Maldivian Red Crescent

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION – CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION STRATEGY 2011 - 2015
WHAT GUIDES OUR WORK:

MISSION:
To volunteer, participate and partner in delivering humanitarian service to the most vulnerable.

VISION:
To be a model National Society contributing to overcome humanitarian challenges.

PRIMARY OBJECTIVE:
To prevent and alleviate suffering with complete impartiality, making no discrimination.

STRATEGIC GOALS:

DISASTER MANAGEMENT:
Enhance local preparedness, response and recovery through community-based initiatives and advocacy

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE:
Promote healthy living through community based initiatives

YOUTH:
Mobilize youth as agents of change in addressing youth related issues

ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT:
Build a sustainable national society by enhancing institutional structures, systems, skills and capacities to deliver quality services

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Seenu Feydhoo council and community
Seenu Hulhudhoo council and community
Maldivian Red Crescent Seenu Atoll Branch
Maldivian Red Crescent Gaafu Dhaal Branch

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The 2004 Tsunami not only exposed the vulnerability of Maldivian communities to natural hazards, but bared the lack of knowledge and coping mechanisms within the communities to deal with such a situation. Tsunami caused economic losses in excess of $470 million, constituting approximately 62% of the gross domestic product (GDP), and even though less than a hundred deaths were reported, almost one-third of the population was affected through loss/damage to homes, livelihoods and local infrastructure. Five years since the calamity, some communities are still in the struggle to recover the loss to their lifestyle, homes, livelihoods and social organization. This is evidence to low resilience of these island communities in the wake of any such hazards and disasters. Maldives is vulnerable to several types of natural and climate related hazards.
The geophysical characteristics of Maldives influences natural vulnerability and the geographical location of it to be near the equator in the Indian Ocean exposes the Maldives to a variety of natural hazards. Natural hazards prevailing in the Maldives can be categorized as follows:

- **Geological hazards**: earthquakes and coastal erosion.
- **Meteorological hazards**: tropical cyclones, tropical storms (strong wind), thunder storms and waterspouts.
- **Hydrological hazards**: storm surges, swell waves, ‘udha’, tsunamis, heavy rainfall and drought.
- **Climate change related hazards**: sea level rise, change in levels of precipitation, sea surface temperature rise, storm activity and ocean swell.

Other than the ever-increasing dangers of climate change, tsunamis are possibly the most destructive natural force known to negatively affect the geographical and social characteristics of the Maldives. The events of December 2004 Tsunami led to significant fatalities, a first time experience for the Maldives resulting from a natural disaster of such scale. Predictions indicate growing vulnerability for the Maldives as the direction taken by tsunamis generated from areas of increasing seismic activity such as the Sumatran Ridge located off the west coast of Indonesia is now known. Maldives faces a tsunami threat largely from the east and relatively low threat from the north and south. Consequently, islands along the eastern fringe are more prone to tsunami hazard than those along the northern and southern fringes. Islands along the western fringe also experience a relatively low tsunami hazard.

Swell waves and storm surges are the second most destructive force with potential wave heights of over 3.0 m (MSL). A difference is made between Udha, swell and storm surge events. Udha events occur annually (from 17 June to 30 June) during SW monsoon and cause low levels of flooding in most islands, almost always below 0.6 m (MSL). It is not known to be associated with single atmospheric event and is most likely the result of a combination of southern swellwaves and the onset of monsoon winds. Swell waves and surges are linked to specific atmospheric events that are more severe in intensity. Windstorms also have the potential to cause severe destruction across the islands especially during localized storm activity.

Historically, Maldives has been affected by three earthquakes which had their sources in the Indian Ocean. Except for the southern atolls: Seenu, Gnnaviyani and Gaafu atolls, earthquake hazard is low across the country. The northern atolls have a greater risk of cyclonic winds and storm surges. This reduces gradually to very low hazard risk in the southern atolls. The maximum probable wind speed is 96.8 knots (180 kilometre’s per hour) and the cyclonic storm category is a lower Category 3 on Suffir-Simpson scale. At this speed, high damage is expected from wind, rain and storm surge. Maldives has limited available data such as long term- climatologic and severe event history. The predicted intensities and probability of occurrence of the hazards varies significantly from one island to another. It should be noted that the actual hazard patterns may vary between islands based on their geophysical setup.

Tsunamis are possibly the most destructive natural force known to negatively affect the geographical and social characteristics of the Maldives.

1 Developing a Disaster Risk profile for Maldives, 2006, UNDP Maldives
Making the equation more complex is the extreme vulnerability of Maldivian communities to the predicted climate change and associated new risks. As future sea level is projected to rise within the range of 9 to 88cm between 1990 and 2100, the islands of Maldives would be submerged in the projected worst case scenario. Climate models are not perfect, and so there is a degree of uncertainty with all projections. The projections provided below help to give a sense of the likely direction and magnitude of change. The science is evolving rapidly, and thus it is important to stay apprised of new reports and local sources of information for the most up-to-date knowledge regarding climate change and its impacts.

Sea level rise is expected to cause regular-to-recurrent tidal inundations on most islands of the Maldives. Under medium sea level rise scenarios storm surges could create waves high enough (up to 2.78m) to completely inundate small and medium sized islands. If a high sea level rise scenario is realized, even the largest of islands could be inundated, with storm surges capable of producing waves up to 3.18m in height. If worst-case sea level rise projections are realized, the islands of the Maldives would be submerged.

Air temperature projections for South Asia range between 2.0°C and 4.7°C warmer on average by the years 2080-2099 (A1B, or medium emissions scenario). However, warming is likely to be moderated in the Maldives by the cooling effect of ocean waters surrounding the islands. In terms of what this means for the Maldives, it is projected that warm days and extremes are likely to increase: The hottest day of the year is likely to be 1.5°C warmer by 2100. Maximum temperatures, which currently reach 33.5°C roughly once in every 20 years, are likely to be experienced on average once in every 3 years by 2025. Warmer sea surface temperatures are also likely to increase the frequency of coral bleaching events.

A marginal decline in rainfall is projected for the Indian Ocean region. However, an increase in extreme rainfall events is also expected. For instance, an extreme daily rainfall event of 180 mm at Hulhulé, which currently only happens about once every 100 years, is expected to occur twice as often by 2050. In sum, we can expect more dry and wet extremes.

Climate models indicate that extreme rainfall and wind associated with cyclones are likely to become more intense in South Asia. The Maldives lies outside of the tropical cyclone zone, however the northern Maldives has been exposed to more frequent storms. By 2025, extreme wind gusts of 60 knots, which currently occur about every 16 years, could occur as frequently as every 9 years (on average). And category 3 cyclones, while rare (occurring once in every 500 years on average) are predicted to affect the northern Maldives.

This poses potentially devastating consequences for land, infrastructure, and economy and food security of the country in the future. These climatic changes are bound to have major impacts on. Therefore, Maldives needs to work towards developing and implementing a coherent framework to climate change adaptation that enhances the resilience of the natural, human, and social systems and ensures their sustainability in the face of predicted climate hazards. In line with this, the most cost effective way of doing it at community level is by integrating Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) to ongoing disaster risk reduction activities.

References:
2. Climate information for contingency plan, Red Cross Red Crescent Climate Change Center 2011
THE GEOGRAPHICAL CHALLENGE
With a population of 304,869 people spread over 199 inhabited islands, the dispersed nature of the Maldivian communities is a major obstacle not only to building resilience but also to providing social, health, economic and other basic services. This wide and uneven distribution also contributes to challenges in managing and responding to a wide scale disaster as experienced during Tsunami response. As such, the most feasible approach to increasing resilience is to localize disaster preparedness, mitigation and response activities within communities.

THE TRANSFORMING SOCIETY
The impact of globalization, tourism, changing socio-economic and cultural customs and rapid pace of development has added to the complex and diverse nature of these communities. These factors coupled with the location and size of the community, have become strong determinants in setting the level of vulnerability and capacity. This acquired uniqueness of each community makes the approaches to resilience building in one community invalid in the other. Lessons learnt from previous interventions all provide support to the fact that community-based approaches would be best applicable and effective in such an environment.

DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION – NEW CONCEPTS TO MALDIVES
Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) and Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and such concepts are still fairly new to the Maldives. This contributes to the lack of local professionals and experts in this field which in turn is increasing the difficulty in implementing relevant interventions of disaster resiliency in communities. In addition, disaster risk mapping is new as well. Though some data collected and published reports provide an overview of disaster profile of the country what makes such efforts in the communities more complicated is the lack of data on community disaster risks and history. Tsunami recovery interventions proved that comprehensive risk and hazard mapping of each community is crucial to ensure that the activities and plans designed to increase community resilience are valid.

LACK OF AWARENESS, KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLED PEOPLE AT GRASS ROOT LEVEL
Another factor that contributed to the low resilience of communities is the lack of awareness, knowledge and skilled people at grass root level. Maldivian communities having enjoyed disaster immunity for centuries had taken its ‘safety’ for granted, owing to the lack of preparedness experienced during Tsunami. Had there been trained people in the affected islands then, the response would have been quicker in ensuring timely aid and assistance to the affected people. Similarly, people in the communities have to be trained and made aware of response and preparedness measures that can be taken in time of emergency. In addition, community structures and mechanisms need to be in place to support and nurture the knowledge provided.

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6 Maldives Key Indicators 2008, Ministry of Planning and National Development, Statistics Section. Note: This is a 2007 projection. The official census carried out across all the 196 administrative islands, 88 resort islands and 34 industrial and other islands of the country in 2006 placed the figure at 298,968 (151,459 males and 147,509 females).
Maldives was introduced to Red Cross Red Crescent movement in the aftermath of 2004 Asian Tsunami, during which Partner National Societies (PNS) of Red Cross and Red Crescent movement contributed generously with programmes such as disaster management, psychosocial care, first aid, water and sanitation, hygiene and waste management to support the devastated communities and build their resilience. With no National Society formed in the country then, all these programmes were implemented with their own newly recruited volunteers and community groups.

After a four year effort by local volunteers, Maldivian Red Crescent (MRC) was formed on 16 August 2009 during its first General Assembly. It is currently involved in an intensive development process of establishing systems and structures that will enable delivery of services to the communities. MRC has been positioned in the strategic national action plan as a key partner in the implementation of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation-related activities at the community level through the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation formulated in November 2009.

In line with this mandate, MRC has commenced implementation of a Community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (CBDRR) programme in September 2010 with integrated preparedness, mitigation, and response components to increase resilience within Maldivian communities with technical and financial support from the Canadian Red Cross Society (CRCS). However, the MRC’s role, scope and main areas of intervention in Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Change Adaptation and where MRC could provide most effective results, needed to be clearly identified. The Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Change Adaptation Strategy is meant to support this process.

Maldivian Red Crescent Act [Act7/2009]. MRC has also been mandated by the Government of Maldives to implement disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation-related activities at community level through the Strategic National Action Plan (SNAP) for Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation formulated in November 2009.

In additional, MRC was admitted as the 187th member of International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) on 23 November 2011 at its General Assembly.
The MRC DRR-CCA strategy has a solid foundation intertwined with relevant existing policies and strategies at global, regional, and national level, along with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement strategies. The documents referenced are provided in the table below:

**Government of Maldives**

**Global Level**
- Hyogo framework for action, 2005-2015
- ISDR Workplan 2009-2011 Draft
- BALI Action Plan, 2007

**Regional Level**
- SAARC Comprehensive framework on Disaster Management, 2006-2015
- Incheon regional, Road map on DRR through CCA for Asia & Pacific
- Hyogo Framework for Action, Implementation regional action plan

**National Level**
- Disaster Management Bill, (Once ratified)
- Strategic National Action Plan for Disaster Risk Reduction and climate change Adaptation, 2009-2013
- National adaptation program of Action (NAPA)

**Red Cross Red Crescent Movement**

**Global Level**
- Strategy 2020, IFRC
- Disaster Management-Disaster Risk Reduction strategy 2010–2011, IFRC
- Framework on community safety and resilience
- Global Alliance on Disaster Risk Reduction

**Regional Level**
- Asia Pacific Disaster Management Strategy 2010-2014, IFRC
- Disaster Risk Reduction South Asia framework, IFRC

**National Level**
- IFRC Maldives REVISED plan-2011

**Maldivian Red Crescent**

**National Level**
- Strategic plan 2011-2015
GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE STRATEGY

The MRC DRR-CCA strategy has a solid foundation intertwined with relevant existing policies and strategies at global, regional, and national level, along with the Red Cross Red Crescent Movement strategies. The documents referenced are provided in the table below:

HYOGO FRAMEWORK OF ACTION
In order to facilitate the understanding of all stakeholders involved in Disaster Risk Reduction the Disaster Risk Reduction –Climate Change Adaptation Strategy is directly linked to the Hyogo Framework for Action and its priority actions.

CONVERGENCE BETWEEN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE
The importance of climate change and of better understanding its impact for disaster risk reduction, was recognised as a key element in the design of the strategy of MRC. The strategy includes the climate change variability in the full range of disaster risk reduction activities of MRC. Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation cannot be dealt with in isolation. There are cross-cutting issues relevant in all sectors, addressing underlying vulnerability to disasters and disruption to livelihoods. Climate Change exacerbates the vulnerability of the most vulnerable (those hardest hit by disasters), and can potentially set back progress towards disaster risk reduction; and so must be included in disaster risk reduction activities at all levels and stages. The relationship between climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction is strong, even though disaster risk reduction considers some distinct hazards and different timescales. Disaster risk reduction is concerned with shorter-term while climate change adaptation is concerned with longer-term risk, trends and changing risk profiles.

SIX PRINCIPLES OF CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT BY IFRC
The 6 principles of climate risk management have been integrated into the Hyogo Framework for action in order to shape the strategy taking in account climate change adaptation issues. Which includes:

1. Climate risk assessment: assessing priorities, and planning follow-up;
2. Integrating climate change in programmes and activities/ Disaster Management, community risk reduction, health and care, food security, water and sanitation, migration and conflict;
3. Raising awareness;
4. Establishing and enhancing partnerships;
5. International- national advocacy: shaping the global response to climate change;
6. Documenting and sharing experiences and information

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\[\text{RCRC-CCA and CBDRR regional framework, climate change centre}\]
PARTNERSHIPS
MRC recognised the crucial element of partnership while dealing with climate change and disaster risk reduction issues. MRC will explore the possibility to work with new partners with specific technical competencies especially in livelihood and health to advocate mitigation measures at community level. The partners involved in the disaster risk reduction – climate change adaptation strategy consultation process namely: Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Family, Educational Development Centre (EDC) UNDP and Live and Learn confirmed to support MRC in their strategy.

INTEGRATED PROGRAMMING AND HOLISTIC APPROACH
The strategy is designed to guide and to steer future MRC programmes/projects in the particular areas. It has a mainstreaming agenda and cross-cutting theme for Social – Health Care – Organisational Development – Disaster Management and Youth Programmes.

MULTI-HAZARD APPROACH
The strategy is based on multi hazards in the area of natural hazards and hazards associated to climate change. A multi-hazard approach is more effective as a particular community is usually exposed to risks from a variety of hazards, which can be either natural or human-induced in origin, and can stem from hydro-meteorological, geological, biological, technological or environmental forces. The multi-hazard approach to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation will be factored in planning and programming related to sustainable development, relief, rehabilitation, and recovery activities in post-disaster.

COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH
MRC will use the community-based approach when programming in order to empower communities. MRC, various stakeholders and local authorities has recognised community mobilization and participation in Maldivian communities as real challenge. The involvement of communities in the design and implementation of activities helps to ensure the sustainability of the behavioural change and use of disaster risk reduction better practices. It involves reducing vulnerabilities and increasing capacities to deal with frequently occurring natural hazards in order to reduce the risk faced through prevention, preparing for or mitigating against the impact of natural disasters and climate change risks.

VULNERABILITY AND CAPACITY ASSESSMENT (WITH INTEGRATED CLIMATE RISKS)
This is a way forward to risk assessment at community level. The starting point for reducing disaster risk and promoting a culture of disaster resilience lies in the knowledge of the hazards. Understanding the physical, social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities of disasters that most societies face, and of the ways in which hazards and vulnerabilities are changing in the short and long term, followed by action taken on the basis of that knowledge is a huge step toward mitigating future risk. A risk assessment is analytically based on documenting and assessing the hazard, followed by an evaluation of the vulnerability of a population or region to this hazard. Thereby, the two main components of risk assessment in Maldives would comprise (a) multi-hazard assessment and (b) vulnerability assessment.

GENDER PERSPECTIVE
Gender perspective will be integrated into all disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation plans and decision-making processes, including those related to risk assessment, early warning, information management, and education and training. Women and men are differently at risk from disasters. In all settings, at home, at work or in the neighbourhood - gender shapes the capacities and resources of individuals to protect, minimize harm, adapt to hazards and respond to disasters. Consequently, the disaster risk reduction – climate change adaptation strategy will ensure that DRR-CCA activities will be implemented, on equal gender basis, taking into account the different roles and responsibilities that women and men have within communities.
The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (Federation) states in its 2007 publication of Defusing Disasters that, ‘In truth there is no such thing as natural disaster. Earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, landslides, storms, fires, floods and droughts are natural hazards which only become disasters when they disturb or destroy society’s normal functioning. A disaster is unnatural and risk reduction measures diminish the odds of it occurring by doing everything possible before the event to protect life, limit damage and strengthen a vulnerable community’s ability to bounce back quickly from adversity’. By using the knowledge, resources and lessons learnt by the Red Cross Red Crescent movement in its disaster management and response activities and its own experiences in Tsunami recovery Maldivian Red Crescent aims to do just this, with its Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation Strategy 2011 – 2015.
Disaster Risk Reduction – Climate Change Adaptation Strategy of Maldivian Red Crescent

GOAL

Communities at risk have increased their capacities in terms of safety and resilience towards natural hazards and climate change risks

1. STRATEGIC DIRECTION
   MRC Capacity Building and Resource Mobilization
   AIM
   Strengthen Maldivian Red Crescent capacity to deliver and sustain DRR/CCA programming

2. STRATEGIC DIRECTION
   Governance (HFA 1)
   AIM
   Ensure that disaster risk reduction and Climate Change Adaptation is a national and a local priority with a strong institutional basis for implementation

3. STRATEGIC DIRECTION
   Risk Identification, Assessment, Monitoring and EWS (HFA 2)
   AIM
   Identify, assess and monitor disaster risks and enhance early warning

4. STRATEGIC DIRECTION
   Knowledge Management (HFA 3)
   AIM
   Use knowledge, innovation and education to build a culture of safety and resilience at all levels

5. STRATEGIC DIRECTION
   Risk Management (HFA 4)
   AIM
   Reduce the underlying risk factors

6. STRATEGIC DIRECTION
   Disaster Preparedness for Response (HFA 5)
   AIM
   Strengthen disaster preparedness for effective response at community level
### Strategic Aims & their Corresponding Objectives & Core Actions

#### Strategic Aim 1: Strengthen Maldivian Red Crescent Capacity to Deliver and Sustain DRR/CCA Programming

- **Objective:** Increased capacity of Maldivian Red Crescent to be more efficient and effective in responding to the emergency needs of people during disaster situations
  - Elaborate an emergency response policy
  - Create and train a response team
  - Elaborate SOP emergency response

- **Objective:** Increased capacity of MRC volunteers, members, staff and governance in the area of DRR/CCA including Vulnerability Capacity Assessment
  - Train governance at all level on DRR-CCA
  - Train volunteers and staff in VCA. Training of Trainers, VCA practitioners, child friendly/adult learning/BCC (Behaviour Change Communication, contingency planning, DRR/CCA)

- **Objective:** Internal knowledge sharing and coordination in MRC is strengthened through establishment of an information sharing, collecting mechanism on DRR/CCA related areas
  - Experience sharing session at all level
  - Elaborate Training reports at all level
  - Coordination meeting in DRR-CCA

- **Objective:** Effective mobilization of funding and resources to support communities build their resilience to climate related risks and natural disasters
  - Mobilize funding opportunities using multi-pronged approach: private media, public fundraising and government
  - Mobilize funding within RCRC movement
  - Mobilize funding from external donors

#### Strategic Aim 2: Ensure that Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation is a National and a Local Priority with a Strong Institutional Basis for Implementation

- **Objective:** Advocacy actions with partners to ensure that DRR/CCA is a national and local priority at all levels
  - Create advocacy committee within MRC with specific roles and responsibilities at national level and at branch level to advocate at atoll and local council level
  - Advocate for establishment of DRR/CCA platform (different stakeholders)
  - Advocacy to approve and fast track DM Bill through different actions

- **Objective:** DRR/CCA is to be mainstreamed into school curriculum and formal education through advocacy actions
  - Mainstream DRR/CCA into school curriculum by conducting meetings with the DRR-CCA working group

- **Objective:** Increased recognition and positioning of MRC as a key player in DRR/CCA at all levels
  - Conduct community level events to promote MRC, its role in DRR/CCA
  - Participating in national level forums in DRR-CCA

- **Objective:** Build and foster partnerships with partners at different levels in DRR/CCA
  - Build partnership opportunities using multi-pronged approach: media, private sector
  - MoU with MoE, NDMC and UNDP specifying partnership agreements in DRR/CCA work

- **Objective:** Increased external coordination to enhance initiatives in DRR/CCA
  - DRR-CCA Working group meetings is planned at national level
  - Conduct and / or participate coordination meetings or forums with partners
**STRATEGIC AIM**

**IDENTIFY, ASSESS AND MONITOR DISASTER RISKS AND ENHANCE EARLY WARNING**

Disaster risks and impacts of climate change are identified and monitored at community level using climate change integrated Vulnerability and Capacity Assessments

- Update VCA toolkit to include Climate change projection tools
- Identify risks in communities covered by MRC (by updating 18 communities risks and conducting 6 new risks profile)
- Create risks mapping at community level
- Monitoring of frequent hazard patterns to support awareness and mitigation measures

Community level end-to-end Early Warning Systems is established, enhanced and functional in line with national guidelines

- Conduct awareness campaigns about EWS
- Establish community level EWS
- Advocate to media on importance of EWS at national level
- Partnership with local cable operators

Risks profile of Maldives is enhanced

- Make sure that Risks identification profile at community level are shared with NDMC and department of national planning

**STRATEGIC AIM**

**USE KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND EDUCATION TO BUILD A CULTURE OF SAFETY AND RESILIENCE AT ALL LEVELS**

Increased community knowledge and education in risks and risk related to climate change to create safer communities

- Create awareness on DRR/CCA at community level (including CBOs)
- Media campaign on disseminating DRR/CCA messages
- Develop IEC materials, with community involvement

Advocate DRR/CCA issues to be integrated into community level development plans through increased knowledge and education of local governance

- Share Vulnerability capacity assessment report/risks identification with stakeholders and local council

Increased knowledge of children in DRR/CCA through involving schools (primary and secondary) based co-curricular activities

- Conduct awareness for school co-curricular activities

Effective web-based information sharing platform established for DRR/CCA in Maldives with partners

- Update web site Rakka
Empowered communities to address their risks including risks related to climate change.

- Promote Awareness and support on adaptation measures towards climate effect on livelihoods.
- Promote Awareness and advocate on adaptation measures towards climate effect on health.
- Elaborate Disaster risk management plans at community levels (support in drafting).
- Promote awareness on construction related to the building code at community level.
- Advocate on effective natural resource management (water).

Risks are addressed in development sector planning and programmes at island level.

- Advocate at local level specially for the land use plan to incorporated DRR/CCA issues at island level.
- Community Action Plan is implemented.

Partner and build networks with stakeholders to support communities mitigate the impacts of climate change on livelihoods and health.

- Build a partnership agreement with stakeholders on livelihood / health / housing & environment of national planning.

Enhanced implementation of existing school-based Emergency Response Plans.

- Support to conduct drills at school.

Disaster preparedness at community level is strengthened.

- Preparedness capacities & mechanisms at community level is assessed.
- Conduct drills in islands, use existing guidelines.
- Create and train and equip response team.
- Support communities to make contingency plans.
Enabling elements for the strategy

MRC has identified the following enabling actions which will determine to assist to achieve their goal.

- Increase visibility of MRC
- Promote MRC mandate as a humanitarian organization

**Enhance MRC Image:**

- Increase support from Headquarter to branches and units
- Increase capacity of branch/unit governance
- Give more confidence to the volunteers by a close monitoring

**Branch & Unit Functioning:**

- Dissemination of the strategy at branch and unit level
- Promote and create awareness on the auxiliary role of MRC and its role in disaster risks reduction and climate change adaptation

**Communication:**

- Increase support from Headquarter to branches and units
- Increase capacity of branch/unit governance
- Give more confidence to the volunteers by a close monitoring
The zones of intervention are communities where MRC have units in Semi urban and urban zones (Male’). During this 5 year strategy period, MRC will work in 13 Atolls comprising 10 Branches. Those 10 Branches will work in line with the Branch Development Strategy of MRC.
MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM

MRC in order to ensure an efficient and successful implementation and monitoring system of the strategy translated into a logical framework.

A steering committee composed of the Secretary General (Chairperson), the Programme Manager, the Community Based Disaster Risk Reduction Coordinator, the Development Co-ordinator, and the Communication Manager will be in charge of the monitoring.

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>FREQUENCY</th>
<th>MONITORING BODY</th>
<th>TYPE OF REPORT PRODUCED</th>
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<td>Output and Outcome level</td>
<td>Midterm - 2013</td>
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<td>Mid-term Review Report</td>
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<td>Final Evaluation</td>
<td>Goal and Outcome level</td>
<td>End term - 2015</td>
<td>External Professional</td>
<td>Final Report of MRC DRR/CCA strategy</td>
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IMPLEMENTATION AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION

This DRR and CCA strategy is supported by a detailed implementation plan spanning from 2011 – 2015, inline with Maldivian Red Crescent’s Strategic Plan. Activities will be detailed and implemented annually as per strategy plan. Those parties interested in the implementation plan can request for it by emailing info@redcrescent.org.mv.

Maldivian Red Crescent requires the support of external contributions in order to implement the said activities to produce the required outcomes in the targeted communities. Those parties interested in supporting our DRR and CCA activities are encouraged to contact us through the contact details provided in the document.
## Terminology

### HAZARD
Phenomenon or situation, which has the potential to cause disruption or damage to people, their property, their services and their environment.

### DISASTER
The serious disruption of the functioning of society, causing widespread human, material or environmental losses, which exceed the ability of the affected people to cope using their own resources. An event, either man-made or natural, sudden or progressive, causing widespread human, material or environmental losses.

### VULNERABILITY
The condition or sets of conditions that reduces people’s ability to prepare for, withstand or respond to a hazard.

### CAPACITY
Those positive condition or abilities which increase a community’s ability to deal with hazards.

### RISK
The probability that a community’s structure or geographic area is to be damaged or disrupted by the impact of a particular hazard, on account of their nature, construction, and proximity to a hazardous area.

### ELEMENTS AT RISK
Persons, buildings, crops or other such like societal components exposed to known hazard, which are likely to be adversely affected by the impact of the hazard.

### DISASTER RESPONSE
Actions taken immediately following the impact of a disaster when exceptional measures are required to meet the basic needs of the survivors.

### DISASTER PREVENTION
Measures taken to avert a disaster from occurring, if possible (to impede a hazard so that it does not have any harmful effects).

### DISASTER MITIGATION
Measures taken prior to the impact of a disaster to minimize its effects (sometimes referred to as structural and non-structural measures).

### DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
Measures taken in anticipation of a disaster to ensure that appropriate and effective actions are taken in the aftermath.

### DISASTER MANAGEMENT
is the collective term for all activities that contribute to increasing capacities and will lead to reducing immediate and long-term vulnerabilities. It covers activities before, during and after a disaster.

### DISASTER RISK PREVENTION
Measures taken to prevent a disaster from occurring, if possible (to impede a hazard so that it does not have any harmful effects).

### DISASTER MITIGATION
Measures taken prior to the impact of a disaster to minimize its effects (sometimes referred to as structural and non-structural measures).

### DISASTER MANAGEMENT
is the systematic process of using administrative decisions, organization, operational skills and capacities to implement policies, strategies and coping capacities of the society and communities to lessen the impacts of natural hazards and related environmental and technological disasters; this comprises all forms of activities, including structural and non-structural measures to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) adverse effects of hazards.

### DISASTER RISK REDUCTION
Is the conceptual framework of elements considered with the possibilities to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development.

### CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT
An approach to systematically manage climate-related risks affecting activities, strategies or investments, by taking account of the risk of current variability and extremes in weather as well as long-term climate change. From a Red Cross/Red Crescent perspective, climate risk management is doing what we have always done in terms of disaster management, health and care, food security and so on, but paying attention to (1) the way risks are changing, and (2) options to reduce the risks in addition to being prepared to respond after the event.

### CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
Any change in climate over time. In principle, climate change can be due to natural processes or a result of human activity. The media often refers to “global warming” (an increase in the average temperature of our planet), which is actually just one manifestation of global climate change. Other manifestations include changes in rainfall patterns and in the frequency or intensity of extreme weather events.

What is most relevant here is the word “adaptation.” The climate change community calls disaster mitigation measures (such as training carpenters to build cyclone resilient houses, re-establishment of coral reefs to limit the damage of tsunamis) “adaptation”, specifically “reactive mitigation.” Thus, adaptation in climate change covers broader and more comprehensive activities.

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### RECOVERY
The process undertaken by a disaster affected community to fully restore itself to pre-disaster level of functioning.

### REHABILITATION
Actions taken in the aftermath of a disaster to: assist victims to repair their dwellings; re-establish essential service; revive key economic and social activities.

### RECONSTRUCTION
Permanent measures to repair or replace damaged dwellings and infrastructure and to set the economy back on course.

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The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination to the wounded on the battlefield, endeavours, in its international and national capacity, to prevent and alleviate human suffering wherever it may be found. Its purpose is to protect life and health and to ensure respect for the human being. It promotes mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation and lasting peace amongst all peoples.

**HUMANITY**
The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, born of a desire to bring assistance without discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

**IMPARTIALITY**
It makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. It endeavours to relieve the suffering of individuals, being guided solely by their needs, and to give priority to the most urgent cases of distress.

**NEUTRALITY**
In order to continue to enjoy the confidence of all, the Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature.

**INDEPENDENCE**
The Movement is independent. The National Societies, while auxiliaries in the humanitarian services of their governments and subject to the laws of their respective countries, must always maintain their autonomy so that they may be able at all times to act in accordance with the principles of the Movement.

**VOLUNTARY SERVICE**
It is a voluntary relief movement not prompted in any manner by desire for gain.

**UNITY**
There can be only one Red Cross or one Red Crescent Society in any one country. It must be open to all. It must carry on its humanitarian work throughout its territory.

**UNIVERSALITY**
The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in which all Societies have equal status and share equal responsibilities and duties in helping each other, is worldwide.
Maldivian Red Crescent is a voluntary humanitarian organisation established in Maldives. It is a member of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Its mission is to volunteer, participate and partner in delivering humanitarian service to the most vulnerable with a vision to be a model National Society contributing to overcome humanitarian challenges. The primary objective of MRC is to prevent and alleviate suffering with complete impartiality, making no discrimination. Maldivian Red Crescent works in three main service delivery areas: Disaster Management, Health and Social Care and Youth.

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