



**ADAPTATION FUND**

AFB/PPRC.3/11  
December 10, 2010

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Adaptation Fund Board  
Project and Programme Review Committee  
Third Meeting  
Cancun, December 13, 2010

## **PROPOSAL FOR MALDIVES**

## I. Background

1. The Operational Policies and Guidelines for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund, adopted by the Adaptation Fund Board, state in paragraph 41 that regular adaptation project and programme proposals, i.e. those that request funding exceeding US\$ 1 million, would undergo either a one-step, or a two-step approval process. In case of the one-step process, the proponent would directly submit a fully-developed project proposal. In the two-step process, the proponent would first submit a brief project concept, which would be reviewed by the Project and Programme Review Committee (PPRC) and would have to receive the approval by the Board. In the second step, the fully-developed project/programme document would be reviewed by the PPRC, and would finally require Board's approval.

2. The Templates Approved by the Adaptation Fund Board (Operational Policies and Guidelines for Parties to Access Resources from the Adaptation Fund, Annex 3) do not include a separate template for project and programme concepts but provide that these are to be submitted using the project and programme proposal template. The section on Adaptation Fund Project Review Criteria states:

*For regular projects using the two-step approval process, only the first four criteria will be applied when reviewing the 1st step for regular project concept. In addition, the information provided in the 1st step approval process with respect to the review criteria for the regular project concept could be less detailed than the information in the request for approval template submitted at the 2nd step approval process. Furthermore, a final project document is required for regular projects for the 2nd step approval, in addition to the approval template.*

3. The first four criteria mentioned above are:

1. Country Eligibility,
2. Project Eligibility,
3. Resource Availability, and
4. Eligibility of NIE/MIE.

4. Based on the Adaptation Fund Board Decision B.9/2, the first call for project and programme proposals was issued and an invitation letter to eligible Parties to submit project and programme proposals to the Adaptation Fund was sent out on April 8, 2010.

5. According to the paragraph 41 of the operational policies and guidelines, a project or programme proposal needs to be received by the secretariat not less than seven weeks before a Board meeting, in order to be considered by the Board in that meeting.

6. The following project concept titled "Increasing climate resilience through an Integrated Water Resource Management Programme in HA. Ihavandhoo, ADh. Mahibadhoo and GDh. Gadhdhoo Island" was submitted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), which is a Multilateral Implementing Entity of the Adaptation Fund. This is the first submission of this proposal. It was received by the secretariat in time to be considered in the 12th Adaptation Fund Board meeting. The secretariat carried out a technical review of the project concept, assigned to it the diary number AFB/MIE/Water/2010/6, and filled in a review sheet.

7. In accordance with a request to the secretariat made by the Adaptation Fund Board in its 10th meeting, the secretariat shared this review sheet with the UNDP, and offered it the

opportunity of providing responses before the review sheet was sent to the Project and Programme Committee of the Adaptation Fund.

8. The secretariat is submitting to the Project and Programme Review Committee the summary of the project, prepared by the secretariat, in Annex 1. The secretariat is also submitting to the Committee the technical review sheet and the responses provided by the UNDP, as confidential documents.

## Project Summary

Maldives – Increasing climate resilience through an Integrated Water Resource Management Programme in HA. Ihavandhoo, ADh. Mahibadhoo and GDh. Gadhdhoo Island  
Implementing Entity: *UNDP*

Project/Programme Execution Cost: USD 500,000  
Total Project/Programme Cost: USD 4,600,000  
Implementation Fee: USD 391,000  
Requested Financing: USD 4,991,000  
Co-Financing: USD 1,800,000 (Government of Maldives)

## Project Background and Context

The primary problem addressed by this project is a significant, climate change-induced decline of freshwater security that is affecting vulnerable communities in Maldives. As surface freshwater is generally lacking throughout the country, the key problems pertaining to freshwater security relate to the management of increasingly saline groundwater and increasingly variable rainwater resources. In order to reduce the aforementioned barriers to effective climate change adaptation in the water management sector, it is essential to reinforce the perspective of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). This will ensure that measures responding to additional, climate change-related risks (such as greater rainfall variability, unreliable recharge of aquifers, longer dry periods, and increasing damage to infrastructure from extreme weather events) are addressed in concert with a response to basic development problems (such as insufficient sewage and wastewater treatment, lack of environmental awareness, lack of water conservation, and lack of comprehensive stakeholder participation in the design and monitoring of water management schemes). The objective of this project is to ensure reliable and safe freshwater supply for Maldivian communities in a changing climate.

Component 1: Establishment of integrated, climate-resilient water supply and management systems in Mahibadhoo, Ihavandhoo and Gadhdhoo (USD 7,700,000)

This component focuses on the establishment of integrated water supply and -management systems in Mahibadhoo, Ihavandhoo and Gadhdhoo to meet the demand of reliable and safe freshwater supply in a changing climate. This effort will involve

- a) the planning and installation of *groundwater recharge* systems that will be fed by rainwater and treated wastewater;
- b) the redesign of existing *rainwater harvesting* schemes, including optimization of total storage capacity to meet supply needs in dry periods; interconnection of isolated units to ensure equitable water supply in dry periods; improvement of structural integrity of rainwater collection and storage systems against extreme weather events; integration of filter elements to improve safety of freshwater supply
- c) the redesign of existing *wastewater management* schemes to ensure sufficient quantities of safe groundwater during dry periods and prevent polluted wastewater to undermine freshwater stocks in time of climate-induced water scarcity

- d) the application of *desalination* technology in the context of a diversified, integrated water supply and distribution infrastructure

Component 2: Increase participation in the development, allocation and monitoring of freshwater use in a changing climate (USD 80,000)

Component 2 of the project will introduce a range of communication, awareness and training activities which will enable public, private and communal stakeholders (including water suppliers, planners and users) to effectively engage with each other and participate in the inclusive development, allocation and planning of water resource use on their home islands.

Component 3: Replication and upscaling of climate-resilient freshwater management (USD 80,000)

Component 3 will introduce targeted activities to enable the analysis, replication and upscaling of the project approach on other inhabited islands. This will entail a campaign to present the findings from the project to different public entities, utilities and development partners, as well as other atolls and islands with similar degrees of vulnerability. This campaign will integrate all atolls and aim at the replication of the project approach in at least 4 other inhabited islands. Exchange programmes to the target sites in Mahibadhoo, Ihavandhoo and Gadhdhoo will be facilitated to promote learning and transfer of experience on climate-resilient freshwater management (especially with regards to the design of coupled rainwater harvesting/groundwater recharge schemes). At the level of the central government, a consultative mechanism will be created that allows the integration of project experiences into the design and rollout of new water management projects and schemes.