

TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATION

The Maldives is a unitary republic with a two-tiered subnational government system, made up of 179 island councils, 3 city councils, and 18 Atoll councils.¹



Unless otherwise indicated, all the information in this profile is taken from the previously published Voluntary National Review (VNR).²

1. NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR SDG IMPLEMENTATION

Alignment of the SDGs with national priorities is underway. As of 2017, some sectors – namely education, health, energy, waste management, fisheries, water and sanitation, and local governance – had incorporated the SDGs into their policy documents and action plans.

1.1 NATIONAL COORDINATION MECHANISMS

The **National Ministerial Coordination Committee (NMCC)** is chaired by the Prime Minister and coordinated by the Ministry of Environment and Energy. Consisting of cabinet ministers, it provides overall policy guidance and political support towards the implementation of the SDGs in the country. The Ministerial Committee is supported by a **Technical Committee on SDGs**, which brings together experts from various government institutions and civil society. In addition, an **SDGs Division** was established at the **Ministry of Environment and Energy** for monitoring and mainstreaming the SDGs in national policies, plans and strategies. As such, the Division has been carrying out awareness raising sessions in order to sensitize agencies, institutions and organizations to the 2030 Agenda.

1.2 VNR ELABORATION PROCESS

The **SDGs Division** led the 2017 VNR process.

1.3 MONITORING

The main role of the **SDGs Division** is to coordinate SDG monitoring, reporting and follow-up on the implementation process. The SDGs Division and the **National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)** undertook an exercise with different stakeholders to identify data gaps and mechanisms to address these. The development of a monitoring framework to report the achievements of SDG targets was planned for 2018-2019. Nonetheless, the 2017 VNR points out structural challenges. The lack of financial resources and technical expertise in terms of data collection and management, remains a major hurdle in the implementation of the SDGs in the country.

2. LRGs INVOLVEMENT IN SDG LOCALIZATION

Local governments aligned their five-year development plans (2017-2021) with the SDGs. Sessions for awareness raising on the SDGs were organized in 2017 with local councils and other stakeholders.

1. See: <https://uclg-aspac.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/UCLG-ASPAC-EECLG-rev.pdf>

2. See: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/15891Maldives.pdf> (2017)

2.1 LRGs PARTICIPATION

► In the VNR process



2017

► In national coordination mechanisms for SDG implementation



2017

This assessment is based on the information collected in the VNR and in the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments' annual survey on the localization of the SDGs.

2.2 VNR REFERENCES

There is very limited reference to local councils in the 2017 VNR.

2.3 SPECIFIC PROJECTS AND CASES

No reference.

2.4 VOLUNTARY SUBNATIONAL AND/OR LOCAL REVIEWS (VSRs / VLRs)

Not applicable.

2.5 MEANS OF IMPLEMENTATION

One of the main tasks for the years 2018-2019 included integration of the SDGs into the budgetary process through program budgeting. As of 2017, this work was on-going at the **Ministry of Finance and Treasury**, and will help plan the future activities for the implementation of the SDGs.

3. RELEVANT INFORMATION

General comments: The Maldives recognises the importance of engaging with the media and public sphere in promoting national ownership of the SDG implementation process. As such, efforts have been made to forge new partnerships and intensify existing ones with the media. In this regard, the government continues to engage with the Public Service Media (PSM) in disseminating information related to the SDGs. Furthermore, a capacity building workshop is scheduled for journalists from various media in order to enhance and develop their skills to report on the SDGs. This includes specific information on how to create, develop and deliver reports and other media content on the SDGs process. Efforts are also underway to develop special programmes targeted to the entire Maldivian population.

3.1 WOMEN PARTICIPATION

In the 2017 local council elections, women represented only 6% of the elected local councillors.

3.2 COVID 19

Not applicable.

4. SDG INDICATORS³

5.5.1. (b) Proportion of seats held by women (%) in local governments		6.0 (2020)
6.1.1. Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
6.2.1. (a) Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services (%)	Urban	-
	Rural	-
11.1.1. Proportion of population living in slums, informal settlements or inadequate housing (%)		30.1 (2018)
11.6.1. Proportion of municipal solid waste collected and managed (%)		38.2 (2012, Maldives)
11.6.2. Air pollution – annual means of particulate matter in cities (population weighted)		11.0 (2016)
11.b.2. Proportion of local governments that have adopted local disaster risk reduction strategies in line with national strategies (%)		-

³ The data used for this table come from the UN SDG Indicators Database. See: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/UNSDG/IndDatabasePage>. More information on the country's progress towards the SDGs here: <https://country-profiles.unstatshub.org/mdv>