

Environmental Monitoring Report

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Maldives: Enhancing Climate Resilience and Food Security Project

Prepared by the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and endorsed by the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Maldives for the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

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Abbreviations

ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
DDR	-	Due Diligence Report
EARF	-	Environmental Assessment and Resettlement Framework
EIA	-	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	-	Environmental Management Plan
EPA	-	Environmental Protection Agency (now ERA)
ERA	-	Environmental Regulatory Authority
GOM	-	Government of the Republic of Maldives
GRM	-	Grievance Redress Mechanism
HAC	-	Hanimaadhoo Agricultural Centre
PAM	-	Project Administration Manual
PIU	-	Project Implementation Unit
PMU	-	Project Management Unit
IA	-	Implementing Agency
IEE	-	Initial Environmental Examination
MAAW	-	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Welfare
MMS	-	Maldives Meteorological Services
MOECCT	-	Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology (now MOTE)
MOF	-	Ministry of Finance
MOTE	-	Ministry of Tourism and Environment
RF	-	Resettlement Framework
SEMR	-	Semi-annual Environmental Monitoring Report
SPS	-	Safeguard Policy Statement
WDC	-	Women's Development Committee

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Executive Summary

This Semi-Annual Environmental Monitoring Report (SEMR) covers the period January to June 2025 for the Enhancing Climate Resilience and Food Security Project. It is the first SEMR prepared since loan effectiveness in January 2025 and provides updates on project implementation, safeguards, and compliance with the Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and loan covenants.

The Project aims to strengthen Maldives' resilience to climate change by (i) strengthening climate and disaster risk-informed advisory and early warning systems; (ii) implementing flood mitigation, coastal protection, and mangrove restoration in Kulhudhuffushi; (iii) promoting climate-smart agriculture through new facilities, training, and urban farming initiatives in Haa Dhaalu and Addu; and (iv) supporting adaptation businesses with matching grants targeted at women, youth, and small enterprises.

Ministry of Finance is the Executing Agency, with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Welfare as Implementing Agencies. The Project Management Unit (PMU), based in MOTE's Climate Change Department, will oversee day-to-day operations, but is not yet operational as recruitment is still underway. Other key partners include the Maldives Meteorological Service and Kulhudhuffushi City Council.

During this reporting period, project activities included ADB's inception mission, contract signing for two detailed design and modeling studies, and preparation of bidding documents for radar system installation and upgrades at the Hanimaadhoo Agriculture Center. No changes have been made to project design or construction methods.

The Project is classified as Category B under ADB's Safeguard Policy Statement (2009), requiring Initial Environmental Examinations (IEEs) for all subprojects. At this stage, statutory clearances are not yet due, though an IEE with an EMP exists and will guide implementation. Safeguards provisions have been integrated into draft bidding documents.

Loan covenant compliance is ongoing. Environmental requirements are being incorporated into bid documents, and the project is aligned with resettlement and indigenous peoples safeguards. This first SEMR has been submitted later than scheduled, with future reports expected on time.

The Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) is not yet operational and will be established once the PMU is in place. No grievances or safeguard-related consultations were recorded during this period. Similarly, no safeguard training or capacity building activities were conducted due to the absence of PMU staff.

EMP compliance remains at the preparation stage. Baseline environmental monitoring will be carried out prior to the start of civil works, and monitoring metrics are being developed to guide project staff.

Key issues identified include delays in PMU recruitment, non-establishment of the GRM, and pending statutory clearances. Corrective actions focus on finalizing PMU hiring by August 2025 and operationalizing the GRM by October 2025.

Overall, the Project is progressing in its preparatory phase. While implementation is still limited, safeguards integration into procurement and planning processes has begun, and compliance with ADB safeguard requirements remains on track.

I. Introduction

A. About this Report

1. This is the Semi-annual Environmental Monitoring Report (SEMR) prepared by the Ministry of Tourism and Environment of the Republic of Maldives for the Enhancing Climate Resilience and Food Security Project (the Project) for the monitoring period of January 2025 to June 2025. This report is the 1st SEMR since the loan effectiveness on 9 March 2025. This SEMR provides the status of the Project, presents preparation and implementation of environmental management, mitigation and monitoring actions, and reports status of compliance with Environmental Management Plans (EMPs) and loan covenants.

B. Project Description

2. The project will support Maldives' efforts to reduce the vulnerability of island communities to climate risks by (i) improving institutional and community capacities for climate change adaptation; (ii) implementing effective flood and coastal protection with nature-based solutions; (iii) introducing climate-smart technologies and practices in agri-food systems; and (iv) promoting climate adaptation businesses and services, and urban farming. Over the long term, the project will contribute to improving the country's climate and disaster resilience, and food and nutrition security, as outlined in its updated nationally determined contribution (NDC).

3. The Project will have the following four outputs:

(i) **Output 1: institutional and community capacity for climate adaptation improved.** To strengthen the climate resilience of Haa Dhaalu and Addu atolls, the project team will help improve climate and disaster risk-informed advisory and early warning systems by (i) installing a new radar system at Addu weather station; (ii) repairing the existing weather radar system in Malé; (iii) providing MMS with integrated data processing and analysis systems for real-time monitoring, forecasting, and early warning; (iv) piloting agro-climate advisories on selected agricultural islands; and (v) designing and delivering a capacity building program on weather monitoring, forecasting, and early warning and communication to encourage communities to adopt climate change adaptation measures. Community preparedness for managing extreme events will be strengthened through inclusive planning for disaster response and recovery, awareness raising of communities, and behavioral change campaigns. These activities will incorporate gender- responsive and inclusive elements.

(ii) **Output 2: Effective flood and coastal protection with nature-based solutions implemented.** The project will implement infrastructure and nature-based solutions for pluvial flood mitigation, coastal protection, and mangrove restoration on Kulhudhuffushi Island, which is the most populous island in the northern region. Stormwater drainage and filtration systems, and nature-based solutions such as bioswales will be constructed for inland flood protection. Offshore and nearshore coastal protection structures will be improved to prevent overtopping and erosion. The island's long-term protection and resilience will be supported through the development of a drainage management plan and a mangrove restoration and management plan. The project team will reduce the climate and disaster risks of the island by (i) conducting environmental and hydraulic modeling studies, (ii) preparing detailed designs of pluvial flood and coastal protection investment subprojects, and (iii) carrying out integrated flood risk management measures through those investment subprojects. The output will include subprojects that cover (i)

construction or upgrades of stormwater drainage infrastructure; (ii) coastal protection measures on the eastern shoreline; and (iii) nature-based solutions such as the rejuvenation of wetlands and urban greeneries to increase infiltration and flood retention capacity.

(iii) **Output 3: Climate-smart technologies and practices in agri-food systems promoted.** To overcome the constraints of limited topsoil and fresh water, the project will promote water- efficient and resilient urban farming, mainly in Haa Dhaalu and Addu atolls, through (i) the construction of a multipurpose building to house a training facility, a simple laboratory for soil and pathogen testing, and an office space for the Hanimaadhoo Agriculture Center (HAC); (ii) training programs, extension advisory services, and associated capacity building support for urban home gardeners, farmers, cooperatives, women’s development committees (WDCs), civil society organizations (CSOs), and women and young agribusiness entrepreneurs; (iii) technical advice on preparing and implementing urban farming and agribusiness proposals, including the creation of market links and adoption of climate-smart horticultural technologies for better profit and income generation; and (iv) project management activities.

(iv) **Output 4: Climate adaptation business and services, and urban farming implemented.** The project will support the long-term growth of adaptation-related businesses by providing matching grants to trained beneficiaries of output 3 and other individuals; farmer groups; WDCs; CSOs; and micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises in Maldives. The grants will be awarded based on a set of qualification and selection criteria detailed in the project administration manual (PAM). The project team will (i) finalize the operational guidelines for the matching grants and launch the grant scheme; (ii) evaluate and approve grant proposals; and (iii) monitor the implementation of the grant-supported projects. SME Development Finance Corporation (SDFC), which is experienced in supporting the development of micro, small, and medium-sized enterprises with concessional credit lines, will administer the identification, evaluation, selection, and approval process of the grant proposals. The grants will finance the full cost of capital expenditures of eligible adaptation business proposals, particularly ones proposed by women and youth-led enterprises and will be matched by beneficiaries’ contributions that cover the operating costs.

C. Environmental Categorization of the Project

4. The Project is classified as Category B according to ADB Safeguard Policy Statement (SPS), 2009 (project components judged to have some adverse environmental impacts, but of lesser degree and/or significance than those for Category A). All subprojects are classified as Category B, and the impacts of all subprojects are assessed through Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) as per ADB SPS, 2009.

D. Overall Project Progress Status

5. The PMU has not yet become operational. Recruitment is underway but remains incomplete.

6. The GRM has not been established and is not yet functional.

7. Two Technical Assistance (TA) contracts have been awarded to support sub project design of Output 2, managed directly by ADB. The contractors are in mobilization stage.

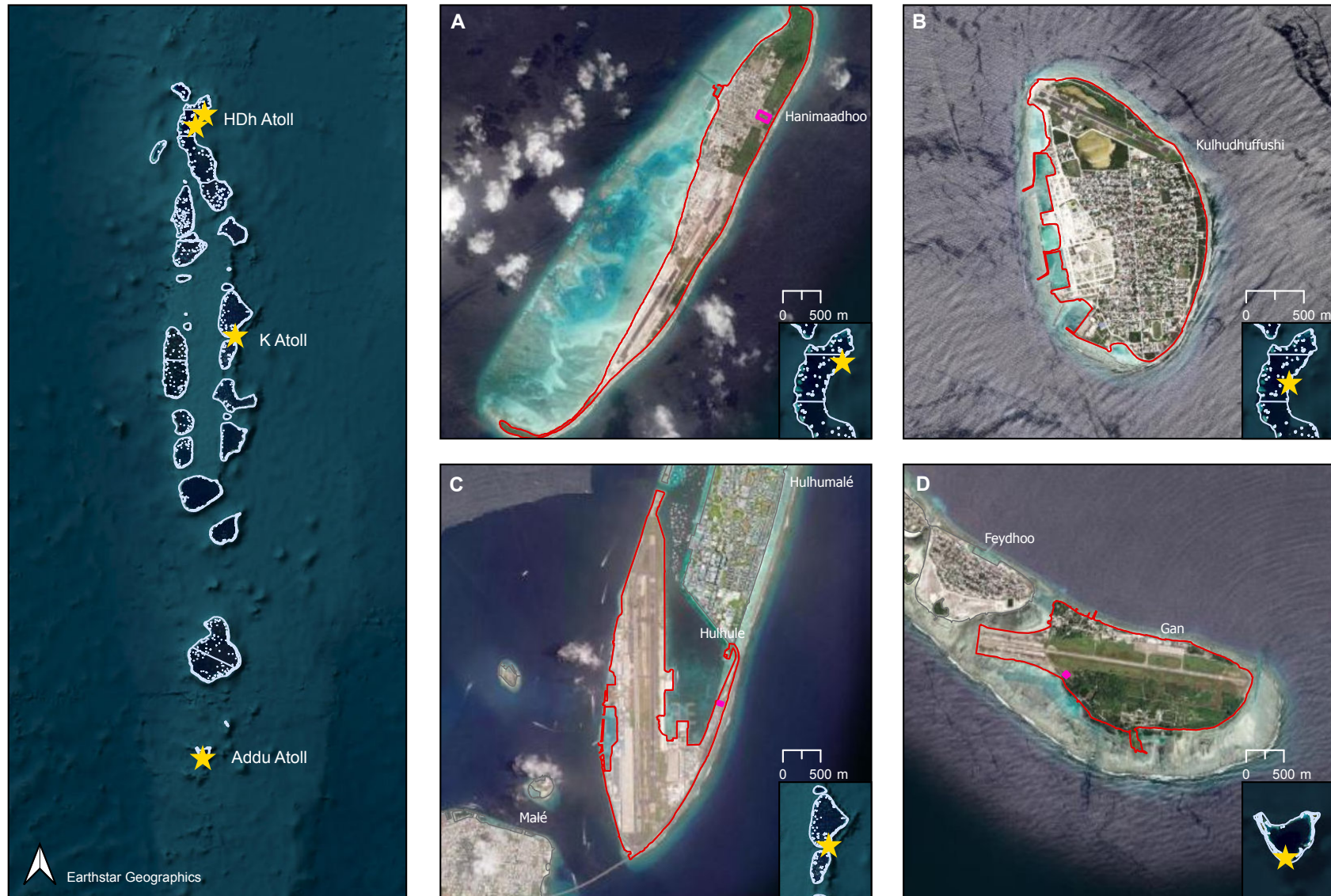


Figure 1 Project Locations

(A) Hanimaadhoo Island (HDh), Output 3 site, showing Hanimaadhoo Agricultural Centre (HAC) area marked in pink; (B) Kulhudhuffushi Island (HDh), Output 2 site, covering island-wide drainage system and eastern coastline works; (C) Hulhule' Airport Island (K), Output 1a site, with radar installation location marked in pink; (D) Gan Airport Island (S), Output 1b site, with radar installation location marked in pink.

II. Project Implementation Arrangements

A. Project Contracts and Management

8. The following table presents the project implementation arrangements.

Table 1 Project Implementation Organizations: Roles and Responsibilities

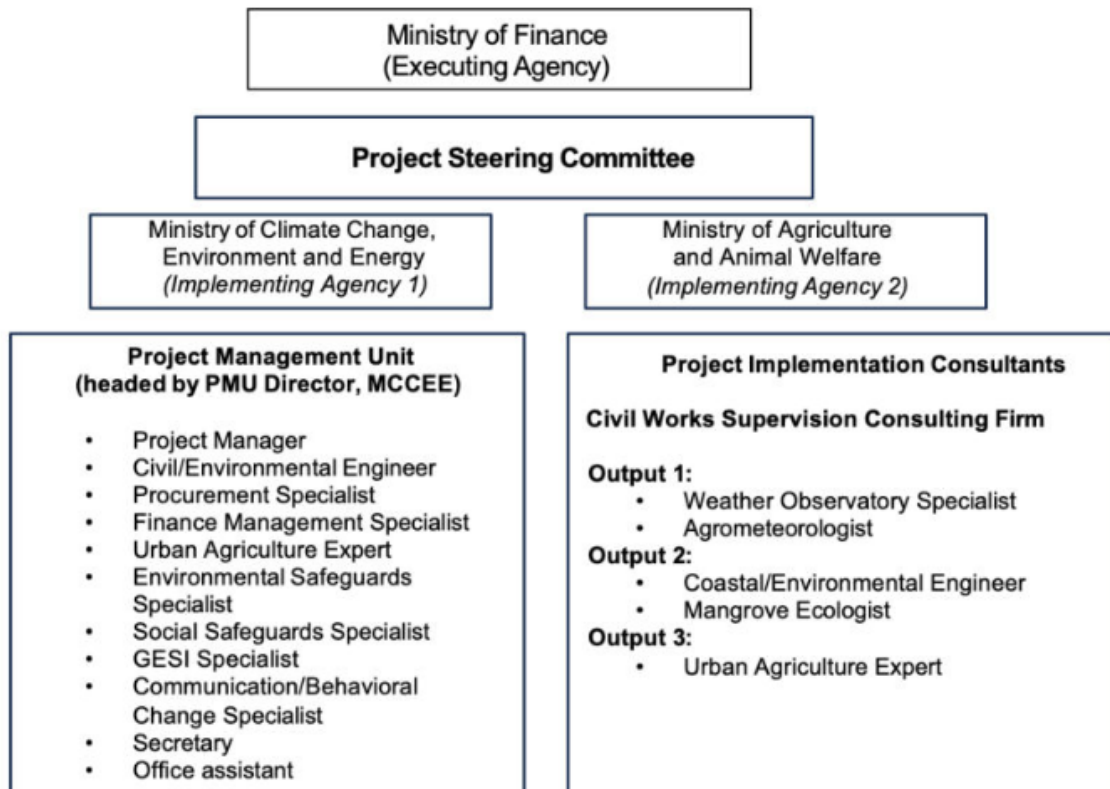
Project Implementation Organization	Management Roles and Responsibilities
Executing Agency: Ministry of Finance (MOF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guide and monitor overall project execution, responsible for timely execution of the project - Provide financial oversight; ensure flow of funds to the implementing agency and timely availability of counterpart funding; ensure adequate budget for successful implementation of the project and operation and maintenance of the facilities - Monitor compliance with project legal agreements - Open advance accounts for the project - Responsible for approving procurement for contracts above MVR 2.5 million; reviews and coordinates evaluation of bids for works, goods, and consultant services - Reviews and signs withdrawal applications before submitting to Asian Development Bank (ADB)
Project Steering Committee: Chair: Minister of MOTE Members:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide policy direction to facilitate project implementation - Advise on and facilitate resolution of technical issues, as required - Meet quarterly (or as needed) to review project performance and resolve issues - Ensure collaboration among central level agencies
Implementing Agency 1: Ministry of Tourism and Environment (MOTE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overall day-to-day project management, monitoring, and evaluation - Establish PMU - Procure goods and works below MVR 5 million - Ensure timely decisions for efficient procurement and contract management - Sign all procurement contracts under the project - Prepare withdrawal applications - Maintain project accounts and complete loan financial records - Prepare financial statements and ensure timely conduct of audit - Sign MOU with island councils targeted under the different outputs - Provide technical and institutional capacity building support - Report to ADB and issue quarterly and annual progress reports on project implementation - Ensure system for sustainable operation and maintenance (O&M) of project facilities - Coordinate with ADB and other development partners to synchronize, plan and mobilize resources for climate resilience and food security
Implementing Agency 2: Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Welfare (MAAW)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support day-to-day project management, monitoring, and evaluation pertaining to Output 3 and partially for Output 4 (agriculture-related grants) - Support PMU in procurement of goods and works under Output 3 - Provide technical and institutional capacity building support linked to Output 3 - Support PMU project progress reports and all other reporting - Ensure system for sustainable operation and maintenance (O&M) of project facilities supported under Output 3

<p>Project Management Unit</p> <p>Based in MOTE's Climate Change Department (CCD). Headed by Project Director nominated by MOTE and supported by a dedicated Project Manager.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsible for overall project management, implementation and monitoring - Monitor and ensure the compliance of covenants, particularly timely submission of audited project accounts and compliance with safeguard requirements - Maintain project accounts and project financial records - Review the reports submitted by project implementation consultants with respect to detailed design, costs, safeguards, financial, economic, and social viability - Prepare, with the support of individual technical experts, bidding documents, request for proposals, and bid/proposal evaluation reports - Serve as point of contact of ADB, maintain project documents, and submit timely reports (quarterly progress reports and project completion report) to ADB by consolidating relevant inputs from the other project implementation agencies - Consolidate expenditures and prepare withdrawal applications for direct payment, reimbursement and use of advance accounts - Open and manage advance accounts - Organize project orientation for participating island councils by elaborating scope of the project - Establish and maintain project website by disclosing progress reports, safeguard monitoring reports and design reports - Collect supporting documents and submit withdrawal applications to ADB via MOF
<p>Maldives Meteorological Service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support day-to-day project management, monitoring, and evaluation under Output 1 - Support PMU in procurement of goods and works under Output 1 - Provide technical and institutional capacity building support linked to Output 1 - Support PMU with preparing project progress reports and other reports - Ensure system for sustainable operation and maintenance (O&M) of project facilities supported under Output 1
<p>Kulhudhuffushi City Council</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide local coordination and technical support to all activities and subprojects under Output 2 - Be responsible for management and O&M of infrastructure - Co-lead the Output 2 activities on knowledge management on drainage management plan, mangrove management plan and related activities
<p>Grant Committee for Small Grants Scheme</p> <p>Established by PMU under MOTE Chair: TBD Members: TBD</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide consultation for the waves of call for proposals for beneficiary categories - Review and approve grant applications
<p>SME Development Finance Corporation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Receive, screen and review grant applications under Output 4 - Submit screened applications, including all documents, to the MOCCEE grant committee - Receive invoices, bank statements and physical outputs from grantees
<p>ADB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct project review missions, midterm review mission and project completion review mission to assess implementation progress of all outputs, compliance with loan and grant covenants including actions required in terms of safeguards (environmental impacts and social mitigation measures applicable); timeliness of budgetary allocations and counterpart funding; project expenditures; progress with procurement and disbursement; and

	<p>the likelihood of attaining the project's immediate development objective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post on ADB website updated project information, audit reports, and safeguards documents as per ADB's disclosure policy - Review submissions for procurement of goods, equipment, works and services, and provide comments and no objection on the submissions
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B. Key Persons Involved in Safeguarding Implementation

Figure 2 Project Organizational Structure and Staffing



Project Management Unit

PMU hiring ongoing

Asian Development Bank

Implementation Team

Deepak Bahadur Singh, Senior Environment Officer
 Jocelyn Mendoza, Associate Social Development Officer (Safeguards)
 Puri Philina Gamon, Social Development Officer (Gender)

Contractors

No contracts with safeguards requirements awarded yet

C. Safeguard and OHS Training for Environment and Social Safeguard Staff

9. The PMU is not yet active, and no safeguard staff are currently on board, therefore no training has been conducted in this period.

III. Project Implementation Status

A. Project Activities During Current Reporting Period

10. The following table details the project activities that took place in the current reporting period.

Table 2 Project Implementation Activities in Current Period

Project Activity	Date
Announcement for PMU members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Project Manager - Financial Management Specialist - Civil Engineer - Environmental Safeguards Specialist - Gender Expert - Social Safeguards Specialist - Communications and Behaviour Change Specialist 	24 April 2025
ADB Inception mission	28 April – 5 May 2025
Contract Signing for Mangrove and Groundwater Hydrology Modeling and Detailed Design Study (ST1)	28 April 2025
Contract Signing for Marine and Coastal Modeling and Detailed Design Study (ST2)	3 June 2025
Local Procurement Specialist Engaged <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Putting together bidding documents, including safeguards provisions for ADB approval for two packages: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. G01: Design, Supply and Installation of Radar System – including civil works for radar tower building, training and after-sale services 2. CW02: Design-built upgrading of HAC facilities 	Q2 2025

B. Description of any Changes to Project Design

11. No changes have been brought to the project design.

C. Description of any Changes to Agreed Construction Methods

12. The project is not at construction phase and there have been no changes.

IV. Compliance with Statutory Environmental Requirements

A. Status of Clearances

13. Detailed status of each clearance/permission is provided in Table 3.

Table 3 Status of Statutory Clearances

Package/ Subproject	List of clearances /permissions required	Status	Validity period	Remarks
1.1 Addu weather radar system including tower	Screening decision from ERA to finalize level of assessment	Not yet due	-	-
	Construction permit from AIA	Not yet due	-	-
1.2 Male' radar upgrades	Screening decision from ERA to finalize level of assessment	Not yet due	-	-
2.1 Inland drainage network improvements, including bioswale	Requires EIA DS from ERA	Not yet due	-	-
2.2 Measures of the protection of the eastern shoreline	Requires EIA DS from ERA	Not yet due	-	-
3.1 Construction of multipurpose facility at HAC	Screening decision from ERA to finalize level of assessment	Not yet due	-	-
	Dewatering permit	Not yet due	-	-
4.1 Matching grant scheme to support adaptation innovations	Depends on type of innovation; if only soft components involved then no screening is needed; for others, level of assessment to be finalized following screening	Not yet due	-	-

B. Compliance with Government Clearance Conditions

14. A Project IEE already exists with an Environmental Management Plan that will be adhered to. In addition, if any of the statutory clearances or permissions specify any conditions that are required to be complied with or monitored during implementation and operation, the details and status of compliance are presented in Table 4.

15. At this stage, no clearances have been applied for.

Table 4 Conditions of Statutory Clearances

Package/ Subproject	Clearance/ Permissions Received	Conditions of Clearance / Permissions	Status of Compliance
1.1 Addu weather radar system including tower	-	-	-
1.2 Male' radar upgrades	-	-	-
2.1 Inland drainage network improvements, including bioswale	-	-	-
2.2 Measures of the protection of the eastern shoreline	-	-	-
3.1 Construction of multipurpose facility at HAC	-	-	-
4.1 Matching grant scheme to support adaptation innovations	-	-	-

(list all conditions specified in respective clearance/permission)

Present status of compliance in – compiled/ being compiled/ to be compiled)

V. Compliance with Loan Covenants

A. Loan Covenants

16. Status of compliance with environmental safeguard related loan covenants is given in Table 5. The Project is being implemented in compliance with all the covenants.

Table 5 Status of Compliance with Loan Covenants

Schedule No	Covenant	Status of Compliance	Action Required
Schedule 4 Conditions for Award of Contracts	Paragraph 3 Subject to paragraph 4 below, the Borrower shall not, or ensure that the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies do not, award any Works or Nonconsulting Services contract which involves environmental impacts until the Project Executing Agency or the Implementing Agencies have: a) Obtained the final approval of the IEE from the EPA; and b) Incorporated the relevant provisions from the EMP into the Works contract	In progress – not yet due	Complete EPA (now ERA) screening for HAC and Addu Radar construction. Incorporate screening outcome and relevant EMP provisions into bid documents before contract award.
Schedule 4 Conditions for Award of Contracts	Paragraph 4 The Borrower or the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies (as applicable) may award a Works or Nonconsulting Services contract involving environmental impacts with the respective IEE based on preliminary design having been submitted to and cleared by ADB is the contract: a) Is of a “design and build” or “turnkey” type under which the design must be completed for the Works contract before the IEE is updated to reflect the final project design; and b) Expressly provides that no works shall commence until an IEE for the Works contract reflecting the final project design having been submitted to and cleared by ADB.	In progress – not yet due	As above; if EIA is required, include a sample EIA TOR in the bidding documents to guide bidders.
Schedule 4 Conditions for Award of Contracts	Paragraph 5 Subject to paragraph 6 below, the Borrower shall not, or ensure that the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies do not, award any Works contract which involves involuntary resettlement impacts for a Subproject, until the Borrower has prepared and submitted to ADB the final RP for such Subproject based on the	Complied	No additional action required.

	Subproject's detailed design, and obtained ADB's clearance of such RP.		
Schedule 4 Conditions for Award of Contracts	Paragraph 6 The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and the Implementing Agencies to ensure that a Works or Nonconsulting Services Contract involving involuntary resettlement impacts may be awarded prior to the final RP having been submitted to and cleared by ADB if the contract: a) Is of a "design and build" or "turnkey" type under which the design must be completed for the Works Services contract before the RP is finalized; and b) Expressly provides that the installation and construction phase (and commencement thereof) is conditional upon; (i) a final RP for the Works contract based on the Works contract's detailed design having been submitted to, and cleared by ADB; and (ii) the Borrower having notified ADB and the contractor in writing through the RP completion report that due consultation has been carried out, all required physical and/or economic displacement has been completed, compensation and other entitlements have been provided to affected people in accordance with the RP.	Not yet due.	No additional action required.
Schedule 4 Environment	Paragraph 7 The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure that the preparation, design, construction, implementation, operation and decommissioning of the Project and each Subproject comply with (a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to environment, health and safety; (b) the Environmental Safeguards; (c) the EARF; and (d) all measures and requirements set forth in the IEE and EMP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report.	Ongoing compliance.	No additional action required.
Schedule 4 Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	Paragraph 8 The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that all land and all rights-of-way required for the Project and each Subproject are made available to the Works contractor in accordance with the schedule agreed	Ongoing compliance.	No additional action required.

	under the related Works contract and all land acquisition and resettlement activities are implemented in compliance with (a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to land acquisition and involuntary resettlement; (b) the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards; (c) the RF; and (d) all measures and requirements set forth in the respective RP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in the Safeguards Monitoring Report.		
Schedule 4 Land Acquisition and Involuntary Resettlement	Paragraph 9 Without limiting the application of the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards, the RF or the RP, the Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that no physical or economic displacement takes place in connection with the Subprojects until: a) Compensation and other entitlements have been provided to affected people in accordance with the RP; and b) A comprehensive income and livelihood restoration program has been established in accordance with the RP	Ongoing compliance.	No additional action required.
Schedule 4 Indigenous Peoples	Paragraph 10 The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure that the Project or any Subprojects do not have any indigenous peoples impacts. In the unforeseen event that the Project or any Subprojects have any such impacts, the Borrower shall take all steps required to ensure that the Project complies with the applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower and with ADB' Safeguard Policy Statement.	Ongoing compliance.	No additional action required.
Schedule 4 Human and Financial Resources to Implement Safeguards Requirements	Paragraph 11 The Borrower shall make available or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to make available necessary budgetary and human resources to fully implement the EMP and the RP.	Ongoing compliance	No additional action required.
Schedule 4 Safeguards – Related Provisions in Bidding	Paragraph 12 The Borrower shall ensure or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to ensure, that all bidding documents and contracts for Works	Ongoing compliance.	No additional action required.

Documents and Works Contracts	<p>contain provisions that require contractors to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Comply with the measures relevant to the contractor set forth in the IEE, the EMP, and the RP (to the extent they concern impacts on affected people during construction), and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report; b) Make available a budget for all such environmental and social measures; c) Provide the Borrower with a written notice of any unanticipated environmental, resettlement or indigenous peoples risks or impacts that arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in the IEE, the EMP and the RP; d) Adequately record the condition of roads, agricultural land and other infrastructure prior to starting to transport materials and construction; and e) Reinstate pathways, other local infrastructure, and agricultural land to at least their pre-project condition upon the completion of construction. 		
<p>Schedule 4</p> <p>Safeguards Monitoring and Reporting</p>	<p>Paragraph 13</p> <p>The Borrower shall do the following or cause the Project Executing Agency and Implementing Agencies to do the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) submit semiannual environmental and social Safeguards Monitoring Reports to ADB and disclose relevant information from such reports to affected persons promptly upon submission; b) if any unanticipated environmental and/or social risks and impacts arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in the IEE, the EMP or the RP, promptly inform ADB of the occurrence of such risks or impacts, with detailed description of the event and proposed corrective action plan; and c) report any actual or potential breach of compliance with the measures and requirements set forth in the approved IEE, EMP or the RP promptly after becoming aware of the breach. 	<p>Complied with delay</p> <p>(as PMU was not yet mobilized)</p>	<p>Submit the first SEMR by 10th October 2025.</p> <p>Ensure that moving forward all SEMRs are submitted without delay.</p>

B. Preparation and Approval of Initial Environmental Examination

17. Subproject Category. The project is classified as category B for environmental safeguards per ADB Safeguards Policy Statement 2009 (ADB SPS 2009).

18. Package-wise status of preparation, submission, and approval of IEE Reports will be presented in the format in Table 6 once the Project reaches that stage.

Table 6 Package-wise Status of IEEs

Package	Bid Type	Package Status	Draft IEE submitted to ADB	Draft IEE cleared by ADB	Updated IEE submitted to ADB	Updated IEE cleared by ADB	Remarks
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

*Status (Bidding process / preliminary design / detailed design / construction / operation)
For submission/approval status – indicate 'Yes/No', and if 'Yes', specify date as well.*

C. Status of Disclosure of Safeguard Documents

19. Status of disclosure of safeguard documents is presented in Table 7. The disclosed documents are available on ADB and Project/PMU websites.
(<https://www.adb.org/projects/57002-001/main>)

Table 7 Status of Disclosure of IEEs

Package Number	Draft Disclosed on ADB website	Draft Disclosed on Project website	Updated/Final Disclosed on ADB website	Updated/Final Disclosed on Project website
Overall IEE	Yes	Project website not yet active	-	-

Indicate in terms of 'Yes/No'

D. Safeguards in Bid Documents and Contracts

20. Safeguard provisions will be duly included in bid documents and contracts once each package reaches procurement stage in the format shown in Table 8, with package-wise details.

21. Currently, the following two packages are being compiled and will be finalized during the next reporting period.

Table 8 Safeguards Provisions in Bid Documents and Contracts

Package Number	Type of Bid/Contracts	Bid/Contract Clauses related to environment, health and safety; labour standards	IEE/EMP included in Bid/contract
G01 Design, Supply and Installation of Radar System - including civil works for radar tower building, training and after-sale services	Design-Build	Being incorporated	Yes
CW02 Design-build upgrading of HAC Facilities	Design-Build	Being incorporated	Yes

VI. Grievance Redress Mechanism

A. GRM Establishment

22. The Project GRM is not yet in operation and will be activated in the next reporting cycle with the onboarding of the PMU.

23. The proposed GRM will be established to receive, evaluate, and facilitate the resolution of affected persons concerns, complaints, and grievances about the social and environmental performance at the level of the project. The GRM will aim to provide a time-bound and transparent mechanism to voice and resolve social and environmental concerns linked to the project. Procedures and arrangements will be detailed in the RF. As agreed by ADB and the borrower, the environmental management plan and resettlement plan (as may be applicable) will be updated from time to time during project implementation, upon availability of detailed engineering design, and to reflect adaptive management of project changes and unforeseen circumstances or in response to project performance, ensuring that standards originally planned are not lowered.

24. A three-tier mechanism is proposed for grievance redress of environmental and social matters regarding the installation and operation of various project components using existing island council administrative structures for APs, organizations, community groups, and workers, any of which can be complainants. Should the grievance not be resolved and/or the AP is not satisfied with the outcome, the complaint will be referred to the next tier. The mechanism is visualized in Figure 2.

Figure 3 Flowchart of GRM (Source: Project EARF)

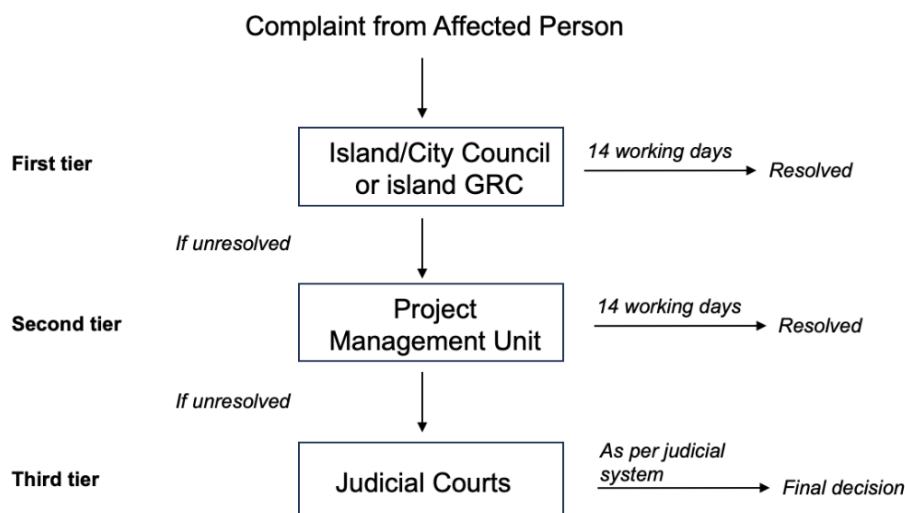


Table 9 GRM Operationalization Status

Subproject	Subproject level GRM notified	GRM responsibilities assigned	GRM operational to receive, register & redress complaints	Date of GRC formation	Public informed of GRM
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-

B. Information to Stakeholders about GRM in the Project

25. No information sessions were organized for this reporting period.

C. Status of Grievances

26. No grievances were received for this reporting period.

VII. Status of EMP Implementation

A. Findings on EMP Compliance

27. The Project is at pre-tendering stage. Compliance with design and pre-construction stage EMP measures will be ensured and reported in subsequent SEMRs.

28. At this stage, bidding documents are being prepared for

(i) G01: Design, Supply and Installation of Radar System – including civil works for radar tower building, training and after-sale services

(ii) CW02: Design-build upgrading of HAC facilities

the EMP has been integrated into these bidding docs, and will be submitted for approval of Safeguards.

VIII. Environmental Monitoring

A. Environmental Quality Monitoring

29. The Project is at pre-tendering stage. No contract has been awarded. Baseline environmental quality monitoring will be conducted before start of civil works.

30. Project-specific environmental monitoring metrics are currently being developed and will be disseminated to guide and orient project staff.

IX. Stakeholder Consultation and Training

A. Communication and Consultation

31. No consultations relating to environmental safeguards took place within the reporting period. If any consultations took place, they are presented in the tables below.

Table 10 Consultation with key stakeholders

No.	Agency	Date	Officials met	Issues discussed
-	-	-	-	-

Table 11 Community consultations

No.	Name of Island	Organization/Stakeholder	Date	Male	Female
-	-	-	-	-	-

B. Capacity Building Activities

32. No capacity building activities were conducted during this reporting period. Training and capacity building of PMU, PIU and Contractor staff will be conducted upon engagement of the PMU.

X. Findings, Key Issues and Remedial Measures

A. Status of Compliance to Action Plan in Last Aide Memoire

33. The last Aide Memoire was shared after the inception mission 28th April 2025 to 5th May 2025. Table 12 details the actions pertinent to environmental safeguarding issues and includes updates on actions.

Table 12 Status of Compliance to Actions from Last Aide Memoire

No.	Actions	By Who	By When	Updates/Remarks
3	Hiring of Project Manager	MOTE	by 19-Jun-2025	Evaluation ongoing
6	Advertisement and hiring of other PMU staff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Civil/Environmental Engineer - Finance Management Specialist - Environmental Safeguards Specialist - Social Safeguards - Gender Expert - Communication/behavioral change specialist - Secretary and Office assistant 	MOTE	by 19-Jun-2025	Evaluation ongoing
14	Advertisement and hiring of Project Implementation Consultants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Weather Observatory Specialist - Coastal /Environmental Engineer - Conservation Specialist (Mangrove Ecologist) 	MOTE	30-May-2025 to 30-Jun-202	Delayed
23	Establish the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)	MOTE	By 30 June (contingent to PMU establishment)	Delayed. PMU not yet established.

B. Status of Compliance to Action Plan Recommended in the Last SEMR

34. This is the first SEMR prepared for the Project, therefore no prior action plan exists for compliance review.

C. Findings and Key Issues

35. Findings of this SEMR are presented in the following table along with key issues and remedial measures.

Table 13 Summary of Safeguard Findings, Issues, and Remedial Measures

Monitoring Aspect	Findings & Key Issues	Remedial Measures
Availability of safeguards personnel (PMU, PIU, Consultants and Contractors)	All positions currently vacant	Recruit PMU
Compliance with statutory requirements (clearance/permissions etc)	Being complied/not yet due	-
Compliance with ADB loan covenants	Being complied	-
Compliance with preparation, approval, disclosure of draft IEEs	Complied	-
Compliance with preparation, approval, disclosure of updated/final IEEs	Not yet due	-
Contractor compliance with preconstruction requirements	Not yet due No contracts have been awarded yet	-
EMP implementation, monitoring, reporting	Will be complied.	-
Training and capacity building activities	Will be complied.	-
Public consultation	Will be complied.	-
Establish the Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM),	Will be complied. Note: Per PAM, the GRM will be established by the PMU at the start of the Project. As the PMU is not yet established, the GRM is also not yet established.	Recruit PMU, establish GRM.

D. Follow-up Corrective Action Plan

36. The following action plan is developed to address the issues of concerns raised in this report.

Table 14 Corrective Action Plan for Identified Safeguard Issues

Issue/Concern	Proposed Remedial Measure	Responsible Party	Target Date
The following positions at PMU level are still vacant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project Manager • Environmental Safeguards Specialist • Social Safeguards Specialist 	Recruit the personnel and establish PMU	MOTE	August 2025
GRM is not established	Establish GRM through the PMU	PMU	October 2025

XI. Conclusion

37. This first SEMR, covering January to June 2025, has been prepared in line with ADB Safeguard Policy Statement requirements. The Project remains in its preparatory phase, with progress focused on staffing, procurement, and safeguards integration into bidding documents. While key mechanisms such as the PMU and GRM are not yet established, compliance with loan covenants and safeguard provisions is being maintained. Corrective actions have been identified to address staffing and grievance redress gaps, with clear timelines for resolution. Overall, the Project is on track, and safeguards implementation is expected to strengthen as construction and operational activities commence in the next reporting periods.