

Session 10: SDG Localization Champions and 2025 Global Voluntary Local Reviews Dialogue



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MALÉ CITY COUNCIL

Report as of 15th **October, 2025**

Mayor of Male' City Adam Azim



Malé City's Climate Resilience in SDG Localization



THE GLOBAL GOALS



**41% of the Maldives' population live on
only 8.3 km² of land.**

Part 1: Introduction

Part 2: Key Context

Part 3: Integration of climate into VLR

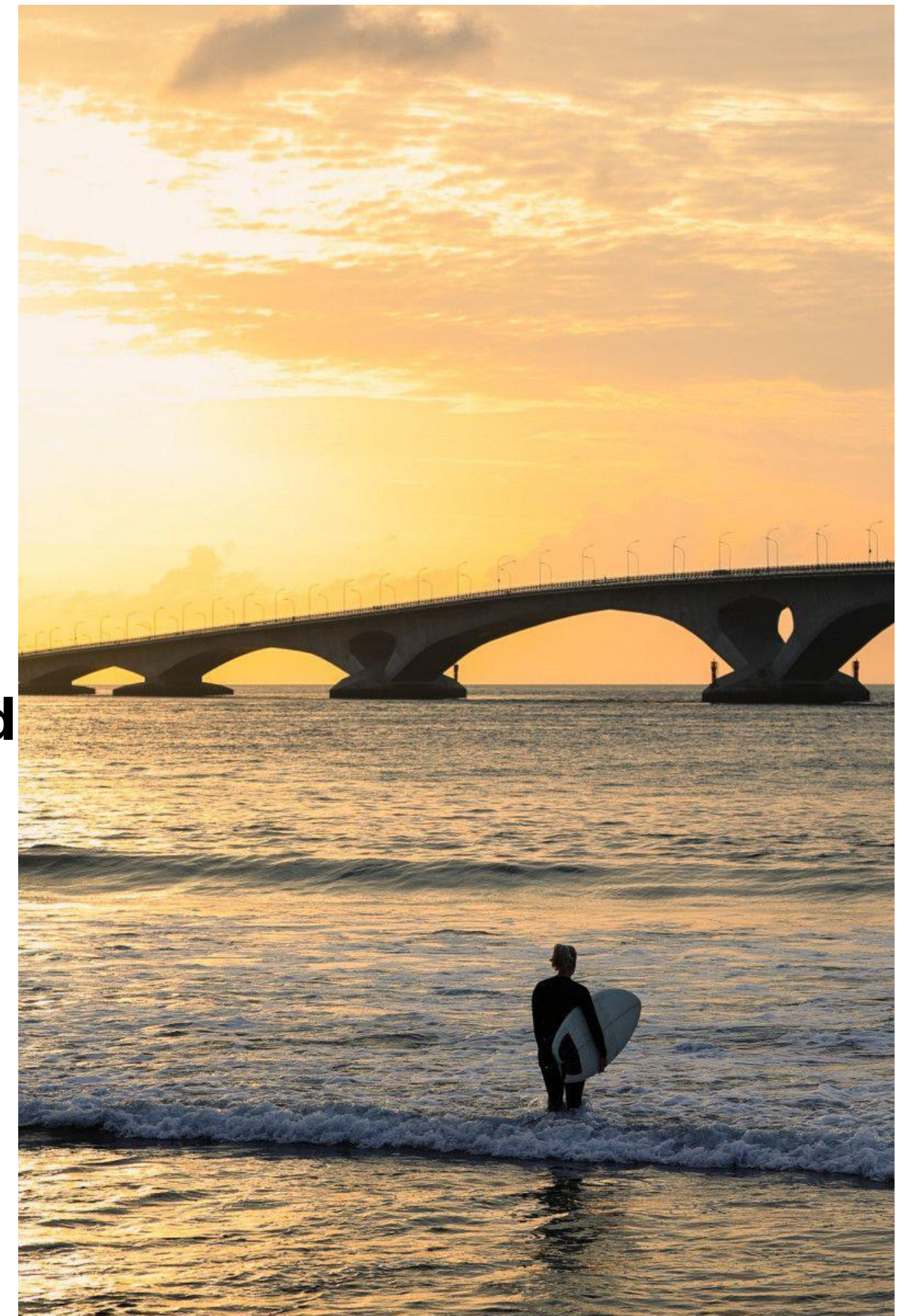
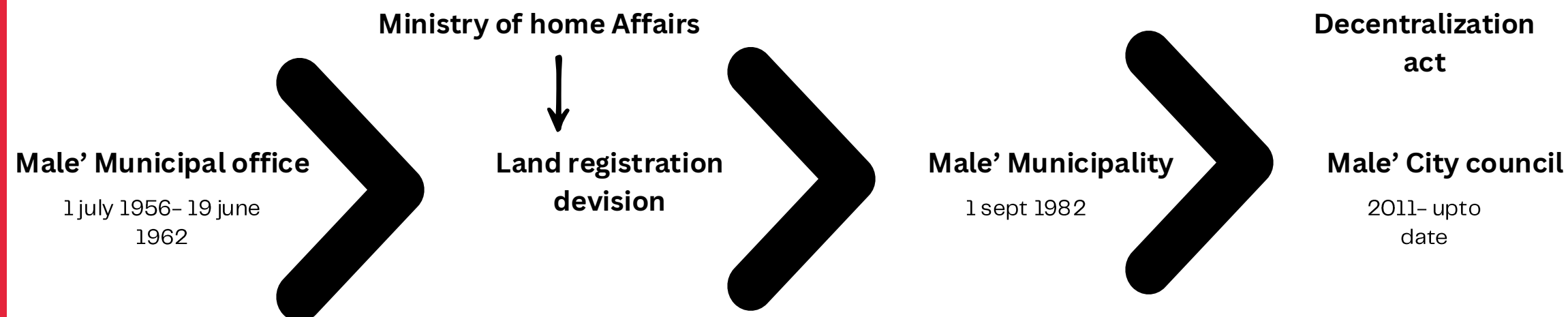
Part 4: Challenges encountered

Part 5: Recommendation

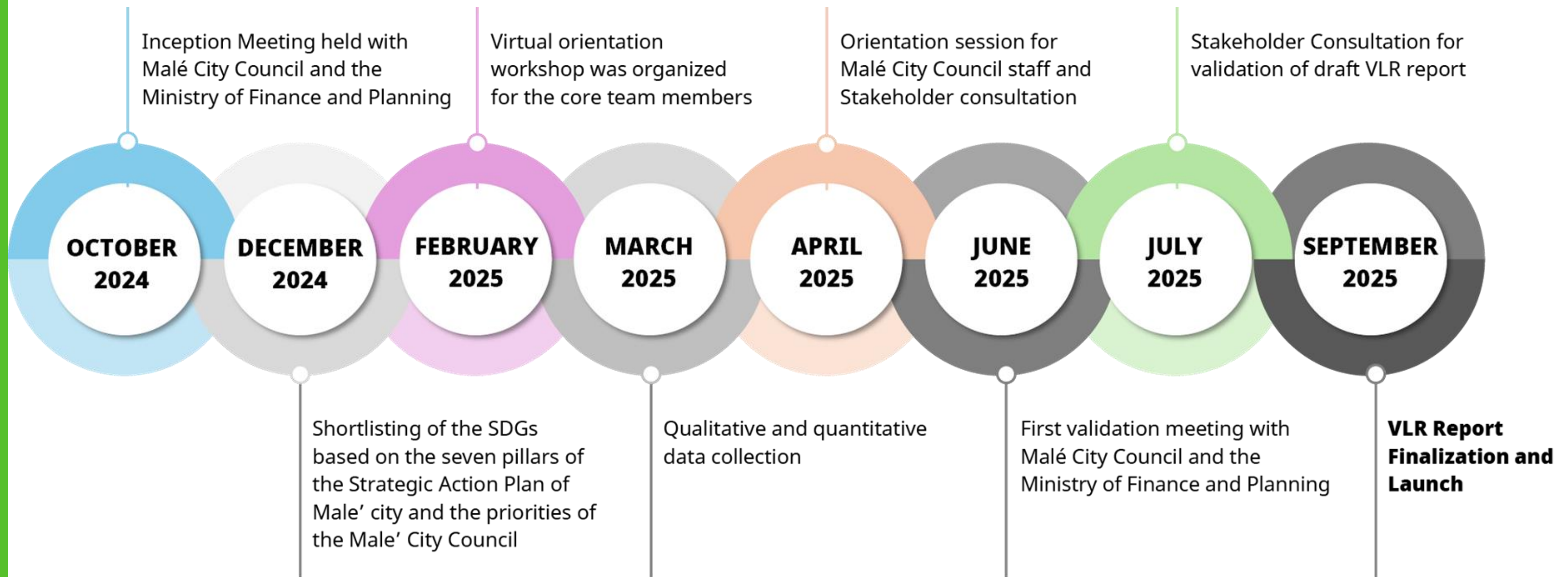
Context

- **Malé City, capital of Maldives, is one of the world's lowest-lying capitals.**
- **Facing urban density, climate vulnerability, and social disparities.**
- **Male' city is home to 212,138 residents and 51,030 foreigners totalling up to 263,168 people**
- **Political Changes: Multi-party democracy was introduced in 2008, with decentralization enshrined in the constitution**

History of MCC



Key Milestones for Male' City



International launch: Middle of September 2025
Local launch: Start of November 2025

How did Malé City integrate climate resilience into its SDG localization strategy, given its vulnerability to sea-level rise?



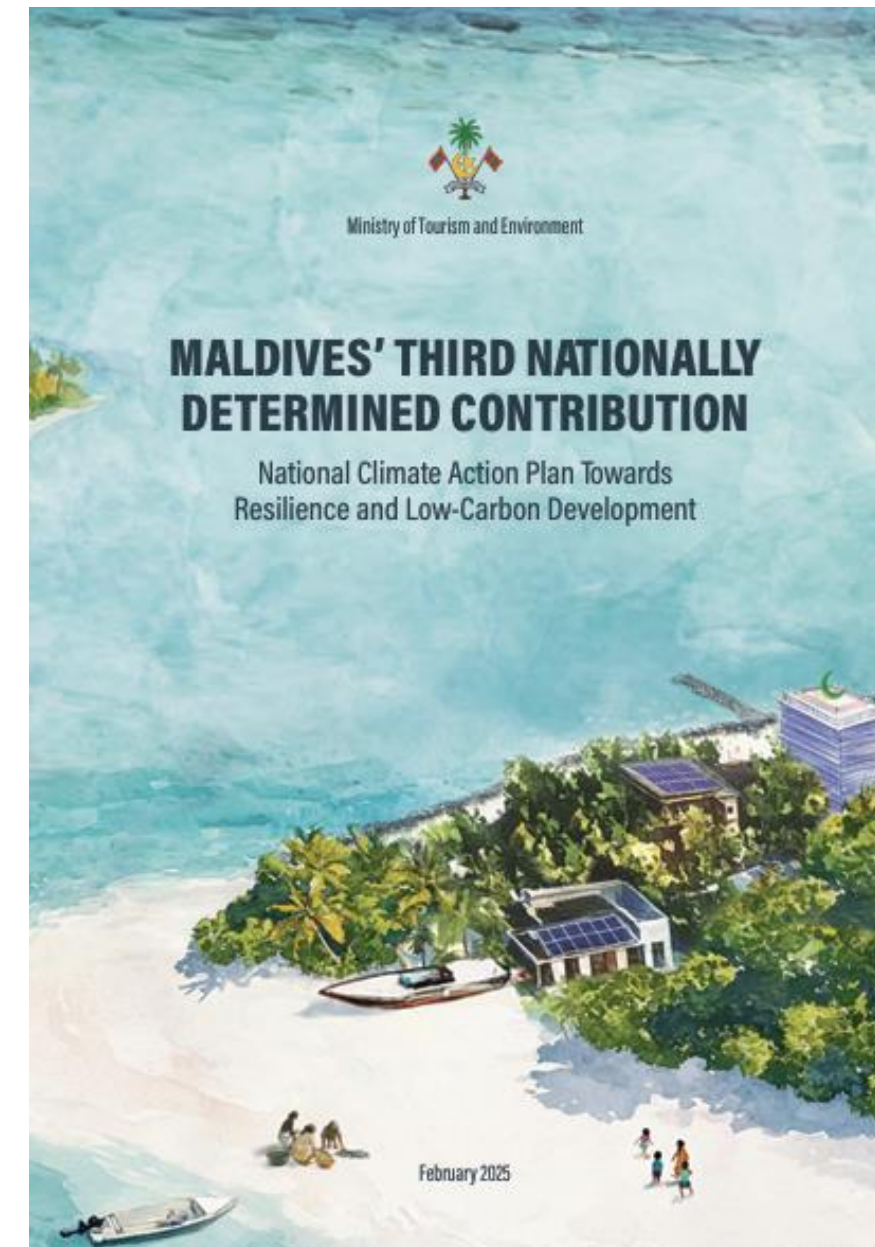
Climate resilience was embedded as a cross-cutting priority in the SDG localisation strategy. The VLR process aligned with the city’s Strategic Action Plan and emphasised

- **Disaster management plan**
- **stormwater management**
- **vehicle decongestion**
- **improve greenery**

No means of DATA collaboration

Some limitations remain: while we have detailed demographic data (age, migration, labour force participation), there are gaps in real-time environmental hazard data (flood levels, heat stress, sea level change at local scales), disaggregated poverty data at ward level, and gender-sensitive climate vulnerability indices.

Limited Segregated Data for Male' city level on climate: even national level data has so many gaps



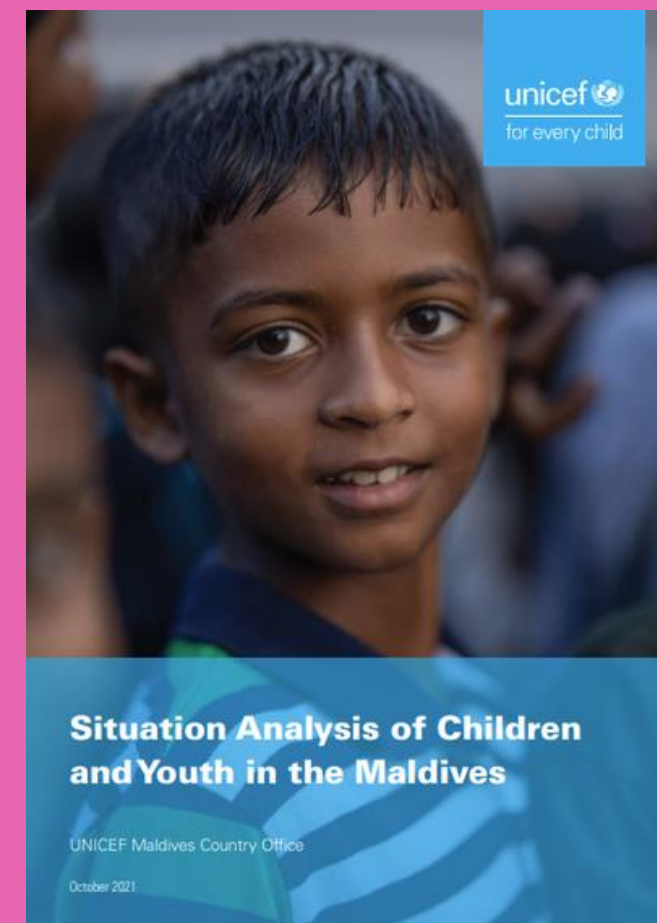
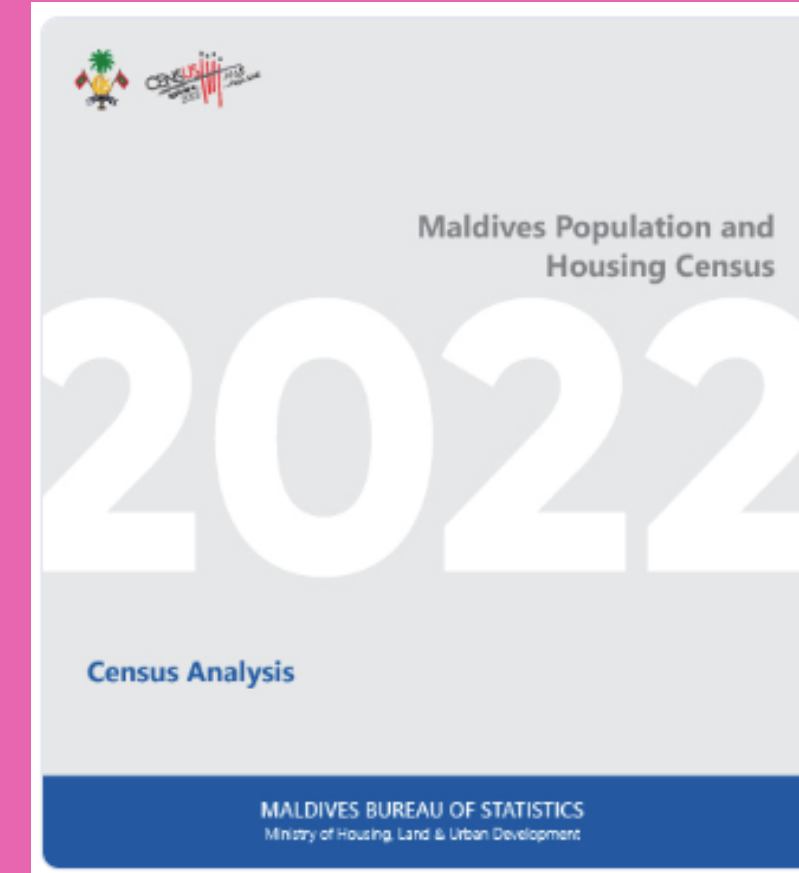
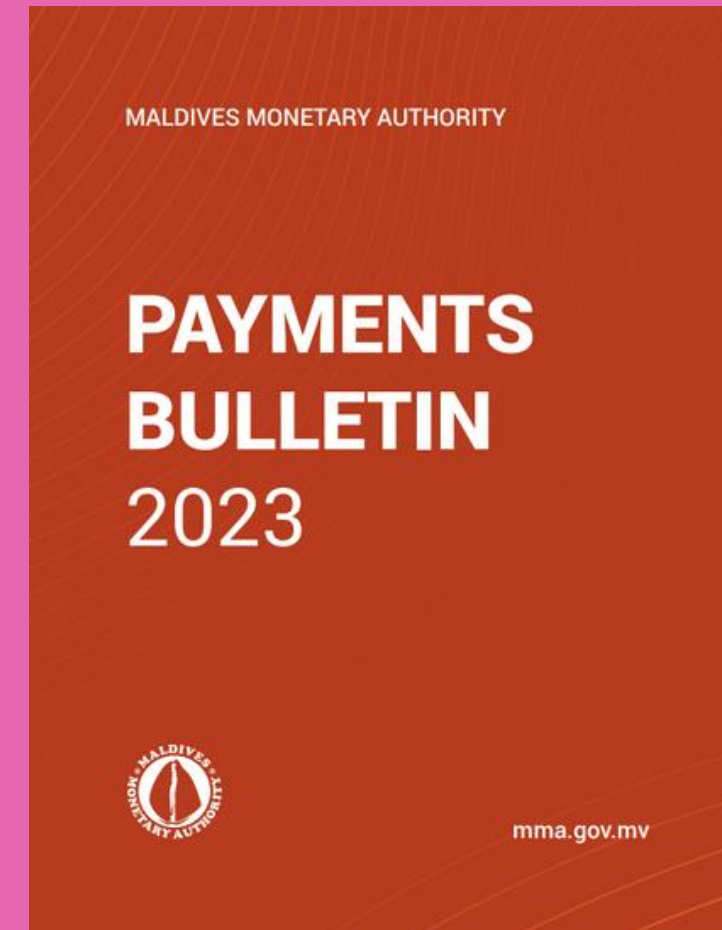
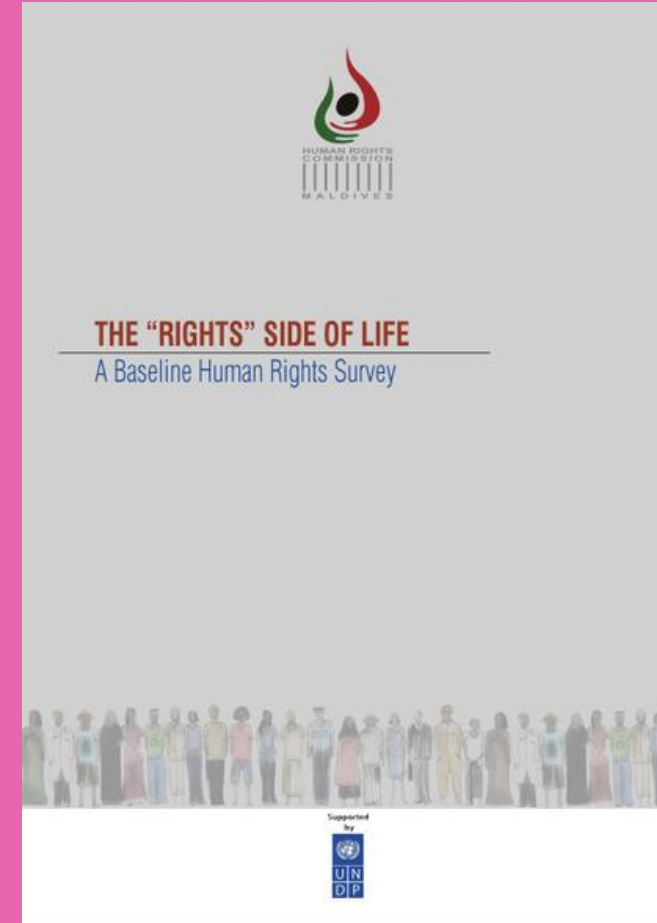


Meaningful participation from stakeholders

- **Inception and Orientation Workshops:** Held with city departments, youth groups, NGOs, and academia to build awareness and capacity.
- **Two-Day Stakeholder Consultation Workshop:** Facilitated co-creation of the VLR vision and SDG prioritisation.
- **Participatory Questionnaires:** Combined quantitative and qualitative inputs from various sectors.
- **Youth and Civil Society Platforms:** Used to gather feedback and ensure representation of marginalised voices.
- **Validation Meetings:** Ensured that stakeholder inputs were reflected in the final VLR document.

Challenge

Data was not available for the same year for different indicators



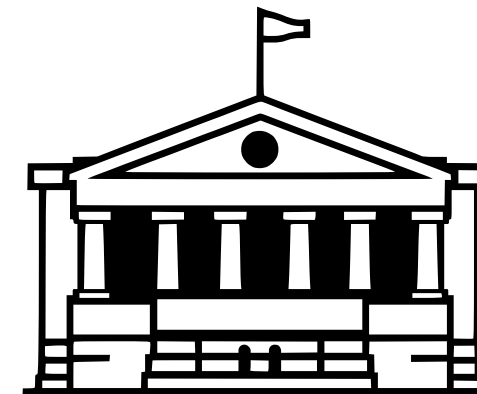
**Safe, Inclusive,
Equitable, resilient
and sustainable
island city**



**Digital Male'
Initiative**

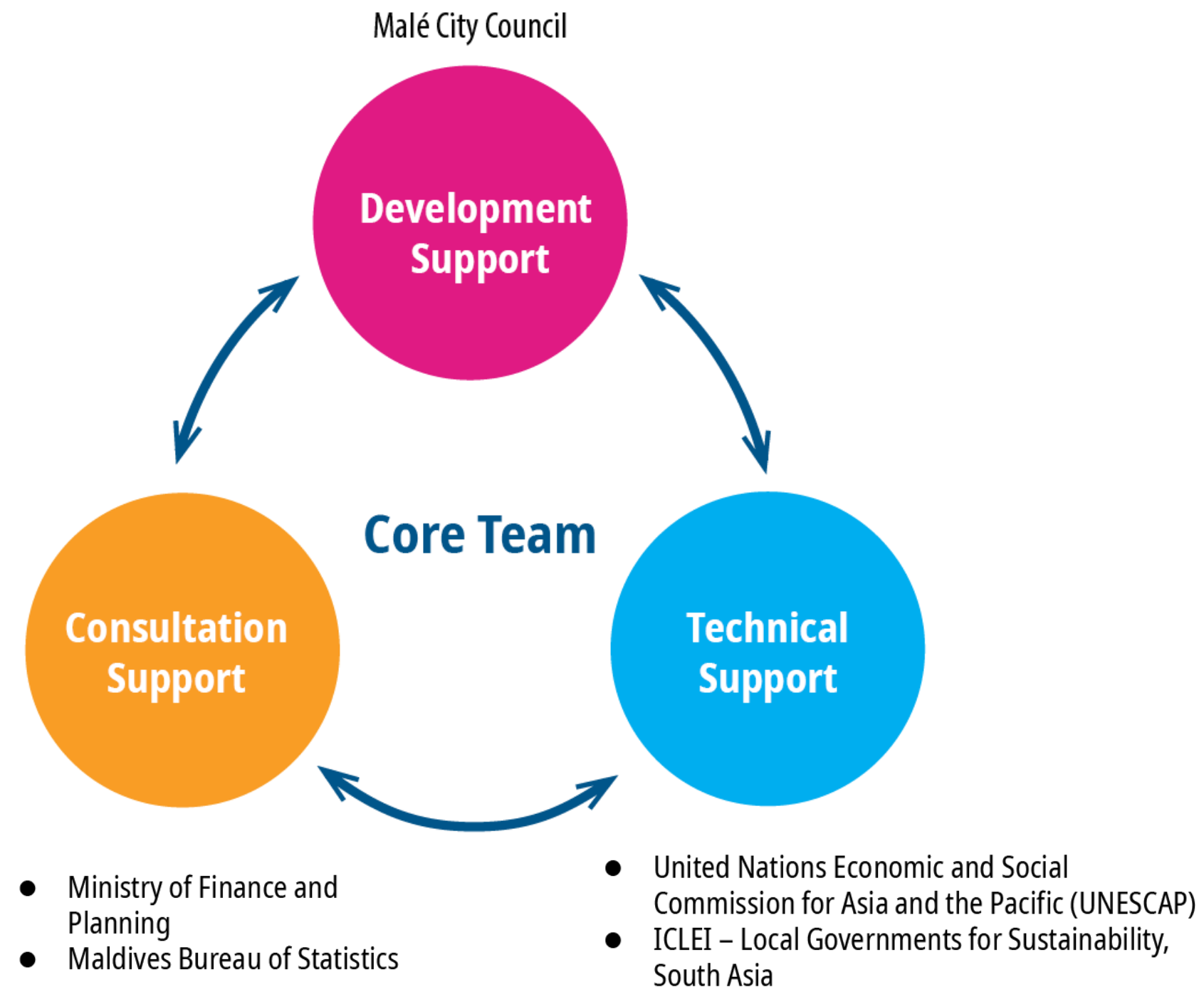


GIS Mapping



**Municipal data
management unit**

Challenges



01

Core Team commitment

3rd Third Core Team Focal Point

02

Core team Competency

Since Male' city council has been a municipal service provider, it was a challenge to find competent people to take lead in the VLR

03

Best Practise

Including Civil service Staffs in the VLR core team for better continuity of VLR – **longer-term orientation**

Data challenges

How did Male's city address data challenges



Working with what you have



Significant data gaps are identified with data collected at national level with some of the data missing in Male' city level. Completed the report with what you have.



Secondary sources

Since it is costly to collect primary data, secondary data was used.



Investing resources is crucial

Time and human capital are needed in collecting primary data and analysing the data.



Policy Impact and Budgeting

- The VLR influenced:
 - Strategic Action Plan (2026–2030)
 - Identification of gaps in SDG indicators
 - Budget alignment with priority SDGs
 - Advocacy for increased local fiscal autonomy.

Policy Impact and Budgeting

- The VLR influenced:• Malé City aims to:
 - Finalize and implement the City Disaster Management Plan
 - Develop a localized climate action plan
 - Institutionalize SDG monitoring through an SDG Cell
 - Strengthen partnerships and stakeholder engagement.



thank
you



THE GLOBAL GOALS

Climate Vulnerable Island Nation