

# Nexus between trade and poverty reduction, environment and gender

Country experience – Maldives

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# Introduction

- On-going EIF projects – no direct engagement at the grass root level.
- Positioned as strategic projects supporting softer elements of institutional capacity building to support implementation of trade agenda
- However, a number of trade projects being implemented that will have a lasting impact on poverty reduction, environment and gender.

# Projects implemented

- Some of the key projects implemented include
  - ADB/IDB and Govt of Maldives supported SME programs
    - Establishment of Business Centers
    - Concessional financing facilities (40% targeted for women and youth)
    - Credit guarantee scheme
    - Dedicated youth entrepreneurship programs
    - Strengthening legal framework to support SME sector development
  - IFAD/ FAO supported projects on developing co-operatives in agriculture and fisheries sector value chain
    - New product development and empowerment of grass root member based organization development
  - SAARC Development fund project supporting home-based workers
    - Substantial focus on harnessing and strengthening productive capacity of women working from home and in cottage industries
  - IFAD supported projects on mari-culture development
    - Fisheries sector diversification, new product development, new type of livelihood opportunities for locals residing in outer islands, positive

# Projects implemented

- key projects implemented (cont...);
  - UN executed and Denmark funded low emission climate resilient project – integrated project looking at the social, economic, environmental and broader community level governance issues
  - UN Climate Fund and UNDP supported tourism adaptation project –lasting impact on environment, community level governance and
  - SREP/ADB/WB/EIB/JAPAN funded and supported projects on scaling up renewable energy at national level
  - Waste, water and sewerage projects – extensive positive impact on the environment and day to day life of islanders.