



NOO RAAJJE

**Fisheries Subcommittee Meeting
August 2023**

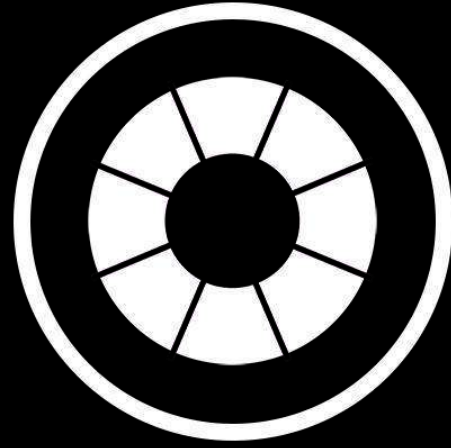
Agenda

- **Reintroduce Noo Raajje Program**
- **Highlight interactions with fishing sector**
- **Discuss Fisheries projects**

Noo Raajje Program



**BLUE
ECONOMY**



**MARINE
SPATIAL
PLANNING**



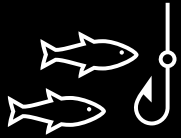
**SUSTAINABLE
FISHERIES**



**MARINE
PROTECTION**

Noo Raajje Program Goals

The program focuses on developing and implementing long-term sustainable solutions for management and use of our ocean resources.



Enhance fisheries



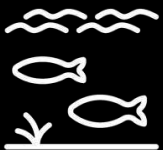
Protect coral reefs



Improve livelihoods and jobs



Sustainably grow economies



Protect and restore ocean health

The Government of the Maldives has committed to protect at least 20% of the ocean in fully protected Marine Protected Areas.

Ocean Use Survey to learn how Maldivians use and value the ocean.

Dec 3, 2021-Nov 10, 2022

243 site visits to **189** inhabited islands
4,924 responses contributed **29,705** shapes representing the ocean use patterns of **25,330**

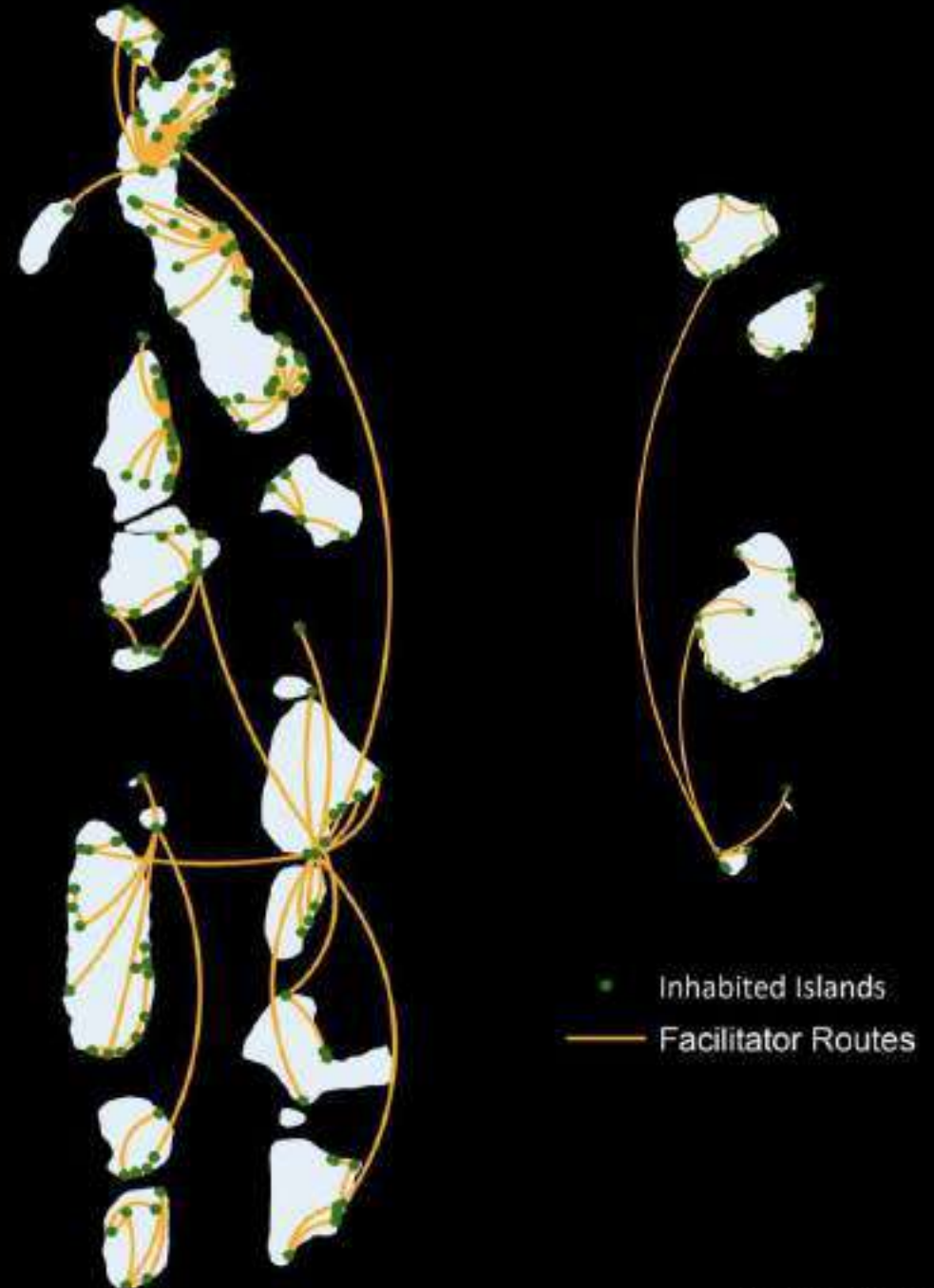
12,481 Fishers

12,181 Recreational Users

291 Guesthouses

64 Resorts

49 Charter Boats



Stakeholder Listening Tour

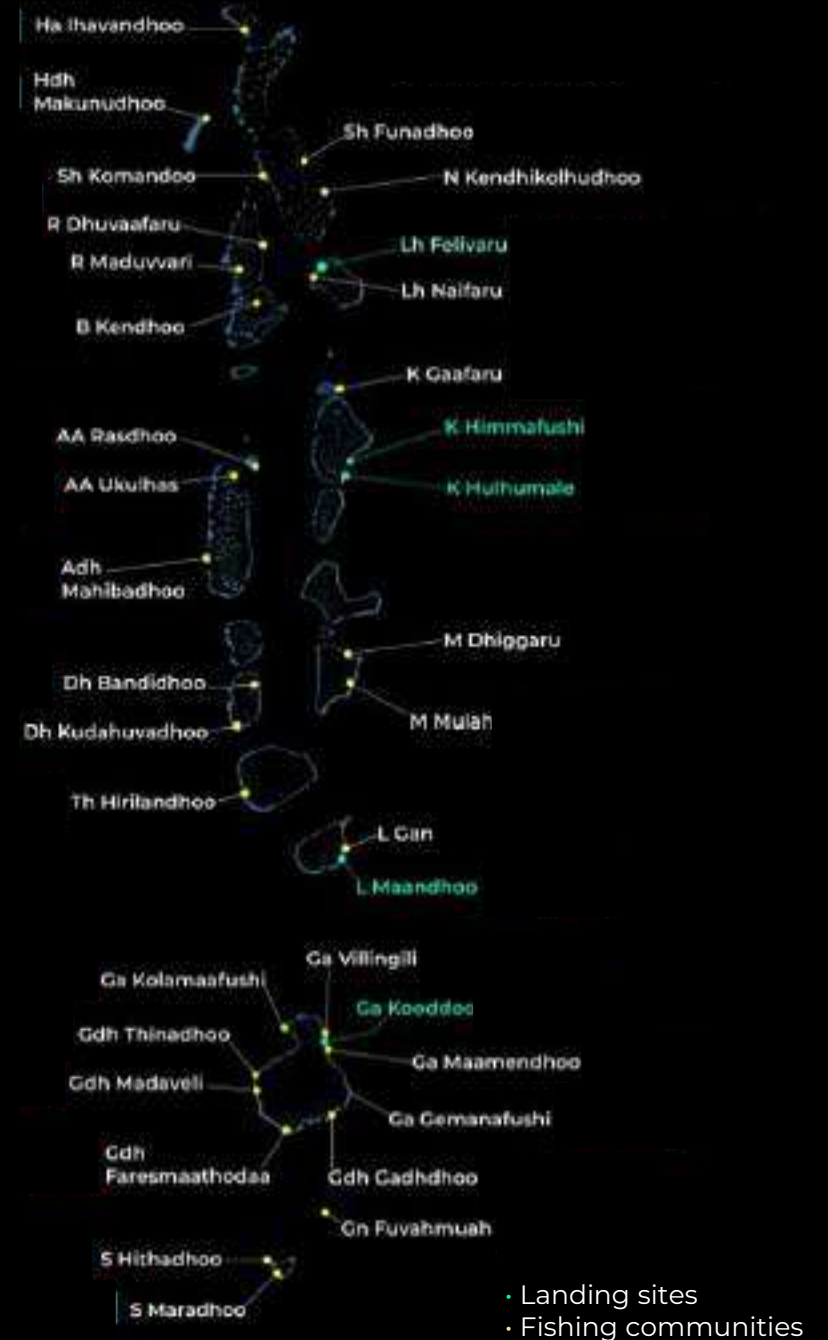
Conducted from Aug. – Nov. 2022.
Focused on fishers to better understand their priorities for the future of the ocean and thoughts on current ocean management

5 landing sites

30 islands

515 engagement sessions

Information provided to **1,886** people, including **1,509** fishers



What we heard from stakeholders

- **Witnessing changes to our ocean resources** and threats to our marine ecosystems
- **Positive** about Marine Spatial Planning and protection of marine resources
- Need for proper **implementation, monitoring and enforcement**
- Concerns with **losing fishing grounds**
- **Decentralised management**



Sustainable Fisheries Governance

- Waitt's Sustainable Fisheries Director Dr. Pablo Granados leads this work stream together with MoFMRA and MMRI
- Fisheries scientists at the Environmental Market Solutions Lab at UCSB will work as our lead collaborators
- Sustainable Fisheries Subcommittee will help identify priorities
- Subcommittee will also ensure engagement by identifying important stakeholders
- Ministry of Fisheries will be responsible to chair Subcommittee meetings



Sustainable Fisheries Pillar



Without a collaborative strategy:

- **It will be increasingly difficult to ensure and demonstrate sustainability,**
- **Profitability will continue to decline,**
- **Community expectations won't be met, and**
- **Competition for shared resources between sectors will increase with no clear process to resolve these issues.**

Look back at support provided to MoFMRA

An aerial photograph of a fishing boat deck. The deck is covered with a large quantity of fish, likely salmon, which are piled up. Several workers in colorful gear (blue, green, orange) are visible on the deck, some appearing to be handling the fish. The boat is moving through dark blue water, creating a white wake.

- **2020** Reviewed 7 Fisheries Management plans
- **2021** Produced a Fisheries Characterization report
- **2022** Modelled impacts of climate change on fish stocks
- **2022** Conducted Seafood Markets study
- Now Developing 2024 workplan

Sustainable Fisheries Work ideas for 2023-2024

An aerial photograph of a fishing boat's deck, densely packed with a large catch of silver fish, likely tuna. Several workers in colorful clothing are visible on the deck, engaged in handling the fish. The boat is moving through dark blue water, with white wake visible.

- Strengthening Brand Positioning of Tuna
- Community Fisheries data collection and monitoring
- Fisheries transition mechanism
- Value added alternatives for tuna and reef fisheries
- Bioeconomic modeling to estimate changes in productivity associated to MSP for selected species (e.g., tuna species, selected reef fisheries)

Questions?

STAY CONNECTED



@NooRaajje

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NooRaajje.org