

NATIONAL STATISTICAL SYSTEM OF THE MALDIVES

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS

Asian Development Bank
Economics and Research Department
Development Indicators and Policy Research Division

TA 6333 (REG) – Statistical Capacity Building in the Asia and Pacific Region

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Statistics Division

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FOREWORD

In a globalised world, Democracy and Development are increasingly underpinned by consistent, comprehensive and high quality set of statistical information. The credibility of policy decisions depends heavily on the timeliness and accuracy of the information on which those decisions are based. Effective use of reliable statistical information is essential in order to examine all economic, social, and environmental costs and benefits, to determine the most appropriate policy option and for efficient execution of plans.

The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) sets out a 10 year, prioritised action plan for the Maldives Statistical System for the period 2010-2019. This strategic focus will form the basis for the development of an integrated National Statistics System that will result in improved data availability for government policy and planning needs, and other user needs. The NSDS is expected to be a dynamic product that will be reviewed from time to time, and its implementation will be assessed as part of a statistical system review. It provides a framework for technical assistance and a basis for better coordination among donors within the context of the priorities established by the government.

The NSDS has been approved by the National Planning Council of the Government of Maldives on 18th October 2010, and high priority is accorded to the activities identified in the NSDS. It is anticipated that the much needed support and funding will be forthcoming from our development partners and donors in implementing this national strategy.

I am grateful to the Asian Development Bank for the technical assistance provided in the development of the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics for the National Statistical System of the Maldives.

Mr. Ali Hashim



Minister of Finance and Treasury

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The initiation of the Government of Maldives to develop the “National Strategy for the Development of Statistics” (NSDS) is an important milestone towards the development of a complete and coordinated National Statistical System in the Maldives for producing, processing and disseminating official statistics.

The study was undertaken by, Mr. Alex Korn, an International Statistics Consultant supported by the Asian Development Bank, technical assistance program, “RETA 6333: Statistical Capacity Building in the Asia and Pacific Region”. The guidance and support provided by Mr. Kaushal Joshi, ADB Statistician, was vital in the successful completion of this exercise. We gratefully acknowledge the efforts of Mr.Korn and Mr.Joshi and the continuing support and commitments from the Asian Development Bank towards the capacity building of the National Statistical System of Maldives. Mr.Ibrahim Naseem who assisted Mr. Korn as a local consultant also deserves special mention

Furthermore the timely and valuable contribution from the Members of the National Statistics Coordinating Committee is highly appreciated. Our heartfelt appreciation goes to all the stakeholder agencies and individuals who contributed to this process by providing their inputs and advice throughout the study.

This important document is made possible with countless effort and involvement of the highly motivated team of the Statistics Division of the Department of National Planning. Special mention is due to Ms.Ashiyath Shazna who lead the effort from the DNP side and the SD team who supported the exercise including Ms.Rasheeda Najeeb, Ms.Mariyam Niyaf, Mr.Idham Fahumy, Ms.Maharath Ahmed, Ms.Aishath Hassan, Mr.Ahmed Nihad, Ms.Aminath Shirumeen, Ms.Aishath Yumna Rasheed and staff from SD and who facilitated the exercise under the overall guidance of Ms.Aishath Shahuda.

Statistics Division

Department of National Planning

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Executive Summary

Despite the overwhelming acknowledgement of the role of statistics in an information-dependent globalized world, it remains a cause for concern that the statistical systems in many Asia-Pacific countries, including the Maldives, have weak capacities. More specifically, these systems are unable to cope with the emerging internal and external demands for relevant, reliable, and timely statistics for policy-making, development planning and project/program evaluation.

Consensus has been reached internationally on the centrality of a holistic, strategic approach to improving national statistical systems to provide the information needed for poverty-focused development programmes. The Second International Roundtable on Managing for Development Results in February 2004 and the resulting Marrakech Action Plan on Managing for Development Results set out that 'National Statistical Systems can meet the monitoring and evaluation requirements of Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and other national development plans' through 'integrated statistical plans covering all data sectors and users'. It also recommended the 'mainstreaming of strategic planning of statistical systems and preparing national strategies for the development of statistics for all low income countries by 2006'.

ADB's regional technical assistance project RETA6333: Statistical Capacity Building in the Asia and Pacific Region was initiated with the objective to implement the recently adopted approach to statistical capacity building. This approach includes a systematic diagnosis of the statistical priorities and the binding constraints for development of statistics in the selected country in consultation with the national statistical organizations (NSOs) and other stakeholders. After the No-objection by the Government of Maldives to participate in the ADB's Regional Technical Assistance (RETA) 6333: Statistical Capacity Building in the Asia and Pacific Region, this project for preparing the National Strategy for Development of Statistics (NSDS) was carried out in the Maldives with 3 ADB missions during 17 February to 12 March, 3 to 7 May and 20 to 25 June, 2009.

The stakeholder consultations during these missions included understanding:

- * the existing statistical institutions,
- * the statistical legislation and coordination mechanisms,
- * the strategic role and the activities of the Statistical Division (SD) of the Department of
- * National Planning (DoNP),
- * the role of the line ministries and other agencies involved in producing statistics,
- * status of statistical activities through administrative data,
- * conduct of sample surveys and censuses,

- * availability of data series in various subjects,
- * data gaps and deficiencies and user needs,
- * issues relating to timeliness, quality and reliability of statistical products, adoption of international standards,
- * suggestions for building capacity on a sustainable basis,
- * current and past donor activity,

A diagnostics paper of the national statistical system of Maldives and a draft NSDS with a 10 year action plan for development of the NSS was prepared by the International Statistics Consultant from the mission findings and related materials. This draft was made available to the stakeholders who were consulted in the process of its preparation for their feedback and suggestions. Annex 8 provides the list of persons and their organizational affiliations – including ministers, senior government officers, members of the National Statistics Coordination Committee and other stakeholders, who were consulted during the three missions.

The SD and the ADB jointly organized a Country Stakeholders Workshop Diagnostics and National Statistical Development Strategy for Maldives on 22 June 2009. The objective was to discuss the present status of the national statistical system (NSS) and the statistical capacity building needs in the short, medium and long term. Specific objectives were to (i) discuss the preliminary assessment of the Maldives statistical system prepared by the International Statistical Consultant, (ii) discuss the draft NSDS and action plan for development of statistics capacity in the Maldives, and (iii) get feedback on the report from the country participants. The workshop was well attended with representatives from the SD, statistical units in other agencies, the line ministries, and other stakeholders. (Participant list in Annex 9).

The workshop provided additional useful feedback for the mission. It concluded that: There is urgent need for improved coordination of statistical activities among different constituents of the national statistical system (NSS) and the SD in the decentralized statistical system. There was unanimity that the administrative data available in the line ministries should be improved and used to facilitate not only statistical needs for national accounts but also for monitoring by the ministries. There was also unanimous support for a strategic framework under the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) providing a vision for the development of a coordinated NSS.

It is recognized that statistics will be the most important tool for monitoring and evaluation of the progress of the implementation of policies as well as measurement of targets set out in the new government's manifesto and Maldivian Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

It also recognized the data needs at the atoll levels for meeting the data required for decentralized planning. It was also realized that the Issues of data quality need to be given a high priority, an objective that will require skill development of the SD staff as well as the line ministry staff. A related issue is the compelling need for policies to support better retention of experienced statistical staff, to avoid the loss of knowledge and training that occurs when an experienced officer leaves the system. There is also a need for more commitment to statistical activities from the line ministries.

The new government manifesto which will serve as the planning document for the period 2009-13 laid down four main goals, all of which will require voluminous data to monitor adequately:

- * Five key pledges – including affordable housing, affordable health care and affordable living costs for all.
- * Good governance – including regional development and decentralization
- * Social justice – including educational and health development, and
- * Economic development – including small and medium enterprises, and employment

In order to implement this socio-economic development vision, all constituents of the statistical system must seek data to monitor performance and provide reliable data for policy makers and planners

The statistical system in the Maldives is highly decentralized, with the Statistics Division (SD) of the Department of National Planning (DoNP), the NSO for the Maldives, being the core statistical unit, while other government agencies collect other kinds of data – mostly through administrative channels, but through registers to some extent and, and in fisheries area through catch and earning and other fishery related surveys and in the health area through household surveys.

More specifically, the SD is responsible for national accounts and price data, for population censuses and major household surveys, and for basic enterprise surveys. It exists only at the national level, with no staff or routine activities at the regional level.

The SD has no regional staff but discussions are ongoing about the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) posting a statistical officer in each of the seven provinces that have been established under the new government, and/or placing officers at the atoll level. The lack of regional staff creates serious obstacles to the collection of routine data from the atolls – such as price data for the CPI. These statistical officers would facilitate the collection of data for both SD and sectoral agencies.

Statistical activities are carried out in at least 15 other agencies outside DoNP. A survey of these activities, taken in the framework of the NSDS, showed that ten agencies (see part 1, Diagnostic Assessment Report, table 5) already have their own statistical units, with varying capacity, while the others do not yet have separate statistical units. The total number of active staff as signed to these statistical units is 48, far more than the 30 active staff at the SD. The existence of so many statistical units provides a good basis for statistical development, one that could be strengthened by the addition of a few more units. In particular:

- * The Ministry of Housing, Transport and Environment is open to the possibility of setting up a statistical unit, as it has clear statistical needs that are not yet being met. Plans have already been made to set up a statistics unit in the Construction Industry Development Section during 2010, a step that would accommodate the need for construction data but not that for environmental data.
- * There is a clear need for a statistical unit at the Ministry of Economic Development, given the wealth of enterprise data in its hands.
- * RE-build the statistics unit in Ministry of Home Affairs, given the need to collect and transmit regular data from Atolls for compilation at provincial and national levels.

The SD is, de facto, the lead agency to ensure regular availability of indicators for monitoring and evaluation purposes. However, no statistical master plan has yet been prepared to set out a long-term development strategy for the NSS that would provide the required data for monitoring progress. To fill that need, the National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) presented in this report provides a strategic long-term view and financing plan for statistical activities for the period 2010-2019 and outlines the priority statistical infrastructure and work programs including key statistical outputs that should be undertaken during the period. The NSDS also provides an overview of required budgetary support, through domestic and/or external channels.

The National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) for the Maldives presents a plan and an itemized action program with 160 activities during 2010-19 to build statistical capacity and develop the MSS. The plan includes technical assistance by international consultants and funding for key activities, especially censuses and surveys. Total spending over the 10 year period is estimated at \$11.39 million, of which \$8.72 million would be covered by the budget of the Government of the Maldives (GoM), while \$2.67 would be required from donors. This would imply substantial increases over spending in recent years for statistics by both the GoM and the donors.

Substantively, the plan involves the following key steps:

- * Passage of a Statistics Act creating an autonomous statistical agency, giving the agency the authority to coordinate statistical activities throughout the government and to collect data from business units.
- * Creation and annual updating of a business register (BR), based on data from both the DIR and the company registrations data at the Ministry of Economic Development (MoED). This will provide the basis for enhanced data collection from business units.
- * Increased numbers of technical staff at the SD, with improved incentives to retain senior staff for long periods.
- * For the Population of Census and Housing, shift from a quinquennial basis as has been done heretofore to a decennial basis. As well as saving money, this step will allow the SD to focus better on other key data collection tasks that have heretofore received insufficient attention due to predominant role of census activities.
- * Strengthen statistics units in the line ministries and promote use of administrative data for monitoring and statistical purposes

NSDS sets out The “Minimum Acceptable Statistical” System to comprise of the following components

Macro-economic management-related statistics:

- * Monthly Consumer Price Index
- * Quarterly Producer Price indexes
- * Quarterly production index for major products
- * Quarterly index for construction materials
- * Annual estimates of GDP by production and expenditure approach
- * Estimates every five-years of base-year GDP by activity and uses, from baseline surveys and using data from the reporting system between the different base years (base year estimates from enterprise and household surveys)
- * Annual and quarterly international trade statistics
- * Quinquennial survey of large enterprises for supporting national accounts.
- * Use of annual business accounts submitted to the government in support of national accounts.

- * A business register for formal-sector enterprises, based on and annually-updated from administrative data. Expected to yield annual employment measures.
- * An economic census every 10 years, starting in 2018, and an economic survey at the mid-point between censuses.

Social and economic statistics:

- * Decennial censuses of population and housing
- * Quinquennial household surveys of income and expenditures, welfare, and labor force. Combine in one survey to save on costs. These data will serve to monitor MDGs and implementation of the government's Manifesto.
- * DHS every five years, if funding allows. If not, at least every 10 years.

In order to fulfill the minimum acceptable program, the government budget for statistics must increase in coming years, due to the need both to initiate new activities and to replace funding that has heretofore been provided by donors. The NSDS also provides a schedule for Censuses and surveys that is to be conducted by the SD to cater for the components identified in the minimum acceptable statistical system (Refer Annex 7)

A major obstacle to statistical development in the Maldives is the problem of high employee turnover in the government. For many kinds of activities in official statistics, skill depends as much or more on institutional memory and knowledge of specific cases as it does on an understanding of the relevant concepts and theories. For this reason, many problems and decisions can only be tackled by long-term employees.

The SD will in addition continue to seek an opportunity to establish a degree program in Applied Statistics, perhaps in conjunction with the planned creation of a university in Male'. It is anticipated, however, that such a program might have difficulty recruiting teachers. Meanwhile, the government needs to continue providing scholarships for bachelor's and master's programs abroad. Although much of this has been funded by donors over the years, prospects for donor funding are shrinking, so this will need to be more fully funded by government. A degree program in Applied Statistics, once established in Male', would reduce but not eliminate the need for funding overseas education at the bachelor's level. The need for overseas study at the master's level in statistics can be expected to continue for many years.

In as much as the SD lacks sufficient staff (especially sufficient experienced staff) to carry out its existing mandate and the enhancements mentioned in the minimally acceptable statistical

program described in part 1 (Diagnostic Assessment Report), the number of active staff needs to be increased from its present level of 30 to at least 40. Beyond that, further staff additions will be needed if major additional mandates are given to the agency.

Merely increasing the total number of active staff will not suffice in itself if the number of staff with ten or more years on the job cannot be increased well above its current level of 11; 15-20 would be more nearly adequate. Good retention among staff with 10 or more years of experience will definitely require a major restructuring of pay scales for statisticians.

A separate issue is to find ways to bind graduates of overseas government-funded scholarships not only to government, but also to the statistical agency from which they were sent. Present regulations bind scholarship recipients to the government, not the specific agency.

The statistical system of the Maldives has seen major developments since the early 1990s. However, the system continues to remain dependent on donors for key components, such as household surveys, whereas donors intend to reduce support over the long run in view of the Maldives' fiscal capacity to support larger budgets for statistics. While government commitment and ownership has been gradually improving, there is still a long way to go in terms of a strong legal basis for statistics, and GoM commitment to increased budgetary funding for key statistical operations. Thus, long-term development and sustenance of the NSS hinges strongly on the political support for a well-functioning statistical system, providing the necessary legal, administrative and budgetary framework.

Statistical systems demand investment of financial and human resources on a recurrent basis for collection of routine administrative data, conduct of periodic sample surveys and censuses. For long-run sustainability, the government should find ways and means to substantially increase its budget for statistics, to pay for the cost of recurring data collection activities, and to provide sufficient incentives to keep skilled staff in the NSS motivated and willing to stay in the statistics system.

Glossary of Abbreviations

| | |
|--------|--|
| ADB | : Asian Development Bank |
| BoP | : Balance of Payments |
| BR | : Business Register |
| CEDAW | : Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women |
| CPA | : Classification of Products by Activity (EU) |
| CPC | : Central Product Classification |
| CPH | : Census of Population and Housing |
| COICOP | : Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose |
| CPI | : Consumer Price Index |
| DIR | : Department of Inland Revenue |
| DoIE | : Department of Immigration and Emigration |
| DoNP | : Department of National Planning |
| DNR | : Department of National Registration |
| DQAF | : Data Quality Assessment Framework |
| DSD | : Decision Support Division (MoHF) |
| EGSPRS | : Economic Growth Support and Poverty Reduction Strategy |
| EPPS | : Economic Policy Planning Section (MoFT) |
| ESCAP | : Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN) |
| FAO | : Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) |
| FDI | : Foreign Direct Investment |
| FPOS | : Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics (UN) |
| GDDS | : General Data Dissemination System (IMF) |
| GDP | : Gross Domestic Product |
| GIS | : Geographic Information System |
| GNDI | : Gross National Disposable Income |
| GoM | : Government of Maldives |
| GPS | : Geographic Positioning System |
| HCES | : Household Consumption Expenditure Survey (India) |
| HDI | : Human Development Index |
| HIES | : Household Income and Expenditure Survey |
| HIV | : Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| HS | : Harmonized System |
| HSES | : Household Socio-Economic Survey |
| HVI | : Human Vulnerability Index |

| | |
|-------|--|
| ICP | : International Comparison Program |
| ICR | : Intelligent Character Recognition |
| ICT | : Information and Communications Technology |
| IIP | : Index of Industrial Production |
| ILO | : International Labor Organization |
| IMF | : International Monetary Fund |
| IMR | : Infant Mortality Rate |
| IOT | : Input-Output Table |
| ISCO | : International Standard Classification of Occupations |
| ISIC | : International Standard Industrial Classification |
| IT | : Information Technology |
| JSC | : Judicial Services Commission |
| LAN | : Local Area Network |
| LES | : Large Establishment Survey |
| LFS | : Labor Force Survey |
| MBS | : Maldives Bureau of Statistics |
| MCHE | : Maldives College of Higher Education |
| MEB | : Macro-Economic Budget |
| NGO | : Non-Governmental Organization |
| MICS | : Multi-Indicator Cluster Survey |
| MDG | : Millennium Development Goals |
| MHRYS | : Ministry of Human Resources, Youth and Sports |
| MMA | : Maldives Monetary Authority |
| MCPW | : Ministry of Construction and Public Works (former) |
| MoED | : Ministry of Economic Development |
| MoFA | : Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture |
| MoFT | : Ministry of Finance and Treasury |
| MoHA | : Ministry of Home Affairs |
| MoHF | : Ministry of Health and Family |
| MoHTE | : Ministry of Housing, Transport and Environment |
| MoT | : Ministry of Transportation (former) |
| MoTAC | : Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture |
| MPRD | : Monetary Policy and Research Division (MMA) |
| MFSM | : Monetary and Financial Statistics Manual (IMF) |
| NCIT | : National Center for Information Technology |
| NPR | : National Population Register |

| | |
|---------|---|
| NSCC | : National Statistical Coordinating Committee |
| NSDS | : National Strategy for the Development of Statistics |
| NSO | : National Statistical Organization |
| NSS | : National Statistical System |
| OBDRS | : Online Birth and Death Registration System |
| OECD | : Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| OLAP | : Online Analytic Processing |
| ONCHSS | : Online Nutrition and Child Health Surveillance System |
| PARIS21 | : The Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century |
| PC | : Personal Computer |
| PCE | : Personal Consumption Expenditures |
| PPI | : Producer Price Index |
| PPP | : Purchasing Power Parity |
| PRSP | : Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper |
| PSU | : Primary Sampling Unit |
| QNA | : Quarterly National Accounts |
| RBM | : Results-Based Management |
| RHS | : Reproductive Health Survey |
| ROSC | : Report on Observance of Standards and Codes (IMF) |
| SAARC | : South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation |
| SCB | : Statistical Capacity Building |
| SD | : Statistics Division |
| SDDS | : Special Data Dissemination Standards (IMF) |
| SITC | : Standard International Trade Classification |
| SMP | : Statistical Master Plan |
| SNA | : System of National Accounts |
| SPSS | : Statistical Package for the Social Sciences |
| SUT | : Supply and Use Table |
| TA | : Technical Assistance |
| TACIS | : Technical Assistance for CIS |
| TUS | : Time Use Survey |
| UNDP | : United Nations Development Program |
| UNECE | : United Nations Economic Commission for Europe |
| UNESCO | : United Nations Economic, Scientific and Cultural Organization |
| UNFPA | : United Nations Population Fund |
| UNICEF | : United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund |
| UNSD | : United Nations Statistics Division |

1.o The “Minimum Acceptable Statistical” System

At this time, the Maldivian statistical system is experiencing a financial crisis, as is the entire government. Due to fiscal stringency, funding has been cut for some statistical activities – for example, the long-awaited HIES-VPA, which was to have covered a large sample in many islands, was limited to 640 households in Male’ this year and a representative sample survey of the households in the atolls in 2010. In addition, donor funding for statistics is likely to decline as the Maldives is “graduated” out of the ranks of the Least Developed Countries in 2011. The question therefore arises whether the Maldives will be in a position to pay for all or even many of the statistical objectives mentioned in this plan. If not, the statistical system should aim for a “minimum acceptable” set of objectives. The less funding that becomes available, the more the system should increase reliance on administrative data - an inexpensive source.

Table 1 – Component Statistics of Core Statistical System

| Macro-economic management-related statistics | |
|--|--|
| * | Monthly consumer and quarterly producer price indexes. |
| * | <i>Quarterly production index for major products.</i> |
| * | <i>Quarterly index for construction materials.</i> |
| * | Annual estimates of GDP by production and <i>expenditure</i> approach. |
| * | Estimates every five-years of base-year GDP by activity and uses, from baseline surveys and using data from the reporting system between the different base years (base year estimates from enterprise and household surveys). |
| * | Annual and quarterly international trade statistics. |
| * | Quinquennial survey of large enterprises for supporting national accounts. |
| * | <i>Use of annual business accounts submitted to the government in support of national accounts.</i> |
| * | <i>A business register for formal-sector enterprises, based on and annually-updated from administrative data. Expected to yield annual employment measures.</i> |
| * | <i>An economic census every 10 years, starting in 2018, and an economic survey at the mid-point between censuses.</i> |
| Social and economic statistics | |
| * | Decennial censuses of population and housing. |
| * | Quinquennial household surveys of income and expenditures, welfare and labour force. Combine in one survey to save on costs. These data will serve to monitor MDGs and implementation of the government manifesto. |
| * | DHS every five years, if funding allows. If not, atleast every 10 years. |

Note: The new elements in the set of activities are italicized.

2.0 Planned System Improvements

Section 2 and 3 present the Action plan for the NSDS, as itemized in annex 1.

2.1 Legislation

The SD should become a separate Department of Statistics to be headed by the chief statistician as soon as possible, instead of being subordinate to the DoNP as at present. This would give it more prestige and autonomy and would be consistent with the policy of the new government, which has begun placing less emphasis on planning as heretofore practiced and more emphasis on statistics for monitoring and evaluation.

It is further recommended that a Statistics Act be submitted to the *majlis* at the earliest opportunity. This would address user concerns in a far more comprehensive way than did the Statistical Regulation. Such an act normally contains the following essentials:

- * A mandate for the statistical office,
- * The role of the chief statistician as administrative and technical head of the office,
- * Strong power to collect and access information,
- * Authority to use administrative data,
- * A firm guarantee of statistical confidentiality,
- * A duty to publish the information produced,
- * Authority to coordinate the statistical system,
- * The role of a national statistical council or board,
- * The role of the National Statistical Coordinating Committee, and
- * Provision for data sharing arrangements with other agencies in a decentralized setup.

It is recommended that the Statistics Act establish the statistics office as an independent agency, to be called perhaps the Maldives Bureau of Statistics (MBS). Because it will not be subordinate to another agency and will lie outside the political process, such an independent agency will need national statistical council or board that provides guidance to the head of the agency and functions as the ultimate authority on broad policy issues on statistics. The board may include persons from outside the government, as long as they have a commitment to the development of statistics in the Maldives.

In addition the act would need to spell out the role of the MBS in coordinating the NSS, in conjunction with the role of the NSCC. Past experience has shown that the NSCC, by itself, cannot play a very effective coordinating role under the existing system. It may be able to play a more effective role in conjunction with strong leadership by the MBS and a subcommittee system and their technical

working groups that facilitates more focused discussion on technical issues than is feasible in the full NSCC.

2.2. Policy & Coordination

If a Department of Statistics or an independent MBS is created, it will of course be obligated to release an annual report. Such a report could also provide a forum for the chief statistician of the

MBS to review the activities of the entire statistical system, addressing the following issues:

- * Contribution of the data of each agency to the requirements for national accounts and MDG/SDG monitoring and monitoring of implementation of government manifesto.
- * Recommendations for new or enhanced statistical products in each agency so as better to serve national needs.
- * Review of progress on implementing previous recommendations.

Such a document would tend to exercise considerable influence on statistical development in other agencies, while preserving the autonomy of each agency in designing its own work program. It will also help coordinate statistical activities across different constituents of the national statistical system. It is important to emphasize that the MBS leadership needs to author the report, so that it reflects an integrated vision of how to prepare feasible and relevant statistical products. The view of other agencies must of course be solicited, but they cannot be expected to play a major role in the writing of the report as they would lack the required conceptual framework.

There are several critical problems that will require inter-agency coordination; standing inter-departmental committees on subject matters formed under the NSCC umbrella and ad hoc working groups will provide the most efficient channel for tackling these problems. Examples:

- * Developing a business register for statistical purposes should be discussed at a working group that includes the SD, the DIR, the MoED and the MMA.
- * Designating a suitable set of indicators for monitoring implementation of the government's Manifesto, with assignment of tasks to relevant agencies.
- * Designating a suitable set of indicators for gaps in the monitoring of the MDGs and SDGs, especially for environmental indicators.
- * Restructuring the National Population Register to show island of current residence (instead of the island of the "permanent address") should be discussed at a working group that includes the SD, MoHA and the municipal authorities of Male'.

For the registry issues, changes in current legislation may be required to achieve a result that is more useful for statistical purposes. For example, legislative changes may be required to allow certain datasets to be used for statistical purposes, or to empower a line agency such as DIR to collect certain additional information that is statistically important. In this context, the NSCC would remain as an umbrella forum, while most of the real work would take place in smaller sub-committees and even smaller ad hoc working groups.

It is planned to celebrate Statistics Day once a year in the Maldives, with activities to highlight the public's need for statistics. Furthermore, starting in 2010, there should be a one-day seminar once every three years to advocate the public's need for reliable statistics.

2.3. Budget, Organization, Staff and HRD

In order to fulfill the minimum acceptable program, the state budget for statistics must increase in coming years, due to the need both to initiate new activities and to replace funding that has heretofore been provided by donors.

Inasmuch as the SD lacks sufficient staff (especially sufficient experienced staff) to carry out its existing mandate and the enhancements mentioned in the minimally acceptable statistical program described in section 1.0, the number of active staff needs to be increased from its present level of 30 to at least 40. Beyond that, further staff additions will be needed if major additional mandates are given to the agency.

Merely increasing the total number of active staff will not suffice in itself if the number of staff with ten or more years on the job cannot be increased well above its current level of 11; 15-20 would be more nearly adequate. Good retention among staff with 10 or more years of experience will definitely require a major restructuring of pay scales for statisticians. Under present arrangements, additional knowledge and additional years of experience bring little salary gain unless accompanied by ascent to a management position, such as head of a section or a unit. This structure is not consistent with the requirements of a modern statistical office, which includes a substantial corps of senior statistical officers who can work independently, making judgments on complicated statistical problems, not a hierarchy with many junior officers under the guidance of a single senior officer. To motivate senior officers, the SD needs a scale involving several ranks for statistical officers, including at least 3 levels for senior statistical officers. The ranking system would document qualifications for each level and procedures for graduating from one rank to the next. Pay would need to be set so as to provide adequate reward for moving from one rank to the next. A separate set of rankings and pay scale would also be needed for IT staff. For both kinds of staff, particularly for IT, an independent statistical agency would need to offer market wages

if it wishes to retain skilled staff. A separate issue is to find ways to bind graduates of overseas government-funded scholarships not only to government, but also to the statistical agency from which they were sent. Present regulations bind scholarship recipients to the government, not the specific agency. Without a substantial improvement in rewards for more senior statistical and IT officers, there is too much risk that staff with advanced overseas training will eventually drift away from the statistical office in search of better opportunities elsewhere.

Outside the SD, there are at present ten statistical units with 48 staff. At least two more such units are needed – for MoED and for MoHTE.

Inasmuch as the NSS depends heavily on the work of statistical units outside the SD, the SD should take steps to develop skills and cooperation among statisticians in these units. The SD could do this in several ways:

- * Initiate a quarterly forum for statisticians to exchange experience, with an occasional presentation or seminar;
- * Provide short-term training programs; and
- * Offer online discussion groups for exchanging experience.

The advanced diploma program in applied statistics provides an opportunity for A-level graduates to gain an additional educational certificate at night school, but has failed to attract sufficient enrollment. This program needs to be reviewed with the assistance of a consultant, to seek ways to increase enrollment. The SD will in addition continue to seek an opportunity to establish a degree program in Applied Statistics, perhaps in conjunction with the planned creation of a university in Male'. It is anticipated, however, that such a program might have difficulty recruiting teachers.

Meanwhile, the government needs to continue providing scholarships for bachelor's and master's programs abroad, most of which have been in Malaysia. Although much of this has been funded by donors over the years, prospects for donor funding are shrinking, so this will need to be more fully funded by government. A degree program in Applied Statistics, once established in Male', would reduce but not eliminate the need for funding overseas education at the bachelor's level. The need for overseas study at the master's level in statistics can be expected to continue for many years.

SD will also continue to provide specialized training in the form of short courses and seminars in specialized statistical methods. For overseas courses and seminars, donor funding is often available. An alternative way of providing training would be to promote mentoring of staff through training in training facilities in statistics offices of Asian countries, with backup support over the internet. Another option, perhaps more cost-effective especially when it involves more than one person from SD staff, is to develop distance learning modules for statistical staff in specific technical areas,

in collaboration with the UN Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) in Tokyo. In recent years, SIAP has begun to offer such modules, customized for particular countries.

It is intended that the SD will resume statistical training of atoll staff in cooperation with MoHA. So far, seven out of the 20 atolls have received such training. In addition, the SD intends to provide short in-service training courses on technical subject matters of official statistics for staff of the SD and other statistical units.

2.4. Statistical Infrastructure

The major weakness of the NSS in the Maldives is the paucity of business statistics, and the most promising strategy for this gap is to create a business register (BR) as a basis for tracking employment in the formal private sector and for organizing periodic surveys of business. A BR needs minimally to contain most or all of the large and medium firms and establishments. The cutoff for “large and medium” is a matter of convenience; for the Maldives, this could well be based on the criteria for business registration, which covers corporations, legal partnerships and cooperatives.

Such a step forward would become more feasible in line with steps by the government to implement a system of business taxes. A bill now before the *majlis* would impose a tax on business profits beginning in 2010; the government intends subsequently to impose a tax on value added as well. To collect business taxes efficiently, the DIR will clearly need up-to-date location addresses and telephone numbers for each firm, stored in a tax register. It would further make sense for the DIR to collect annual updates, not just a one-time update for contact information as envisaged by the bill before the *majlis*. This could be done by merely requiring businesses to update their contact information at the same time the annual license fee is paid. An update form could be posted on the web and mailed to all registered firms, so that firms realize that they must submit such a form together with the tax payment. Collecting such an annual update may require a modification to the tax act; the law should further specify that identification data from the tax registry may be shared with the statistical agency for statistical purposes.

Thus, the minimum BR program involves close cooperation between the SD and the DIR, both of which agencies are currently under MoFT. A more comprehensive BR system would involve close cooperation with a third agency: The MoED. The MoED has a Registrar of Companies, which is the owner of the initial registration information for each firm.

In sum, the system could involve the creation of three interrelated registers:

- * A juridical register at the MoED, listing all firms that have registered. MoED is beginning to input cumulative data for registrations of companies.
- * A tax register at the DIR, based on the MoED register but including data for annual license payments (evidence of continued activity) together with any updated information obtained by the DIR. Such a registry exists at the DIR.
- * A statistical register at the SD, based on the MoED and DIR registers, plus statistical information added by the SD, such as a classification by major activity. Such a dataset does not yet exist but is urgently needed.

The MHRYS also has a list of firms, one that is less comprehensive than the MoED list as it comprises only those firms that apply for permits for expatriate workers. Although the MHRYS data would not be suitable by itself for a business register, it could provide some very useful data for employment if it could be linked to the statistical register.

The agenda for cooperation among the three agencies should include a review of data collection forms at the MoED and the DIR so as to optimize the administrative and statistical information available to all three agencies; SD is in a much weaker position to collect data from firms than the other two agencies, because it lacks power to compel answers. Examples of key data items that could be collected in this way:

- * The main activity remains an important gap in data collection concerns. When firms register with MoED, they are asked to list their activities and they have an incentive to list many activities so that their license gives them a wide range of options. It would therefore be useful for MoED to ask an additional question for purely statistical reasons – that is, which of these activities will be the main one? Once it receives such data, SD can code it using a standard international classification system.
- * A question about current employment of Maldivians and expats would be very useful in the DIR renewal procedure, as this number would provide a key indicator of size for statistical purposes as well as a useful source for measuring aggregate employment. A size indicator would be useful for tax purposes as well. For registered firms, total expatriate employees may outnumber Maldivian employees; many Maldivian employees either work for government or small, informal firms, or are self-employed.

For asking these and other questions, it might be useful to have a brief statistical questionnaire attached to the registration form, with an explanatory note indicating that the answers will be used for statistical purposes and will not have legal implications.

Statistical classifications constitute another type of statistical infrastructure. It will be useful to prepare classifications that are localized for the needs of the Maldives, even if the only local features are examples using local terminology. The SD would like to prepare national classifications for ISIC and ISCO.

2.5. IT, Data Quality & Dissemination

Work is ongoing at this time to integrate key statistics and indicators from statistical yearbook into Maldivinfo and publish an island level statistical yearbook in Maldivinfo during 1st quarter of 2010.

The WAN that has been developed for communication with all atolls and islands opens up wide opportunities for improved data dissemination, including dissemination of Maldivinfo.

Although the SD has for some years had a local area network with a server for data storage, the data is still saved in a variety of un-coordinated data files. The MMA, by contrast, has already begun to develop a central database encompassing several types of data, and the SD intends to develop a database or data warehouse as well. The two agencies could work together in this regard, particularly for the storage of the same data items – e.g., key indicators for the real sector. One of the two agencies could, for example, compile the data and make it promptly available online to the other agency, perhaps by giving access to that part of its data warehouse to the other agency. This would eliminate the inefficiency of having both agencies compile, store and publish the macro-economic data separately. The development of databases and a data warehouse will require the preparation of systematic metadata.

The SD also plans to strengthen staff capacity for data editing & validation by means of staff training and on-the-job experience. Furthermore, it is planned to strengthen capacity to use Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) for census data processing.

At the start of the plan period 2010-2019, the SD intends to continue efforts to prepare a full set of metadata in support of an application for joining the General Data Dissemination System (GDDS) of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). This documentation has been long in the preparation, so that finished parts will probably have to be refreshed prior to submission. After the Maldives is accepted for the GDDS, attention would turn towards the Special Data Dissemination System (SDDS), a more demanding set of standards that will require a new focus on quarterly data, such as for production indexes. It is anticipated that the Maldives could qualify for SDDS later in the decade.

As statistical systems develop, there tends to be an increasing focus on metadata in line with increasing awareness of quality issues. Two examples have been mentioned above. A third example is the need to provide more extensive source notes in the yearbook on quality-related issues, such as breaks in time series, where these exist, and reconciliation issues. The latter include the comparability of administrative and survey data, with the case of infant mortality rates noted elsewhere in this report.

Other dissemination objectives during the plan period include:

- * All agencies in the NSS will step up efforts to publish their data and metadata on their websites. This will include first-time dissemination of data by agencies that do not yet publish any statistics.
- * Improved timeliness in data dissemination by all agencies.
- * Dissemination of micro-level data collected from surveys to the researchers by protecting the identity of individuals.

3.0. Planned Improvements to Statistical Activities

3.1. Statistical Activities in the National Statistical Organization

3.1.1. Population Statistics

A census of population and housing has been taken every five or six years since 1985, with the next one due in 2011, five years after the 2006 census. At 2009 prices, a census is estimated to cost about \$2.5 million. From now on, the SD would like to shift to a decennial schedule, as is standard international practice. For 2011, Census is planned to be done using the proposed statistical officers to be placed at the atoll level with a budget estimated at \$231 thousand. Shifting to a decennial schedule will allow the SD to diversify its focus to other priority activities, particularly business statistics and national accounts. Under the quinquennial schedule, SD staff are busy with the census for nearly three out of every five years and there remains little “breathing room” between censuses to focus on other tasks.

A study on the feasibility of using existing registers and other administrative statistics currently available within the government agencies, to conduct a register based census in 2011 is to be undertaken during 2010. Based on the outcome of the study, it will be decided as to what additional information needs to be collected from the census through field enumeration.

The shift to a decennial census will create an information gap for planners in Male', who have relied on the census for information regarding the city's rapidly growing resident population. During

2000-06, the population increased from 74.1 to 103.7 thousand, an increase of 40 percent in just six years. No alternative source yet exists for monitoring the city's population. One option would be to have a mid-decade mini-census in Male' only; this would be much cheaper than a national census. Steps to make the National Population Register more suitable for the purpose of measuring resident population are discussed elsewhere.

As discussed earlier, the 2006 census omitted expatriate residents, who may account for roughly a quarter of the resident population. This omission is unfortunate, in view of the various socio-economic problems such as overcrowded housing that involve expats. During field trials for the next census, it is recommended that an effort be made to cover expats. This may involve experimenting with a special approach to deal with the language problems and to alleviate fears of expats (particularly illegal ones) that coverage could lead to problems with the authorities. A decision to cover expats in the census may also entail additional costs.

3.1.2. Household Surveys and Poverty Data

The SD plans to conduct a combined HIES-VPA during 2009-10 and thereafter to repeat the survey every five years or so. At 2009 prices, such a survey is estimated to cost about \$1.0 million. This survey data will fill several critical needs:

- * For updating the basket of consumer goods for the CPI,
- * For preparing a new SUT, for use in updating GDP,
- * For monitoring MDG indicators,
- * For monitoring the labor force situation, as will be discussed below, and
- * For special studies, as will be discussed below.

In conjunction with the shift to a decennial census, scheduling for the household survey could be modified in one of two ways:

- * A quinquennial survey could take place once in the census year and once in the mid-year between censuses. This would only be operationally feasible, however, if the survey could be integrated with census work, so as to economize on transport costs.
- * Another option is to separate a quinquennial survey from the census, in which case the survey could be scheduled for years T+2 and T+7, where T is the year of the population census undertaking.

The option of a decennial survey, in the mid-year between censuses, is much less attractive, as the census cannot fill most of the above-mentioned critical needs.

As regards survey contents, steps will be taken to accommodate the following special needs:

- * A labor force module is needed. A separate labor force survey is not feasible, given the cost.
- * Greater focus on collecting and tabulating data for child poverty is needed,
- * Disability will be another emerging focus, and
- * It is important to explore avenues for capturing expenditure by locals abroad especially on medical and education.

When measuring unemployment in surveys and censuses, it is recommended to use two alternative concepts, one based on the traditional ILO concept that involves active search, and the other, broader concept that includes discouraged workers, for reasons that were discussed in the diagnostic. Use of both concepts would allow analysts to choose the measure that is most suitable for their purpose.

Finally, it is important to include foreign households in the survey, if at all possible. This is especially important inasmuch as incomes and expenditures are probably far more unequal among expats than Maldivians. To take one example, an HIES that covers all residents, including expats, will be much more suitable for use in an SUT table than an HIES that covers only Maldivian residents.

3.1.3. National Accounts

Although much can be done to strengthen national accounts work at the SD, it must be acknowledged at the outset that success will depend greatly on providing more abundant source data, especially for business.

If it is wished to fulfill the minimum program for national accounts outlined in part 1 (Diagnostic Assessment Report), the SD will need to assign at least 3 active experienced and knowledgeable staff to work in this area. Only in this way would it become possible to assign different persons to different tasks, for example:

- * One person for the production approach in constant prices – both annual and quarterly.
- * A second person for the production approach in current prices and for other, associated tasks.
- * A third person for the expenditure approach in both current and constant prices, and for

Once multiple approaches are used in parallel, the national accounts unit will encounter a new kind of problem, one that does not arise when under main reliance on a single set of estimates.

The multiple sets are certain to yield conflicting estimates of GDP, conflicts that will need to be reconciled with one of two approaches:

1. An international consultant could be invited to reconcile the conflicting estimates, as was recently done with the 2003 SUT, or
2. The national accounts team could begin to undertake ad hoc, on-the-spot research and prepare judgmental estimates of correction factors that could bring the discrepant estimates into agreement. Obviously this approach will only be feasible if the team includes experienced, knowledgeable staff with the confidence to tackle such problems.

A major difficulty with the second approach is that it would involve stepping outside the unit's MEB methodology, which involves inputting data to a model and reading out the result.

As itemized in annex 1, the national accounts teams needs to undertake the following tasks to further develop its well-established series for the production approach in constant prices:

- * Use the newly balanced 2003 SUT to re-benchmark GDP for 2003,
- * Prepare a new time series for GDP in constant prices, based on the 2003 benchmark,
- * Improve the quality of national accounts estimates at constant prices by accessing additional source data where feasible,
- * Continue doing an SUT every five years, and using these to re-benchmark GDP,
Prepare quarterly GDP in constant prices – quarterly national accounts (QNA).

For the production approach, the data for annual estimation are, for the most part, available monthly, so that quarterly estimates could be prepared without much difficulty. If this could begin on a trial basis in 2010-11, after a feasibility study, the data could be observed over several years before being published. It is likely that major components - for example, tourism - would show strong seasonality. About five years of data are needed to calculate seasonal adjustment factors, so it would be useful to prepare retrospective estimates of quarterly GDP for 2008-09 in order to be in a position as soon as possible to adjust quarterly GDP for seasonality. If the Maldives wishes to join the SDDS sometime after 2013, it must first begin publishing quarterly GDP.

GDP for 2003 (as re-benchmarked to the 2003 SUT) is expected to show a substantial increase over the estimate based on the 1995 SUT. At the same time, however, it is recommended that the estimate of per capita GDP be revised to include resident expats in the denominator, inasmuch as their consumption is part of the numerator. In this case, the substantial increase in the denominator would tend to offset the substantial increase in the numerator, resulting in little gain or some decline in GDP per capita when compared with the old measure.

Meanwhile, as is also itemized in annex 1, the national accounts team needs to undertake the following tasks in order to branch out into the preparation of other GDP tables:

- * Resume efforts to estimate GDP using the production approach in current prices and publish if satisfactory. The success of this approach will depend mainly on increased availability of business data, as discussed elsewhere.
- * Study alternative methods for estimating GDP by expenditure in current prices to find the most reliable one. The unit currently prepares this estimate but does not publish it, due to serious doubts about its reliability. The major problem with this approach is the lack of current expenditure data, so that gross investment and household consumption must be extrapolated on the basis of data for selected imports.
- * Study how to estimate GDP using the expenditure approach in constant prices. This will require, among other things, an employment cost index for government employees.
- * Prepare a measure of Gross National Disposable Income. This will require removing remittances of wages and profits outside the Maldives from GDP, and adding net current transfers, especially remittances. This has already been attempted, but with little success due to data gaps. The measure is considered important due to the presumed large role of remittances and profits repatriated by tourist resorts owned by foreigners, as well as other foreign investors.
- * Undertake special studies intended directly to measure the non-observed economy, especially for exports and imports of services and other informal activities.
- * Begin to include foreign workers living in the country in the calculation of GDP per capita.

On the expenditure side, the preparation of quarterly estimates will require quarterly balance of payments data and government budgets. The BOP data is normally obtained from MMA, so long-term collaboration between MMA and SD will be required for this purpose. Monthly government budgets are already prepared by MoFT for internal use, but a quarterly version that would be prompt and properly formatted for QNA will require additional work at MoFT.

3.1.4. Price Statistics

In order to improve price statistics, the SD will need to assign a second staffer to the work. The unit will revise the CPI base year every five years or so as data becomes available from the HIES.

The proposed statistical officers to be posted in Atolls are expected to assist with the collection of monthly field data for the CPI, reducing delays and non-response.

The unit will study ways to improve the quality of PPI data, including seasonal adjustment, as the price series for several of the most important commodities show a strong seasonal pattern. The weights for the PPI will be adjusted on the basis of the ongoing Business Survey. Another key step to improving PPI data quality is to reduce nonresponse, in part by means of visits and phone calls to enterprises.

In addition, the unit will develop and publish unit value indexes for imports and exports. For this purpose, it will work together with the Customs Service to standardize the reporting of quantities in customs declarations, to provide a basis for the consistent estimation of unit prices.

3.1.5. Enterprise Statistics

The business register (BR) will itself constitute an important data source if it can be designed to include measures of Maldivian and expatriate employment. On the basis of such a BR, the SD could prepare and publish an annual estimate of these two types of employment in the private formal sector, by ISIC code. The BR will also provide a solid frame for conducting business surveys and adjusting for nonresponse.

High nonresponse rates have hampered business surveys in the Maldives. In future, five strategies can serve to work around this problem:

- * State explicitly in the Statistics Act that the statistical agency is authorized to seek data from enterprises for statistical purposes under confidentiality provisions.
- * Obtain full access to the annual financial statements that firms submit to the MoED. The statements can be used to represent firms that do not respond to surveys.
- * Make enumerator visits standard for business surveys, just as they are standard for household surveys. The Economic Survey for 2007-08 has shown that visits are essential to reducing non-response.
- * Create a pool of part-time data collectors for field visits to enterprises. With experience, they should become better able to elicit responses.
- * For economic surveys, develop nonresponse adjustment procedures that utilize auxiliary data such as an indicator of size from the BR, responses to previous surveys, or data from the annual financial statements.

The program of business surveys in the Maldives has heretofore been handicapped by the lack of a BR. With a BR, the program could develop as follows:

- * An Economic Census will be essential, once the BR is well established. The first such census is tentatively scheduled for 2018. The census would collect detailed data for sales, expenditure, inputs, and outputs, covering both the formal and informal sectors.
- * An Economic Survey such as the one for 2007-08 would give better results in future if based on a BR. The survey, which covers both large and small establishments, should be conducted once every 10 years, at the midpoint between decennial Economic Censuses.
- * A biennial LES based on the BR would be useful for national accounts.

QNA, which are important for SDDS, will require quarterly production data. At present, the SD already collects an unpublished quarterly production index, in conjunction with its PPI. Unfortunately, the results have not been very credible. At the same time, the SD also collects quantum indicators for national accounts, many of which are available monthly, and these may be more suitable than survey data for preparing a quarterly production index. Another requirement for QNA is a quarterly index of construction activity, based on materials use. During the plan period, it will be necessary to study alternative approaches to both such indexes, then to choose the most appropriate one and implement it.

3.2. Statistical Activities outside the DoNP

3.2.1. Maldives Monetary Authority

The MMA will continue to develop a data warehouse, and will explore possible collaboration with the SD in regard to real sector indicators that are compiled and published by both agencies.

The MMA will undertake the following BoP-related tasks during the plan period.

- * Continue efforts to upgrade the reliability of annual BoP data, as recommended by the IMF, with special focus on data for FDI and for trade in services, and
- * Prepare quarterly BoP table as a critical input for the national accounts unit for quarterly GDP.

Furthermore, the MMA will continue to develop the following new data sets:

- * A financial survey, coverage for which will eventually extend to insurance companies,
- * Compile monetary and financial statistics as per the MSFM 2000,
- * A flow of funds table,

- * A business tendency survey, using enumerator visits to improve response rates, and
- * A tourist expenditure survey, in collaboration with the SD and MoTAC.

MMA will also work towards reducing the timelag in the publication of its annual report.

3.2.2. Ministry of Finance and Treasury

The Ministry will strengthen its statistics unit, especially by assigning an adequate number of qualified staff and limiting their involvement in other work so they can focus better on statistical tasks. A statistical yearbook will be published.

More specific steps toward improving data on government finance include:

- * Improve data on foreign assistance, government debt and external debt, as recommended by the IMF,
Provide prompt quarterly budget realization data for use in preparing quarterly national accounts,
Release annual budget data eight months after the close of the year, and
Release gender-disaggregated budget data by 2012.

In addition, the DIR (under the MoFT) will participate in an ad hoc interagency working group on the development of a BR. In support of the BR, it will collect annual updates from companies (at the time of payment of license fees) for the location address, contact person, telephone number, the number of Maldivian and expat workers, and a verbal description of the main activity. This data will be shared with the SD for use in building a statistical BR.

3.2.3. Ministry of Economic Development

The Ministry will create a statistics unit and assign an adequate number of qualified staff.

- * The unit will prepare and publish a statistical yearbook, which will include summary data from company registration records and company accounts, as well as FDI data.
- * Data for company registration and company accounts will be entered into databases and updated promptly. The databases themselves will be shared with the SD for use in building a BR and for use in estimating national accounts in current prices.
- * Furthermore, the Ministry will undertake enforcement actions against companies that do not submit annual accounts as required by law, to ensure compliance. Currently, only about 2,000 firms (out of the 5,000 with currently valid permits) submit the accounts.

- * The Ministry will also develop and publish statistics on licensed FDI, based on the permits that investors are required to obtain.

3.2.4. Ministry of Human Resources, Youth and Sports

The Ministry will strengthen its statistics unit, especially by assigning an adequate number of qualified staff and limiting their involvement in other work so they can focus better on statistical tasks. The major tasks include:

- * The existing database for assignment of quotas for expat workers will be reconfigured to distinguish company quotas from project quotas, to show the registration number of the company and the reported number of Maldivian workers.
- * On the basis of these changes, the statistical unit will explore the feasibility of linking the database to the BR's at MoED, DIR and the SD.
- * A statistical yearbook will be published, including data for expat workers and for companies with quotas for expat workers.
- * Furthermore, the statistics unit will explore the feasibility of using job market data collected by the Ministry to provide indicators of the labor market.

3.2.5. Customs Service

The statistics unit of the Customs Service will continue to upgrade its database to a Web-based system in SQL and Asycuda World. Moreover, it will train at least five staff on the upgraded system. The service will start public dissemination of its statistical yearbook through its website. The statistics unit will work with the price statistics unit of the SD to standardize reporting of import and export quantities to support reliable calculation of unit prices. In addition, the unit will consider instituting a system of random checking of a sample of import declarations with the goal of estimating the average percent of underreporting on import declarations. This ratio would be useful for national accounts, as it would shed light on one important component of the non-observed economy.

3.2.6. Ministry of Home Affairs

Within MoHA, the Department of National Registration (DNR) maintains the National Population Register (NPR), with a record for every citizen. As mentioned earlier, NPR registration is based on de jure not de facto residence, so that the de facto population of Male is greatly underestimated. The DNR would prefer to move to a system whereby registrants must report all address changes including temporary ones, as this would allow the NPR to measure de facto resident population.

Public support is, however, still lacking for such a change, as the citizenry is attached to the de jure system.

The Ministry, now in the process of re-activating its statistics unit, will strengthen the unit with additional staff and training.

- * The unit will play a more active role than before, preparing a statistical yearbook, including statistics by province and atoll and statistics from the NPR.
- * In collaboration with the Statistics Division, MoHA will implement the proposal to post a statistical officer at the provincial and or atoll level and will develop templates for integrated data collection on key indicators at the atoll level. For the template, it is important to choose indicators that are sensitive to changing conditions – such as resident population (de facto) instead of registered population (de jure).
- * In addition, MoHA will work with the MoHF to take the necessary steps to ensure that registered deaths in the VRS are promptly linked to the NPR, so that such persons are all shown in the DNS as no longer living.

3.2.7. Ministry of Health and Family (MoHF)

The Decision Support Division (DSD) at the MoHF plans to take a DHS every five years. In addition, it wishes to utilize the VRS, the Online Birth and Death Registration System (OBDRS), and the ONCHSS databases to prepare annual and sub-annual health statistics. As foreign assistance for funding DHS can be expected to decline, the ministry would prefer to source more indicators from administrative databases, which are less costly than household surveys. For vital statistics, once the OBDRS is fully functional, this will generate more prompt VRS updating, as well as a review of the completeness of birth and death registration. For ONCHSS, much remains to be done to implement the system fully before a study on consistency and reconciliation issues remaining between statistics from the ONCHSS and traditional reporting systems will be needed.

In addition, the Ministry plans to develop its information infrastructure in several ways, with potential benefits for health statistics as well.

- * Develop a medical records policy and standards to facilitate the strengthening of existing medical records management system,
- * Strengthen the existing medical records management system in all health facilities,
- * Expand existing integrated disease surveillance to cover all Communicable Diseases. Currently, surveillance of some Communicable Diseases such as TB is done separately.

- * Develop a Non-Communicable Disease surveillance system including risk factor surveillance.
- * Develop standards for Health Statistics.
- * Develop a monitoring system for social conditions.
- * Develop a monitoring system for drug abuse.

Developing official monitoring systems for social conditions and drug abuse may be challenging, as such data are most reliable when collected through household surveys rather than through field monitoring by line agencies. If the systems are developed as planned, they will strengthen the management of public health and provide a basis for new and important statistical products as well.

For its household surveys (such as DHS), the Ministry will explore the possibility of a working agreement with the SD whereby SD will handle sample design issues and field operations whenever possible. Such an arrangement would promote efficiency in survey operations.

Finally, the DSD intends to develop and maintain databases on major health surveys in a user friendly manner to ensure easy access for further analysis by researchers and to support archiving. A study tour will be undertaken to a small, developed country if funds become available.

The Ministry also plays a lead role in gender and family indicators.

- * As gender is a cross-cutting issue, gender sensitive indicators need to be developed by all stakeholders.
- * A related issue of priority concern is statistics on child abuse. The Ministry plans to develop an integrated database on all cases of child abuse reported to the Maldives Police Service, Family Protection Unit, and Department of Gender and Family Protection Services under MoHF. The database could serve as the source of new and important statistical products.

3.2.8. Ministry of Education

The Ministry will assign an adequate number of experienced staff to the statistics unit and prioritize staff development.

- * The unit will improve the timeliness of annual school statistics (covering facilities, number of pupils and teachers, and so forth) and the statistical yearbook.
- * The EMIS, where the annual school statistics are stored, will be repaired and upgraded so that users can query it.
- * The Ministry will proceed with plans to build an MIS suitable for use by schools for their own management needs, and that, as a byproduct, will also prepare reports for EMIS automatically. Such a system is needed to motivate schools to keep their records in a standard way to facilitate data collection for EMIS. UNESCO has encouraged the Ministry to develop such a system. The new MIS will be pilot tested at 20 schools and then implemented throughout the country.
- * The Ministry will begin to prepare statistics for higher education. Prior to November 2008, higher education was the responsibility of another ministry, so that MoE did not concern itself with statistics of higher education.
- * The Ministry also needs to work together with the Statistics Division to develop a module for collecting literacy data in more detailed, based on a module developed by UNESCO¹

3.2.9. Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture

For fishery data, the Ministry plans:

- * To upgrade its fishing database, now in SQL, to a web-based system with a back end in SQL, and
- * To proceed with implementation of a logbook system in each fishing boat, in conformity with EC requirements for fish imports. The system will also provide a more reliable basis for data on the fish catch.

For agriculture, the Ministry will:

- * Investigate alternative methods for collecting agricultural production data, including backyard cultivation.
- * Conduct pilot studies for the more promising methods for complete coverage.
- * The Ministry also needs to improve its cost and earning survey of fisher folk. This will include additions to the existing questionnaire and data collection channels, as well as better enumerator training and more comprehensive data analysis.

¹ Using a literacy module in household surveys; A guidebook, Bangkok: UNESCO Bangkok, 2008.

3.2.10. Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture

The Ministry will prepare routine indicators of the changing quality mix of tourist accommodations based on a breakout of bed-nights by a class of service rating for each resort – a step that is important for improving the reliability of quantum measures of tourist accommodation services. An alternative approach that also needs to be explored is to prepare a price index for tourist accommodations, which could serve to deflate an ad valorem measure. An ad valorem measure will become available if the Maldives so modifies its formula for taxing tourist accommodations.

In addition, the Ministry will collaborate with other agencies to conduct a tourist opinion survey, perhaps in conjunction with a survey of tourist expenditures.

3.2.11. Ministry of Housing, Transport and Environment

The Ministry needs to establish a statistics unit to develop statistics for all its major areas of responsibility. No such statistics are prepared at this time.

Perhaps the most difficult challenge will be to develop relevant environmental statistics. In other countries, many environmental statistics are local, although there are also aggregate indicators such as those required for the MDG's. Local governments would need to identify the environmental issues of main concern and develop indicators that address the issues; however, skills would be lacking at the local level for such an initiative. At the national level, policymakers' needs for environmental indicators are more varied, as the indicators must respond to various local needs. The national government may also feel a need to develop some aggregate MDG indicators that would be of more interest outside than inside the Maldives, for the simple reason that the Maldives, threatened by global warming, would need such indicators to show a heightened concern about environmental impact measures of international concern.

The development of environmental indicators for MDG's and to meet other needs will be a conceptually and technically demanding job. Considering the Ministry's lack of statistical experience, the SD needs to be involved in developing such indicators, perhaps on a joint basis with the Ministry. A work program needs to be developed by the two agencies. A study tour to another similarly placed country with a good system of environmental indicators would help staff of both agencies to develop a better understanding of what can be done for the Maldives.

The Ministry also plans to:

- * Continue efforts to develop an index of construction costs and report the data quarterly.
- * Strengthen transport statistics, with special attention to the need for data on sea transport; no mechanism yet exists for monitoring inter-atoll movements of persons and cargo.
- * Strengthen housing statistics to obtain crowdedness indicators and assess housing conditions in Male' and the atolls, including conditions for expat workers.

3.2.12. Judicial Services Commission and the Police Service

A statistical unit will be created within the Bureau of Criminal Records of the Maldives Police Service, with the task of preparing crime statistics and coordinating its activities with the JSC statistical unit. A study tour involving staff of both agencies will take place to a small country with a more advanced system of statistics on crime and justice.

The police unit will compile a summary of the number of crime reports by type and island, for inclusion in the *Statistical Yearbook of the Maldives*. The JSC unit will continue to publish data on the disposition of court cases and look for ways to link the data to data on crime reports. The police unit would like to link data on crimes to their disposition (if any) in the court system. This will require access to the JSC database and an agreed link variable.

3.2.13. Ministry of Civil Aviation and Communication

The ministry will establish a statistical unit, which will work together with the SD and other relevant agencies to monitor ICT development. More specifically, the work group will identify suitable indicators and develop a work program for collecting the data, followed by pilot testing of the proposed collection methods. An ICT module has been incorporated into the ongoing HIES 2009/10 to assess the access and use of ICT at household level.

4.0. Financing of the NSDS

4.1. NSDS costs and who will pay for them

The costs of the NSDS itemized here include three components, as summarized in the table below

Table 2 – Total costs of NSDS, 2010-19 (in US dollars)

| | Qty | Rate | Total Cost | GoM | Donor |
|-------------------------|-----|--------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Consultancies | | | 1,119,000 | 30,500 | 1,088,500 |
| Fees - work week | 254 | 3,500 | 889,000 | 24,500 | 864,500 |
| Air Travel - missions | 115 | 2,000 | 230,000 | 6,000 | 224,000 |
| 2. Study Tours | 8 | 15,000 | 120,000 | | 120,000 |
| 3. Direct Expenses (SD) | | | 10,150,297 | 8,692,567 | 1,457,730 |
| Total | | | 11,389,297 | 8,723,067 | 2,666,230 |

1. Direct costs of planned statistical activities of the SD (but not including staff salaries), which together total \$10.1 million for the period 2010-19, as shown in table 2. This total does not, however, include the cost of statistical activities at other agencies in the NSS. The SD costs are itemized by year and activity in table 3 in annex 2, which was prepared by the SD.
2. The cost of eight study tours itemized in annex 1, for a total of \$120,000.
3. The cost of international consultants for a total of 271 person-weeks (or 5.2 person-years) spread over a period of ten years, for a total of about \$1.2 million. This consulting time, summarized in table 2 and itemized in annex 1, is for the SD and the other agencies in the NSS.

Together these costs account for \$11.38 million for the period 2010-19, as shown in table 2. The direct costs, which account for 89 percent of NSDS costs, consist mainly of costs for two censuses (population and housing, and economic) and for household surveys.

For the direct costs, detailed allocations between donors and the GoM are shown in annex 2 (table 4) for the jointly funded items. In sum, these allocations would assign 38 percent of the direct costs of joint items to donors and 62 to the GoM. Furthermore, because many line items among the direct costs are assigned fully to the GoM, the overall GoM share of the \$10.2 million in direct costs comes to 86 percent.

When the three kinds of costs are combined, the total GoM share would reach 77 percent of \$11.32 million, or \$8.7 million for the ten-year period as shown in table 1, equivalent to \$0.87 million per year.

This amount would represent nearly a doubling of equivalent direct GoM costs during 2004-09, which were less than \$0.50 million (Rf 6.3 million) per year if we exclude salaries and other routine expenses (transportation, post and telecommunication, and stationary and materials) from the SD budget for 2004-09. It will be a major challenge for the GoM to meet this target. This is especially challenging in light of the fiscal crisis facing the new government starting in 2009, a crisis that led to a severe curtailment of the scope of the household survey for 2009.

The projected costs to be covered by donors run to \$2.7 million for the 10-year period, equivalent to \$266,000 per year. Although data for recent donor spending for statistics (see annex 3) is incomplete, the projected spending rate for donors appears to lie well above the average rate of donor spending for the period 2004-09.

Accordingly, realization of the NSDS spending goals for 2010-19 will require major spending increases by both the GoM and the donors, despite the donors' general policy to reduce support for the Maldives, in line with the policy of "graduating" the Maldives in 2011 from the ranks of the less-developed countries.

4.2. Sustainability issues, risks and assumptions in implementing the NSDS

The statistical system of the Maldives has seen major developments since the early 1990s. However, the system continues to remain dependent on donors for key components, such as household surveys, whereas donors intend to reduce support over the long run in view of the Maldives' fiscal capacity to support larger budgets for statistics. While government commitment and ownership has been gradually improving, there is still a long way to go in terms of a strong legal basis for statistics, and GoM commitment to increased budgetary funding for key statistical operations. Thus, long-term development and sustenance of the NSS hinges strongly on the political support for a well-functioning statistical system, providing the necessary legal, administrative and budgetary framework.

Statistical systems demand investment of financial and human resources on a recurrent basis for collection of routine administrative data, conduct of periodic sample surveys and censuses. For long-run sustainability, the government should find ways and means to substantially increase

its budget for statistics, to pay for the cost of recurring data collection activities, and to provide sufficient incentives to keep skilled staff in the NSS motivated and willing to stay in the statistics system. Funding of basic data collection operations with donor funding puts the whole system at risk because the funding may not be always available in time leading to delays in programmed activities.

Some of the risk factors that might impede sustainability are:

- * Lack of government commitment for an efficient statistical system, by providing inadequate legal, administrative or budgetary support,
- * Loss of capacity in the present statistical system, from loss of competent staff due to low salaries, and
- * Failing to establish a well coordinated NSS to optimize available resources and avoid duplications.

Annex .1. – Implementing the NSDS, Action Plan for 2010-19

| Item | Comment | Years | Consultants (pers-weeks) | Priority |
|---|---|-----------------|--------------------------|----------|
| 1.1 Legislation and the independence of the system | | | | |
| a. Submit a Draft Statistics Act to the <i>majlis</i> covering among other topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create an independent Maldivian Bureau of Statistics (MBS) by upgrading the Statistics Division (SD) • provide for a National Statistics Council. • provide for a National Statistics Coordination Committee. • assign statistical tasks to agencies in a decentralized set up. • provide for data sharing arrangements between MBS & other ministries • authorize the MBS to seek data from enterprises for statistical purposes under confidentiality provisions. | <p>Needed -- a statistics law as per international recommendations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will bring about effective coordination of statistical activities across different agencies. • Will enhance the authority of the statistics agency to collect the data it requires. • Will give the statistics agency more autonomy & prestige. | 2010 - 2011 | | P1 |
| b. Authority to set independent pay scales for the statistics agency and take measures to retain staff. | Now pay same as for all civil service. Also, staff trained by a govt office can work in any office within the govt during his/her bond period. | 2011 | | P1 |
| c. Convert the Statistics Division into a Statistics Department at the earliest opportunity, as an interim measure To revise the existing statistical regulations to include all aspects that is to be included in the statistics act and start implementation | <p>Needed to give the agency more autonomy & prestige, while awaiting statistics act.</p> <p>Need to facilitate data sharing within government for statistical purposes and outline the roles and of all agencies in the National Statistical System and incorporate the fundamental principles of official statistics.</p> | 2010 - 2011 | | P1 |
| d. Conduct a series of public seminars every 3 years (on statistics day). | Purpose – to advocate the public's need for reliable statistics and the use thereof. | 2010, 13, 16,19 | 4 (4 visits) | P3 |
| e. Start celebrating a statistics day every year. | | 2010-19 | | P3 |
| | | | 4 (4 visits) | |

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|---|---|------------|---------------|--|--|----|
| 1.2 Organization and Staff | | | | | | |
| a. Study tours (2) to countries with decentralized systems to observe operation of statistical units in sectoral agencies. | India and the Philippines both have decentralized systems that would provide relevant experience. | 2010, 15 | | | | P3 |
| b. Create statistical units in ministries/agencies that lack them. | Target -- at least 12 such units throughout the govt. | 2010-14 | | | | P1 |
| c. Add at least ten more active staff to the SD, to bring it to 40. | Understaffing & high turnover has made it difficult to tackle new tasks. 40 sufficient for the current work load. | 2010-11 | | | | P1 |
| d. Add more staff (to reach 40 or more) during the plan period as needed to cope with additional work burden. | Additional work burden may evolve out of work plans involving additional tasks. | 2012-19 | | | | P3 |
| e. Take steps toward creating a common cross-agency cadre of statistical officers with professional guidance under the SD. This would require inter-agency agreement. | Needed to encourage skilled statistical manpower across statistical agencies. | 2016-19 | 5 (2 visits) | | | P2 |
| 1.3 Budget | | | 5 (2 visits) | | | |
| a. Provide the SD with adequate budget to implement annually planned activities, especially during census & survey years. | Needed to discharge its mandate. | Continuous | | | | P1 |
| b. Take the necessary steps to improve staff retention by providing special pay scales for senior statisticians. | Improved retention will get more value out of statistical personnel & training. | Continuous | | | | P1 |
| 1.4 Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| a. Develop national versions of major classifications, particularly ISIC and ISCO. | To replace generic versions from UN, used until now by SD. | 2012-14 | | | | P2 |
| b. Establish a statistical business register in cooperation with the DIR and the MoED & develop a regular updating system. | Obtain the list of active firms from DIR & MoED with regular updates. | 2010-11 | 7 (3 visits) | | | P1 |
| c. In cooperation with MoED, enhance the information obtained at registration to better support statistical requirements. | The registration form should show one "major activity" as well as "additional activities". Also, intended employment. | 2012 | | | | P1 |
| d. In cooperation with DIR, collect annual data updates from firms at license renewal to support statistical requirements. | The update form should show current location address, telephone, main activity & employment. | 2012-19 | | | | P1 |
| e. Explore possibility for linking the business register to data at MHYRS. | MHYRS has firm data on Maldivian & expat employment. | 2013-15 | 4 (2 visits) | | | P1 |
| | | | 11 (5 visits) | | | |

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|--|---|--------------------------------|----------------------|----|
| a. Create a data warehouse at the statistics agency, and link data sets from other agencies to it. | Will require TA for development of metadata. | 2013-14 | 7 (3 visits) | P2 |
| b. Strengthen capacity to use Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) for census data processing | Staff retention policies are critical for this. ICR skills gone after 2006, due to staff departures. | 2015-2016 | | P2 |
| c. Build capacity to use GIS for census mapping & data presentation | Needed for next population census | 2015-16 | | P3 |
| d. Strengthen capacity of SD for data editing & validation by staff training & on-the-job experience | To enable the provision of survey & census results more accurately & timely with better quality | 2010-15 | 2 (1 visit) | P2 |
| | | | 9 (4 visits) | |
| 2.1 Coordination and Prioritization | | | | |
| a. Proceed with steps for joining the IMF-sponsored General Data Dissemination Standards (GDDS). | Joining GDDS will provide useful feedback for the statistical system. | 2010--12 | | P1 |
| b. Follow with steps for joining the IMF-sponsored Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS). | Joining SDDS will provide further useful feedback for the statistical system. | 2014-17 | 7 (3 visits) | P1 |
| c. Create high level National Statistics Council to set statistical priorities and policy with MBS as its secretariat. | Needed to guide statistical priorities and policies. | Initiate after | | P1 |
| d. Establish a sub-committee system by creating 2 or more permanent subject area subcommittees in the NSCC to enhance inter-agency coordination & discussion of technical/statistical issues and of data sharing arrangements. | The full NSCC is not suitable for technical discussions. | approval of new statistics law | | P1 |
| e. Prepare an annual report of the statistics agency that also deals with inter-agency cooperation. | Comment on suitability of other agencies' data for meeting national statistical needs. | 2010 onwards | 2 | P1 |
| f. Provide a quarterly seminar or other forum for statisticians from units in various agencies to exchange experience. | To encourage professional development of staff, strengthening of the units, & cooperation between units. | | | P3 |
| g. The SD should play a leading role in strengthening other areas of social, economic & environmental statistics | Needed to enhance collaboration. | Continuous | | P1 |
| h. An interagency task force should develop a set of indicators for monitoring progress in the implementation of the government's Manifesto. Also, seek indicators for MDGs & SDGs. | In November 2008, implementation of the 7 th plan was replaced with implementation of the Manifesto. | 2009-10 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| | | | 13 (6 visits) | |

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|---|---|------------|----------------------|----|--|
| 2.2 Training and HRD | | | | | |
| a. Look for ways to enhance the advanced diploma program in applied statistics so that it becomes more attractive to government staff. | Enrollment has declined sharply since the program began in 2005. | 2010-11 | 2 | P1 | |
| b. Look for ways to create a degree program in applied statistics in Male' & develop curriculum. | May become feasible in connection with the planned creation of a college in Male'. | 2010-12 | 7 (3 visits) | P1 | |
| c. Continue to send selected employees overseas for bachelor's degree, for both the statistical agency & for statistical units in other agencies. | Costs US \$30,000 for 3-year program. Cut back when bachelor's degree becomes available in Male'. | 2010-13 | | P1 | |
| d. Continue to send selected employees overseas for master's degree. | Costs US\$12,000 for a 1-year program. Configure incentives/obligations so that returnees work in statistics. | Continuous | | P2 | |
| e. Continue to send selected employees overseas for short courses & seminars in specialized statistical methods. | Required to refresh & update skills, especially in light of the ongoing departure of trained staff. | | | P2 | |
| f. Promote mentoring of staff through training in training facilities in statistics offices of Asian countries. | Provides hands on training in official statistics. | | | P1 | |
| g. Develop distance learning modules for statistical staff in specific technical areas, in collaboration with SIAP in Tokyo | Distance learning suits the Maldives, considering good English skills & small size of statistical office. | | | P2 | |
| h. Resume statistical training of atoll staff in cooperation with MoHA. | A program was begun in 2007, but has been interrupted. | | | P1 | |
| i. Provide short in-service training courses on technical matters of official statistics for staff of the SD & stats units outside SD. | Will build skills & esprit de corps for statisticians. | | | P2 | |
| j. Strengthen training capacity and infrastructure of the SD. | To provide good in-house training facility for own new staff & statistics staff outside SD. | 2011-14 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 | |
| k. Promote statistical thinking in government with system-wide training on analysis and interpretation of statistics, including metadata issues. | This can begin after the overall system has been put on a firmer basis. | Continuous | | P2 | |
| 2.3 Data Dissemination | | | 13 (5 visits) | | |
| a. Establish a separate website for the statistics agency to disseminate key statistics and publications through the web. | Essential for both dissemination & advocacy. | 2010 | | P1 | |
| b. Upgrade the Statistical Yearbook of the Maldives to include more metadata and improve timeliness of publication. | Add notes to explain data sources, breaks in series, & discrepancies. | 2012-15 | | P1 | |

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|--|--|------------------|----------------------|----|
| more metadata and improve timeliness of publication. | discrepancies. | | | |
| c. Promote culture of metadata development in all statistical activities in the SD and the ministries. | | Continuous | 5 (2 visits) | P2 |
| d. Develop a data dissemination policy for dissemination of unit-level data collected in censuses and surveys. A broad framework is found in the draft Statistics Act. | Needed to promote use of data for research & analysis to illuminate socio-economic developments for policy interventions. | 2010 | 2 | P2 |
| e. Continue developing Maldivinfo as a dissemination tool | Provides access to the data in a user-friendly way | Continuous | | P1 |
| f. Develop user-friendly time-series database for key indicators from the Statistical Yearbook | | 2010-11 | | P2 |
| g. Publish a data release calendar on the website with pre-identified dates for important data release, and stick to it. | Required by GDDS & SDDS. | 2011 | | P1 |
| 3.1.1 Population Statistics | | | 7 (3 visits) | |
| a. Carry out register based Census of Population & Housing in 2011. | Carry out a study on the feasibility of using the existing registers and administrative statistics to get as many information required from the population census. | 2010, 2011 | | P1 |
| b. Carry out a full Census of Population & Housing in 2016, & decennial thereafter. | This will be the full census, consistent with 2006 CPH & with international standards. | 2016 | 16 (6 visits) | P1 |
| c. Include expatriates in the 2016 census. Extensive pilot testing will be needed to develop reliable methods for this. | Expats may not speak either Divehi or English. Some fear contact with authorities. | 2016 | | P2 |
| d. Work with the Department of National Registration to configure the registry updating system so that it can serve for measuring resident population by island. | Citizens are attached to the existing system, under which the place of registration seldom changes, and may reject a system based on current residence. | 2010-19 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| 3.1.2 Household Surveys and Poverty Data | | | 20 (8 visits) | |
| a. Proceed with plans to combine the HIES and VPA in a single household survey. Include foreign households in the survey & capture expenditure by locals abroad esp on health & education. | Plan is to conduct once in 5 years between population censuses. Spending by expatriates is an important part of GDP by expenditure. | 2015-16, 2020-21 | | P1 |
| b. Include labor force questions in household survey. | A combined household survey will save on travel costs. | | | P1 |

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| c. When measuring unemployment in surveys & censuses, use two alternative concepts, one based on the traditional ILO concept that involves active search. | The second concept, used in VPA 2004 & Census 2006, includes discouraged workers but may not provide a reliable indicator of labor market slack. | 2010-19 | | P2 |
| d. Collect data on child poverty & focus more on this aspect in data tabulation and analysis | | | | P2 |
| 3.1.3 National Accounts | | | | |
| a. Assign at least 3 experienced active staff to work on preparation of national accounts. | In early 2009, only 2 experienced staffers were so assigned, others were inexperienced. | 2010-19 | | P1 |
| b. Use the newly balanced 2003 SUT to re-benchmark GDP for 2003. | GDP is now still benchmarked to the 1995 SUT. The national accounts unit has begun to use the newly balanced 2003 SUT to re-base GDP for 2003 & wishes to improve the quality of constant price estimates. | 2010 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| c. Prepare a new time series for GDP, based on the 2003 benchmark. | Have now begun doing an SUT for 07 Repeat for 2012, 2019. | 2012, 2017 | 12 (4 visits) | P1 |
| d. Continue doing an SUT every 5 years. Use new SUT's to re-benchmark GDP & prepare a new time series based on the new benchmark. | This was stopped around 2005, due to unsatisfactory results. Await more complete data, especially company accounts | 2010-19 | 7 (3 visits) | P1 |
| e. Resume efforts to estimate GDP using the production approach in current prices. Publish if satisfactory. | Most data for the constant-price national accounts are monthly & therefore are already available. | 2010-14 | 7 (3 visits) | P1 |
| f. Prepare quarterly GDP in constant prices using the production approach. Begin with feasibility study and trial estimates. | Expenditure approach has long been used on an experimental basis but considered unreliable for publication. | 2011-15 | 7 (3 visits) | P1 |
| g. Study alternative methods for estimating GDP using the expenditure approach to find the most reliable one. | Direct estimates not yet attempted in Maldives but the SUT provides an indirect approach. | 2013-17 | 9 (4 visits) | P1 |
| h. Efforts to measure the non-observed economy, especially for exports & imports of services & other informal activities. | Not yet attempted in Maldives. Important - foreign incomes are believed to account for a major share of GDP. | 2010 | 2 | P1 |
| i. Prepare Gross National Disposable Income (GNDI) – involves adjustments for factor incomes of foreigners and transfers. | The ratio has been based on the citizen population – illegal, since the numerator includes expat expenditures. | 2010 | | P2 |
| j. Start including foreign workers living in the country in the calculation of GDP per capita | Not yet attempted in Maldives. Undertake only if sufficient staff is assigned to the task if business data more abundant than now. | 2015-19 | 9 (4 visits) | P2 |
| k. Tourism satellite accounts with joint collaboration of the SD, MoTAC and MMA. | | | | |

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| 3.1.4 Price Statistics | | | | 57 (24) | |
| a. Assign at least two active staff to work on price indexes | In early 2009, only 1 staffer was so assigned. More staff will support better data quality. | Continuous | | | P1 |
| b. Utilise proposed statistical officer to be posted in provinces (or atolls) by MoHA to collect field data & minimize delays & non-response. | Now there is a 3 to 4 month lag in publishing the atoll CPI due to delays in receiving data from some of the atolls. | Continuous | | | P2 |
| c. Revise CPI base year as data becomes available from household surveys. | Needs data from Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) | 2 yrs after HIES | 2 | | P1 |
| d. Study ways to improve the quality of PPI data, including seasonal adjustment. Publish PPI for some major commodities. | Collected since 2001 but never published. Strong seasonal patterns in fish & resort prices, among others. | 2010-12 | 2 | | P1 |
| e. Calculate and publish unit value (unit price) indexes for imports & exports. | Will require cooperation with customs to improve quality of raw data for quantities, based on standard units. | 2010-13 | 4 (2 visits) | | P1 |
| 3.1.5 Enterprise Statistics | | | 8 (4 visits) | | |
| a. Study tours to 2 small countries with successful business registers (BRs) based on administrative sources. | Staff of the SD, the DIR and/or MoED need to develop a clear understanding of the potential for a good BR. | 2010-11 | | | P2 |
| b. Data sharing arrangements to give SD full access to firms' annual financial statements submitted to the MoED. | Essential for current-price GDP. Access has been limited heretofore by MoED. | 2010 | | | P1 |
| c. Use the BR, once established, to prepare annual estimates of employment in the formal private sector. | If employment can be updated annually at license renewal, register data may provide an up-to-date source. | 2013 | 6 (3 visits) | | P1 |
| d. Continue using enumerator visitors when taking economic surveys, so as to minimize nonresponse. | Previous experience with mailout surveys has had very poor response rates. | 2010-19 | | | P1 |
| e. Create a pool of part-time data collectors to work for data collection of data by field visits for enterprise surveys. | Given the experience in the region, this is necessary to improve response rates. | Continuous | | | P2 |
| f. Biennial Large Establishment Survey (LES), frame from business register | As during 1998-2004. Annual company accounts, when promptly available, can partially replace LES. | | | | P2 |
| g. Quinquennial economic survey (ES) every 5 years covering all size classes of establishments, including small. | First ES in 2007-08. Cut back to decennial if an Economic Census is taken decennially. | 2013 | 5 (2 visits) | | P1 |
| h. Use the BR, once established, to adjust survey data for the formal private sector. | A good BR with a size indicator such as base-year employment can serve for imputing nonrespondents. | 2014 | | | P2 |
| i. Conduct Maldives' first Economic Census after the business | Should only be done after firms' response rates have been | 2018? | 8 (3 visits) | | P1 |

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| register has been well established. Would collect detailed sales, expenditure, inputs, and outputs. | come satisfactory. Thereafter do every 10 years, with an ES in between. | | | |
| j. Study ways to improve the reliability of a quarterly index of industrial production. Pilot test, then implement. | Collected since 2001 (together with PPI) but never published due to doubts about reliability. Need for QNA. | 2012-14 | 5 (2 visits) | P1 |
| k. Explore the possibility of preparing a quarterly index of construction activity, based on materials use. | Work initiated with support from Housing Ministry, but halted due to capacity constraints. Needed for deflating annual GDP estimates & for QNA. | 2013-15 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| l. Statistics Act to authorize the MBS to seek enterprise data for statistical purposes under confidentiality provisions. | Gives more teeth to the MBS to make enterprises submit data. | | | P1 |
| 3.2.1 MMA | | | 28 (12 visits) | |
| a. Continue efforts to develop a financial survey | Data lacking for insurance sector | 2010-12 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| b. Continue efforts to develop a business tendency survey. Use enumerator visits to obtain good response rates. | A pilot survey was completed for 20 large companies, data processing delays due to limited staff. | 2010-11 | 4 (2 visits) | P2 |
| c. Continue efforts to upgrade reliability of BoP data. | The effort is proceeding as recommended by IMF. | 2010 | 8 (3 visits) | P1 |
| d. Prepare quarterly BoP as a critical input for the national accounts unit for quarterly GDP | This task will involve accessing additional data sources for sub-annual data. | 2012-19 | | P1 |
| e. Continue efforts to develop a data warehouse at MMA, linked to SD to avoid duplication. | Efforts to create databases have already begun step-by-step with a database mgmt system. | 2010-15 | | P2 |
| f. Conduct tourism expenditure survey in coordination with Ministry of Tourism and DNP. | Needed in support of the balance of payments table. | 2011 | | P2 |
| g. Compile Monetary and Financial Statements as per MSFM 2000 | Efforts underway to collect balance sheet & prudential regulation information from commercial banks & other financial institutions | 2011-12 | | P1 |
| 3.2.2 Ministry of Finance and Treasury | | | 16 (7 visits) | |
| a. Release more complete data on government debt. | Recommended by IMF & required for GDDS | 2012 | | P1 |
| b. Improve statistics for government finance, external debt & foreign aid. | | Continuous | | P1 |
| c. Prepare quarterly budget realization data in the required format for QNA use. | MoFT already does a monthly implementation report for internal use. | 2011-19 | | P1 |
| d. The DIR (under MoFT) should collect annual updates from | May require a change to the law governing license pay- | | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|-----------|--------------|----|
| companies (at the time of payment of license fees) for address, telephone, number of workers, and main activity. | | ments. Some but not all of the data would be useful for tax purposes. | | | |
| e. Share the firm identification data with the SD, for use in building a BR. | | May require a change in the law to allow for sharing of data for statistical purposes. | 2012-19 | | P1 |
| f. Strengthen the statistics unit of MoFT with adequate number of qualified staff & limited involvement in other work. | | | Continu- | | P1 |
| g. Release annual realized budget data 8 months from Jan 1. | | | ous | | P1 |
| h. Release gender disaggregated salary data. | | | From 2012 | | P1 |
| | | | | 4 (2 visits) | |
| 3.2.3 Ministry of Economic Development | | | | | |
| a. Create a statistical unit and publish a statistical yearbook | | Needed to manage and showcase the ministry's statistical resources. | 2010-11 | 2 | P2 |
| b. Continue entering the data for registered companies into a database then update annually. | | This was begun in 2009, with keypunching by SD staff. | Continu- | | P1 |
| c. Enter the company accounts data into a database & continue to do so annually. | | Ensure this data can be linked to a directory of registered companies. | ous | | P1 |
| d. MoED will take enforcement actions against companies that do not submit accounts, to ensure compliance | | Only about 2000 firms (out of 5000 that pay license fees) file reports. | | | P1 |
| e. Share the registrations list with the national accounts unit. | | This will provide input to the business register. | | | P1 |
| f. Share the company accounts with the national accounts unit. | | Needed for current-price GDP estimates. | | | P1 |
| g. Develop and publish FDI statistics | | Needed for national accounts and BoP accounts | | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| h. Develop the capacity of the statistics unit to analyze the company accounts and other data collected by MoED. | | Analytical skills will help the unit to develop a better appreciation of the usefulness of the data. | | | P1 |
| | | | | 6 (3 visits) | |
| 3.2.4 Ministry of Human Resources, Youth and Sports | | | | | |
| a. Configure the database of company quotas so as to facilitate linking to the register at MoED. | | Distinguish permanent quotas for companies from temporary ones for investment projects - now mixed. | 2010 | 1 | P1 |
| b. Enter data on employment of Maldivians into the database of company quotas | | At present the data is collected on the form but not entered into the database. | 2010 | | P1 |
| c. Explore ways in which job market data collected by the Ministry might be useful as indicators of the labor market. | | The data could be useful, provided the system is implemented consistently for several years. | 2010-13 | 2 | P2 |

| | | | | |
|---|---|------------|---------------------|----|
| d. Publish a statistical yearbook. | Needed to showcase MHRYS statistical resources. | 2012-19 | 4 (2 visits) | P2 |
| e. Strengthen the statistics unit with adequate number of qualified staff, and limit their involvement in other work. | Staff of statistics unit sometimes unavailable for consultations with SD. | Continuous | | P1 |
| 3.2.5 Maldives Customs Service | | | 7 (4 visits) | |
| a. Upgrade the current database system in DOS & Asycuda++ to a Web-based system in SQL and Asycuda World. | At least 5 staff need training on the upgraded system. | 2010-11 | | P1 |
| b. Work with the SD price statistics unit to standardize reporting of import & export quantities to support unit price estimates. | For some products, quantities are reported inconsistently – e.g., units & kg. Prevents calculation of a unit price. | 2010-12 | 1 | P1 |
| c. Consider instituting a system of random checking of a sample of import declarations with the goal of estimating the average percent of underreporting on import declarations. | Similar to a random audit of tax returns, for statistical purposes. | 2013-14 | 1 | P2 |
| 3.2.6 Ministry of Home Affairs | | | 2 (2 visits) | |
| a. Re-build the statistics unit in MoHA, disbanded in early 2009. | Unit has been re-activated with only 1 officer. | 2011 | | P1 |
| b. For the National Population Register (NPR), consider instituting a system, as in Singapore, whereby registrants must report temporary addresses (e.g., in Male'). | Enforcement may require that certain privileges of residents be made contingent on showing a temporary address in Male', etc. | 2010-12 | 2 | P2 |
| c. Study tour to Singapore to observe operations of registration system and its statistical benefits. | This would help officials at MoHA in considering ways to implement a similar system in Maldives. | 2010 | | P2 |
| d. Report statistics from the NPR, at least annually, by way of a statistics unit in the MoHA or specifically in DNR. | This would recognize the statistical potential of the NPR. | 2012 | | P2 |
| e. Work with MoHF to create a more automated interface between the NPR & the VRS, particularly for death reports. | Many death reports presently lack a citizen ID number. | 2012-14 | | P1 |
| f. Implement the proposal to post a statistical officer at the atoll or provincial level. | To collect & transmit regular data from the Atolls for compilation at provincial & national levels. | Continuous | | P1 |
| g. Develop templates for integrated data collection on some key indicators at Atoll level in collaboration with the SD. Use indicators that are sensitive to changing conditions. | For example, it's more useful to monitor resident population, not registered population, as the former fluctuates more than the latter. The government's new WAN will facilitate rapid data collection. | 2010-11 | 2 | P1 |
| | | | 4 (2 visits) | |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|--|------------|----------------------|----|
| 3.2.7 Ministry of Health and Family | a. Study tour to another small country to observe operations of system of health statistics. | MoHF would like to observe operations in a more developed country. | 2012 | | P2 |
| | b. Continue to carry out DHS every 5 years. | This covers the same content as the RHS and the MICS, previously conducted, plus some additional topics. | 2014,19 | 10 (5 visits) | P1 |
| | c. Develop a working agreement with the SD whereby sample design and field operations for health surveys of households (such as DHS) will be handled, whenever possible, by the NSO. | This would lead to more efficient use of skills. A similar agreement exists in the US between the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Census. | 2012 | | P2 |
| | d. Upgrade promptness of updating VRS and review the completeness of registration of births and deaths. | Completeness of registration has not been reviewed recently. | 2010-12 | 5 (2 visits) | P1 |
| | e. Upgrade ONCHSS implementation to the point where it could be relied on for statistics of child and maternal health. | At present, ONCHSS is operational in only a third of the planned implementation sites. | 2010-12 | | P1 |
| | f. When the ONCHSS has reached the required level of reliability, study any consistency and reconciliation issues remaining between registers & traditional reporting systems. | In the absence of serious consistency issues or with suitable adjustments, the registers could be used to prepare the required indicators. | 2013 | | P2 |
| | g. Develop gender indicators. As gender is a cross-cutting issue, gender sensitive indicators need to be developed by all stakeholders. | Support national, regional and international needs for gender disaggregated data & indicators | 2010-14 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| | h. Develop and maintain databases on major health surveys in a user friendly manner to ensure easy access and further analysis by researchers and to support archiving. | SD to have real-time access to these data sets by linkage to its data warehouse | | | P2 |
| | i. Improve the timeliness of annual health & VRS statistics. | Annual data should be published within 2 months after year end | Continuous | | P1 |
| | | | | 19 (9 visits) | |
| | | | | | |
| 3.2.8 Ministry of Education | a. Repair the EMIS database for schools statistics so that it can be queried as well as used for storing data. | There may be an error (corruption) in the database. | 2011-12 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| | b. Proceed with plans to build an MIS suitable for use by each school, one that will also prepare reports for EMIS automatically. Pilot test at 20 schools. | Such a system would facilitate school management & relieve schools from preparing a special EMIS report. UNICEF is funding inception & pilot. | 2010 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| | c. Implement the new MIS in all schools. | | 2011-13 | | P2 |
| | d. Develop statistics for higher education. | So far, MoE has only statistics for schools. | 2013-16 | 2 | P2 |

| | | | | |
|---|--|------------|----------------------|----|
| e. improve the timeliness of annual schools statistics | Enrollment data for the ongoing academic year should be released by the end of Q1. Data for previous academic year should be released 2 months after yr end. | | | P1 |
| f. Publish education statistics yearbook in a more timely manner | As of June 09, the 08 yearbook has not yet been published even in soft copy, while the 07 yearbook is available in soft but not in hard copy. | Continuous | | P2 |
| g. Assign adequate number of experienced staff to the statistics unit & prioritize staff development. | At present, there are 3 trainees in the unit & no experienced staff. | | | P1 |
| h. Work with the SD to develop a protocol for collecting literacy data in more detail than has been done. | A literacy module developed by UNESCO could be included in an updated HIES-VPA. | 2010, 2015 | | P2 |
| 3.2.9 Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture | | | 10 (4 visits) | |
| a. Use the soon-to-be introduced logbook system for boats to monitor fish catch, resulting in more reliable monthly data. | The logbook system (required for fish imports to the EU beginning in 2010) is being piloted now by the MoFA. | 2010-11 | | P1 |
| b. Investigate methods for collecting improved data on agricultural production. | Difficult to define the frame, due to lack of private ownership of land. | 2012-14 | 6 (2 visits) | P1 |
| c. Conduct pilot studies using various methods for improving the collection of agricultural data. | Reliable survey techniques need to be developed before an agricultural census can be considered. | 2015-16 | 4 (2 visits) | P1 |
| d. Upgrade the fishery database to a web-based system. | The database is in SQL. | 2010-11 | | P2 |
| e. Improve Cost and Earning survey, data collection & analysis | Additional questions, as well as better enumerator training & more comprehensive analysis | 2010-11 | | P2 |
| 3.2.10 Ministry of Tourism, Arts & Culture | | | 10 (4 visits) | |
| a. Prepare routine indicators of the changing quality mix of tourist accommodations based on a breakout of bed-nights by a class of service rating for each resort. | The breakout would be still be useful for a quality-adjusted deflator if <i>ad valorum</i> data becomes available from the tax system, | 2012-14 | 4 (2 visits) | P2 |
| b. Alternatively, prepare a price index for tourist accommodations, which could serve to deflate an <i>ad valorum</i> measure. The index is needed for national accounts. | The index must take account of quality changes. It will also be needed if <i>ad valorum</i> data replace the bed-nights series. | 2012-14 | | P1 |
| c. Strengthen the capacity of statistics unit and develop staff | | Continuous | | P1 |
| d. Conduct tourist opinion surveys. | This could be done in conjunction with tourist expenditure surveys. | 2012, 15, | | P2 |

| | | | | | |
|--|--|---|------------|------------------|----|
| | | ture surveys, jointly with SD & MMA. | 18 | 4 (2 visits) | |
| 3.2.11 Minister of Housing, Transport and Environment | | | | | |
| a. Create a statistics unit to prepare statistics for all the areas comprised by the MoHTE. | | The MoHTE recognizes the need for a statistical unit. | 2010 | | P1 |
| b. Develop an index of construction costs & report the data quarterly. | | Efforts have begun at MoHTE but were halted due to staff constraints & perceived low priority of the work. Meanwhile, the SD has developed an index of the price of construction materials. | 2010-11 | 6 (2 visits) | P2 |
| c. Develop indicators of environmental quality by island. | | Needed for coastal erosion, flooding, solid waste & the impact of sand mining. | 2011-15 | 6 (2 visits) | P1 |
| d. Work together with the SD & other relevant agencies to prepare a work program for environmental statistics required by the MDGs. | | The MDGs have a demanding list of environmental indicators that are not yet available for Maldives. Need to discuss which agency will do what. | 2010-11 | | P2 |
| e. Study tour to another small country with a good system of environmental indicators for the MDGs. | | Needed to begin to visualize how such a system could be created in the Maldives. | 2010 | | P1 |
| f. Strengthen transport statistics. Also need to develop a mechanism for collecting statistics on sea transport | | Now one IT staff assigned for this task, but no mechanism for collecting inter-atoll/island transport of goods & passengers yet exists. | Continuous | | P1 |
| g. Strengthen housing statistics to assess housing conditions in Male' & atolls, including foreigners, to ensure the availability of crowdedness indicators. | | A rapid assessment of housing conditions in the country undertaken by the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives in 2008 identified the need for such indicators. | | 12 (4 visits) | P2 |
| 3.2.12 Judicial Services Commission and the National Police | | | | | |
| a. Publish the number of crime reports by type and island, for inclusion in the Statistical Yearbook of the Maldives. | | The police provide this information, but it is not yet published. | 2011-11 | | P1 |
| b. Develop linkages between crime statistics & the disposition of court cases. | | At present there is no linkage between statistics for the number of incidents and disposition of cases in court. | 2011-14 | | P2 |
| c. Study tour to a small country with a good system of statistics for crime and the judicial system. | | Would help staff from these two agencies to have a better understanding of the statistical possibilities. | 2011 | | P2 |
| 3.2.13 Ministry of Civil Aviation and Communication | | | | | |
| a. Identify suitable indicators of ICT development for the Maldives & develop work program for collecting. | | To be decided by a sub-committee including the Ministry, the SD, and other relevant agencies. | 2010 | 2 | P1 |
| b. Pilot test methods for collecting the data. | | May include both administrative data & household data for collection by the SD. | 2011-13 | | P1 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | | | |
| | | | | 2 (1 visit) | |
| | | | | 271 (121 visits) | |

Annex 2 – Cost Estimates (Direct Expenses)

Table 3: Cost of NSDS Action Plan at the SD, 2010-2019

| Summary of Statistical Activities | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Total | Funding by: | Task | Priority |
|---|---------|---------|--------|---------|-----------|--------|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------|----------|
| Statistical Legislation | 5,000 | | | 1,800 | | | | | | | 6,800 | GoM | 1.1a | P1 |
| Statistical Coordination and NSCC | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 35,000 | GoM | 1.1a | P1 |
| Start celebrating a statistics day every year | 9,300 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 45,300 | GoM+Donor | 1.1e | P1 |
| Sub-total | 17,800 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 9,300 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 87,100 | | | |
| National Statistics | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| National Accounts Statistics (Q,A) | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 4,100 | 41,000 | GoM | 3.1.3 | P1 |
| Consumer Price Index (M) | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 15,800 | 158,000 | GoM | 3.1.4 | P1 |
| Producer Price Index (Q) | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 2,300 | 23,000 | GoM | 3.1.4 | P1 |
| Industrial Production Survey & Index (M) | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 21,000 | GoM | 3.1.5 | P2 |
| Construction Index | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 4,700 | 47,000 | GoM | 3.1.5 | P1 |
| Economic admin data collection/analysis | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 7,300 | 73,000 | GoM | | P1 |
| Social admin data collection/analysis | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 25,000 | GoM | | P1 |
| Statistics Yearbook | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 15,950 | 159,500 | GoM | 2.3b | P1 |
| Maldiv Info | 8,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 22,000 | Donor | 2.3e | P1 |
| National Statistics Division Website | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 15,000 | GoM | 2.3a | P1 |
| Sub-total | 64,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 57,750 | 584,500 | | | |
| Censuses, surveys, and register (NIS) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Population Census 2011 (10-yearly) | | 230,833 | | | | | 3,000,000 | | | | 3,230,833 | GoM | 3.1.1 | P1 |
| Household Income & Expenditure Survey & VPA 2014 (5-yrly) | 442,349 | | | | 1,000,000 | | | | | 1,000,000 | 2,442,349 | GoM | 3.1.2 | P1 |
| Economic Survey (5-yearly) | | | | 200,000 | | | | | | | 200,000 | GoM | 3.1.5g | P1 |
| Economic Census 2018 (10-yearly) | | | | | | | | | 2,000,000 | | 2,000,000 | GoM+Donor | 3.1.5i | P2 |
| Sub-total | 442,349 | 230,833 | - | 200,000 | 1,000,000 | - | 3,000,000 | - | 2,000,000 | 1,000,000 | 7,873,182 | | | |
| Statistical Training and Development | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conduct a series of public seminars every 3 years after creation of an independent bureau. | 3,000 | | | 3,000 | | | 3,000 | | | 3,000 | 12,000 | GoM | 1.1d | P3 |
| Develop National classifications | 11,000 | 11,000 | | | | | | | | | 22,000 | GoM+Donor | 1.4a | P2 |
| Establish a statistical business register | 30,300 | | | | | | | | | | 30,300 | Donor | 1.4b | P1 |
| Set up a data warehouse at the SD, with link from other agencies' data sets | 5,600 | 21,000 | 5,600 | | | | | | | | 32,200 | GoM | 1.5a | P2 |
| Strengthen capacity to use Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) for census data processing | | | | | | 22,400 | 6,000 | | | | 28,400 | GoM+Donor | 1.5b | P2 |
| Strengthen capacity to use GIS for census mapping & statistical data presentation | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 10,000 | GoM+Donor | 1.5c | P3 |
| Strengthen SD capacity for data editing & validation by staff training | 4,500 | | | | 4,500 | | | | 4,500 | | 13,500 | GoM | 1.5d | P1 |
| Strengthening other areas of social, economic & environmental statistics | 3,500 | | | | | | | | | | 3,500 | Donor | 2.1g | P1 |

(In 2009 US dollars)

| Summary of Statistical Activities | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Total | Funding by: | Task | Priority |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|------|----------|
| Provide employees bachelor's degree level training | 33,000 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 469,855 | GoM+Donor | 2.2c | P1 |
| Provide existing bachelors degree staff with master's | 24,200 | 48,400 | 96,800 | 72,600 | 24,200 | | | | | | 266,200 | GoM+Donor | 2.2d | P1 |
| Provide employees master's degree level training | | | | | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 145,200 | GoM+Donor | 2.2d | P2 |
| Send employees overseas for short trainings & seminars in specialized statistical methods | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 157,500 | GoM+Donor | 2.2e | P2 |
| Promote mentoring of staff through training in training facilities in statistics offices of Asian countries | | 50,000 | 50,000 | | | | | | | | | | 2.2f | P2 |
| Develop distance learning modules for statistical staff in specific technical areas, in collaboration with SIAP in Tokyo | | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 6,820 | 100,000 | Donor | 2.2g | P1 |
| Statistical training of atoll staff | | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 61,380 | GoM | 2.2h | P1 |
| Provide short in-service training courses on technical subjects for statistical staff inside & outside NSO | 4,200 | | | | | | | | | | 42,000 | Donor | 2.2i | P2 |
| Strengthen training capacity and infrastructure of the NSO | 10,100 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 10,100 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 40,200 | GoM+Donor | 2.2j | P1 |
| Sub-total | 148,160 | 261,681 | 283,682 | 206,883 | 184,184 | 94,656 | 73,657 | 64,658 | 69,159 | 67,660 | 1,454,380 | | | |
| Statistics Dissemination Strategy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Create high level National Statistics Council to set statistical policy with Bureau of Statistics as its secretariat. | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 2,100 | 21,000 | GoM | 2.1c | P1 |
| Prepare an annual report of the statistics agency that also deals with inter-agency cooperation | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 1,800 | 18,000 | GoM | 2.1e | P1 |
| Develop a set of indicators for monitoring progress in implementing an action plan for realization of the government's Manifesto. Also, seek indicators for MDGs and SDGs | 3,780 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 17,280 | GoM+Donor | 2.1h | P1 |
| Promote statistical thinking in government with system-wide training on analysis and interpretation of statistics, including metadata issues. | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 60,000 | GoM | 2.2k | P2 |
| Develop a data dissemination policy for dissemination of unit level data collected in censuses and surveys. Act | 2,500 | | | | | | | | | | 2,500 | GoM | 2.3d | P2 |
| Explore & develop more innovative & user friendly means of data dissemination, including sms messages | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 5,250 | 52,500 | GoM | 2.3f | P2 |
| Sub-total | 21,430 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 16,650 | 171,280 | | | |
| Total (in US dollars) | 694,489 | 574,414 | 365,582 | 490,583 | 1,266,084 | 176,556 | 3,155,557 | 146,558 | 2,151,059 | 1,149,560 | 10,170,442 | | | |
| Total (in thousands of Maldivian Rufiya) | 8,855 | 7,324 | 4,661 | 6,255 | 16,143 | 2,251 | 40,233 | 1,869 | 27,426 | 14,657 | 129,674 | | | |
| Costs of priority P1 activities | 636,079 | 506,103 | 323,670 | 451,270 | 1,205,570 | 93,641 | 3,086,041 | 86,041 | 90,541 | 1,086,041 | 7,564,997 | | | |
| Costs of Priority P2 activities | 52,400 | 115,300 | 88,900 | 33,300 | 57,500 | 79,900 | 63,500 | 57,500 | 2,057,500 | 57,500 | 2,663,300 | | | |
| Costs of Priority P3 activities | 4,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 4,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 4,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 4,000 | 22,000 | | | |
| Total expenses for GoM | | | | | | | | | | | 6,750,561 | | | |
| Total expenses for Donors and GoM | | | | | | | | | | | 3,201,936 | | | |
| Total expenses | | | | | | | | | | | 197,800 | | | |
| Total Direct expenses | | | | | | | | | | | 10,150,297 | | | |

Table 4: Costs Breakdown of NSDS Action Plan at SD 2010-2019 Activities to be Funded Jointly by GoM and Donors

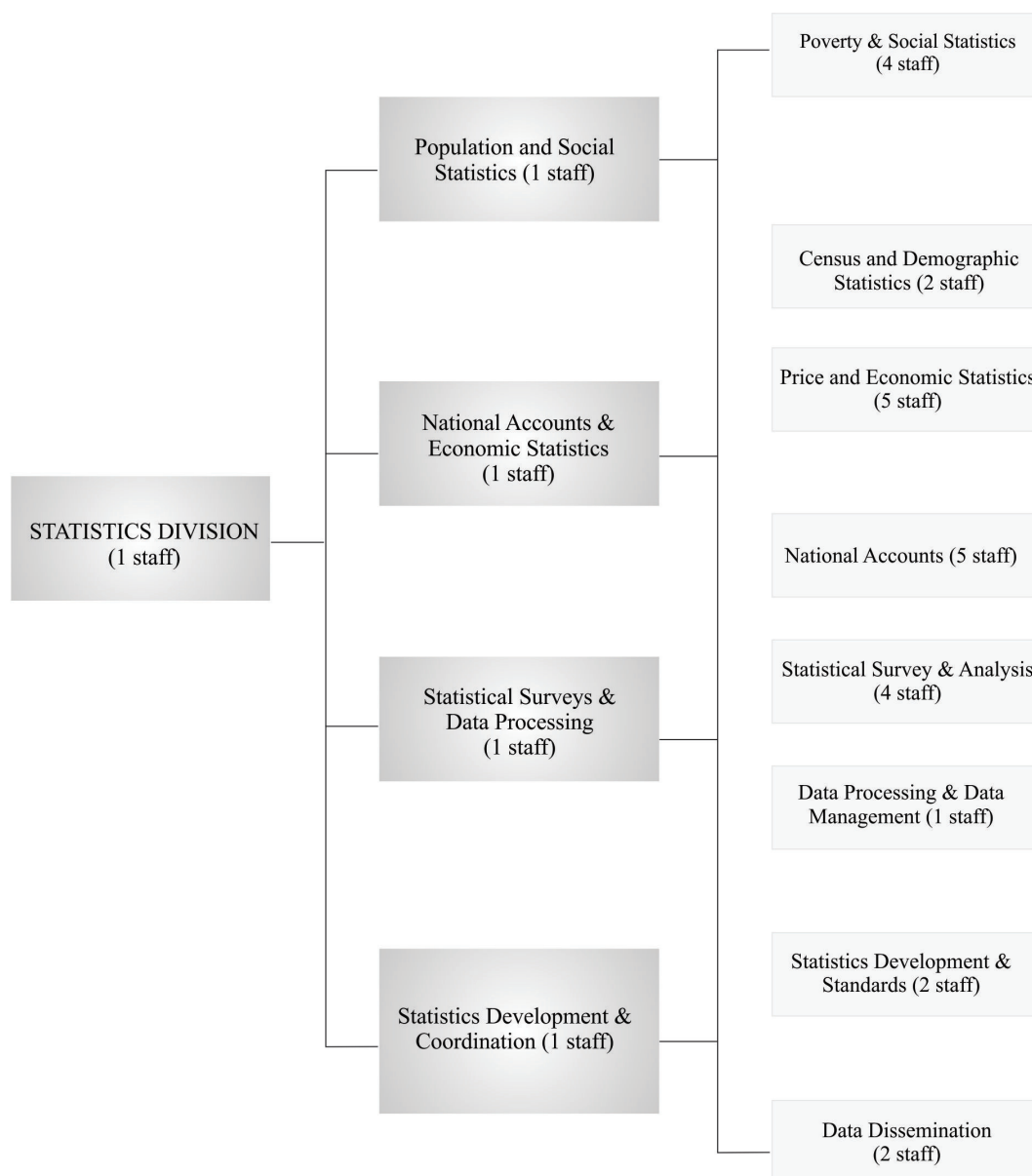
(Direct Expenses)
(In 2009 US dollars)

| Summary of Statistical Activities | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | Total | Task | Priority |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|--------|------------------|--------|----------|
| Start celebrating a statistics day every year | 9,300 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 45,300 | 1.1e | P1 |
| GOM | | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 36,000 | | |
| DONOR | 9,300 | | | | | | | | | | 9,300 | | |
| Economic Census 2018 (10-yearly) | - | | | | | | | | 2,000,000 | | 2,000,000 | 3.1.5i | P2 |
| GOM | | | | | | | | | 1,500,000 | | 1,500,000 | | |
| DONOR | | | | | | | | | 500,000 | | 500,000 | | |
| Develop National classifications | 11,000 | 11,000 | | | | | | | | | 22,000 | 1.4a | P2 |
| GOM | 8,750 | 11,000 | | | | | | | | | 19,750 | | |
| DONOR | 2,250 | | | | | | | | | | 2,250 | | |
| Strengthen capacity to use Intelligent Character Recognition (ICR) for census data processing | - | | | | | 22,400 | 6,000 | | | | 28,400 | 1.5b | P2 |
| GOM | | | | | | 2,900 | 6,000 | | | | 8,900 | | |
| DONOR | | | | | | 19,500 | | | | | 19,500 | | |
| Strengthen capacity to use GIS for census mapping & statistical data presentation | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 10,000 | 1.5c | P3 |
| GOM | | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 9,000 | | |
| DONOR | 1,000 | | | | | | | | | | 1,000 | | |
| Provide employees bachelor's degree level training | 33,000 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 99,000 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 469,855 | 2.2c | P1 |
| GOM | 33,000 | | 33,000 | 33,000 | 33,000 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 8,171 | 139,855 | | |
| DONOR | | 99,000 | 66,000 | 99,000 | 66,000 | | | | | | 330,000 | | |
| Provide employees master's degree level training | 24,200 | 48,400 | 96,800 | 72,600 | 48,400 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 24,200 | 411,400 | 2.2d | P1/P2 |
| GOM | 24,200 | | 24,200 | | 24,200 | | 24,200 | | 24,200 | | 121,000 | | |
| DONOR | | 48,400 | 72,600 | 72,600 | 24,200 | 24,200 | | 24,200 | | 24,200 | 290,400 | | |
| Send employees overseas for short trainings and seminars in specialized statistical methods | | | | | | | | | | | | 2.2e | P2 |
| Promote mentoring of staff through training in training facilities in statistics offices of Asian Countries | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 15,750 | 157,500 | 2.2f | P2 |
| GOM | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 7,050 | 70,500 | | |
| DONOR | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 8,700 | 87,000 | | |
| Strengthen training capacity and infrastructure of the NSO | 10,100 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 10,100 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | 40,200 | 2.2j | P1 |
| GOM | 9,000 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 9,000 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 500 | 22,000 | | |
| DONOR | 1,100 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 1,100 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 18,200 | | |
| Develop a set of indicators for monitoring progress in implementing an action plan for realization of the government's Manifesto. Also, seek indicators for MDGs and SDGs | 3,780 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 17,280 | 2.1h | P1 |
| GOM | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 15,000 | | |
| DONOR | 2,280 | | | | | | | | | | 2,280 | | |
| Total | | | | | | | | | | | 3,201,936 | | |
| GOM | | | | | | | | | | | 1,942,006 | | |
| Donors | | | | | | | | | | | 1,259,930 | | |

Annex .3 – Donor Projects at Statistics Division/Section

| Project | Objectives | Amt 000 |
|---|---|------------|
| I. United Nations | | |
| A. UN Population Fund (UNFPA) | | |
| 1 Support for 2006 census | Gender, dissemination, | \$70 |
| 2 Support for 2000 census | | N/A |
| B. UN Development Program (UNDP) | | \$543 |
| 1 Tsunami Impact Assessment (TIAS), 2005 | Survey with a similar coverage & methodology as for VPA-2. | \$300 |
| 2 Support for VPA-2, 2004 | Support for analysis & supervision. (Field work was supported by World Bank). | \$187.3 |
| 3 Support for VPA-1, 1998 | Vulnerability and poverty assessment | \$65.5 |
| C. UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) | | |
| 1 Maldivinfo, 2006-07 | Initial data entry | \$138 |
| 2 Maldivinfo, 2008-09 | Further development | \$75 |
| D. Economic and Social Commission for | | |
| 1 Disability Question Set Testing, 2009 | In 2009, pretesting a health and disability statistics questionnaire | \$15 |
| 2 Regional Advisor's Services for Economic Survey, 2007-08 | 2 visits to provide advice on sampling & questionnaire. | N/A |
| II. Asian Development Bank (ADB) | | \$1,503 |
| 1 Capacity Building for National Statistical System, TA 4103, 2004-05 | Establishment of a Bureau of Statistics and its HRD. TA for national accounts & price statistics. | \$298 |
| 2 Further Development of a System of National Accounts, TA-2988, 1999-2002 | TA for national accounts and source data, also training and overseas study. | \$903.3 |
| 3 Project on Development of a System of National Accounts, TA-2404, 1996-98 | TA for national accounts | \$302.4 |
| III. World Bank | | |
| 1 Support for VPA-2 field work, 2004 | Was contracted directly to Danish firm. | N/A |

Annex .4 – Organizational Structure of Statistics Division



Total Active staff as of Jan 2010

30

Annex .5 – Availability of data for monitoring implementation of the MDGs

| No. | Indicators | Availability | Begins When? | Agrees with international standards? (+, -) | Sources |
|-----|--|--------------|--------------|---|--|
| 1.1 | Poverty headcount ratio (% of population below one US dollar per day, PPP) | +O | 1997 | + | Vulnerability and Poverty Assessment (VPA) |
| 1.2 | Poverty gap ratio (incidence x depth of poverty) | +O | 1997 | + | VPA |
| 1.3 | Share of poorest quintile in national consumption | +O | 1997 | + | VPA |
| 1.4 | Growth rate of GDP per person employed | *A | 1995 | + | Economic Statistics, DNP |
| 1.5 | Employment-to-population ratio | *A | 1985 | + | Census |
| 1.6 | Proportion of employed people living below one US dollar per day, PPP | *O | 2004 | + | VPA |
| 1.7 | Proportion of own-account and contributing family workers in total employment | *O | 1985 | + | Census |
| 1.8 | Prevalence of underweight children under five years of age | +O | 1995 | + | Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, VPA |
| 1.9 | Proportion of the population below minimum level of dietary energy consumption | -O | NA | - | |
| 2.1 | Net enrolment ratio in primary education | +A | 1992 | + | School Statistics, Ministry of Education |
| 2.2 | Proportion of pupils starting grade 1 who reach grade 7 | “*” | 1992 | - | School Statistics, Ministry of Education |
| 2.3 | Literacy rate of 15-24 year-olds | +O | 1977 | + | Censuses of Population and Housing (CPH) |
| 3.1 | Ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education | +A | 1992 | + | School Statistic, Ministry of Education |
| 3.2 | Share of women in wage employment in the non-agricultural sector | +O | 1977 | + | CPH |
| 3.3 | Proportion of seats held by women in national parliament | +O | | + | People's Majlis |
| 4.1 | Under-five mortality rate | +A | 1978 | + | Vital Statistics/MOH |
| 4.2 | Infant mortality rate | +A | 1978 | + | Vital Statistics/MOH |
| 4.3 | Proportion of under age 1 children immunised against measles | +A | 1978 | + | Vital Statistics/MOH |

| | | | | | | | |
|------|---|----|------------|----|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| | against measles | | | | | | |
| 5.1 | Maternal mortality ratio | +A | 1978 | + | | Vital Statistics/MOH | |
| 5.2 | Proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel | +A | 1978 | + | | Vital Statistics/MOH | |
| 5.3 | Contraceptive prevalence rate | +A | 1999 | + | | Reproductive Health Survey 1999, 2004 | |
| 5.4 | Adolescent birth rate | +A | 2001 | + | | & DHS 2009 | |
| 5.5 | Antenatal care coverage (at least 1 visit & 4 visits) | +O | 2004, 2007 | + | | Vitals Statistics/MOH | |
| 5.6 | Unmet needs for family planning | +O | 2004 | + | | RH Survey | |
| 6.1 | HIV prevalence among 15-24 year old pregnant women | +A | 1991 | + | | NAP/ CCHDC | |
| 6.2 | Condom use at last high-risk sex | +A | 2003 | - | | Maldives Health statistics MOH/ CCHDC | |
| 6.3 | Proportion of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS | +O | 2004, 2009 | + | | RH survey & DHS 2009 | |
| 6.4 | Ratio of school attendance of orphans to school attendance of non-orphans aged 10-14 | - | - | - | | | |
| 6.5 | Proportion of population with advanced HIV infection with access to antiretroviral drugs | +A | 1991 | + | | NAP/ CCHDC | |
| 6.6 | Incidence & death rates associated with malaria. | +A | NA | + | | Maldives Health statistics MOH/ CCHDC | |
| 6.7 | Proportion of children under 5 sleeping under insecticide-treated bednets | - | | | | NA | |
| 6.8 | Proportion of children under 5 who are treated with appropriate anti-malarial drugs. | - | 1963 | | | No malaria cases since 1984 | |
| 6.9A | Incidence of tuberculosis | +A | 1963 | + | | Maldives Health statistics MOH/ CCHDC | |
| 6.9B | Prevalence of tuberculosis | +A | 1963 | + | | Maldives Health statistics MOH/ CCHDC | |
| 6.9C | Death rates associated with tuberculosis | +A | 1963 | + | | Maldives Health statistics MOH/ CCHDC | |
| 6.10 | Proportion of tuberculosis cases detected and cured under directly-observed treatment short course (DOTS) | +A | 1963 | + | | Maldives Health statistics MOH/ CCHDC | |
| 7.1 | Proportion of land area covered by forest | NA | NA | NA | | NA | |
| 7.2. | Carbon dioxide emissions (per capita) and consumption of ozone-depleting CFCs (ODP tons) | NA | NA | NA | | NA | |
| 7.3 | Energy use (metric ton oil equivalent) per GDP, (at 2000 constant prices) | NA | NA | NA | | NA | |

| | | | | | |
|-------|--|----|------|----|----------------------------------|
| 7.3 | Energy use (metric ton oil equivalent) per GDP, (at 2000 constant prices) | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 7.4 | Proportion of fish stocks within safe biological limits. | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 7.5 | Proportion of total water resources used. | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 7.6 | Ratio of area protected to maintain biological diversity to surface area | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 7.7 | Proportion of species threatened with extinction. | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 7.8 | Proportion of the population with sustainable access to an improved water source | +O | 1985 | - | CPH |
| 7.9 | Proportion of the population with access to improved sanitation | +O | 1985 | + | CPH |
| 7.10 | Proportion of urban population living in slums | - | | | No one is said to live in slums. |
| 8.5 | ODA received in small island developing States as a proportion of their gross national incomes | +A | NA | + | Ministry of Finance and Treasury |
| 8.12. | Debt service as a percentage of exports of goods and services | +A | 1997 | + | Statistical Yearbook |
| 8.13 | Proportion of population with access to afford-able, essential drugs on a sustainable basis | NA | NA | NA | NA |
| 8.14 | Telephone lines per 1000 population | +A | 1990 | + | Statistical Yearbook |
| 8.15 | Cellular subscribers per 1000 population | +A | 1998 | + | Statistical Yearbook |
| 8.16 | Internet users per 1000 population | +A | 2001 | + | Statistical Yearbook |

Annex .6 – History of Surveys and Censuses at SD, 1985-2009

| Year | Name of the survey | | | | | | | |
|------|--------------------|----------|------|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|
| | Census | VPA/TIAS | HIES | CPI | ES | SES | TES | LES |
| 1985 | | | | | | | | |
| 1986 | | | | | | | | |
| 1987 | | | | | | | | |
| 1988 | | | | | | | | |
| 1989 | | | | | | | | |
| 1990 | | | | | | | | |
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| 2002 | | | | | | | | |
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| 2004 | | | | | | | | |
| 2005 | | | | | | | | |
| 2006 | | | | | | | | |
| 2007 | | | | | | | | |
| 2008 | | | | | | | | |
| 2009 | | | | | | | | |

Note:

VPA Vulnerability and Poverty Survey
HIES Household Income and Expenditure Survey
CPI Consumer Price Index
ES Economic Survey

SES Small Establishment Survey
TES Tourism Expenditure Survey
LES Large Establishment Survey
TIAS Tsunami Impact Assessment Survey

Annex .7 – Schedule for Censuses and Surveys at SD, 2009 – 2020

| Year | Censuses | Enterprise Surveys | Household Surveys | Year |
|------|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------|
| 2009 | | | HIES - VPA 1 | 2009 |
| 2010 | | | HIES - VPA 2 | 2010 |
| 2011 | Mini Population and housing Census | | | 2011 |
| 2012 | | | | 2012 |
| 2013 | | Economic Survey | | 2013 |
| 2014 | Preparation for CPH | | HIES - VPA | 2014 |
| 2015 | Preparation for CPH | | | 2015 |
| 2016 | CPH | LES | | 2016 |
| 2017 | Preparation for Economic Census | | | 2017 |
| 2018 | Economic Census | | | 2018 |
| 2019 | | | HIES - VPA | 2019 |
| 2020 | | | | 2020 |

Annex .8 – Persons Met during Missions to Male’, (17 Feb to 27 June, 2009)

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1 | Department of National Planning, including Statistics Division | Ms Rasheeda Ali, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Ms Aishath Shahuda, Director General, Statistics Division |
| | | Mr Idham Fahmy, Senior Statistical Officer, Statistical Surveys , Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Mariyam Niyaf, Deputy Director General, National Accounts & Economic Statistics, Statistics Division |
| | | Mr Ahmed Nihad, Assistant Director, Population and Social Statistics, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Ashiyath Shazna, Assistant Director, Statistics Development and Coordination, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Aishath Hassan, Senior Statistical Officer, National Accounts, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Hana Mansoor, Senior Statistical Officer, Price and Economic Statistics, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Aishath Shifaza, Assistant Statistical Officer, Data Dissemination, Maldivinfo, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Loona Abdul Hakeem, Senior Statistical Officer, Census and Demographic Statistics, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Rasheedha Najeeb, Statistical Officer , Statistics Development and Coordination Unit, Statistics Division |
| | | Ms. Maharath Ahmed, Senior Statistical Officer, Data Dissemination Unit, Statistics Development and Coordination Unit, Statistics Division. |
| | | |
| 2 | Ministry of Finance and Treasury | Mr Ali Hashim, Minister |
| | | Mr Ahmed Asad Minister of State for Finance |
| | | Mr Ismail Shafeeq, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Mr Hamdhy Ageel, Executive Director |
| | | Ms Fathmath Nuzuha, Assistant Director General (handles government finance statistics) |
| | Department of Inland Revenue (DIR) | Ms Aishath Seema Mohammed, Deputy Director of DIR |
| | | Mr Fathuhulla Jameel, Revenue officer (DIR) |
| | | Ms Ghaliya Ahmed, Revenue officer (DIR) |
| 3. | Maldives Monetary Authority | Mr Abdul Hameed Mohamed, Executive Director, Economic Research and Statistics Division (ERSD) |
| | | Mr Ahmed Munawar, Manager |
| | | Ms Mariam Rashfa, Deputy Manager, ERSD |
| | | Mr Ahmed Imad, Assistant Manager, Monetary Section |
| | | Ms Aminath Shafwath, Assistant Manager, Economic Analysis and Research Section |
| 4. | Ministry of Economic Development | Mr Mohamed Rasheed, Minister |
| | | Mr Ahmed Inaz, Deputy Minister |
| | | Mr Yusuf Riza, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Mr Ahmed Ifthikhar, Registrar, Company Affairs |
| | | Mr Ahmed Wafir, Director, International Trade Policy |
| | | Mr Riyaz Mansoor, Assistant Director, Administration Section |

| | | |
|----|--|---|
| | | Mr Solih Hussain, Director for Trade regulation |
| | | Mr Hamid Zakariya, Assistant Director |
| 5 | President's Office | Hon. Mr Ibrahim Hussain Zaki, Special Envoy to the President |
| 6 | Ministry of Home Affairs | Mr Mohamed Shihab, Minister |
| | | Ms Mariam Waheeda, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Mr Farooq Mohamed Hassan, Minister of State |
| | | Mr Mohamed Naeem, Minister of State |
| | | Mr Ahmed Mujthaba, Minister of State |
| | | Mr Umar Jamaal, Minister of State |
| | | Mr Mohamed Naseer, Minister of State |
| | Department of National Registration | Mr Mohamed Firag, Deputy Minister |
| | | Ms Hihna Khalid, Deputy Executive Director |
| | | Mr Mohamed Jawad, Director |
| 7 | Ministry of Human Resources, Youth and Sport | Mr Ajwad Ali, Permanent Secretary |
| 8 | Ministry of Health | Dr Aminath Jameel, Minister |
| | | Dr Sheena Moosa, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Ms Mazeena Jameel, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Mr Ahmed Khaleel, Deputy Director General |
| | | Ms Maimoona Aboobakuru, Director, Decision Support Division |
| | | Ms Aiman Waheed, Senior Administrative Officer, Decision Support Division, Statistics Section |
| | | Ms Athifa Ibrahim, Assistant Director, Policy Planning Division. |
| 9 | Ministry of Education | Dr Musthafa Luthfi, Minister |
| | | Dr Amad Ali, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Mr Ahmed Ali Manik, Deputy Minister |
| | | Ms Shifa Mohamed, Deputy Minister |
| | | Mr Ahmed Shafeeu, Director General, Policy, Planning & Research Section |
| | | Mr Abdulla Ismail, Principal, Majeedhiyya School |
| | | Mr Mohamed Sinah, Statistical Officer Trainee |
| 10 | Ministry of Tourism | Mr Moosa Zameer Hassan, Assistant Director |
| | | Ms Mariyam Sharmeela, Statistical Officer |
| 11 | Ministry of Fisheries & Agriculture | Mr Hussain Sinan, Assistant Director |
| | | Ms Raufiyya Abdullah, Statistics officer |
| | | Ms Aminath Leena, Statistics officer |
| 12 | Ministry of Housing, Transport & Environment | Mohamed Aslam, Minister |
| | | Mr Ahmed Saleem, Permanent Secretary |
| | | Mohamed Shareef, Deputy Minister |
| | | Mr Abdullah Ziyad, Engineering Dept, Construction Industry Development Section |
| | | Mr Mohammed Siraj, same section |
| 13 | Maldives Customs Service | Mr Abdul Rasheed Ibrahim, Director |
| | | Mr Mahmoud Riyaz, Superintendent |
| | | Ms Moomina Rasheedha, Sr Customs officer |
| 14 | National Center for Information Technology | Mr Mohammed Riffath Ali, Systems Administrator |
| | | Ms Hafsath Aleem, System Analyst |

| | | |
|----|------------------------|--|
| 15 | United Nations offices | Ms Anna Liboro-Sanga, in office of Resident Coordinator |
| | | Mr Joshua Kakaire-Kibedi, UNICEF, M & E Officer |
| | | Mr Ibrahim Naseem, UNICEF, M & E consultant |
| | | Mr Ahmed Gaveem Ali, UNFPA |
| | | Mohamed Haneef, Admin, Finance Associate/UNDP |
| 16 | Key users | Mr Fuwad Thowfeek, former Executive Director, Statistics Division |
| | | Mr Hussain Niyaz, ex-head of demography in Statistics Division |
| | | Ms Mariyam Waheeda, former head of Statistics Division |
| | | Mr Hamdun Hameed, former Minister of Planning and National Development |
| | | Mr Eugen Radulescu, Consultant to MMA from the IMF |

Annex .9 – Attendance at NSDS Workshop, (22 June, 2009)

| # | Name | | Office | Post |
|----|---------------------------|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Mr. Ibrahim Hussain Zaki | * | President's Office | Special Envoy to the president |
| 2 | Mr. Ahmed Asad | | Ministry of Finance & Treasury | Deputy Minister |
| 3 | Mr. Ahmed Inaz | | Ministry of Economic Development | Deputy Minister |
| 4 | Dr. Ibrahim Didi | * | Ministry of Fisheries & Agriculture | Minister of Fisheries & Agriculture |
| 5 | Dr. Abdulla Naseer | * | Ministry of Fisheries & Agriculture | Permanent Secretary |
| 6 | Mr. Mahid Mohamed Shareef | * | Ministry of Human Resource, Youth & Sports | Permanent Secretary |
| 7 | Mr. Ahmed Ifthikhar | | Ministry of Economic Development | Registrar of Companies |
| 8 | Ms. Asma Shafeeu | | Department of Inland Revenue | Assistant Auditor |
| 9 | Mr. Ibrahim Naseem | * | UNICEF | National Officer |
| 10 | Ms. Aminath Ali | | Ministry of Finance & Treasury | Director General |
| 11 | Mr. Fuwad Thowfeek | * | Elections Commission | Member |
| 12 | Ms. Rasheeda Ali | | Ministry of Finance & Treasury | Permanent Secretary |
| 13 | Dr. Hussain Niyaz | * | Ministry of Foreign Affairs | Executive Director |
| 14 | Ms. Moomina Rasheed | | Maldives Customs Service | Senior Customs Officer |
| 15 | Ms. Hafsaath Haleem | | National Centre for Information Technology | System Analyst |
| 16 | Ms. Zuleykha Ibrahim | | Ministry of Civil Aviation & Communication | Deputy Director |
| 17 | Ms. Raufiyya Abdulla | | Ministry of Fisheries & Agriculture | Statistical Officer |
| 18 | Mr. Moosa Waheed | | Ministry of Housing, Transport & Environment | Architectural Technician |
| 19 | Mr. Mohamed Siraj | | Ministry of Housing, Transport & Environment | Architectural Technician |
| 20 | Ms. Aminath Sherin | | Ministry of Home Affairs | Statistical Officer |
| 21 | Ms. Mariyam Rashfa | | Maldives Monetary Authority | Deputy Manager |
| 22 | Ms. Athifa Ibrahim | | Ministry of Health & Family | Assistant Director |
| 23 | Ms. Maimoona Aboobakuru | | Ministry of Health & Family | Director |
| 24 | Mr. Jaweed Moosa | | Maldives Police Service | Police Corporate |
| 25 | Ms. Aishath Shahuda | | Department of National Planning | Deputy Executive Director |
| 26 | Ms. Mariyam Niyaf | | Department of National Planning | Assistant Director General |
| 27 | Ms. Fathmath Shafeega | * | Department of National Planning | Assistant Director General |
| 28 | Mr. Idham Fahumy | | Department of National Planning | Statistical Officer |
| 29 | Ms. Ashiyath Shazna | | Department of National Planning | Assistant Director |
| 30 | Ms. Fathmath Nihan | | Department of National Planning | Senior Computer Programmer |
| 31 | Ms. Maharath Ahmed | | Department of National Planning | S. Statistical Officer |
| 32 | Ms. Aishath Leeza | | Department of National Planning | S. Statistical Officer |
| 33 | Ms. Aishath Laila | | Department of National Planning | S. Statistical Officer |
| 34 | Ms. Aishath Hassan | | Department of National Planning | S. Statistical Officer |
| 35 | Ms. Loona Abdul Hakeem | | Department of National Planning | S. Statistical Officer |
| * | Only for opening | | | |