



Initiative for Climate Action Transparency

Stakeholder Consultation Workshop Report

Date: 22 September 2020, Tuesday

Time: 1000 - 1200

Mode of workshop: virtual mode via *google hangout* (link to be shared on 20 September 2020)

Background

Maldives as a party to United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) prioritize establishment of a Measuring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system to meet the transparency requirement of the Paris Agreement. At sectoral level, mitigation actions in the Maldives are mainly focused on three main sectors: Energy, Waste, and Transport. The waste sector is the one with the strongest need for development regarding MRV more specifically in relation to the absence of data collection and data management procedures and methods, lack of legal mandates for implementing compulsory data reporting of waste generators (e.g. the tourism sector), and high levels of inaccuracies due to lack of data verification means. Also, waste sector is a key area of the GHG inventory. The ICAT is aimed to achieve major three outcomes as mentioned below.

1. **Outcome 1:** Data collection and data management methodologies and procedures for the waste management sector are developed and implemented
2. **Outcome 2:** Stakeholders involved in generation of activity data in the waste management sector are trained in the usage of the methodologies for data collection and data management, and a continues capacity building process is in place and operating
3. **Outcome 3:** A guideline/roadmap for creating the best enabling environment for a continuous data reporting and data sharing has been developed.

The outcomes of the project are achieved through consultancy work. In this regard, to improve consistency and efficiency within the implementation phase, the first consultancy is developed with combination of activities from outcome 1. They are as below.

This consultancy work aims to undertake the following tasks;





1. Development of a report on the legal, policy, guideline, institutional arrangement of the waste data collection and data management in the Maldives (**Diagnostic Study**).
2. **Conduct a waste audit** for selected islands as per the information provided in the bid document and in accordance with the technical guidance to be provided by the Ministry.
3. **Development of procedures and methodologies for data collection and data management** for the waste sector, and its integration into the existing MRV arrangements of the country.

Objectives

The objective of this kick-off stakeholder is to receive guidance on the technical approach of the consultancy and efforts to enhance the data sharing protocols. The workshop will be moderated by Assistant Director, Climate Change Mr. Mareer Mohamed Husny.

Workshop participation

List of relevant stakeholders prepared for the meeting is given below and the participating organization in the inception workshop is highlighted in the Table 1. Island councils CSO, CBO's, regional waste management centers and IWMC were not invited for the meeting due to COVID-19 and some other technical and communicational difficulties with the islands and organizations. Almost all the stakeholder identified in the list will be consulted during the preparation process of the diagnostic study and before commencement of the waste audit surveys.

Opening session (session 1)

The stakeholder workshop was inaugurated by Environment and Climate Change Specialist of the Ministry of Environment Ms. Khajeedha Naseem. In her opening remarks she emphasized that the country needs to develop a mechanism to collect standardized high quality data which is required for the fulfillment of reporting requirements of various conventions. Therefore, she said that the inception workshop is the start of a process to collect standardized data on waste, which is required to accurately measure GHG emissions as part of the Biannual updated reporting under Paris Agreement Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. She also highlighted the deliverables of this consultation process and emphasized on the importance of the technical guidance from the inception works to develop standardized data collection in waste sector.

Introduction on ICAT (session 2)

Mr. Mareer Mohamed Husny (Assistant Director ME) presented an overview of the project. His presentation focused on enhancing the understanding the aim and objectives of the ICAT Project and expected outcome of the project. He also highlighted the need for the strengthening of the Monitoring Verification and Reporting (MRV) process which seems to be fairly weak particularly in SIDs and developing countries. Therefore, the aim of this project is to tackle some of the gaps and





barriers to the establishment of an MRV system in waste sector to address lack of data collection and data management methodologies and procedures.

Waste Audit and Diagnostic study (session 3)

Mr. Mohamed Shumais, Waste Audit specialist from GeotechMaldives, gave a presentation on waste audit and the technical approach to identify the existing waste management practices in the Maldives and data management in this sector. He explained the practical steps that will be followed in conducting the waste diagnostic study and waste audit survey. After his presentation the floor was open for panel discussion. Panelists were Mohamed Shumais, and Dr. Mahmood Riyaz (Team leader. GeotechMaldives) and Mr. Mareer who moderated the discussions. Main discussions were on :

- Roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders in Waste Management
- Policies and regulatory framework (island level, National level and International)
- Existing waste management systems in the islands
- Availability of data and the main challenges and barriers in data collection and management

The stakeholders specified the roles and responsibilities in the waste management sector, and that there is a limited level of data collected on a regular basis. As part of monitoring of Waste Management Centres (WMCs) EPA has some information on the types of waste generated. However, waste audits have not been done in most islands. It was noted that councils are not familiar on the procedures to do waste audits, but there is estimated level of waste that the councils have reported to EPA. Although there is a provision in the waste management regulation for waste auditing in each island. However, as per the stakeholder, no waste has been conducted up to date. Representative from the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture added to the discussion on data gaps by noting that there is no data collection or policy on pesticide waste, and expressed it as a rising issue.

On the sampling it was noted that we have considered in a way that samples can be extrapolated to the whole population with a 95% confidence level. It was also noted that waste data from some islands may not be like how it was pre-COVID19 situation, especially for those islands where guesthouse tourism was a main activity. Therefore, it needs to be acknowledged.

Ministry of Environment expressed on the importance of collecting quality data, and a control mechanism for facilitating that. We also noted that we would like to discuss with councils, Waste Management Corporation (WAMCO) and Ministry of Health on this project, and take their opinions into considerations.





Annex I

Provisional Agenda

1	Opening Remarks	1000 - 1005
2	Overview of the project	1005 - 1015
3	Technical approach for waste audit, development of procedures for climate action transparency	1015 - 1025
4	Facilitated discussion on the technical approach	1025 - 1155
5	Concluding Remarks	1155 - 1200

