

FOREWORD

Nationally produced Statistics is the basis for timely, reliable, comparable and available information on social, demographic, economic and environmental conditions which are crucial for evidence-based policy decisions and a democratic society. The Statistical Yearbook 2013 publication is the 33rd edition in the series, which is a comprehensive and systematic compendium of statistical information on Maldives demonstrating the social and economic developments and the demographic transitions taking place in the Maldives. It attends to 20 areas of the economy and has 192 tables. Detailed tables are provided on the CD-ROM version of the publication.

The Statistical Yearbook 2013 highlights a range of key economic indicators for 2012, such as the gross domestic product (GDP), contribution of key economic activities to the GDP, Government's finance, imports and exports, and the rate of inflation, in addition to diverse indicators about social and other aspects of the country. The publication is also made available, free of charge, on our website www.planning.gov.mv.

The Statistics Division of the Department of National Planning is responsible for the development of the national statistical system in addition to the collection and compilation of the core social and economic statistics. Apart from that, the responsibility of collecting and compiling some specific areas of statistical data lies with other agencies of the government due to the decentralized statistical system.

Effort has been made to ensure that this publication meets acceptable statistical standards. Hence, the entire process of data validation, compilation and updating has been done in close collaboration with all the data providing agencies.

The data in the Statistical Yearbook 2013 will serve as the principal source of information for planners, policy makers, researchers and academicians. It is also intended to serve the quest for information by clients in the global community. In this regard, we will always welcome comments and suggestions from our users to make the statistical information interesting and useful to the changing needs.

Reliable statistics shows the true picture of people's everyday lives. It provides the evidence required to develop and monitor effective development policies. Recognizing the value of statistics in the development of our society, we ensure our commitment to serve all statistical needs and will continue our efforts to improve the quality of the statistics of the Maldives.

Department of National Planning

Ministry of Finance and Treasury