



# Low Emission Climate Resilient Development

A Programme funded by the Government of Denmark and delivered by the UN in partnership with the Government of Maldives.



## LOW EMISSION CLIMATE RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT (LECRd) PROGRAMME

### REVISED WORK PLAN FOR REOPENING OF PIP FUNDS

<p><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programme Title: Low Emission Climate Resilient Development (LECRd) Project initiation plan</li> <li>• Programme Number: 00081665</li> <li>• MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00081822</li> </ul>	<p><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</b></p> <p><i>Laamu Atoll, Maldives</i></p>
<p><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <p>UNDP UNFPA UNICEF UNOPS UNWOMEN WHO FAO</p>	<p><b>Priority area/ strategic results:</b> UNDAF Outcome 4: By 2020, growth and development are inclusive, sustainable, increase resilience to climate change and disasters, and contribute to enhanced food, energy and water security and natural resource management</p>
<p><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: <i>US\$ 423,255</i></p> <p><b>MPTF /JP Contribution:</b> <i>US\$ 423,255</i></p> <p><b>TOTAL: US\$ 423,255</b></p>	<p><b>Implementing Partners</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National counterparts (government, private, NGOs &amp; others)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></p> <p>Assessment/Review <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date:</p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date:</p>	<p><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration</p> <p>Start Date: <i>20/2/2012</i></p> <p>Original End Date: <i>31/4/2012</i></p> <p>Current End date: <i>11 Nov 2017</i></p>
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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

CSES	Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
IWG	Island Working Group
LECReD	Low Emission Climate Resilient Development
LGA	Local Government Authority
LWG	Laamu Working Group
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
PUNO	Participating United Nations Organizations
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNOPS	United Nations Office for Project Services
UN WOMEN	United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women
WHO	World Health Organisation of the United Nations

## I. Background

The Low Emission Climate Resilient Development (LECReD) Programme is assisting government authorities in the Maldives in building capacities at national and local levels to support low carbon life-styles, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction. The programme is currently providing support to 12 islands in Laamu atoll to realize low emission and climate resilient development. The programme seeks to mainstream LECReD issues into local level development planning and service delivery for greater community-level ownership and sustainability of programme benefits.

LECReD Project initiation plan (PIP) identified four main outputs:

- 1) Output 1: Development of a programme framework for Phase 1 and full-fledged Programme document;
- 2) Output 2: Establishment of a sustainable knowledge management setup for LECReD;
- 3) Output 3: Support the Government on identification of possible RE interventions in the Laamu Atoll; and
- 4) Output 4: Mobilization of community and engagement with local business.

The PIP gave origin to LECReD Programme document but the further remaining targets were not achieved. During the implementation of LECReD Programme, activities related to Outputs 2, 3 and 4 have been carried out. Output 3 was achieved through LECReD Programme during 2014 and 2015. Also under the Programme, a Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (CSES) and a Knowledge Management Strategy (KMS) were initiated and have given a basis to support the implementation of the PIP Outputs 2 and 4, which remain valid.

Considering that a number of activities proposed under LECReD PIP are still relevant for the success and sustainability of programme results and were not fully implemented, in particular the PIP's Outputs 2 (Establishment of a sustainable knowledge management setup for LECReD) and 4 (Mobilization of community and engagement with local business), this document proposes an additional workplan, informed by LECReD CSES and KMS.

LECReD programme's implementation has gained momentum during 2015 with key activities such as the Laamu Climate Change Forum (LCCF), Laamu Working Group (LWG), and Laamu Atoll Development Planning Database setting a strong basis for the Programme to unfold. These activities are at the basis of the local development planning process which was initiated during the period, in support to local councils in Laamu and in coordination with the Local Government Authority (LGA). The focus of 2015 was put into the establishment of the needed platforms for cooperation as well as tools and capacities needed (most notably in the fields of DRR and emergency preparedness) to deliver programmatic outputs in the most effective and efficient manner. While doing so, the coordination and communication arrangements among partner agencies as well as between national level partners and stakeholders were also further developed.

During 2015, important implementation activities have progressed significantly, in particular in the identified sectors of energy and water security, as well waste management. In support to Laamu community led activities in the fields of low emission and climate resilience a small grants scheme was established.

However, during midterm review and evaluation some gaps in community awareness have been identified, in particular in the field of ecosystem resilience, pollution control and waste management and an increase

in Programme visibility was identified as required. Knowledge management also remains an identified challenge for the effective exchange of knowledge between participating agencies and stakeholders involved in the Programme, as well as to improve coordination between all key partners involved. This will be of critical relevance for the sustainable exit of the Programme, in terms of increasing the potential for replication and knowledge transfer to other atolls of the Maldives.

Under these assumptions, the proposed additional workplan will fully implement the objectives established in the initiation phase, in particular in what regards Outputs 2 (Establishment of a sustainable knowledge management setup for LECReD) and 4 (Mobilization of community and engagement with local business).

## **II. Purpose**

The Republic of Maldives is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its low-lying geography that makes it susceptible to flooding and inundation, and its dependence on economic activities that are sensitive to climate change, such as fishing and tourism. It is also highly dependent on imported fossil fuels for its energy supply and this represents a major source of greenhouse gas emissions for the country. The Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 had dramatic impact on the population and economy and showed that the entire nation is exposed to high levels of risks. Considering that climate change is expected to increase in frequency, intensity and unpredictability of weather-related hazards, a strong element of disaster risk management is required as adaptation measure. Consequently, the Maldives has made significant commitments to the pursuit of a low emission climate resilient development agenda. However, ongoing decentralization reforms, fiscal crisis and low capacity at the sub-national level, mean that local planning is not reflective of national level commitments.

The programme is currently assisting the Laamu Atoll and its islands to realize Low Emission and Climate Resilient Development (LECRoD). The programme seeks to mainstream LECRoD issues into local level development planning and service delivery for greater community-level ownership and sustainability of programme benefits. Towards this objective, the programme is supporting local councils, civil society, private sector and other local stakeholders to establish platforms for stronger partnerships, improved coordination, and enhanced participation in local planning for LECRoD; it is strengthening data and knowledge systems for LECRoD; working to improve local level LECRoD development planning and management of service delivery; and through a learning-by-doing approach will establish early lessons and build demand for LECRoD planning and management for replication and scaling-up.

The aim is that the local development plans will evolve from stand-alone action plans into more strategic and evidence-based instruments, which are climate smart and able to mobilize public and private investment. This programme has established close links with the existing national development planning cycle and is building capacity of local and national partners engaged in these local processes. The rationale being that lessons learned will be used to inform replication throughout the country and directly support the national agenda.

In order to fully implement the Programme's objectives, the reopening of the PIP will allow to address some of the recommendations identified in the Midterm review and evaluation, namely in terms of community engagement, programme visibility and knowledge management.

### III. Strategy

The Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (CSES) and inter linked Communication Strategy and Action Plan were developed under the Low Emission Climate Resilient Development (LECReD) Programme to serve as tools to support the effective implementation of the Programme in Laamu Atoll.

The UN agencies, Island Councils and the Government Ministries are to take the lead in the implementation of LECReD CSES. The civil society, the community at large and the business sector, each also have an important role to play in bringing about the desired low carbon lifestyles in Laamu Atoll.

Effective communication and advocacy is essential to the success of LECReD and every partner of LECReD must be a communication agent. CSES provided guidance on how to deliver key LECReD messages and how to elevate visibility for the messages. CSES also provided the tools to help educate, advocate, prompt dialogue and build partnerships around the LECReD messages. The CSES took stock of the successful lessons and limiting factors that have shaped community based projects in the Maldives in the past. The development of the CSES was preceded by a stakeholder survey in Laamu Atoll, assuming that LECReD programme would benefit from understanding the influence and power stakeholders have. The engagement of stakeholders would allow their influence and power to shape plans and actions of LECReD.

In this context, LECReD's advocacy strategy addresses the information and communication needs of various partners that will be involved in the implementation of LECReD. These needs will be met primarily through advocacy initiatives directed towards awareness-raising and education designed to (i) strengthen communication support for the island councils, atoll council and civil society organizations, and national focal points; ii) influence relevant processes and actors in adequately addressing low carbon lifestyles and iii) reach out to critical target groups that are not involved or are insufficiently involved at present.

The strategy aims to accord low carbon lifestyles the attention and priority they deserve in the economic, political, and programmatic decisions at the island, atoll, and national levels. LECReD's advocacy strategy will support the optimal implementation of LECReD programme by setting in place the necessary information base and providing information exchange among key stakeholders.

The PIP funds would be utilized to carry forward a LECReD themed awareness campaign targeting the range of stakeholders as defined by the CSES. The campaign is based on the CSES and CSAP documents and forms the basis for relevant actions to be taken in order to engage identified target groups.

The advocacy strategy is directly linked to Goal 5 of the CSES: *A broad well-structured campaign for low-emission climate resilient development and will furthermore encompass all other goals of the CSES within its framework of implementation.*

In order to bring about the shift in mind-set towards low emission and climate resilience, the message of the campaign needs to be brought to individual community members. The campaign should be actionable and provide opportunity for both learning and engagement on a practical and meaningful level both during the life of the programme and after. The campaign will also focus on programme exit and increasing potential for replication and knowledge transfer to other atolls of the Maldives.

The advocacy strategy will therefore seek to create awareness about the simple, yet broad concept of 'Climate Resilience' which is the basis for all of LECReD's work. It will help to raise LECReD's profile locally and nationally as promoting climate resilience through planned local development. The strategy will also focus on mainstreaming LECReD into the national development agenda and programme exit while increasing potential for replication and knowledge transfer to other atolls.

LECREd's advocacy strategy will be proactive in conveying the relevance of climate change to sustainable development in the Maldives. Media coverage and understanding of climate change has increased in the Maldives. However, climate change remains technical and a hopeless issue for majority of the people living in the islands. Part of this disheartenment arises because those who are directly affected by beach erosion, water scarcity, and floods have limited capability to prevent or mitigate such impacts. There is very low level of awareness of the potential gains to resilient lives from sustainable livelihoods and small and medium business development in the islands.

There is an urgent and pressing need to generate and heighten awareness about low carbon lifestyles in all their dimensions. Bearing in mind the current high level of attention given to visible high emission infrastructure such as roads and land reclamation, raising the profile of low carbon lifestyles must be given high priority. The campaign will maximize climate change awareness and translate it into increased action through differentiated approaches for target groups. The short-term aim is to put low emission climate resilient development on the radar of the communities and stimulate interest in low carbon life styles as the way forward.

#### **IV. Goal, Aim and Objectives**

LECREd's advocacy strategy aims to accord low carbon lifestyles the attention and priority it deserve in the economic, political, and programmatic decisions at the island, atoll, and national levels. The strategy will support the optimal implementation of LECReD programme by setting in place the necessary information base and providing information exchange among key stakeholders.

The aims of the strategy are to:

1. Increase the attention given to low carbon lifestyle opportunities.
2. Mobilize support for the implementation of the low emission climate resilient development through dialogue, awareness raising and education.
3. Develop partnerships between the project implementation team, UN agencies, island councils, atoll councils and the government ministries to facilitate broad communication and information dissemination.
4. Strengthen the competence of key partners in the target groups, particularly Island Working Groups (IWG), Laamu Working Group (LWG), civil service staff from Ministries, focal points from PUNOs, the UN system as a whole, and journalists to effectively communicate the opportunities, multi-sector linkages and the challenges for low carbon lifestyles and low emission development.
5. Establish a strong and effective mechanism to facilitate communication and information exchange among the LECReD's key partners.
6. Raise the national and global profile and visibility of the LECReD.

Developing and introducing this communication will achieve three specific objectives:

1. Provide a structured well organized communication approach for managing and coordinating the wide variety of communication from LECReD.
2. Ensure key messages promoting LECReD are quickly distributed to key audiences such as young people, women, and educators.
3. Build awareness, acceptance, ownership and commitment within the different UN agencies, Councils, Ministries and all involved parties to demonstrate the value of LECReD as a means for working together as a ONE UN initiative.



## V. LECReD Advocacy Action Plan

The advocacy campaign will focus on ‘resilience’ as a concept in the context of climate change induced challenges faced by communities.

Anchored under the CSES (goal 5, cf. Annex), LECReD advocacy campaign is built on achieving the following objectives:

**1. Creating public awareness among target audiences about climate resilience.**

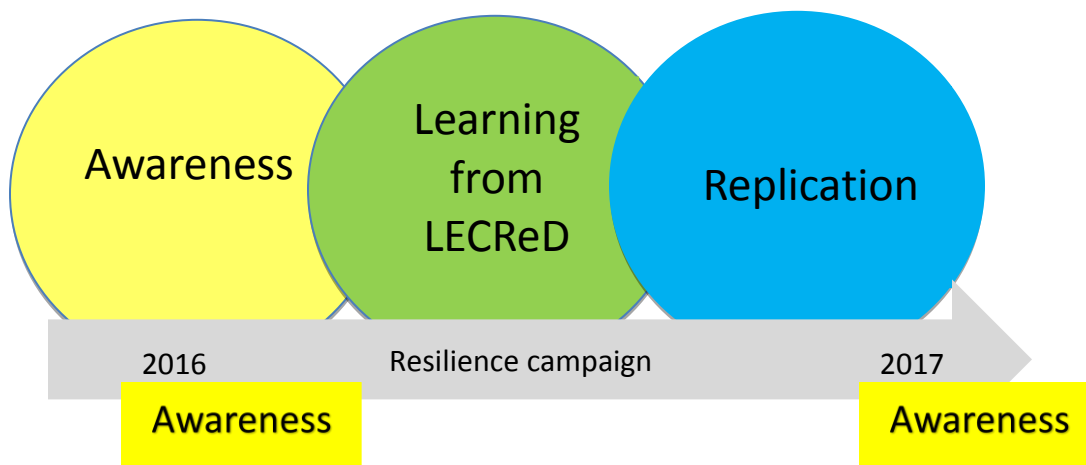
More targeted actions are required in order to mainstream climate resilience. In this regard, this objective will be important to achieve in order to bring the current LECReD stakeholders onboard with what the programme is trying to achieve and also to ensure that there is adequate and meaningful participation from them. The bulk of activities would be carried out within the first 8 months of the start of the campaign.

**2. Learning from and knowledge of the LECReD climate resilience model.**

Activities under this objective are designed to ensure that the pilot nature of the LECReD programme is fulfilled to its maximum potential through documenting lessons learned and sharing of knowledge that is created over the course of the programme.

**3. Increasing potential for replication and sustainability of LECReD model.**

As the programme draws to a close, concerted efforts are required in order to ensure that LECReD and climate resilient development is understood, accepted and replicated by other atolls.

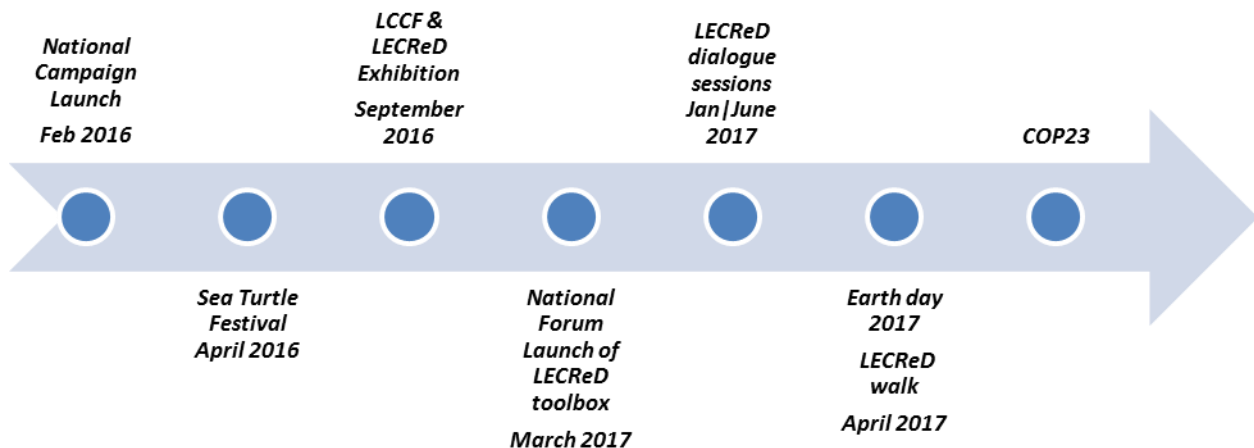


## VI. Workplan and Budget

The estimated budget for the advocacy strategy is US \$ 239,184.

The campaign was launched in Laamu atoll during February 2016 and is expected to be fully operational for a period of 18 months from date funds are approved; estimated to be from July 2016 to November 2017.

The campaign road-map towards COP23 takes into account key milestones including awareness-raising campaigns activities and events in Laamu and Male' articulated around the national events calendar. On the road map, key milestones include Laamu Climate Change Forum and the organization of a National Forum, conceived as a broad-based transfer workshop that may facilitate replication and scaling up of results, engaging all partners in climate change issues towards COP23. This event is targeted to happen during Governance week, and organized in cooperation with the Local Government Authority.



The full list of activities with suggested timelines may be found below: