



JOINT SDG FUND

Capacity Building on National and Subnational Planning for Sustainable Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation, and Mitigation

January 30- February 1, 2024
Maldives National University Campus, Male
Hybrid (MS-Teams)

Introduction:

Asia and the Pacific region is experiencing some of the greatest threats of climate change-induced disasters. Over the past decades, floods, tropical cyclones, heatwaves, droughts, and earthquakes have become more frequent and intense, leading to terrible losses of lives, displacing communities, damaging people's health, and pushing millions into poverty. Immediate collaborative action is required to prevent and respond to disaster risks before climate resilience becomes unfeasible.

In this respect, the Maldives, as a low-lying island nation, is among the most vulnerable countries in the world. Maldives is regularly exposed to hydro-meteorological hazards such as drought, storms, monsoonal heavy rain and related floods, cyclones, and storm swells. Maldives has the lowest terrain in the world, with more than 80% of its islands less than 1 m above the mean sea level. Given the global sea level rising at the rate of 3 to 4 millimetres per year, 31-50% of the population in the Maldives are likely to be exposed to sea level rise and related events such as coastal storm surges and coastal inundation more frequently by 2100 under business-as-usual scenario (SSP2). Considering this situation, the most pressing need would be to understand the risk and to be able to identify the risk hotspots so that appropriate action plans and policy decisions can be made. Simultaneously, the technical capacity of the relevant government institutions and other stakeholders in the country needs to be strengthened to understand the relevant data and use those data to produce scientific and data-driven evidence to support policies and plans.

ESCAP and UNDP are jointly implementing a two-year (2022-2023) SDG-funded project to strengthen the integration of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) with the national and sub-national development planning to ensure better achievement of SDG and Agenda 2030 in the Maldives. Under this project, ESCAP has developed an updated risk profile of Maldives based on high-resolution climate projection information and geospatial techniques to provide technical advisory to the Government on strengthening existing data and information products and support evidence-based policy making for DRR and CCA and design interventions. ESCAP, through its Risk and Resilient Portal (RRP)¹, provides the users with access to the landuse/landcover maps of the Maldives, climate

¹ <https://rrp.unescap.org/>



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projections, population distributions, and more to assist local councils in implementing island-level disaster management plans and vulnerability assessments.

To ensure that the stakeholders are well-equipped to use, apply, and update the developed database and the planning tools, a series of training workshops were designed to enhance the institutional capacity of the government institutions, Local Councils, other stakeholders, and youth. As a part of the technical training, ESCAP conducted a webinar on "Introduction to Geographic Information Systems & Getting Started with QGIS" on June 15, 2023, covering the basics of GIS.² The second technical training of the series was a hands-on training held in Male on August 14&15., 2024. This workshop was designed to help the participants enhance their basic knowledge of climate models, climate change projections and scenarios, along with the methodology to use that information for climate risk assessment for Maldives. It also targeted helping to build the participant's technical capacity and knowledge on using QGIS to generate and use current landuse/ landcover maps and use the climate risk information for risk-informed landuse plans.

This training, in collaboration with Maldives National University, is the concluding event of this project, concentrating on enhancing the capacity of stakeholders to access the data and decision-making tools through the ESCAP's Risk and Resilient Portal while providing an opportunity for further discussions on how to translate the available data and information into policy and action.

In addition to these trainings, ESCAP has developed some guidebooks to assist the stakeholders in their DRR and CCA efforts. The available manuals are as follows:

- I. Beginner's Handbook on Introduction to Geographic Information Systems and QGIS Software ([English](#))
- II. Guidebook for Landuse/ Land Cover Mapping And Climate Risk Assessment for Small Island Developing States Using Geospatial Techniques (English)
- III. Beginner's Handbook on Operationalizing Impact-Based Forecasting and Warning Services (IBFWS) ([English](#))
- IV. Introduction to the Risk and Resilient Portal (English, Dhivehi)

² <https://www.unescap.org/events/2023/strengthening-national-and-subnational-capacity-sustainable-disaster-risk-reduction-0>



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Goal:

- i. Concluding the project and providing the stakeholders with a summary of findings and recommendations
- ii. Enhancing the stakeholder's ability to use the data and the Risk and Resilient portal's decision-making tools
- iii. Provide a policy forum to discuss the use and applications of the data and tools.

Administrative Aspects:

This Event will be held in hybrid mode from Male. The Event will be in English. The final report of this meeting will be shared on ESCAP's Website.

Target Participants:

Government Institutions; Atoll Councils and Local Councils; Academia and Researchers; CSO & NGO Organizations; Private Sector organizations in Maldives; United Nations agencies

Tentative Program

DAY 1	
Time	Agenda
8:00 am-8:30 am	<u>Registration</u>
8:30 am-9:30 am	<p><u>Session I: Opening Session (Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr Nadhiya Abdullah - Research Associate, Research Development Office - MNU <p>➤ Welcome Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Mikiko Tanaka, Head, ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office • Mr Enrico Gaveglia, Resident Representative, UNDP Maldives <p>➤ Opening Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ibrahim Mimrah, Minister of State for Climate Change, Environment and Energy / Maldives Meteorological Service • Dr Aishath Shehenaz Adam, Vice-Chancellor, Maldives National University <p>➤ Inaugural Address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Hisan Hassan, Chief Executive, National Disaster Management Authority <p>➤ Launch of the Developed Knowledge Products</p>
9:30 am-10:15 am	<u>Photo Session + Tea Break</u>

<p>10:15 am-11:20 am</p>	<p><u>Session II: Introduction of Project Objectives and Progress Made(Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, South and South-West Asia Office, ESCAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation ➤ Q&A
<p>11:20 am-12:20 am</p>	<p><u>Session III: Key Priority Findings and the Future Plan of Action (Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Prangya Gupta, Consultant, ESCAP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation ➤ Q&A
<p>12:20 pm-1:30pm</p>	<p><u>Break, Lunch and Prayer</u></p>
<p>1:30 pm- 3:45</p>	<p><u>Session IV: Access and Use of Data and Decision Making Tools, Risk and Resilient Portal-Part 1 (Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An Overview of the Risk and Resilient Portal (RRP), Dr Madhurima Sarkar-Swaigood, Economic Affairs Officer, ESCAP (Online) • Demonstration of the Risk and Resilient Portal for Maldives, Ms Prangya Gupta, Consultant, ESCAP <p>This session will provide the participants with a brief explanation of commonly used terminologies, climate models, scenarios, and projections and will follow with a demonstration of the portal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming features of the RRP, Dr Frank Paul Janecek, Consultant, ESCAP (Online) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Q&A

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Special Intervention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation: 'New Tracking System for Hazardous Events, Disaster Losses and Damages', Mr Rajesh Sharma, Program specialist, UNDP Bangkok Regional Hub (Online) ➤ Q&A
3:45 pm- 4:00 pm	<p>Session V: Recap of Day 1 (Hybrid) Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, South and South-West Asia Office, ESCAP</p>

DAY 2	
Time	Agenda
8:00 am-8:15am	Registration
8:15 am-9:15 am	<p>Session VI: Setting the Tone for Day 2 (Hybrid)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Welcome and Planning of the Day Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, South and South-West Asia Office, ESCAP ➤ Introduction of Some of the Existing Regional, Subregional, and National Climate Change Initiatives & Platforms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AP-Plat and ClimoCast ,Dr Yuji Masutomi, Head AP-PLAT, NIES • RIMES Initiatives & Decision Support Systems (DSS) for forecasting, Mr Michael De Los Santos Bausas, RIMES (Online) • Geodata tools for integral planning coastal zone protection, Dr. Fredrik Huthoff, Associate Professor, Water Resources and Ecosystems Department (Online) ➤ Q&A

<p>9:15 am-11:00 am</p>	<p><u>Session VII: Access and Use of Data and Decision-Making Tools, Risk and Resilient Portal-Part2 (In-Person)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Prangya Gupta, ESCAP <p>➤ Hands-on Training of the Risk and Resilient Portal</p> <p>This session will allow the participants to visualize different climate scenarios through the RRP in the hands-on training.</p> <p>➤ Q&A</p>
<p>11:00am-11:30am</p>	<p>Tea Break</p>
<p>11:30 am-1:00 pm</p>	<p><u>Session VIII Experience Sharing: How Maldives is Planning on Translating the Disaster & Climate Data and Tools into Policy and Action (Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr Mostafa Mohaghegh, Senior Coordinator, APDIM, ESCAP <p>➤ Panel Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Hisan Hassan, Chief Executive • Mr Ali Shareef, Deputy Director General Meteorology, MMS (Online) • Ms Aishath Huma, Assistant Director, Ministry of Construction and Infrastructure • Mr Mohamed Basheer, President, Noonu Atoll Council • Mr Hassaan Mohamed, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment & Energy <p>➤ Q&A</p>

<p>1:0 pm-2:00 pm</p>	<p>Session IX: Round Table Discussion on Mainstreaming Gender in Disaster Risk Resilient and Climate Change Adaptation (Hybrid)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Ms Mikiko Tanaka, Head, ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office <p>➤ Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Mariyam Shizna , Director-Programs, Research and Advocacy, Emergency Management, National Disaster Management Authority • Ms Aishath Afa, Senior Social Protections Officer, Ministry of Social and Family Development • Mr Isy Faingold, Deputy Representative, UNICEF • Ms Portia Hunt, Programme Advisor, United Nations Environment Programme (Online) • Mr Ibrahim Shameel, Manager, Programmes & Services, Maldivian Red Crescent <p>➤ Q&A</p>
<p>2:00 pm-3:00 pm</p>	<p>Break, Lunch and Prayer</p>
<p>3:00 pm-4:00 pm</p>	<p>Session X Bringing data into DRR and CCA (Hybrid)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi <p>➤ Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Governance, DRR, Dr Mostafa Mohaghegh, Senior Coordinator, APDIM, ESCAP • Disaster Related Statistics in CCA and DRR, Mr Teerapong Praphotjanaporn, Statistician, ESCAP (Online) • Downscaling hazard projection data for national planning, Dr Yuji Masutomi, Head of AP-PLAT, NIES • Collecting data on subnational level, Ms Fathimath Lahfa, Head of Exploration, UNDP Maldives Accelerator Lab <p>➤ Q&A</p>

4:00 pm-4:05 pm	<p><u>Session XI- Recap of Day 2 (Hybrid)</u></p> <p>Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, South and South-West Asia Office, ESCAP</p>
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DAY 3	
Time	Agenda
8:10 am-8:20 am	Registration
8:20 am-8:30 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Welcome and Planning of the Day (Hybrid) Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi, Associate Economic Affairs Officer, South and South-West Asia Office, ESCAP
8:30am-10:30 am	<p><u>Session XII: Early Warning for All (Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Ms Faroosha Ali Naseer, Director, Emergency Management, National Disaster Management Authority ➤ Impact Based Forecasting for Maldives under the SDG-Funded project, Ms Prangya Gupta, Consultant, ESCAP ➤ Some of the ongoing initiatives • Introducing the Early Warning for All Initiative, Mr Harold Rice, Associate Program Officer ,UNDRR & Mr Ahmed Fizal, National Consultant for DRR and CCA, UNDRR • ESCAP Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster and Climate Preparedness, Ms Temily Baker, Program management officer, ESCAP (online)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Panel Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Sanjay Srivastava, Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction, IDD, ESCAP (Online) • Mr Ahmed Rasheed, Director Meteorology, Maldives Meteorological Services • Ms Mariyam Vishama, State Minister, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Welfare • Mr Ahmed Fizal, National Consultant for DRR and CCA, UNDRR • Mr Mohamed Azan Abdulla, Environment Analyst, Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy
10:30 am-10:50 am	Tea Break
10:50 am-12 pm	<p><u>Session XIII Financing in DRR and CCA (Hybrid)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Ms Mikiko Tanaka, Head, ESCAP South and South-West Asia Office <p>➤ Panel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Subathirai Sivakumaran, Chief of Financing for Development Section, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing Division, ESCAP • Mr Mohamed Shahudh, Economist, UNDP Maldives • Dr. Fazeel Najeeb, Assistant Professor, Research Development Office, MNU (Former Governor of MMA, Central Bank) • Mr. Alper Aras, Economic Affairs Officer, UNDRR (Online) • Mr Mohamed Basheer, President of Noonu Atoll council • Mr Thibyan Ibrahim, Assistant Director, Ministry of Environment <p>➤ Q&A</p>
12:00 pm- 1:15 pm	Break, Lunch and Pray
1:15 pm-2:45 pm	<p><u>Session XIV Policy Dialogue on Cooperation and Collaboration Among Various Stakeholders for DRR and</u></p>

	<p>CCA Successful Planning and Implementation (Hybrid)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Dr Nadhiya Abdullah - Research Associate, Research Development Office - MNU <p>This session provides an opportunity for discussion around how Research Institutions, Universities, and other non-Governmental organizations can contribute to DRR and CCA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Zeeniya Kamil, Assistance Professor - Faculty Of Engineering Science and Technology Maldives National University • Mr Madin Mohamed Maseeh, President, Maldives Space Research Organisation • Mr. Umar Moosa Fikry, Deputy Chief Executive, National Disaster Management Authority • Mr Maeed Mohamed Zahir, Advocacy Director, Ecocare Maldives • Dr Leila Salarpour Goodarzi, SSWA ESCAP ➤ Q&A
<p>2:45 pm- 3:15 pm</p>	<p><u>Concluding Session</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Enrico Gaveglia, Resident Representative, UNDP Maldives
<p>3:15 pm-3:30 pm</p>	<p><u>Feedback</u></p>