

## RESULT AREA 1 - INTEGRATED GOVERNANCE PROGRAMME

### Overview

NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVEL INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES STRENGTHENED TO ENSURE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY AND FOR SUPPORTING DEMOCRATIC CONSOLIDATION AND PROCESSES



A PUBLIC LECTURE ON THE ELECTIONS, HOSTED BY UNDP.  
PHOTO: UNDP MALDIVES 2013.

### Our Focus

The focus will be on strengthening the interface between and among three key groups; public service providers; their 'clients', individual citizens; and oversight bodies which are the foundation for strong resilient institutions that enjoy public confidence and contribute to democratic consolidation.

This result area will ensure:

- Improved institutional and human resources capacity of the Election Commission in election management
- Capacities of Parliament Members are strengthened to perform the legislative, oversight and representational functions and capacities of the Parliament Secretariat are strengthened to accelerate key functions of the Majlis
- Systems, procedures and capacities are built and strengthened for improved responsiveness to public demand at local levels
- A professional public administration is in place which is able to manage change and contribute to democratic consolidation
- A multi-sector, high level policy platform is created for increased capacity for conducting research, analyzing and utilizing information for informed debate and public policy making

### Project Snapshot

<b>Project Status</b>	Active
<b>Start date</b>	10 August 2013
<b>Estimated end date</b>	31 July 2015
<b>Geographic coverage</b>	Nation-wide
<b>Focus area</b>	Capacity development of democratic institutions
<b>Partners</b>	Elections Commission, People's Majlis, Local Government Authority, Civil Service Commission and the Governance Reform Unit of the President's Office
<b>Project Officer</b>	Mr. Sharad Neupane
<b>Project Focal Point</b>	shamha.naseer@undp.org

### Our Work

#### 2012

- UNDP together with the Local Government Authority and the Ministry of Finance and Treasury developed a fiscal formula for the national budget to determine block grant transfers to local councils, which will contribute to a more transparent and equitable process of fiscal resource allocation. Agreement was reached among the stakeholders on the parameters to be used for the fiscal formula during a roundtable conference which was organized by the LGA with the support of UNDP Maldives. The conference was attended by 42 policy makers and Ministers, including the Vice President of the Maldives. The fiscal formula is to be approved by the Cabinet and is intended to be used in drafting the 2014 budget.
- UNDP supported the Local Government Authority in facilitating a forum on local governance which for the first time brought together line ministries, independent institutions, NGOs and local councilors for a half day discussion on participatory development and community mobilization. The forum focused on local governance and community mobilization with emphasis on participation, inclusion, accountability and effective coordination. The panel of experts and resource people included specialists on local governance, lawyers and NGO representatives.
- Experiences on strengthening the decentralization process and ways to increase the operational effectiveness of councils were discussed during the very first Atoll Councillors Forum which was attended by atoll councillors and fifty nine staff from local council secretariats.

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## 2013

- In order to build capacity of the Elections Commission members on the issue of electoral administration and funding, two members of the Commission participated in the joint EC-UNDP Thematic Workshop on Sustainability in Electoral Administration held in Maputo.
- To enhance the knowledge and elections organising skills among the polling officials, UNDP assisted Elections Commission to develop training module for training of polling officials for the upcoming presidential election. This will lead to enhanced knowledge and skill among the polling officials. Building on this initiative and in order to contribute to the long term objective of developing a BRIDGE accredited training curriculum, a strategic action plan for the Elections Commission was also developed which will serve as a guide for the development of the training program.
- With support from the IGP, voter education activities have been rolled out in the lead up to the Presidential Election in September 2013. Video and audio spots developed in partnership with Elections Commission have begun airing on local media and more materials are being developed.

## Funding 2013

Donor	Amount
<b>UK Foreign Office</b>	US\$ 57,256
<b>Government of Korea</b>	US\$ 97,000
<b>UNDP TRAC</b>	US\$ 82,500
<b>BCPR</b>	US\$ 5,500
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>US\$ 242,256</b>

## Delivery 2012

Donor	Amount
<b>UNDP Trac</b>	US\$ 52,977
<b>BCPR</b>	US\$ 16,607
<b>DGTTF</b>	US\$ 143,422
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>US\$ 213,006</b>



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### **The Integrated Governance Programme**

Democratic Governance Unit

United Nations Development Programme - Maldives

For more information on the Democratic Governance

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