Private sector partnership in achieving the SDGs

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UNDP and the Private Sector

• UNDP’s collaboration with the private sector takes various forms:
  • Facilitate discussions between public and private sector and the civil society on a specific development theme or industry sector;
  • Find solutions for development challenges through core business activities and initiatives that include low-income groups into value chains as producers, suppliers, employees and consumers;
  • Mobilize private sector financial and in-kind resources for sustainable development solutions;
  • Leverage innovative financing and partnerships solutions to mobilize private capital for the implementation of the SDGs;
Private sector as a key player in achieving the SDGs

- Addressing the financing gap for the SDGs - globally and locally. Governments alone can’t do it.
- UNDP Maldives’ climate portfolio has historically been reliant on vertical funds such as GEF, Adaptation Fund, LDCF, MLF, GCF etc.
- Potential for diversified home-grown development investment opportunities.
- Recognizing that climate change and natural disasters have the potential to disrupt national economy.
- Finding common ground - Interdependency of business strategies and external environment.
- Investing in climate change adaptation and mitigation makes business sense.
UNDP Maldives’ Private Sector platform

- Launched in 2016 the platform enables UNDP Maldives and private sector to work together to help communities address their development challenges.

- Private sector involvement in ‘development’ has historically been limited to one-off donations or sports sponsorships.

- To explore ways through which we can mobilize the immense potential and expertise of our partners,

- To create long-term partnerships that go beyond the usual sponsorship model - partners as stakeholders, not donors.

- Some examples: Projects so far have been at small to medium scale
Miyaheli - Youth Driven Social Innovation

- Miyaheli is the first Social Innovation Camp in Maldives, calling for ideas from the youth to improve our communities through ‘outside the box’ innovative solutions,
- Ideas and digital and non-digital tools to create both tech-based and non tech-based social innovations to pressing social issues.
- 3rd year running.
- Partners: Ooredoo and Soneva Fushi
Expansion of Ukulhas Hydroponics Project

- PROPONENT: Ukulhas Womens Development Committee
- Building onto a previous project’s hydroponics system developed as an alternative source of climate resilient income for the women of the island and through this improve the income of the families.
- Address capacity gap in connecting with markets - The project provided business and marketing training to women
- Procurement and construction of a storage facility
- Partner: VKM Investments Pvt Ltd,
The ‘Smart Cities’ Project aims to offer innovative, smart solutions for urban challenges through ensuring that the technological solutions introduced in Hulhumale’- the future smart city, remains inclusive and accessible to all of its population.

Solutions for urban challenges through:

1) Bridging the digital divide, improving public transport and introducing alternative, climate friendly travel options.

2) Enable evidence-based, data-driven decision making and inclusive governance

Partners: Ooredoo Maldives, Hulhumale Development Corp.
Unite for Climate Action project

• The Unite for Climate Action (UCA) is a pool funding project - several private sector players of the Maldives.
• First project with 10+ local partners from varied sectors.
• leverage private sector funding towards building community capacity for disaster preparedness and response.
• The logic being DRR & CCA are interlinked in Maldives - less large disaster but more frequent low to medium impact emergencies such as flooding, tidal surges etc.
• The communities are engaged in varying degrees within the project, but with the single outcome of building resilience through the ‘Community Based Disaster Risk Management’ CBDRM Methodology - in line with the DM Act.
• CBDRM places communities at the center of both preparedness and response.
• Timely / appropriate response = less damage, overcome event quicker, less disruption to normal life and economy.
• The project embraces existing national systems to build the capacities through three different phases as illustrated below.
Unite for Climate Action project

Island Disaster Management Plans (IDMP)

IDMPs help identify disaster risks and map out resources to better prepare island communities to reduce and manage for disaster risk and impacts.

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)

Maldives faces a lot of high-frequency, low-impact emergencies, including flooding and fire incidents. These volunteer CERTs are trained and ready to respond, mitigating damage and loss to communities.

Climate Action Grants

Climate Action Grants bridges the largest gap for building community resilience. The financial gap. Communities come up with local solutions for building resilience, however lack the funding to execute.
Unite for Climate Action project

Tier 1: Recognize the risks and plan for them
Island Disaster Management Plan
Gaafu Alif Villingili

Tier 2: Build your response team
Community Emergency Response Team
Alif Dhaal Fenfushi
Laamu Maabaidoo

Tier 3: Farming methods that are resilient to frequent tidal swells.
Laamu Maabaidhoo
Challenges

• Relative infancy of the private sector platform.
• Achieving volume and scale to create greater impact.
• Demonstrating and communicating the results.
• Relationship management and induction of private sector into the SDGs.
• Organizational culture: challenges in agility and adapting to working in new ways.
“While the private sector can bring both agility in delivery and new approaches to financing the SDGs, the UN has an important role to play in creating an enabling environment for business to contribute.”

- Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator