin tuna increased. This created a favorable environment to develop the hand-line tuna fishery. The major portion of the yellow-fin tuna caught in the Maldives is exported, while the rest is consumed locally mainly by hotels and restaurants. The prices of the yellow-fin tuna bought from the fishermen, heavily fluctuates depending on the European market prices. Yellow-fin tuna is exported to different countries such as Thailand, France, Italy, UK, Tunisia, Germany, Iran, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, USA and The Netherlands.

Reef fish fisheries: In the Maldives the term ‘reef fishery resources’ refers to all fisheries except tuna fisheries. These are reported as one category in the national statistics and the reef fisheries component in the statistics includes reef and oceanic shark, jack, scads, bream, job fish, sail fish, seer-fish, rainbow runners and dolphin fish (*mahimahi*)(Adam, 2006). Reef fishery resources

¹ Cottage Industry – small scale processors who process fish in their households and sell through middlemen. The main products from these processors are dried fish and salted dried fish.

were hardly exploited until the late 1990s (Adam et al., 1997). However, with the increase in socio-economic benefits from the tourism sector together with the improved air and sea transportation, reef fisheries have developed significantly for export² and local consumption. The reef fishery reached its peak in 1997, when around 0.9 million groupers were exported. However, since 1997 the figures have declined continuously (Anderson et al., 1992). At present, the reef associated demersal species are heavily exploited, mainly by tourists, recreational anglers and industrial fishers targeting for the export market.

Aquaculture: Although aquaculture exists as a well-established industry in the Asian region and elsewhere, the Maldivian aquaculture industry is still in its infancy. To date, only one small-scale commercial aquaculture activity is in operation. Establishment of aquaculture in the country has been given priority in the recent years as a means of diversifying the fisheries sector as well as an activity to enhance livelihood opportunities. The Government of Maldives has carried out pilot scale projects over the past decade on the aquaculture of pearl oysters (*Pteria penguin*), Maldivian clownfish (*Amphiprion nigripes*) and brown marbled groupers (*Epinephelus fuscoguttatus*), with the aim of transferring culture technology to interested groups as well as demonstrating and educating the general public on the technical aspects of aquaculture. Further, the Maldivian Government is also working on developing the regulatory framework necessary to facilitate the development of an aquaculture industry in the country.

3.2.1 Challenges in the fisheries sector

The development of the fisheries sector has heavily been affected by the recent decline in skipjack tuna fish catches.. Heavy investments were made by the private sector following the liberalization of the skipjack industry in 2001 both in the harvesting and post harvesting sector. Large scale investments in infrastructure, including introduction of newer and larger fishing fleets. However, there was little sustainability in the industry due to several factors including policy, regulatory and management that severely affected decline in fish catch.

Live bait is essential for the pole and line fishery in the Maldives. On average 7 to 10 kg of tuna is caught per kilogram of live bait, which approximates 21,000 tons of live bait each year (Adam, 2006). In comparison to other countries that engage in pole-and-line tuna fishery (Papua New Guinea, Solomon Island, Fiji, SPC Area, Palau and Hawaii) where the tuna to bait ratio ranged between 25 and 40 (Gillett, 2010) the Maldivian figures show that bait use in the Maldivian tuna fishery is not very efficient. The excessive use of bait in the fishery raises concerns for the sustainability of live bait resources and needs to be addressed to ensure sustainability in the tuna fishery.

The Maldivian skipjack pole-and-line fishery has been recognized as one of the most environmentally friendly fishery operations (Greenpeace, 2009), but the Maldives has not been able to exploit the true market value of the product. The Maldivian Government is in the final processes of obtaining third party eco-label certification through the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), in an effort to promote the sustainability of the Maldivian fishery in the world market and in turn fetch higher prices for the country's pole-and-line fishery products.

² Exportation of reef fish began in 1994 mainly targeting grouper products and then followed by aquarium fish and sea cucumber.

Salted dried tuna, also popularly known as ‘Maldivefish’, is one of the locally processed end products of the tuna fishery that has been exported mainly to Sri Lanka for centuries. The production is usually small-scale, carried out by women in fishing communities and sold through middlemen to the exporters. Despite the potential for ‘Maldivefish’ to be marketed at much higher prices, the product has not gained any market advantage over the years, mainly due to the lack of quality and branding. As is the case with many other cottage industries, a general lack of quality control measures is identified within the ‘Maldivefish’ processors. Putting adequate quality control measures in place and empowering the women involved in processing to adhere to these measures is key to ensuring higher market prices for their products. In addition, through proper packaging and labeling their products the end products have potential to provide much higher revenues to the local women involved in these activities.

3.3 Cross cutting issues

3.3.1 Environment

Many environmental challenges affect fisheries and agriculture. Factors such as population pressures and land availability and deforestation, beach erosion and loss of biodiversity are an environmental concern for sustainable agriculture and livelihood development. In addition climate change associated global warming, sea level rise, floods and droughts pose a serious threat to the Maldives. The impacts of the climate related events are already being felt and it is believed that much of the land area is being inundated, damaging the already precarious agricultural practices through loss of the scarce land, saltwater intrusion in groundwater, and crop failures. Saltwater intrusions in freshwater aquifers are already a major environmental threat on several islands, particularly those severely affected by the tsunami tidal waves of December 2004, where deeper-rooted trees with low salt tolerance such as mango and breadfruit were severely affected. The fisheries sector is also perceived to be at risk from the events of climate change and already the pressure is felt with reducing fish catch, damage to reefs, emerging diseases and destruction of productive assets due to rough seas and changing ocean currents.

3.3.2 Food security

Maldives is self-sufficient in fish whereas rice, wheat flour, fruits, vegetables and other food items are largely or entirely imported. The country is balancing its’ food requirements through both - domestic production and food imports. It is estimated that Maldives produces less than a tenth of its overall food requirements. The majority of food products, including 100 percent of the staples (rice, flour and sugar) are imported. To cater for the growing population and expatriate community coupled with the large number of tourists’ visiting the country, the Maldives needs to import large quantities of food every year. According to the Maldives Customs Services in 2011 alone, more than 24, 19 and 9 million kilograms of rice, flour and sugar respectively, worth over 51 million MRF were imported to the country.

According to the State Trading Organization, the Maldives require 2,250 MT of rice, 1,000 MT of sugar and 1,200 MT of flour per month, worth approximately USD 3 million. The company has the capacity to maintain two months of buffer stock at a given time. The food distribution

network consists of 3 main warehouses located at Male', HA Kulhudhufushi and S Hithadhoo complimented with ten smaller warehousing facilities. (Ha Hoarafushi, Vili-Male', Hulhu-Male', LFonadhoo, GdH Thinadhoo, GA Vilingili, Gn FuahMulah, S Hulhudhoo, Feydhoo and Maradhoo). However, this mechanism is not adequate as a national food reserve or able to handle national emergencies. As a result, future food emergencies may well have severe consequences on the food security and livelihoods of the poor and vulnerable. Emergency preparedness response and rehabilitation are expensive and poorly addressed in the national development planning. All elements of disaster risk management, including disaster risk reduction (preparedness, prevention and mitigation), response, rehabilitation and relief giving particular emphasis to food insecure and nutritionally vulnerable groups need to be systematically incorporated into planning.

The Maldives lack a food security policy. However, in response to the current food and fuel crisis, the Maldives is integrating food security into national planning through developing a national food security strategy. It has also removed tariffs on imported food items, agricultural inputs and fuel and is intensifying and diversifying agriculture and fisheries. The Maldives is also promoting and strengthening small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in both these sectors.

3.3.3 Nutrition

Despite the considerable progress achieved in health related MDGs in the Maldives, malnutrition is still a serious problem, particularly in the form of protein-energy malnutrition, anaemia and vitamin A deficiencies, which affect children and women (pregnant and reproductive age) in particular. Although abject hunger is not present in the Maldives, malnutrition in many ways is synonymous with hunger. The following nutritional facts obtained from Maldives Demographic and Health Survey (MDHS 2009) and other reports depict the most recent nutritional status of children and women.

- Reflecting the effects of both chronic and short-term malnutrition, 17 percent of children under age five are underweight for their age. The highest proportion of underweight children is reported to exist in North Central.
- At the national level, one in five children under the age of five is stunted³ (19 percent). Six percent of children are severely stunted. Regionally, North Central region has the highest percent of children who are stunted (23 percent), while Male and North regions have the lowest incidence (16 percent).

³ A child who is below -2 SD from the median of the WHO reference population in terms of height-for-age is considered stunted or short for his/her age. Stunting is an indicator of linear growth retardation. It reflects failure to receive adequate nutrition over a long period of time and is also affected by recurrent and chronic illness. The height-for-age index, therefore, provides a measure of the long-term effects of malnutrition in a population and is not sensitive to recent, short-term changes in dietary intake (MDHS, 2009).

- One in ten children is wasted⁴ (11 percent). Three percent of children are severely wasted. Comparing across regions, North Central region has the highest percent of children who are wasted (15 percent) and Malé has the lowest (7 percent).
- Anaemia is common with 52 percent of the children, 55.4 percent of pregnant woman and 49.6 percent of non-pregnant women.
- Micronutrient deficiencies are of concern in all age groups and more prevalent in north and south central regions of the country. Zinc and iodine deficiency, though less severe, is also a public health concern with 16 percent of children zinc deficient and 19 percent iodine deficient
- Micronutrient deficiencies are also high among reproductive aged women with 38 percent of reproductive aged women estimated to iron deficient and 44 percent deficient in vitamin A. Zinc deficiency and iodine deficiency among reproductive aged women remained at 27 percent for both minerals.

3.3.4 Gender

More than half (54 percent) of the labour force in agriculture and a third in fisheries is comprised of women. Women contribute largely to both the production and processing spheres of agriculture and fisheries respectively. The mainstreaming of gender into sectoral policies, strategies and programming is inadequate. Recently there has been an increasing trend of engaging, imported, cheap foreign labour in the fisheries and agriculture sectors, slowly replacing local women. This will further disempower rural women, as they will become economically unproductive. Recent statistic indicates over 39 percent of the women are unemployed and when employed they earn a third less than their male counterparts. Yet, women headed households are on the rise and their responsibilities are increasing (HEIS, 2010). Therefore, there is an urgent need to empower women, enabling them to taking more control of decision making and financial management. The capacity building of rural women in leadership and organization skills is an important step towards their empowerment. High female unemployment, unequal burdens of family responsibilities on women, violence against women and girls, and increasing religious extremism imposing hard and unfair misconceptions on women are some of the key challenges in female empowerment. Gender mainstreaming is frequently at the bottom of the developmental agenda and gender focused affirmative policies and actions are poorly implemented.

⁴ Children whose weight-for-height is below minus two standard deviations (-2 SD) from the WHO Child Growth Standards reference population median are considered to be wasted, i.e., too thin for their height. Wasting represents the failure to receive adequate nutrition in the period immediately preceding the survey and may be the result of inadequate food intake or a recent episode of illness causing loss of weight and the onset of malnutrition (MDHS, 2009).

4. NATIONAL POLICY FRAMEWORK

The national development agenda for the Maldives is based on medium-term development plans. The Strategic Action Plan (2009 – 2013), outlines good governance, social justice and, economic development as the key themes for development. The GoM's national development strategy, regional development programs and other policy commitments are supportive of the basic principles of the CPF. The economic development policy agenda is based on the diversification of the economy to achieving sustainable growth and reduced vulnerability from external shocks as well as attain greater self-reliance. The strategic economic development policies are supportive of fisheries and agriculture development. Clear policy pronouncements for the development of fisheries and agriculture as the second and third economic pillars respectively, alongside tourism confirms the CPF interventions. Fisheries sector development is geared towards promoting export and trade, building infrastructure and strengthening research and development. Agriculture sector development focuses on reducing dependency of import and strengthening food security and enhancing economic benefit from the sector.

Apart from the national policy framework, the agriculture sector has developed several additional policy documents. These include; an agriculture development master plan (ADMP) with the assistance of FAO; a commercialization plan assisted by ADB; and a national forestry policy assistance by FAO. Unfortunately none of these had received the required attention. The ADMP envisions a rapid transformation of the country's agriculture sector and envisages it's to evolution as the third important driving force (pillar) in the economy after tourism and fishery in expanding livelihood options for the rural people, in enhancing employment and income opportunities, and in improving food security and nutritional status of the Maldivian people.

The overall goal of agricultural commercialization plan was to achieve diversification and growth in the sector through the generation of employment opportunities in rural atolls and island communities, achieving greater food security and equitable improvement of livelihoods across the main regions of the country. Forestry policy recognizes the importance of biodiversity conservation and protection of ecosystem necessary for development of agriculture sector. Fisheries and agriculture have a close relevance to the environment development agenda. The Maldives has a highly vulnerable and fragile environment and was among the first to adopt the Kyoto Protocol under UNFCCC. The Maldives has developed the National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) to communicate the most urgent and immediate climate change adaptation needs of the Maldives as stipulated under UNFCCC identifying the policy directions for natural resource management.

A strategic analysis regarding the future prospects of the fisheries sector in the Maldives was formulated based on a series of outlook studies prepared with the assistance from the World Bank and FAO. It was assumed that the strategic analysis would form a basis for the development of a fisheries master plan. However, due to several factors, it has not progressed as anticipated.

The UN agencies engaged in development activities in the Maldives have adopted the UN-Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) which was designed to better harmonize and coordinate development activities in the country. FAO's contribution to UNDAF is supported by the CPF.

5. FAO'S COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE

FAO is a knowledge organization which aims in achieving food security for all. The FAO mandate is based on ensuring people have regular access to enough high quality food to lead an active and healthy life.

FAO's mandate also includes the objectives of raising levels of nutrition, improving agricultural productivity, bettering the lives of rural populations and contributing to the growth of the world economy. As a knowledge organization, FAO creates and shares critical information about food, agriculture and natural resources in the form of global public goods. But this is not a one-way flow. FAO plays a connector role, through identifying and working with different partners with established expertise, and facilitating a dialogue between those who have the knowledge and those who need it. FAO stresses its commitment to country-led development, interdisciplinary coordination and partnerships, capacity development, evidence-based policies and increased efficiency and effectiveness of multilateral institutions working on global food security.

The core of CPF Maldives 2013-2017, directly falls under the FAO mandate in achieving food security and improved the livelihood of rural communities.

5.1 FAO in Maldives

Since the early 1970's, FAO has provided assistance to GOM through national and regional programmes to address the needs and priorities of the country. Direct support from FAO in the form of targeted Technical Cooperation Program (TCP) projects over this period has totaled USD9.5 million. Additionally, the Maldives has been the recipient of support from numerous regional TCP projects. The country also received substantial amounts of emergency assistance for post tsunami recovery in 2005 and 2006.

In the aftermath of the devastating Asian tsunami of 26 December 2004, the Maldives has shown its resilience and commitment to "building back better." The 2004 Asian Tsunami had a massive impact on the nation, destroying years of hard-won infrastructure improvement. Together with the government, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank, UN agencies conducted a Joint Needs Assessment within two months of the tsunami. Estimating total losses as USD470 million or 62 percent of GDP, this assessment was also the basis of the National Recovery and Reconstruction Plan outlining recovery projects across 14 sectors and, subsequently formed the basis for the UN Flash Appeal launched in February 2005. FAO responded quickly after the tsunami and opened a temporary office (2005-2007) and provided two full time senior staff members to assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the recovery efforts. Moreover, FAO implemented programs approximately USD 5 million provided by donors to support agriculture and fisheries rehabilitation.

FAO and MoFA recognized the efficiency the post-tsunami assistance programmes in the Maldives. FAO's capacity to act and attend to the recovery effort was maximized with the establishment of a functional local office. However, this capacity was diluted once the office was closed in 2007 (a part-time consultant was later stationed at MoFA). The closure of the office reduced FAO's response capacity significantly and FAO assistance to the Maldives in the past

few years has been limited. Based on this experience, it is considered important to increase FAO in-country presence to oversee the Maldives FAO-partnership and enhance the capacity to achieve the FAO strategic mandates in the country, including pursuing the plans in the CPF. Currently there are no FAO assisted national ongoing projects and extra effort is required to enhance the pipeline projects for the Maldives.

The development cooperation environment in FAO supports collaborative engagements with UNDG, private sector and civil society organization. With adequate FAO in-country presence, there are opportunities for collaborating with civil society organizations as a vehicle to deliver the assistance to the rural communities and achieve sustainability in the programs.

5.2 FAO-Maldives strategic priorities

The following priority areas were determined through an extensive consultation process between FAO and the GoM, focusing on the needs and potential of the country and FAO's comparative advantage to collaborate in providing the assistance. The priority areas articulated are:

1. Enhance agricultural productivity and competitiveness through developing climate-smart agriculture
2. Strengthen sustainable livelihood through advancement of small scale aquaculture
3. Achieve, sustainable fisheries productivity through development of alternate bait harvesting techniques
4. Ensuring quality of “*Maldivefish*” products to provide better market value for small-scale producers in rural communities

Details of priorities are depicted in table 1.

Table 1: CPF Priority matrix

CPF PRIORITY MATRIX (Annex 1 – compulsory)	
PRIORITY AREA - A Improving agricultural productivity and competitiveness through climate smart agriculture (CSA)	PRIORITY AREA - B Strengthen sustainable livelihood through advancement of small scale aquaculture
PRIORITY AREA - C Achieve, sustainable fisheries productivity through development of alternate bait harvesting techniques	PRIORITY AREA - D Ensuring quality of “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ” products to provide better market value for small-scale producers in rural communities
RELEVANT NATIONAL SECTOR PRIORITIES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop appropriate planning and regulatory tools to mobilize resources and manage natural resources 2. Achieve food & nutrition security 3. Improve bait fishery, ‘<i>Maldivefish</i>’ productivity and standardize aquaculture production 4. Attain self-sufficiency in selected agricultural crops and diversification of agriculture through strengthening animal and poultry production 5. Diversify livelihood and income security focusing on women empowerment 6. Small-holder adaptation to climate change and strengthen resilience 7. Strengthen technical & institutional capacity of agriculture and fisheries sector 	
FAO REGIONAL STRATEGIES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Strengthening food and nutritional security 2. Fostering agricultural production and rural development 3. Enhancing equitable productive and sustainable natural resource management and utilization 4. Improving capacity to respond to food and agricultural threats emergencies 	
RELEVANT UNDAF PRIORITIES	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Economic development and environment 2. Gender equity and empowerment 	
OTHER NATIONAL/REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK AND COMMITMENTS	

1. Agriculture: Agriculture Development Master Plan & Forestry policy, OIE, IPPC
2. Fisheries:
3. Health: Integrated National Nutrition Strategy, Codex Alimentarius,
4. Environment: National Adaptation Plan of Action, National Biosafety Framework, Convention on Biological Diversity, Kyoto Protocol , Cartagena Protocol

6. PROGRAMING FOR RESULTS

6.1 Strategic outcomes and outputs

FAO and GoM selected four priority areas for this cycle of the CPF, 2013 -2017. The selection was based on policies and strategies identified for sector development. Priority Area A aims to achieve the objectives of the agriculture sector through improved response to changing climatic conditions. Priority Area B focuses on strengthening aquaculture to improve the livelihood of small scale fishers. Priority Area C aims to achieve, sustainable fisheries productivity through development of alternate bait harvesting techniques. Priority Area D targets to improve quality of “*Maldivefish*” products to provide better market value for small-scale producers in rural communities.

Priority Area A: Agriculture productivity and competitiveness through climate-smart and sustainable agriculture (CSA)

The Maldives relies on the agriculture sector for food and livelihood security and to achieve economic growth to cater for the growing population. The Maldives needs to diversify its economy and engage different resources as well as different segments of the population to achieve growth and sustainability. The agriculture sector has the potential to increase productivity through adopting a CSA approach, looking into combined policy, technology and financing to enable the country to achieve sustainable agriculture and growth. Climate change is central to all discussions regarding food security in the Maldives, because it adversely affects crop production and processing through degradation of natural resources and environment. Hence, strategic planning, developing appropriate regulatory framework and prioritized interventions are critical to achieve productivity and competitiveness in the sector.

Despite the planning over the years, neither the fisheries nor agriculture sectors have achieved adequate growth, largely due to inadequate investment and insufficient resource allocation as called for in the national development framework. Furthermore, gaps in policies, a poor regulatory framework, and inadequate coordination mechanism also hinder growth.

The outcomes of the priority area A are based on improving the policy and regulatory requirements and improvement of production, processing and marketing spheres to increase productivity and competitiveness of the sector to increase the opportunities for livelihood and achieve food and nutrition security.

Outcome 1: Improved policy and regulatory framework (policy, strategy, plans, interventions, laws, regulation, guidelines and procedures) to increase food production and processing.

FAO has provided assistance under several TCPs to assist the Maldives in drafting appropriate fisheries and agriculture regulations. Five key areas (i.e. plant protection, veterinary, pesticide, agricultural land and general agriculture) in agriculture and the general fisheries law were drafted

under two projects. The resulting laws form the basis for an institutional framework designed to support sound management of the agriculture and fisheries sectors, thereby contributing to national food security and economic development. At present only the 'Plant Protection Act' – of November 2011 has been ratified while the others remain under various stages of development. Moreover, the implementing partners lack the capacity to enforce the resulting laws effectively. There is a need to support the laws with relevant regulations, guidelines and procedures and match it with the policy framework. There is also an urgent need to improve the capacity of national and local government institutions to develop and review policy and regulatory framework (policy, strategy, plans, interventions, laws, regulation, guidelines and procedures) to increase food production and processing. Finally, there is a lack of coordination among the implementing partners and information dissemination is erratic. Therefore the interventions outlined under the Outcome 1 of CPF would support the policy and legal framework promoting and enabling collaboration and partnership among the public, private and NGO sectors as well as the provision of laws and regulations applicable to various actors and stakeholders. Refer to Annex A.

Outcome 2: Sustainable crop, poultry and animal production and processing to achieve self sufficiency in selected crops and improved livelihood opportunities

The Maldives need urgent interventions in the agriculture sector to increase production locally so it can expand employment and income opportunities. This can be achieved through:

- Garden farming for own consumption, particularly on outer islands where land scarcity is more acute and many women are not active economically;
- Semi-commercial farming targeted to the smaller-scale farms of private growers ;
- Agribusiness promotion through enterprise development for value addition, and higher employment and income.

Overall it is important to adopt environment friendly methods and practices to ensure long-term sustainability and achieve regional balance and gender equity.

Outcome 3: Improved natural resource management

The CPF emphasises that agriculture is an integral component of the larger natural resource system. Hence interventions in the sector need to be planned and implemented while maintaining a broader perspective regarding the interdependence and cross-impacts amongst the various components of the natural resource system. Maldives is one of the countries which are most vulnerable to climate change, and the survival of the tourist sector requires careful attention to preserving its ecosystem and maintaining a clean and exotic environment. Yet, this ecosystem is extremely fragile and likely to face increasing threats as the pace of development and modernisation progresses. Deliberate efforts are required to ensure that agricultural development programmes complement, and do not conflict with, the safe harnessing and enhanced stewardship of natural resources and the environment. Moreover, it is important that all possible combinations of the environmental conditions of the atoll nation in temperature, soil water and salt-water intrusion described in earlier section are mapped out, to develop realistic outcomes for agriculture and fishery sectors interventions.

The CPF identifies interventions to enhance resource efficiency through land and soil, water, forestry and waste management.

Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional capacity

Success in effectively achieving the various outcomes outline in the CPF, largely depends on the institutional capacity (including physical facilities, services and adequacy of trained human resource) available in the country. Currently the institutional arrangements are weak or non-existing

The CPF addresses these issues under four subheadings, namely;

- ↻ Improved agricultural statistics
- ↻ Strengthening value chains
- ↻ Developing farmer and fisherman organizations
- ↻ Improve access to credit and financing, and
- ↻ Improved sector the human resource capacity

Success in effectively implementing the various interventions in the CPF would hinge largely on the capacity of MOFA, which is the lead responsible agency. It needs to convince itself and other stakeholders that it is fully prepared and committed to the CPF. Similarly, it needs to be assured at the policy level that it receives adequate policy support and resources.

Outcome 5: Enhanced food and nutrition security

Food and nutrition security is poorly addressed in the developmental agenda of the Maldives. Poor cultivation practices coupled with risks inherent in food importation expose some segment of the population to food insecurity. There is an urgent need to improve the institutional framework for food security and ensure that people have access to adequate and nutritious food at all times. To achieve this it is important to:

- ↻ Have strong leadership and effective multi-sectoral coordination among stakeholders
- ↻ Improve regulatory frameworks its enforcement and compliance with nutrition related issues
- ↻ Enhance sustainable production giving priority to local traditional food, processing and improve availability and accessibility to food
- ↻ Ensure the vulnerable groups use of safe and nutritious food and improve their well-being.

Priority Area B: Strengthen sustainable livelihood through advancement of small-scale aquaculture

Maldivian communities have always relied on capture fishery for their subsistence and to achieve economic growth to cater to the growing population. The establishment of markets for various high-valued coral reef species over the past couple of decades has led to the exploitation of some species to the extent that their natural populations have been threatened. It is evident that, in order to ensure sustainability of some of the Maldivian reef resources, there is a need for improved natural resource management measures to be in place, while at the same time minimising the effect of such measures on the livelihoods of the community. Aquaculture of

some of the threatened high-valued reef resources (such as the groupers, sea cucumbers, giant clams, etc) has successfully been demonstrated globally. Promoting aquaculture of such species is a possible measure to alleviate stress on the natural stocks, while improving livelihood opportunities for rural communities.

The development of a fully functional aquaculture industry in the country would also enhance the contribution to overall GDP from the fisheries sector. However, despite efforts to develop aquaculture in the Maldives in recent years, achievement have been limited due to an insufficient resource allocation for aquaculture development coupled with inadequate policy and regulatory framework and the absence of coordination mechanisms which have all hindered development.

The outcomes of the Priority Area B are based on improving the policy and regulatory environment and the improvement of the production, processing and marketing spheres to increase and the capability of the sector to increase livelihood opportunities.

Outcome 1: Improved policy and regulatory framework (policy, strategy, plans, interventions, laws, regulation, guidelines and procedures) to increase aquaculture production and processing.

Regulations governing aquaculture development exist as part of broader fisheries regulations. However, with the increasing interest being shown within the private sector to engage in aquaculture activities, there is an urgent need to develop and implement a regulatory framework focused specifically on aquaculture.

Outcome 2: Sustainable aquaculture production to diversify the fisheries sector and increase livelihood opportunities

As aquaculture is relatively new to the Maldives, there is an urgent need for interventions to support the establishment of sustainable aquaculture operations which would expand livelihood opportunities. This can be achieved through the development of small scale aquaculture operations that conform to good aquaculture practices and bio-security. Furthermore, in order to achieve gender equality in this sector, there is a need to empower female participation in aquaculture activities.

Outcome 3: Strengthened value addition, processing and marketing of aquaculture products

In addition to support for aquaculture production, the Maldives needs interventions in the development of a range of value chain activities to ensure its establishment as an industry. The structured and planned development of the industry requires the organisation of business entities, the development of processing technology and in ensuring access to markets through the application of marketing support strategy.

Outcome 4: Increased awareness and training in aquaculture to demonstrate viability of aquaculture businesses and enhance human resource capacity

The limited demonstration of feasible aquaculture operations in the country is a key constraint to the development of the industry. Although aquaculture is successfully practiced worldwide, the

technical and financial feasibility of setting up an aquaculture venture in the Maldives has not yet been adequately demonstrated. There is a need to enhance training and demonstration capacity in order to conduct trainings within the country in the field of aquaculture.

Outcome 5: Strengthened institutional and governance capacity for sustainable management of aquaculture

The development of an aquaculture industry in the country brings with it the need for effective sector management measures and the capacity to monitor and control aquaculture operations to ensure that they conform to good aquaculture practices, and to ensure that proper bio-security measures are adhered to. This requires institutional capacity (including physical facilities, services and adequately trained human resources) which is at present weak or non-existent.

Priority Area C: Sustainable fisheries productivity through development of alternate bait harvesting techniques

The Maldivian tuna industry, a means of livelihood for over 20 percent of the working population, is heavily dependent on the availability of live baits. The collection of live baits is the most important reef fishery, and, as with any important fishery, the live bait resources of the Maldives are faced with threats including the use of SCUBA gear and lights for bait catch. No stock assessment studies have been carried out on Maldivian live bait resources and hence the status of the stock is poorly known. Existing bait use practices are inefficient, and there is a need to develop more efficient bait harvesting techniques, as well as alternatives to bait harvesting in order to ensure sustainability of the bait resources and in turn the pole-and-line fishery.

The establishment of a separate bait fishery has been proposed as an alternative to the present practice of each vessel catching their own live bait. The rationale behind this proposition is that a separate bait fishery should enable a more structured and organised activity that can be operated in a more managed manner. Furthermore, a separate bait fishery should also encourage more efficient use of live bait, reducing wastage in the use of bait. In addition to the establishment of a separate bait fishery, development of aquaculture of selected bait species has been identified as a potentially attractive alternative to bait species harvest. Successful aquaculture of bait would result in reduced reliance on natural stocks, and ensure a reliable supply of bait for the tuna fishery.

The outcomes of this priority area focuses on strengthening the regulatory framework for better monitoring and management of the resources and setting up mechanisms for more efficient use of the Maldivian live bait resources through the establishment of a separate fishery for live bait and aquaculture of selected bait species to ensure sustainability of our bait resources.

Outcome 1: Efficient bait harvest to sustain skipjack tuna fishery and livelihood of fisher communities developed.

The reliable supply of live bait is essential for the sustainability of the pole-and-line tuna fishery in the Maldives. Changes in the present practices are required to ensure more efficient use of bait, and reduce bait wastage. Alternatives to the bait harvesting techniques being practiced at

present (use of lights and SCUBA gear) are also required, and development of aquaculture technology is proposed to reduce the reliance on live bait.

Outcome 2: Separate bait fishery industry for better management of the bait resources established.

The current bait fishery involves tuna fishing vessel catching their own required bait. This mode of operation makes it difficult to monitor and regulate the bait use, and also results in potential wastage in the use of live baits. The establishment of a separate bait fishery would encourage better-managed harvest, and more efficient use of bait. However, an assessment needs to be undertaken of the feasibility of such an operation prior to setting up. Furthermore, the setting up of a separate bait fishery also requires the development of an operational structure and marketing strategies.

Outcome 3: Increased awareness and training in the effective use of bait resources to promote sustainable use.

Maldivian fishing vessels utilizes a high tuna to bait ratio compared to other countries that engage in pole-and-line tuna fishery. The excessive use of bait raises concerns over the sustainability of live bait resources. Hence, programs are needed to promote sustainable bait utilization techniques through structured awareness and training programs. Establishing separate bait harvesting sector and small-scale aquaculture of bait species could be another solution to reduce the pressure on the natural stocks.

Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional and governance capacity for sustainable management of bait resources

The sustainability of the Maldivian live bait resources has an urgent requirement for effective management measures and the capacity to monitor and control the fishery. This requires institutional capacity (including physical facilities, services and adequately trained human resources) which is at present weak or non-existent.

Priority Area D: Ensuring quality of '*Maldivefish*' products to provide better market value for small-scale producers in rural communities

'Maldivefish' has been a famous export product of the Maldivian tuna industry. Women play a key role in the production of *'Maldivefish'*, and usually operated as small-scale, household operations. Due to the unorganized nature of the processing operation at present, the product has not achieved its potential market advantage. Proper management of present processing operation and increased investments into better processing technology would help the women in rural communities that engage in these small-scale activities gain a better economic benefit. Assistance to the processors to better structure their operations and conform to internationally adopted quality control measures would ensure better prices for *'Maldivefish'* in the international markets.

The outcomes of the Priority Area 4 would create a framework to establish *'Maldivefish'* as a brand in the international market and to organize the small-scale producers.

Outcome 1: Internationally approved quality standards to improve export earnings from fishery-related products implemented.

Lack of quality has been one of the major hindrances for the small-scale producers to access a wider range of markets. Sri Lanka is the only market to which *'Maldivefish'* is currently exported. One of the biggest hurdles in implementing guidelines or control measures would be the willingness and ability of small-scale producers to conform to any new regulations. At the moment they are able to sell their output in the national market and any control measures would be difficult to implement, even if they would increase prices and open up international markets.

Background work has been initiated to produce a quality control regulation for *'Maldivefish'*. However, the protocols and the guidelines, still need considerable further development. Cost effective and technically feasible regulations, protocols and guidelines will be required to form the basis of improving the quality of *'Maldivefish'* production.

Outcome 2: Strengthened value addition, processing and marketing of *'Maldivefish'*

Even though Maldivians have been producing and exporting *'Maldivefish'* to Sri Lanka for centuries, no other international markets have been established. *'Maldivefish'* has not gained the international recognition; neither has it conformed to internationally recognized quality standards.

The earnings of small-scale producers would increase with better processing, packaging and labeling techniques, resulting in improved market access and demand. These products would gain a better price in international markets if proper markets links can be established.

Outcome 3: Increased awareness and training in small business management to ensure better revenues for rural communities

Small-scale *'Maldivefish'* producers have been producing their products as a home business. Financial transactions are often not recorded and there is a lack of understanding of the economic feasibility of the business. Government has been promoting initiatives to establish cooperatives in the islands to facilitate a mechanism for the small-scale producers to work as a group. Structured awareness programs to promote better processing, packaging, labeling techniques and other marketing links would facilitate the producer to tap alternative niche markets.

7. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

7.1 Resource mobilization and implementation strategy

The CPF was formulated considering the national and sectoral policy goals of the country in consultation with relevant government ministries, institutions and private sector. The CPF component however is unique, as it is comprehensively designed for FAO assistance and its formulation is considered acceptable for external aid.

This CPF is formulated for the period 2013-2017. It will become operational following the endorsement and approval by FAO and the GoM. During the short-term, FAO and the GoM will focus on prioritization, a more detailed definition of activities or projects, institutional mechanisms, the identification of funding gaps and resource mobilization. Until now, financial resource mobilization for fisheries and agriculture (especially agriculture) development has been intricate and inadequate, in part because of the size of the country. An important function of the CPF will therefore be its use as a tool for resource mobilization. Using the CPF the required financial resources will be mobilized jointly by FAO and the GoM. The joint mechanism will reach out to other donors in its effort secure the resources to achieve the outcomes stated in the CPF. It will also lobby with GoM to increase resource allocation for the two primary sectors.

In the past, programme/project management and implementation arrangement for FAO programmes/projects has been through GoM with support and guidance from Sri Lanka FAO office. GoM does not have the capacity to provide adequate input to manage the interventions efficiently. Hence many projects get delayed and the timely impact on the beneficiary community has been very limited. FAO realizes the importance of having a continuous presence in the Maldives and being able to systematically oversee programme management. FAO is thus committed to improve its capacity at national level and assist GoM to achieve the development targets in the priority areas identified through the CPF mechanism.

The interventions in the CPF will be implemented through partnership with the relevant institutions (public and private) and civil society. It is essential to develop appropriate mechanisms to involve local communities and private entrepreneurs and atolls and island administrations in the monitoring process. MoFA is identified as the lead agency for CPF implementation and will seek to establish meaningful partnership with other stakeholders through the creation of a ‘CPF Steering Committee’ comprised of the above stakeholders and FAO, to achieve the decided outcomes according to their mission mandates.

Exact estimation of the financial resource requirement for the CPF is still unclear, as no detailed designs are yet available for the interventions as well as lack of prior experience. In the past no investment plans have been prepared for either the fisheries or the agriculture sector.

7.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

FAO-Maldives considers effective monitoring and evaluation (M & E) as a critical element of efficient programme / project management to support informed and timely decision making. The M & E plan will follow the current best practices as outlined in the FAO guidelines. The M & E is also essential for consistency, ongoing learning and monitoring progress as well as transparency and accountability for achieving results against the planned outcomes. M & E plan will assist in building capacity in data collection and analysis tool and improve reporting and result dissemination.

The CPF will be monitored and evaluated based on results. The results-based monitoring and evaluation is an exercise to assess the performance of CPF on the basis of impacts and benefits it is expected to produce. It is a dynamic tool of planning and budgeting for improving substantive

performance and achieving results. The performance of CPF will be measured on the basis of a number of indicators, including gender-specific indicators. The indicators and means of verification are described in Annex 1: Results Matrix A.

Two stages of monitoring are envisaged for the CPF. The implementation of CPF will be monitored by the implementing institutions and fed into national level monitoring process by the 'CPF Steering Committee'. At the base level the monitoring and evaluation unit of each implementing department or institution will continuously monitor the performance of CPF by collecting required indicator values. Such values should be objectively evaluated and decisions should be taken pro-actively. At the second level, the CPF Steering Committee will make decisions on the procedures for additional joint periodic review meetings on progress achieved, actions, the timing and scope of the mid-term review of its implementation and the final assessment before the end of this CPF cycle, so as to ensure maximal flexibility depending on circumstances, and adequate mutual accountability.

The indicators proposed in the CPF (Annex 1: Results Matrix A) need to be elaborated into well defined projects with clear objectives, targets, activities, timeframe, and resource requirements (material, human and financial). Each project thus developed will identify quantifiable and objectively verifiable indicators against which project success will be measured.

Annex 1: CPF Results Matrix A: Priority areas, outcomes, outputs and M&E framework

CPF PRIORITY AREA A: IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE (CSA)				
CPF RESULTS		INDICATORS/TARGETS	MEASURES AND SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
OUTCOME 1: Food and nutrition security policy and regulatory environment and implementation capacity strengthened	Output 1.1: Sectoral policies, reviewed, refined and harmonized to align with the current and changing needs and requirements of the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. number of policies formulated reviewed and refined (disaggregated by sectors) - No. number of policies harmonized based on relevant principles - No. number of trained on international best standards on food and nutrition security (participants disaggregated by gender) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Available policy documents (Food Security Policy, Forestry Policy, Land Use Policy etc) - Development of strategic plans (Agriculture Investment Plan, Poultry & Livestock Development Action Plan, Plan of Action for Regional Agriculture Centers, Plan of Action for Provincial Agriculture Stations) - Food and nutrition policy meets international standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of human capacity to develop and implement the policies
	Output 1.2: Enabling regulatory framework including; guidelines and procedures for current and changing needs and requirements of the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. number of laws and regulations formulated, reviewed and refined (disaggregated by sectors) - No. number of laws and regulations formulated, reviewed and refined (disaggregated by sectors) - No. number officials are trained on legal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laws and accompanying regulations implemented to create a conducive environment for sustainable agriculture and forestry development (Agriculture Land Law & Regulations, Animal Health Law & Regulations, Plant Protection Law & Regulations, Agriculture Law and Regulations, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of human capacity to develop and implement the laws and regulations

			Pesticide Law and Regulations, Food Quality and Safety, Cooperative Law) - Appropriate guidelines and procedures in place	
	Output 1.3: Establish a coordination mechanisms to promote dialogue, networking and partnership among relevant sectors (public and private and civil society groups)	- Institutional mechanism for cross-sectoral coordination and mapping for knowledge management in place	- Established interagency coordination	- Participation of sectors
OUTCOME 2: Sustainable production and processing on emphasis on environment friendly technology and engaging women and youth to enhance food security & livelihood opportunities	Output 2.1: Increase small holder production and processing in giving emphasis on environment friendly technology and engaging women focusing on food security	- No. of small holder poultry units - No. of small holder goat farms - No. of small holder crop farms - No. of small holder processing units - No. of coconut plantations /palms owned by small holders - Type and amount of local, traditional foods grown that addresses the nutritional deficiencies of local population - Amount of sustainable income for small farmers or households from diversified farming - Type and no. of low input environment friendly	- HIES and National agricultural statistics indications on livelihood and income from agriculture - MoFA - National Result Frameworks indicating the type of programs carried out for food production - Statistical Year Book – production statistics by atolls - FAO developed methods, tools, techniques and technologies adopted and implemented MoFA and other relevant stakeholders	- Availability of resources - Land availability - Local government assistance

		farming systems adopted by small farmers - No. of women and youth engagement in agriculture production and processing - No. of empowered women through training and awareness of suitable technologies		
	Output 2.2: Increase semi-commercial and commercial production and processing in commercial agricultural land	- Type and amount of produced in commercial agricultural land - No. of locals employed in commercial agriculture ventures especially for women and youth - No of sustainable small and medium scale agribusiness (processing and value addition) development - Contract farming opportunity to small farmers especially for youth and women - Linking specialty farm products to tourism market	- National Agricultural Statistics & HIES indicating types and amount of production, employment and earning - Employment survey report - Progression of farmers from small to semi-commercial/ commercial level indicated in Farmer Registration Data of MoFA - Households benefiting from commercialization programs from National Census	- Availability of resources
	Output 2.3: Improve pest and disease management in crops and animal production systems using giving emphasis on environment friendly technology and alien invasive species	- No. and type of services provided by plant and animal quarantine services and MoFA pest control unit - No. of pest and disease outbreaks recorded in crop and animal systems - Budget spend on pest and	- Annual report of plant and animal quarantine services - Annual report of pest and disease management unit of MoFA - MoFA budget reports indicating the amount spend on pest control - Assessment Surveys of	- Availability of resources

	management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> disease control - No. of farmers engaged in integrated pest management systems - Alien invasive species recorded in the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> farming islands - Customs data indicating the type and quantity of pesticides imported - MoFA alien invasive species data base 	
	Output 2.4: Strengthen agricultural knowledge, information and education systems giving emphasis on impacts of climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Five established and functioning RAC - Seven established and functioning PAS - No. of schools & colleges which teach 'Agriculture' - No. of vocational education entities teaching 'Agriculture' - No. of target oriented training provided by MoFA and other service providers - Use of ICT and knowledge sharing in extension and training systems - No. of adaptive research and information dissemination programs in place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoFA organization structure indicating the RAC & PAS - Curriculums of schools and colleges - Annual Report of MoFA - Report and documents available at MoFA Training & Extension Unit 	- Availability of resources
	Output 2.5: Established decentralized services for agricultural inputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of islands where agricultural inputs are retailed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Data base of MED indicating registered retailers - Import data of agricultural inputs - Island level assessment reports 	- Conducive and enabling small business environment
OUTCOME 3: Strengthen the capacity of relevant stakeholders in	Output3 .1: Enhance resource efficiency of land and soil, water, forestry and waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of periodic assessment of the status of natural resources - Integration of agriculture interventions with the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Environment Assessment Reports of islands and regions. - MoE Annual Report - Ground water quality analysis 	- Availability of resources

natural resource management to adapt to climate change in agriculture development		<p>NBSAP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mangrove management - Method for ground-water extraction and management developed and practiced by farmers - No. of groundwater monitoring stations in agricultural islands - Type and capacity of rainwater harvesting capacity at farmers field - Self-reliance on organic manure - No. of agro-forestry projects in place and the no. of islands using the practices - Map of land in both inhabited and uninhabited islands suitable subsistence farming available - Map of islands for developing commercial agriculture available - No. of islands with waste management practices in place - DRM Plan for agriculture sector available - Number of stakeholders trained on conducting livelihoods assessments - 	<p>reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Customs Statistic indicating the quantity and type of chemical fertilizers imported - Land area demarcated for sustainable and commercial agriculture by the Land Authority - Annual Report - MoFA - Annual Report – National Disaster Management Centre 	
OUTCOME 4 Strengthen	Output 4.1: Enhance capacity of MoFA and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistic collection system in place giving emphasis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoFA Annual Report - Economic Analysis Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Availability of resource and capacity

institutional capacity of agriculture sector	other relevant stakeholders in collection and collation of agriculture statistic	<p>on gender-disaggregated data collection in agriculture surveys</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Appropriate agriculture statistic data base - Agriculture census - No. of crop estimation surveys of major crops during each production season - The quality of system in place to prepare and periodically update cost of production data for each of the major crops and enterprises. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National & MoFA statistical data base - National census (with incorporation of agriculture statistics) 	
	Output 4.2: Establish and strengthen value chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Status of local market in Male' - No. of functioning regional markets - No. of functioning collection centers as intermediate markets - Market integration and networking in place - Market information system (MIS) in place - Streamline the supply chain - No. of SME's in agriculture value addition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MED data base - Annual Report – Male' City Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supportive legal framework procedures and guidelines in place
	Output 4.3: Strengthen farmers organizations in giving emphasis on engaging women and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of 'Farmers Cooperatives/Groups' - No. female headed 'Farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MED data base - IFAD and ADB project reports - Annual Report – MoFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Willingness to work in cooperatives by the rural communities - Women willingness to

	youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cooperatives/Groups’ - No. of people trained in Corporative management - Type of training provided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoFA - Agribusiness Unit reports 	take leadership roles
	Output 4.4: Strengthen agricultural financing mechanisms (Introduction of development banking, strengthening soft loan schemes, incentives, giving emphasis on women and youth)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. and amount of credit received to the agriculture sector - GoM resource allocation to the sector - Value of subsidies and incentive - Value of donor assistance to the sector - Amount of private sector investments to the sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bank Reports on loans and credits - GoM budgets - Annual Report – MED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development banking mechanisms established by banks
	Output 4.5: Strengthen human resource capacity of agriculture and forestry sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asses the capacity of the sector using the FAO capacity assessment tools and processes. (Status of stakeholder capacity (including of civil society organization) - Management and monitoring mechanisms in place at MoFA - Status of coordination mechanism within MoFA - Develop and appropriate organization structure for MoFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved performance and efficiency of Agriculture and Forestry Division Annual Report of MoFA - Organization Structure of MoFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustained interest and staff retention in the sector
OUTCOME 5: Improve nutrition status to achieve food security	Output 5.1: Strengthen leadership & coordination in food and nutrition security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food and Nutrition council functions - Lead institutions identified and mandates in place, capacity build for efficient 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Reports - Council minutes and reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation of line ministries/institution and private sector

		<p>functioning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The level of integration of food and nutritional security into national and regional political agenda <p>Implementation of ‘Integration Food and Nutrition Strategy’ for Maldives’</p>		
	<p>Output 5.2: Promote and support cultivation of home vegetables and fruit gardens for family consumption to improve nutritional status of communities at risk (vulnerable groups : children, women and elderly)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No of households engaged in practicing home gardens and utilizing food from the garden - Amount of traditional staple crops such as taro, yams, sweet potato, breadfruits, local vegetables and fruits produced - No. of schools having school gardens - No. of urban producers - Percentage reduction of malnutrition - No. of nutrition awareness programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Food Consumption surveys - Health Statistics - Annual Report – MoFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation of line ministries/institution and private sector
	<p>Output 5.3: Strengthen food quality and safety control system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regulatory standards - Risk base-base assessments capacity - Capacity to address food safety emergencies - Food borne disease surveillance system established and data available - Food testing procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Health and Demographic Surveys conducted by MoH - Annual Health Statistics - Labels in food products - MFDA laboratory report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Technical capacity, equipments and infrastructure available

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in place - Food labeling systems in place 		
	Output 5.4: Develop national food basket	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - National food basket in place - Develop and implementation of national food-based dietary guidelines - Development of a communication strategy and plan for the promotion and adoption of the nutritional guidelines - Minimum nutrient content requirement for items of food basket defined - No. of persons and people aware of food basket operational plan - No of people trained and aware of food basket and dietary guidelines (importers, suppliers, retailers and food service providers & consumers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improve nutrition status - Increased awareness on nutrition and health living 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Human resource and infrastructure available

CPF PRIORITY AREA B: SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH ADVANCEMENT OF SMALL-SCALE AQUACULTURE

<p>OUTCOME 1: Improved policy and regulatory framework (policy, strategy, plans, interventions, laws, regulation, guidelines and procedures) to increase aquaculture production and processing.</p>	<p>Output 1.1: Capacity of government /local institutions to systematically develop, review, prioritize and implement laws, regulations, guidelines and procedures to address changing needs and requirements of the sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sector specific plans (investment plan, master plan) - No. of laws, regulations, guidelines and procedures formulated to address the changing needs - No of lawyers trained in the sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Action Plan - Existing policy documents (Strategic Action Plan, Outlook studies for the Master Plan) - Existing sector specific laws & regulation covering the guideline and procedures - Development of policy documents - Laws, Regulations, Guidelines and procedures formulated to address the change in needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inadequate institutional capacity - Timely input from line ministry - Timely approval of laws and regulations - Inadequate stakeholder capacity and input
	<p>Output 1.2: Establish a coordination mechanisms to promote dialogue and networking among relevant sectors</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mechanism to coordinate various stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing committees, networks - Meeting reports and journals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All sectors & stakeholders agree
<p>OUTCOME 2: Sustainable aquaculture production to diversify the fisheries sector and increase livelihood opportunities</p>	<p>Output 2.1: Establish a sustainable small-scale aquaculture industry through improved hatchery and grow-out technology</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of small-scale aquaculture ventures - Amount of sustainable income for small scale farmers or households from the hatchery and grow-out technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of aquaculture licenses - Progress monitoring reports - Statistical Year book – production statistics - MoFA Annual Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All license holders are in operation

	Output 2.2: Increase gender participation in the fisheries sector through establishment of aquaculture activities targeted at existing rural fishery communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of women participating in aquaculture activities - No of women trained in the aquaculture sector - Amount of earnings by women engaged in the aquaculture sector 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Action Plan - Census - MoFA annual report - HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Women participation in aquaculture activities established in rural communities
	Output 2.3 Ensure sustainability in aquaculture production through proper disease management and the implementation of good aquaculture practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of reported cases of disease outbreak. - No. of aquaculture facilities of approved hygiene and bio-security standards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports and journal articles - National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proper reporting of all disease incidents - Technical capacity, equipment and infrastructure is available
OUTCOME 3: Strengthening value addition, processing and marketing of aquaculture products	Output 3.1 Development of cooperatives to ensure better management of small aquaculture businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of cooperatives formed under the program - No. of farmers trained under the program - No. of training programs - No. of small scale farmers in the cooperatives - Amount of earnings for small scale farmers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MoFA end of year reports - Progress monitoring reports - HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All trained cooperatives function
	Output 3.2 Improve processing to ensure quality in processed aquaculture products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Export earnings - No. of processing companies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Export figures by Maldives Customs Services - MoFA Statistical Reports - MoFA End of year reports - Reports on business sector by MED 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Change in export earnings reflect the improved processing of products
	Output 3.3 Design and application of a marketing strategy through the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marketing strategy - Export earnings - No. of countries exported 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Export figures - Statistical Reports - End of year Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -

	establishment of appropriate market links			
OUTCOME 4: Increasing awareness and training in aquaculture to demonstrate viability of aquaculture businesses and enhance human resource capacity	Output 4.1: Establish structured awareness and information dissemination programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of awareness programs - Perception of local communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical Year Book - Sectoral statistical data base - Surveys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation in awareness programmes
	Output 4.2: Demonstration of viable aquaculture through the establishment of small-scale demonstration aquaculture facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of demonstration facilities - No. of people visiting the demonstration facilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports and Journal articles - MoFA end of year reports - National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up activities by the general public will kick start
	Output 4.3: Demonstration of economic viability in small-scale aquaculture businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of aquaculture products - Feasibility study - No. of aquaculture businesses - No. of aquaculture hatcheries - No. of farmers involved in aquaculture - Amount of earnings by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project reports - National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics - MoFA end of year reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up activities by the general public will kick start

		the aquaculture businesses.		
	Output 4.4 Mainstream aquaculture in school curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of existing fisheries curriculum - Revision of existing fisheries curriculum to mainstream aquaculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing fisheries curriculum - Existing plans for revised curriculum by MoE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Curriculum approval
OUTCOME 5: Strengthening institutional and governance capacity for sustainable management of aquaculture	Output 5.1: Design and implementation of good aquaculture governance structure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of management plans for aquaculture - No. of MoFA staff trained in good governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports - Staff training reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Political will to implement governance structure. - Staff trained will retain in the sector
	Output 5.2: Enhancing monitoring, control and enforcement capacity to ensure compliance with good aquaculture practices and bio-security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laws and regulations on bio-security - No. of staff trained in the area of enforcement and compliance - No. of farmers trained in good aquaculture practices. - No. of cases filed in the courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laws and Regulations - Monitoring Reports - Court case reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Farmers to comply with the existing laws and regulations.
CPF PRIORITY AREA C: SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE BAIT HARVESTING TECHNIQUES.				
OUTCOME 1: Efficient bait harvest to sustain skipjack tuna fishery and livelihood of fisher communities	Output 1.1: Ensure sustainability of bait resources through the implementation of improved bait harvesting techniques	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Levels of good harvesting techniques in bait fishery - No. of fishermen trained in good bait harvesting techniques - No. of training programs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Survey to understand existing bait harvesting techniques - Reports on bait harvesting techniques - National Fisheries Statistics on bait harvesting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All license holders are in operation
	Output 1.2: Ensure efficient use of live bait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports on bait catch - Bait maps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Action Plan - Census 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Standardized bait measurement techniques

	through minimizing bait wastage and the use of technology to ensure longevity for sustainability of the tuna industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of training programs to demonstrate efficient use of bait - No. of fishermen trained - Reports on technology to ensure longevity of bait 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Report on bait catches in Maldives - Report on alternative technologies to ensure longevity of bait 	implemented
	Output 1.3: Promote aquaculture of selected bait species through the development of breeding techniques to reduce reliance on wild stock and increase resilience to climate change impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of licenses for bait aquaculture - No. of trainings for farmers - No. of trainings - Amount of earnings by farmers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Progress reports - HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics - National Fisheries Statistics on bait aquaculture - Statistical Year Book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All selected bait species breed in captivity - Aquaculture of selected species is technically feasible
OUTCOME 2: Establishment of a separate bait fishery industry for better management of the bait resources	Output 2.1: Assess feasibility and sustainability of establishing a separate bait harvest sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feasibility study - Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical year book - Sectoral statistical data base - Feasibility Studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fishermen's willingness to start a separate bait harvest sector - Bait is more economical to fishers than doing their own bait fishing -
	Output 2.2: Development of an organization structure for a separate bait harvest sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Organizational structure - Reports on better governance and changes in organizational structure - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Strategic Action Plan - End of year report - Project Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in organizational structure implemented
	Output 2.3: Establishment of a marketing strategy for a separate bait harvesting sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Amount of revenue generated from bait harvesting sector - Quantity traded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sectoral statistical data base - End of year report - Project reports - National Fisheries Statistics on 	

			livelihood and income from fisheries statistics	
OUTCOME 3: Increasing awareness and training in the effective use of bait resources to promote sustainable use.	Output 3.1: Promote sustainable bait harvesting techniques and their effective use through structured awareness and training programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of awareness programs - No. of training programs - No. of qualified locals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical year book - Reports - End of year report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Target groups are interested in attending the programs
	Output 3.2: Demonstration of viable aquaculture of selected bait species through the establishment of small-scale demonstration aquaculture facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of visits - No. of farmers trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical year book - Sectoral statistical data base - Reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up activities by the general public will kick start
	Output 3.3: Assessment of economic and financial feasibility of alternatives to bait and different bait harvesting techniques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feasibility report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sectoral statistical data base - End of year report - Project reports 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Follow-up activities by the general public will kick start
OUTCOME 4: Strengthening institutional and governance capacity for sustainable management of bait resources	Output 4.1: Design and implementation of a bait management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bait management plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical year book - Reports - End of year report - Management Plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Plan is inclusive of management measures relevant to all major bait species
	Output 4.2:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Resource map 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical year book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All bait resources are mapped

	Development of a country-wide bait resource map	- No. of surveys	- Sectoral statistical data base - Reports	accurately
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CPF PRIORITY AREA D: ENSURING QUALITY OF “MALDIVEFISH” PRODUCTS TO PROVIDE BETTER MARKET VALUE FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS IN THE RURAL COMMUNITIES.

OUTCOME 1: Implementing internationally approved quality standards to improve export earnings from fishery-related products	Output 1.1: Establishment of quality control guidelines for processing of “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ”.	- No. of Quality Control audits - No. of random quality checks	- Existing guidelines - Guidelines and measures taken to establish quality control mechanisms - Enforcement and Monitoring Reports	- All small scale processors would comply with the guidelines.
	Output 1.2: Improve quality of “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ” production through conforming to internationally approved standards	- Revenue from exports - Amount of revenue earned by local producers - No. of countries exported	- Strategic Action Plan - Census - Export data - HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics	- Increase in export revenues is a reflection of improved quality, with all other factors remaining constant
OUTCOME 2: Strengthened value addition, processing and marketing of “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ”	Output 2.1: Establishment of the brand “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ” to internationally recognized standards	- No. of exports of ‘ <i>Maldivefish</i> ’ brand - Amount of earnings by ‘ <i>Maldivefish</i> ’ brand	- Export data from Maldives Customs Services - HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics	- All small scale processors would comply with the standards.
	Output 2.2: Increase earnings from “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ” through improved processing,	- ‘ <i>Maldivefish</i> ’ earnings - Amount of random checks on the quality of processing packaging and	- HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics - Export data from Maldives	- All small scale processors would comply with the processing standards.

	packaging and labeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - labeling - Amount of earnings by small scale producers 	Customs Services	
	Output 2.3: Development of cooperatives to ensure better management of small-scale businesses through empowerment of women in rural fishing communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of cooperatives registered for 'Maldivefish' production - No. of women involved in processing - Revenue generated - Quantity traded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Registry of cooperatives - Census - Annual statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All registered cooperatives are in operation - Women get involved in the cooperative set up
	Output 2.4: Design and application of a marketing strategy through the establishment of appropriate market links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quantity and Revenue from Exports - No. of market links - No. of countries exported - Amount of earnings received by the small scale producers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Export data from Maldives Customs Services - HIES and National Fisheries Statistics on livelihood and income from fisheries statistics 	
OUTCOME 3: Increased awareness and training in small business management to ensure better revenues for rural communities	Output 3.1: Establish structured awareness and information dissemination programs on small-scale business management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No. of awareness programs conducted - No. of producers trained 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Statistical year book - Sectoral statistical data base - Reports 	

Annex 2 : Results Matrix (B): Resource requirement and implementing partners

CPF RESULTS	INDICATIVE RESOURCE REQUIREMENT(US\$)			IMPLEMENTATING PARTNERS		RESOURCE PARTNERS
	Total Required (US\$ '000) ⁵	Available funding ⁶	Resource mobilization target (gap) ⁷	National	International	
CPF Priority Area A: IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE (CSA)						
Outcome 1: Improve policy and regulatory framework (policy, strategy, plans, interventions, laws, regulation, guidelines and procedures)						
Output 1.1:	190	0	190	MoFA, MoE, MoH, MED, LGA,	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 1.2:	230	40	190	MoFA, AO, MoE, MoH, MED,	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 1.3:	40	0	40	MoFA	UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 2: Increase production and processing of crop/poultry and animal giving emphasis on environment friendly technology and engaging women and youth enhance food security & livelihood opportunities						
Output 2.1:	221	17.1	203.9	MoFA,	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.2:	223	31.1	191.9	MoFA, MoE		GoM & DP
Output 2.3:	280	46.4	233.6	MoFA, MoE	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.4:	258	20.3	237.7	MoFA, Ministry of Education	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.5:	120	0	120	MoFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 3 Strengthen sustainable natural resource management to adapt to climate change in agriculture development						
Output 3.1	1217	0	1217	MoFA, MoE, Private Sector	UNDP, FAO	GoM & DP
Outcome 4: Strengthen institutional capacity in agriculture sector						
Output 4.1	2273	0	2273	MoFA, DNP	FAO, ADB	GoM & DP
Output 4.2:	542	12	530	MED, MoFA	IFAD, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 4.3	163	0.3	162.7	MED, MoFA	IFAD, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 4.4	300	12	288	MED, MoFA, Banks	ADB, IFAD	GoM & DP
Output 4.5	300	40	260	MoFA, Ministry of Education		GoM & DP
Outcome 5: Improve nutrition security to strengthen food security						

⁵ Budget adopted from ADMP

⁶ MoFA figures

⁷ Estimation

Output 5.1	40	0	40	MoFA, MoH	WHO	GoM & DP
Output 5.2	120	0	120	MoFA, MoH	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 5.3	240	0	240	MoFA, MoH, MFDA	WHO, UNDP	
Output 5.4	200	0	200	MoFA, MoH,		GoM & DP

CPF Priority Area B: SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH ADVANCEMENT OF SMALL-SCALE AQUACULTURE						
Outcome 1: Policies, strategies, plans interventions, laws, regulations, guidelines and procedures to increase aquaculture production and processing.						
Output 1.1:	46	26.6	19.4	MOFA, MoE, LGA, MED	FAO, IFAD	GoM & DP
Output 1.2:	15	0	15	MOFA, MED, MT, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 2: Sustainable aquaculture production to diversify the fisheries sector and increase livelihood opportunities						
Output 2.1	240	63.5	176.5	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.2	150	80.4	69.6	MOFA, MED, Gender Ministry, LGA	FAO, IFAD	GoM & DP
Output 2.3	400	100	300	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, IFAD	GoM & DP
Outcome 3: Strengthening value addition, processing and marketing of aquaculture products						
Output 3.1	150	35	115	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 3.2	25	0	25	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 3.3	25	0	25	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 4: Increasing awareness and training in aquaculture to demonstrate viability of aquaculture businesses and enhance human resource capacity						
Output 4.1	25	10	15	MOFA, MoE, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 4.2	300	50	250	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 4.3	150	0	150	MOFA, MED,	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 5 Strengthening institutional and governance capacity for sustainable management of aquaculture						
Output 5.1	15	0	15	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 5.2	480	280	200	MOFA, MED, LGA	FAO, IFAD	GoM & DP
CPF Priority Area C: SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES PRODUCTIVITY THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE BAIT HARVESTING TECHNIQUES						
Outcome 1: Efficient bait harvest to sustain skipjack tuna fishery and livelihood of fisher communities						
Output 1.1	120	0	120	MOFA, LGA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 1.2	45	21.5	23.5	MOFA, LGA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 1.3	250	0	250	MOFA, LGA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP

Outcome 2: Establishment of a separate bait fishery industry for better management of the bait resources.						
Output 2.1	10	0	10	MOFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.2	10	0	10	MOFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.3	25	0	25	MOFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 3: Increasing awareness and training in the effective use of bait resources to promote sustainable use.						
Output 3.1	50	12	38	MOFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 3.2	10	0	10	MOFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 3.3	25	0	25	MOFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 4: : Increasing awareness and training in the effective use of bait resources to promote sustainable use.						
Output 4.1	55	0	55	MOFA, MED, MoE, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 4.2	100	0	100	MOFA, MED, MoE, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
CPF Priority Area D: ENSURING QUALITY OF “MALDIVEFISH” PRODUCTS TO PROVIDE BETTER MARKET VALUE FOR SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS IN THE RURAL COMMUNITIES						
Outcome 1: Implementing internationally approved quality standards to improve export earnings from fishery-related products						
Output 1.1	25	0	25	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 1.2	30	0	30	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 2: : Strengthening value addition, processing and marketing of “ <i>Maldivefish</i> ”						
Output 2.1	150	0	150	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.2	40	0	40	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.3	35	12	23	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.4	50	0	50	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Output 2.5:	120	0	120	MoFA, MED	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP
Outcome 3: Increasing awareness and training in small business management to ensure better revenues for rural communities						
Output 3.1	40	15	25	MOFA, MED, MFDA, LGA	FAO, UNDP	GoM & DP

Annex 3: FAO Global goals and strategic objectives

FAO GLOBAL GOALS AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES	
<i>Vision</i>	FAO's vision is of a world free of hunger and malnutrition where food and agriculture contributes to improving the living standards of all, especially the poorest, in an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable manner
<i>Global Goals of Members</i>	To foster the achievement of this vision and of the Millennium Development Goals, FAO will promote the continuing contribution of food and sustainable agriculture to the attainment of three global goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of the absolute number of people suffering from hunger, progressively ensuring a world in which all people at all times have sufficient safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life • Elimination of poverty and the driving forward of economic and social progress for all with increased food production, enhanced rural development and sustainable livelihoods; • Sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, including land, water, air, climate and genetic resources, for the benefit of present and future generations
<i>Strategic Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable intensification of crop production. • Increased sustainable livestock production. • Sustainable management and use of fisheries and aquaculture resources. • Improved quality and safety of food at all stages of the food chain. • Sustainable management of forests and trees. • Sustainable management of land, water and genetic resources and improved responses to global environmental challenges affecting food and agriculture. • Enabling environment for markets to improve livelihoods and rural development. • Improved food security and better nutrition. • Improved preparedness for, and effective response to, food and agricultural threats and emergencies. • Gender equity in access to resources, goods, services and decision-making in the rural areas. • Increased and more effective public and private investment in agriculture and rural development
<i>Functional Objectives</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective collaboration with Member States and stakeholders • Efficient and effective administration
<i>Core Functions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing long-term perspectives and leadership in monitoring and assessing trends in food security and agriculture, fisheries and forestry. • Stimulating the generation, dissemination and application of information and knowledge, including statistics. • Negotiating international instruments, setting norms, standards and voluntary guidelines, supporting the development of national legal instruments and promoting their implementation. • Articulating policy and strategy options and advice • Providing technical support to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - promote technology transfer; - catalyze change; and - build capacity, particularly for rural institutions. • Undertaking advocacy and communication, to mobilize political will and promote global recognition of required actions in areas of FAO's mandate. • Bringing integrated interdisciplinary and innovative approaches to bear on the Organization's technical work and support services. • Working through strong partnerships and alliances where joint action is needed

Annex 4: Status of existing national laws

NAME OF LAW	IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	COMMENTS
Agriculture Land Act	MoFA	Draft stage
Plant Protection Act 12/2011	MoFA	- Regulations incomplete - Capacity to implement is poor
Veterinary Act	MoFA	Draft stage
Agriculture Law	MoFA	Draft stage
Pesticide Law	MoFA	Draft stage
Decentralization Bill 6/2011	NGA	- Initial stages of implementation
Maldives Land Law 4 /2008 (2 nd amendment)	MoH	
Cooperative Societies Act No.3/2007	MED	
Associations Act No. 1/2003	MED	
Maldives Land Law 1/2002	MoH	
Inhabited Island Palms and Trees Act 20/98	MoFA	Poor implementation
Uninhabited Island Law 20/98	MoFA	Poor implementation
Company Act 10/96	MED	
Maldives Marine Territory Law 6/96	No mention of Implementing partners	
Environment Protection Law 4/93	MoE	
Fisheries Law 5/83	MoFA	Poor implementation
Maldives Export Import Law 31/79	MED	
Coral and Sand Mining from Inhabited Islands Law 77/78	MoFA	Law comprised of two sentences and outdated
Port Health Law 76/78	MoH	

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

STRATEGIC ACTION PLAN (SAP 2009 – 2013)

AGRICULTURE SECTOR

1. Strengthen commercial agriculture to reduce reliance on imported food and attain food security
2. Facilitate the availability of agricultural inputs and accessibility to appropriate and environmentally friendly technology in all region to promote agriculture
3. Develop systems, networks and physical infrastructure for strengthening marketing and trade of agriculture produce and to encourage commercial agriculture
4. Expand the use of technology in the agriculture sector to help develop and diversify the sector and ensure gender disparities are not created due to these technologies
5. Strengthen the institutional capacity to support the growth of the sector

FISHERIES SECTOR

1. Expand the scope of the fisheries sector in the economy and diversify fish and marine products in a sustainable matter
2. Regulate the market to ensure that changes in the buying price of fish and international market are passed through to local fisherman
3. Facilitate business development, trade and export promotion in fisheries
4. Provide training and capacity building opportunities in the sector
5. Promote research in fisheries and introduce fish breeding and productivity
6. Establish modern fisheries infrastructure in different region at the country
7. Enhance the regulatory framework to ensure sustainable fishery development and management

HEALTH (NUTRITION AND FOOD SAFETY)

1. Strengthen health promotion, protection and advocacy for healthy public policies

ENVIRONMENT

1. Conserve and sustainably use biological diversity and ensure maximum ecosystem benefits
2. Develop resilient communities addressing impacts of climate change, disaster mitigation and coastal protection
3. Strengthen adaptation and mitigation responses for beach erosion and develop a system to assist communities where livelihood and property are affected by beach erosion
2. Ensure management of solid waste to prevent impact on human health and environment through approaches that are economically viable and locally appropriate
3. Ensure protection of people and the environment from hazardous waste and chemicals
4. Enable a fully functional decentralized environmental governance system
5. Inculcate environmental values in the society and enable environmentally friendly lifestyle

GENDER

1. Develop and activate the necessary policy, legislative and institutional framework for gender equality
2. Empower women to facilitate their equal access to available opportunities with equal outcome/results