

QUARTER PROGRESS REPORT
QUARTER 1 | YEAR 2025



A. BASIC INFORMATION

Project ID / Output ID	001000608 / 1137143	Reporting Date:	10 April 2025
Full Title:	Maldives Resilient Reef Ecosystem And Economy For The Future(Maldives RREEF)		
Start Date:	09 June 2023	Completion Date (and approved extension, if any):	09 December 2025
Total Project Fund (and fund revisions, if any):	USD 1,518,148.00	Annual Project Fund: AWP Budget (2025) ("and fund revisions, if an")	USD 1,317,918.40
Implementing Partner:	Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE) (Former Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy (MCCEE)) Addu Nature Park (ANP) SME Development Financing Corporation (SDFC) Business Centre Corporation (BCC) Maldives Marine Research Institute (MMRI) Addu City Council (ACC) Fuvahmulah City Council (FCC)		
Donor/s:	Global Fund for Coral Reefs		
Responsible Parties:	Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MoTE) SME Development Financing Corporation (SDFC) Business Centre Corporation (BCC) Maldives Marine Research Institute (MMRI)		
Project Description	The goal of the Maldives GFCR joint programme is to establish sustainable financing mechanisms to support coral conservation and facilitate the development of, and investment in, projects and businesses that sustainably contribute to the resilience of coral reefs and the communities living on these atolls. The GFCR joint programme will engage local private sector actors, including micro, small, medium-size enterprises led by men and women; support the development and deployment of incubators and accelerators for coral-positive entrepreneurs and enterprises; promote the use of and access to diverse and innovative financial instruments; and catalyse private sector finance at scale to protect Maldives's reefs and build the resilience of local communities through the Blue Economy. The joint programme will be implemented in four phases (Phase 1, months 1-18, Phase 2,months 19-36, Phase 3, years 4 to 6, Phase 4,year ~7 to 8). The initial grant funding request for Phase 1 seeks to secure support to pilot approaches to seed a coral positive blue economy to strengthen coral conservation and management effectiveness on two pilot atolls in the southern Maldives (Addu Atoll, Fuvahmulah Atoll), both of which were inscribed as UNESCO Biosphere Reserves in 2020. Phase 1 will allow for the testing of a range of mechanisms and approaches to provide the foundation for tailoring solutions for scaling-up reef-positive activities and market-based solutions across other atoll ecosystems nationally in subsequent Phases.		
Target Group	Local government, Nature Park officials, community representatives, as well as non-governmental and community groups active in conservation, marine protected area management and coral reef restoration, including women’s groups and other marginalised groups.		

B. INDICATIVE/EMERGING RESULTS OF THE PROJECT and LESSONS LEARNED

B.1 CPD Outcome alignment	UNDP OUTCOME 2 (UNSDCF OUTCOME 3): By 2026, national and subnational institutions and communities in Maldives, particularly at-risk populations, are better able to manage natural resources and achieve enhanced resilience to climate change and disaster impacts, natural and human-induced hazards, and environmental degradation, inclusively and in a sustainable manner
B.2 CPD Output indicator alignment <i>[Choose between 1-3 applicable indicators]</i>	Output 2.1. Enabling environment and multisector engagement for carbon footprint reduction in priority sectors Indicator 2.1.1: Number of sectors integrating and implementing gender-sensitive sustainable practices, policies and strategies [SPIRRF 1.1.2] Baseline: 0 Target: 7 Source: MoECCT Frequency: Annually Output 2.4. Increased engagement of civil society organizations and individuals on climate action Indicator 2.4.1: Number of civil society organizations implementing localized programmes on natural resource management, sustainable energy transitioning, conservation and related areas [SPIRRF 2.4.5] Baseline: 77 Target: 152 Source: GEF-SGP Frequency: Annually
- Indicator 2.1.1: No significant updates in the reporting period - Indicator 2.4.1: No significant updates in the reporting period As the programme implementation was in it's early stages, Q1 activities focused primarily on revalidating the identified needs in the programme document. The preparatory activities required to inform the activities on the ground were initiated in Q1 which included the following key consultancies: - Developing the ESMP, ESI, GRM and SEP for GFCR - Survey equipment purchase for Maldives Marine Research Institute - Development of the Gender Strategy for GFCR - Development of Communications Strategy - BoQ for the rehabilitation work in Addu and Fuvahmulah Nature Park Challenges to implementation included limited human resources in the line ministries and key agencies which caused delays in decision making. In addition, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, following their merger was facing challenges in implementations. Changes in some key Ministries and their mandates led to delays in decision making concerning the project.	
B.3 SP Output Alignment	Select other applicable SP output indicators outside the CPD from the drop-down list. See [link] for full list of indicators. [SPIRRF 1.1.2] AND [SPIRRF 2.4.5]

B.4 Project document outcome indicators

Outcome level indicators are not separately stated in the ProDoc and overall output level indicators are meant to serve as the means of assessment/verification of overall achievement of project outcomes

Document Outcome Indicator	Baseline		Project Target		Actual Progress in reporting period (numeric or narrative)	Comments/ Remarks		
	Year	Quantity/ Points /Rating	Overall target for project period 2023-2030	2024 target Click or tap here to enter text.				
Outcome 1: Sustainable Financing Mechanisms supporting improved management effectiveness of the Maldives MPA network are established.								
Outcome 2: Coral positive economy and gender responsive local livelihoods catalysed across Maldives								
Outcome 3: Increased capacity for coral R&D and monitoring within Maldives.								

B.5 Project document output indicators

Output 1.1: Blended Finance mechanisms are tested to improve the management effectiveness and sustainable financing of coral reef resilience - Proof of concept Addu Atoll and Fuvahmulah UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.

Activity Results	Indicator	Baseline	Overall target for project period	2025 Target	Actual Progress in reporting period (numeric) or (narrative)	Comments/ Remarks
Activity 1.1.1: Upgrading the visitor centres and visitor experience for Addu Nature Park and Fuvahmulah Nature Park	O.1.1c - Coral reef area under effective protection / management	TBD	2 PAME assessments conducted and score available	2 PAME assessments conducted and score available	The BoQ and Design work required to commence the remobilisation work is now underway with the consultant having completed the assessments in Addu and Fuvahmulah. Currently the concept drawing for Addu Nature Park are being reviewed	
Activity 1.1.2: Preparation of a Sustainable Financing Plan to improve the management effectiveness of Addu and Fuvahmulah UNESCO Biosphere Reserves.	O.1.2a Proportion of financing spent for strengthened management compared to required spend as per expenditure plan	0	2 Action Plans (1 for ABR and 1 for FBR) budgeted	2 Action Plans (1 for ABR and 1 for FBR) budgeted	ToR developed to hire a consultant to develop the costing for the action plans. The consultant is expected to be onboard in Q2	

Output 1.2: Increased management of resort reefs in partnership with resort owners through other effective area based conservation measures

Activity Results	Indicator	Baseline	Overall target for project period	2025 Target	Actual Progress in reporting period (numeric) or (narrative)	Comments/ Remarks
Activity 1.2.1: Development of a communication campaign for OECMs	O.1.1b Coral reef area designated as MPAs and OECMs.	No existing communications campaign	at least 1 OECM application submitted	at least 1 OECM application submitted	Tender announced to recruit a national coordinator (IC) to work with MoTE to implement this activity.	
Activity 1.2.2: Launch of the communication campaign and convening workshop with resort owners.		0				
Activity 1.2.3: Technical guidance, oversight and support for resort owners engaged in the OECM application process.		0				

Output 1.3: Sustainable financing identified to support the effective management of the Maldives MPA network nationwide.

Activity Results	Indicator	Baseline	Overall target for project period	2025 Target	Actual Progress in reporting period (numeric) or (narrative)	Comments/ Remarks
Activity 1.3.1: Partnership platform to improve knowledge sharing about coral conservation and management effectiveness in the Maldives	P.1.3.1. Partnership Platform operational	No existing platforms	1 Partnership platform operational	1 Partnership platform operational	This activity is to be moved to Phase 2 of the project	

Output 2.2: Coral-positive business incubator financing mechanism for generating new businesses led by SMEs within the pilot atolls and LNOB category

Activity Results	Indicator	Baseline	Overall target for project period	2025 Target	Actual Progress in reporting period (numeric) or (narrative)	Comments/ Remarks
Activity 2.2.2: Establish separate window under Maldives GEF SGP for coral positive action and livelihoods in target LNOB atolls (Lhaviyani, Meemu, Shaviyani, Kaafu, and Raa Atoll are the most vulnerable according to MPI) and Addu and Fuvahmulah.	O.2.3a - Number of people (men and women) / households with reef-sustainable livelihoods	0	At least 4 low value grants issued	At least 4 low value grants issued	GFCR SGP Concept Paper and call for applications documents finalised. This will be announced in Q2	

Output 3.1: Enhanced coral reef monitoring capacity nationwide through a citizen science approach in partnership with tourism industry.						
Activity Results	Indicator	Baseline	Overall target for project period	2025 Target	Actual Progress in reporting period (numeric) or (narrative)	Comments/ Remarks
Activity 3.1.1: Sustainable financing for coral reef monitoring nationwide through a scalable citizen science approach.	P.3.1.1. Sustainable financing of training programme to scale up coral reef monitoring nationwide in place	0	Development of training materials for MMRI to upscale the regular harmonised coral reef monitoring efforts, and increase capacity to collect data	Minimum 1 training module developed	No significant progress to report during the reporting period	

B.6 Lessons learned and ways forward

Guidance: Mention the key lessons learned from project implementation, and how these lessons will guide us in the future. Please mention any “best” practices which UNDP should be aware of. Please be specific. [2,000 characters max.]

Key lessons learned include:

Political instability and shifts in administration/mandates can disrupt project timelines. We learned the importance of considering political factors when planning and building in flexibility to accommodate potential delays.

Relying on a single method creates a single point of failure. We learned the value of having backup plans and developing alternative methods to achieve our goals in case the primary method becomes unavailable.

Online communication can be a reliable and efficient tool. We learned that utilizing online platforms can maintain communication and progress even in challenging circumstances.

C. TECHNICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Evidence-based reporting – include relevant reports/publications and/or photo-documentation (description, date, location) as an annex.
- Quarterly financial performance is reported in the FACE Form. Please ensure consistency of technical accomplishments with the submitted Quarter FACE form and the AWP.
- Interim annual financial performance data is reported in the APR.

D. PARTNERSHIPS

Name of Partner	Type	Description of partnership and how it has contributed to project results or sustainability
Ministry of Tourism and Environment	Government	This partnership primarily focused on achieving the milestones under output 1.1. Discussions held to expedite the implementation and address challenges in implementation. As such, the PMU facilitated the procurement of services of an IC to act as a National Coordinator for the projects under MoTE
Maldives Marine Research institute	Government	Discussions held with MMRI as this is the primary agency which UNDP team will be coordinating with on the data collection aspect of the project in order to establish the necessary baselines required to inform project activities

E. INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION, AND KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

IEC/Knowledge Product Produced	Type	Date Published/Produced	Target audience	Link (if available)
News article on the meeting between UNDP and Addu City Council for planning the activities under Maldives RREEF Project	News Article	23 January 2025	Local community	https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1016194180553884&id=100064899331895&rdid=xUFF6O2VVKXMQkII#

Was the project cited/quoted/featured in media reports/articles? <i>If yes, please provide link to article/video.</i>	None
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F. ACTIONS TAKEN REGARDING AUDIT AND/OR SPOT CHECK FINDINGS

Not applicable for the reporting period

Audit/Spot Check Recommendation/s	Action Taken	Responsible Person	Implementation Date
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

G. RISK LOG UPDATE

- Assess identified risks and record new risks that may affect project implementation.
- Include risks identified in the Project’s Social and Environmental Screening, if any.
- Is there an update to any risks in this quarter?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Cause	Event	Impact	Date Identified	Type	Status	Countermeasures/Management Response <i>(What actions have been taken/will be taken to counter this risk)</i>
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

H. MONITORING & EVALUATION

Is the project’s M&E Plan being adequately implemented? Are progress data against indicators in the project’s RRF being reported regularly using credible data sources and collected according to the frequency stated in the M&E Plan?	Monitoring visit to Addu City conducted in January. The BTOR is available below: https://undp.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/RCC/Shared%20Documents/Cloud/Projects/GFCR%20FSP/05.%20Travel/9.%20Addu%20Monitoring%20Trip%202025/BTOR%20Monitoring%20
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I. MAINSTREAMING GENDER EQUALITY

Incorporation of gender perspectives in various outputs and activities by giving emphasis on gender-sensitive concerns especially in leadership roles, decision-making processes, capacity-building and protection of women, including the children and elderly

UNDP Gender Marker [link]	2
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J. Qualitative description

Output level results reporting 1) Output 1.1 Click or tap here to enter text. 2) Output 2.1 Click or tap here to enter text. 3) Click or tap here to enter text.
In Governance Mechanisms <i>Guidance: participation in project board, including representation of PCW, TWGs, experts’ group and other governance mechanisms set up by the project, e.g. national multi-sectoral committees)</i> The Project Steering Committee was established in Q1 2025 and the first PSC meeting was conducted. The meeting minutes are available from the link below: https://undp.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/RCC/Shared%20Documents/Cloud/Projects/GFCR%20FSP/19.%20PSC/PSC%201_Meeting%20Minutes%20(27.01.2025).pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=PqMWIn
In Capacity Building and Policy, Planning and Programming
Women’s Empowerment Key Results <i>Guidance: Describe results achieved by the project in promoting gender equality and women’s empowerment. Please highlight gender results achieved which have brought about changes in men’s and women’s lives, gender relations, gender roles and division of labor, status of inequality and exclusion of specific groups, etc.. Please provide</i> <i>quantitative data wherever possible. Include qualitative case studies and success stories to illustrate the most significant changes brought about by your project’s contributions.</i> Click or tap here to enter text.

K. Leaving No One Behind (LNOB) and Inclusivity

Under the principles of Leave no one behind (LNOB) which is the central, transformative promise of the 2030 Agenda, in Phase 1, a small grants scheme is to be introduced in the two pilots, targeting the most disadvantaged communities, and in phase 2 will scale to other LNOB atolls with the intention to ensure that the people of those atolls have unconditional access and opportunity to grant assistance. The project seeks to bring together local communities and governmental partners in conserving and effectively managing natural resources within the target Atolls. During this process, extensive local consultation and participation is envisioned to capture the requirements of local communities in informing all the systems and processes that are to be developed.
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L. Disaggregation of data of Beneficiaries/Participants of Activities conducted under the Project

Project Activities (E.g. Activity 1.1 xxxx)	Number of beneficiaries/participants	Gender disaggregation	Remarks (if any)
Activity 1.1.1.1 Remobilization grant to Addu Nature Park, channeled through MECCT, to renovate the visitor center and procure equipment to generate revenue from tourism and snorkeling.	20 participants	Meeting with Addu Councils 4 participants in total Male: 1 Female: 3	Meeting with members of Addu City Council, WDC and Nature Park staff.

M. Budget and Expenditure

1. Output wise Budget and Expenditure (in Reporting Period) in USD

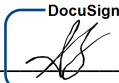
Output	Annual Budget	Total Expenditure	Budget Utilization%
Outcome 1: Sustainable Financing Mechanisms supporting improved management effectiveness of the Maldives MPA network are established	682,545.01	43,347.68	6%
Outcome 2: Coral positive economy and gender responsive local livelihoods catalyzed across the Maldives.	203,300.00	0.00	-
Outcome 3 Increased capacity for coral R&D and monitoring within Maldives.	67,945	0.00	-
M&E and Programme Management Costs	364,128.39	44,667.96	12%
Total	1,317,918.40	88,015.64	

2. Donor wise Budget and Expenditure (in Reporting Period)

Source of Fund	Funding period (Start – End Date)	Total Project Budget	Expenditure up to quarter	Total Budget utilization %	Budget Balance
GFCR	June 2023-Dec 2025	1,518,148.00	281,260.00	19%	1,236,888.00
Total					

Prepared by: Adam Shaheer
Project Manager/Coordinator

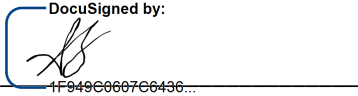
Signature:

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Date: 11-Jul-2025

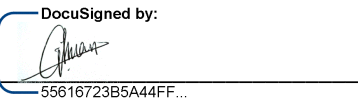
Noted by: Adam Shaheer

ARR/Team Leader/ Implementing Partner

Signature:  Date: 11-Jul-2025

Noted by: Pek Chuan Gan

M&E focal point/ DRR

Signature:  Date: 13-Jul-2025

ANNEX

N. Financial report

O. SAMPLE RISK LOG UPDATE

#	Issue Log	Risk Category	Likelihood	Impact	Proposed Mitigation Measure	Proposed Risk Response
1.	(list/cluster)	(choose from list)	(1-5)	(1-5, comment)	(list)	(terminate, transfer, mitigate, tolerate)
2.						

P. Reference: Types of Risks¹

Environmental	Financial	Organizational	Political	Operational	Regulatory	Strategic	Other
Natural Disasters: storms, flooding, earthquakes	EXTERNAL economic factors: interest rates, exchange rate fluctuation, inflation	Institutional Arrangements	Corruption	Complex Design (size: larger/multi-country project; technical complexity; innovativeness, multiple funding sources)	New unexpected regulations, policies	Partnerships failing to deliver	Other risks that do not fit in any of the other categories
Pollution incidents	INTERNAL:	Institutional/ Execution Capacity	Government Commitment	Project Management	Critical policies or legislation fails to pass or progress in the legislative process	Strategic Vision, Planning and Communication	Might refer to socioeconomic factors such as: population pressures; encroachment – illegal invasions; poaching/illegal hunting or fishing
Social and Cultural	Co-financing difficulties	Implementation arrangements	Political Will	Human Error/Incompetence		Leadership and Management	

¹ UNDP Programme and Operations Policies and Procedures (POPP)

Security/Safety	Use of financing mechanisms	Country Office Capacity (specific elements limiting CO capacity)	Political Instability	Infrastructure Failure		Programme Alignment	
Economic	Funding (Financial Resources)	Governance	Change in Government	Safety being compromised		Competition	
	Reserve Adequacy	Culture, Code of Conduct and Ethics	Armed Conflict and Instability	Poor monitoring and evaluation		Stakeholder Relations	
	Currency	Accountability and Compensation	Adverse Public opinion/media intervention	Delivery		Reputation	
	Receivables	Succession Planning and Talent Management		Programme Management		UN Coordination	
	Accounting/Financial Reporting	Human resources Processes and Procedures		Process Efficiency		UN Reform	
	Budget Allocation and Management			Internal Controls			
	Cash Management/Reconciliation			Internal and External Fraud			
	Pricing/Cost Recovery			Compliance and Legal			
				Procurement			
				Technology			
				Physical Assets			