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Meeting Minutes of National Coordinating Body

Date	10 November 2016, Thursday
Time & Place	(Main Meeting Room, UNDP, Aage 5 th Floor, Malé)
Attendees (6 members)	Ibrahim Naeem, Hussain Sinan, Aishath Rizna, Mizna Mohamed, Aishath Hudha Ahmed, Ilham Altho Mohamed, Fathimath Shadiya, Shaha Shakeeb (GEF SGP and MFF)
No.	52

1. Short-listing of MFF cycle five round 2 concepts

- Following on the decision made in the 52nd NCB meeting all the proposals were reviewed in detail based on scores and thematic focus
- Documented below are the discussions that were held regarding each of the concepts
- **Concept 21:** Maldives Authentic Crafts Cooperative Society (MACCS)
- Title: Establishment of a knowledge platform for current and future generations, through the production and preservation of different types of Thundukunaa that are currently extinct.
- Comments: The concept would have been better if it was linked to the previous projects undertaken by MACCS.
- Rejected since there is an ongoing project of MACCS with MFF.
- **Decision: Rejected.**
- **Concept 4:** G. A. Gemanafushi Cooperative Society (GAGCS)
- Title: Waste management, awareness and sustainable green house farming by making organic fertilizers using food waste from households.
- Comments: To condition the NGO to handover the project to the island council, once the project is complete.
- Also to check the MEE pipeline for Gemanafushi so as to not duplicate the resources to the island.
- Also compared to other waste management projects, this concept was found to be more innovative as it is focused on promotion of organic agriculture as well
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**
- **Concept 2:** Clique College
- Title: Participatory approach to mangrove mapping and management in GDh. Atoll
- Comments: To seek opportunities if this concept could be synergized with 4 other concepts. To map together and submit the full proposal as one.
- If they do not agree to this, they can still submit the full proposal however to inform them that more weightage would be given if they do a combined project.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**



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- **Concept 8:** Hoanededhdhoo Island Development Society(HIDS)
- Title: Mangrove Park
- Comments: Was seen as a very good concept. However, rejected since the NGO was just recently awarded with an MFF Grant.
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- **Concept 6:** Huvadho Association for National Development (HAND)
- Title: Establishing Community based Waste Management in G.Dh. Madaveli
- Comments: The concept focuses around waste management. Since only few can be awarded in this round, it would be better to award an innovative project rather than fund projects to do the same work.
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- Concept 12: Jamiya Gallery
- Title: Awareness on Sustainable Waste Management
- Comments: Rejected on the justification that the concept focuses on waste management and do not involve innovation or improvement of the current model.
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 13: Jamiya Gallery
- Title: Awareness on the use of chemicals used for farming.
- Comments: The concept does not highlight the topic much. It mostly focuses on household farming, but in reality the over consumption of chemicals is found in agricultural farming.
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 22: Maldives National University
- Title: A baseline study of biodiversity assessment of G.Dh. Thinadhoo Mangrove.
- Comments: Rejected since MNU has an ongoing Small Grant project with MFF
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 20: South Huvadho Teenage Association
- Title: Chemical Free Farming
- Comments: Was seen as an innovative concept to take to the next stage.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**

- Concept 14: Kissaru
- Title: Waste Management at Ga. Kondey
- Comments: Rejected on the justification that this project focuses on waste management and does not showcase innovation or improvement of the existing models, with reference to waste management projects. Moreover, Ga. Kondey's has a very small population.
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 28: Women's Development Committee
- Title: WDC Eco-Lake Park Project
- Comments: The concept was prepared for a GEF Grant, not MFF. Hence rejected on these grounds
- **Decision: Rejected**



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- **Concept 10:** Island Development and Environmental Awareness Society (IDEAS).
- Title: A feasibility study on use of mangroves as a coastal defence against waves, swells, erosion and sea level rise in Huvadho Atoll.
- Comments: To seek opportunities if this concept could be synergized with 4 other concepts. To map together and submit the full proposal as one.
- If they do not agree to this, they can still submit the full proposal however to inform them that more weightage would be given if they do a combined project.
- In the concept of IDEAS additional component was the toolkit they proposed.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**

- **Concept 16:** LAMER
- Title: Biodiversity Assessment and Ecological habitat mapping of environmentally sensitive sites at Huvadho Atoll.
- Comments: To seek opportunities if this concept could be synergized with 4 other concepts. To map together and submit the full proposal as one.
- If they do not agree to this, they can still submit the full proposal however to inform them that more weightage would be given if they do a combined project.
- The strength of LAMER was they have a strong management plan and the biodiversity assessment.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**

- **Concept 27:** Thinadhoo Zuvaanunge Club
- Title: Seawater Organic Farm
- Comments: Was seen as an innovative concept to move to the full proposal stage. Was highlighted that just recently GEF SGP has awarded a similar project to another NGO.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**

- **Concept 19:** Heducare Training Centre
- Title: Fostering community stewardship towards the marine resource management of Gaaf Dhaal Atoll
- Comments: Was seen as a good concept. But concerns raised that once the trainings are done the trainees tend to leave and hence is not sustained.
- To advise them to conduct it in par with the National Reef Monitoring Protocol.
- The NGO to liaise and work with Marine Research Centre.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**

- **Concept 24:** Red Production
- Title: Mangrove Conservation through Knowledge Dissemination & Community Empowerment
- Comments: Was seen as a good concept. But rejected since the NGO has an ongoing grant under MFF.
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- **Concept 15:** Kolamaa
- Title: Heylaa
- Comments: Concept was not approved as it is focused on waste management and does not involve innovation or improving the existing model
- **Decision: Rejected.**



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- **Concept 23:** Maldives Youth Action Network (MYAN)
- Title: Strengthening the waste management system on GA. Dhaandhoo
- Comments: Concept was not innovative and does not address improvement of the existing model
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- Concept 26: Thenadhoo Development Corporative Society
- Title: Symbiotic Aquaponics in Mangroves Social Park
- Comments: To seek opportunities of this concept could be synergized with 4 other concepts. To map together and submit the full proposal as one.
- If they do not agree to this, they can still submit the full proposal however to inform them that more weightage would be given if they do a combined project.
- The concept is very good since it proposes to keep the mangrove clean. Since Thinadhoo is a central island, it was seen as a positive aspect.
- While integrating the 4 concepts, it was conditioned that TDCS take the lead, as the only local NGO among the 4 mapping concepts.
- **Decision: Shortlisted for Full Proposal**

- Concept 18: LAMER
- Title: Developing an Aquaponics System in a pond in Gdh. Faresmaathodaa
- Comments: Aquaponics need fishes which breed a lot. One such is the "Thilapiya" which is not allowed to bring in to Maldives. Due to this there is no commercial benefit from projects such as this. Hence it is not viable.
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- Concept 9: Huvadhoon Aid
- Title: Strengthening the waste management system on GA. Gemanafushi
- Comments: Concept was not inventive enough to approve under waste management.
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- Concept 25: Reef & Beach Community
- Title: Reef & Beach Ecotourism
- Comments: It seemed unlikely that the NGO could complete all the proposed activities within the time frame.
- The NGO would need to go an EIA for this concept.
- There was no link to local tourism in the concept.
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 11: Islamic Society
- Title: Conducting environment friendly traditional work trainings.
- Comments: Mostly the activities revolved around raising awareness.
- There was no sustainability component.
- **Decision: Rejected**



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- Concept 17: LAMER
- Title: Training of teachers and students of Gaaf Dhaal Atoll on Climate Change Adaptation.
- Comments: Since the marks awarded for the concept did not have much of a difference, decided to reject based on low average marks.
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 1: Beeraafanna Sports Club (South Huvadho Partnership)
- Title: Improving mangrove based crab culture for stable income, community connection and promoting mangrove plantation in G.A Kanduhulhudho.
- Comments: Aquaponics need fishes which breed a lot. One such is the "Thilapiya" which is not allowed to bring in to Maldives. Due to this there is no commercial benefit from projects such as this. Hence it is not viable.
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 7: HED Maldives Cooperative Society
- Title: Strengthening the waste management system on Ga. Maamendho and greening the island.
- Comments: Concept was not innovative and does not address improvement of the existing model
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 5: Gemanafushi Sports Club
- Title: Waste Management Project Proposal
- Comments: Concept was not innovative and does not address improvement of the existing model
- **Decision: Rejected**

- Concept 3: G. A. Gemanafushi Cooperative Society (GAGCS)
- Title: Helping households for sustainable production of short eats (gulha, baiya, mas mirus, bondi, thelilee faiy) which can be preserved for a long shelf life
- Comments: Concept does not have a sustainability component to it. Also since the marks awarded for the concept did not have much of a difference, decided to reject based on low average marks.
- **Decision: Rejected.**

- It was instructed by the NCB to have a meeting with the 4 concepts shortlisted to be combined. Hudhu and Mizu volunteered to join and assist this meeting.
- The option to synergize the concepts is also because we have only limited amount of funds to award for the grants during this cycle.
- To inform the grantees the amount of funds available, because when combined, the budget might exceed the available funds.



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2. Other Issues

- **Sharing innovative ideas and new technologies.**
- It was highlighted that the NCB needs to share more innovative and adaptation ideas with the local communities.
- The new technologies the NCB comes to know of needs to be shared so that the NGO could propose their concepts based on these.
- Decided to share these ideas in the NCB meetings, and the team to take it to the local communities while conducting PCM, scoping missions or monitoring trips.

- **Appointment of an additional Civil Society Member to NCB**
- Chairman
- Proposed looking into broadening the membership of NCB to include more civil society organisations
- The NCB decided on inviting VESHI since it works in the area of environment and is comprised of many technical personnel.

- **Consolidation of board to have a common UNDP Board.**
- Discussion were held on combining the board of GEF and NCB to make a single board to manage the small grants programme
- Members raised concerns with regards to increased work load on this proposal
- UNDP focal point highlighted that the recent mapping carried out as part of the private sector engagement revealed that most of the small grants revolve around environmental themes and there is scope of broadening the scope as there are no limitations by the project as such
- Should the board be consolidated, proposed to have different chairman for different projects? For instance, when MFF issues are discussed EPA Head to chair and for GEF SGP Related GEF Chairman to share
- And it was also proposed that instead of one consolidated board to have a consolidated board meeting on a quarterly basis to share the different issues of various projects and discuss the blacklisted NGOs etc.

- **Impact Assessment of MFF Projects**
- Discussed that once the grants are awarded, NCB does not know much about how the project goes or the impact made by the project.
- To conduct an impact assessment of the Discussed o sending an impact assessment form and which gauges the level of impact made by the project. Then during other individual projects, the NCB members of MFF team could check it.

The meeting was adjourned at 1430hrs.

Annex:

- Attendance Sheet of 52 NCB Meeting on 10 Nov 2016
- Replies sent to NGO's based on the NCB Decision.