

Presentation to EIF Regional
Workshop for Asia
MALDIVES

08 Nov 2016

Key Policies Driving Trade Agenda

- Key pledges – doubling per capita income and creating 94000 jobs
- Achieving economic diversification
- Increasing FDI especially for strategic projects
- Improving bilateral trade relations
- Trade facilitation and improving doing business environment

Key mandate areas of MED

- Trade
- Investment
- Special Economic Zone Development
- SME development
- Transport (Land and marine)
- Labour, Employment and Anti-Human trafficking

Key Guiding documents

- DTIS 2006
- 7th National Development Plan 2007-2009
- Strategic Action Plan (2009-2013)
- Economic Diversification Strategy 2013
- Government Manifesto 2013-2018

Country level Governance Structure

Function	Relevant Body	Chair	Relevant body	Meeting Frequency
Policy Making	Cabinet	President	President's Office	As and when needed
	Economic and Youth Council (Cabinet sub – committee)	President; co-chair Minister of Fisheries and Agriculture	President's Office	Daily
Statutory level advisory bodies	SME Council	Minister of Economic Development	MED	Once a month
	SEZ Board	Minister of Economic Development	MED	As and when needed
Advisory level	Business Council	Minister of Economic Development	MED	Once a month
	Trade Facilitation Committee	Minister of Economic Development	MED	Once a month
EIF level	EIF National Steering Committee	Minister of Economic Development	MED	Quarterly
	EIF Focal Point			
	NIU			

EIF Resource mobilization

- Tier 1 – Phase I, USD 900000
- Tier 1- Phase 2, USD 600000
- Tier 2 – USD 1,557,838

Lessons learnt

- Success depends on strong political will
- Mainstreaming is crucial to ensure focus on trade is maintained as a driver of economic growth
- Effective coordination mechanism to get stakeholders on board
- Strong collaboration with private sector crucial to shift resource mobilization efforts

Challenges

- Lack of presence of in country donors
- Coherence of donor support to implement DTIS
- DTIS – update long over due
- Continuous need to align the project deliverables with Government priorities
- Sustainability

Way forward-Leveraging

- Shifting from donor assistance to investments
- Ongoing donor level collaborations
 - ADB/IDB/SDF: SME development
 - ADB/UNESCAP/UNCITRAL: Trade Facilitation
- Private sector
 - Investment Forums (Govt facilitation and fully private sector funded)
 - EXPO Maldives (Trade Fair) (Govt and private sector)
 - Market access for fish products (Govt & private sector)
- Investment aid for strategic projects
 - China-Maldives Friendship bridge (China, Govt of Maldives)
 - Airport - INIA development (China, Saudi Arabia, private sector)
 - Hulhumale' Youth City Development (Saudi Arabia, Govt. of Maldives, private sector)
 - Renewable Energy (ADB/SREP/WB/EIB)

Way forward - sustainability

- Key concern is retaining technical support at the same level
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