

MEMP HANDS OVER LAB EQUIPMENTS AND BOOKS FOR ACADEMIC COURSE AT MNU

Laboratory equipments and books worth Mrf550,000 have been handed over to Faculty of Education of The Maldives National University (MNU) on the 28th of June 2011 in support of the implementation of Diploma/Degree in Environmental Management by MEMP. It is expected that MEMP will provide Mrf 14 million worth of assistance to establish this program at the Faculty of Education. In addition to this a further Mrf 8 million will be spent on training 6 lecturers in Australia. The course is a joint initiative by MNU and the Ministry of Housing and Environment and aims to meet the Maldives' future need for skilled professionals in the area of environmental management.

The writing of the course curriculum was carried out by a Professor of Sustainability from Australia and the structure has been designed to ensure international equivalency. During the course curriculum development phase, extensive discussions were held with local experts to identify and include appropriate knowledge, skills and attitudes required to ensure local relevance.

The course is designed to allow a number of exit points by incorporating a Diploma (1 year full time study), an Advanced Diploma (2 years full time study) and a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Management (3 years full time study). Candidates for admission who lack "A-Level" or equivalent qualifications will be given an additional year of Foundation Studies in specified core subjects. Students who enroll in the Diploma/

Degree will be provided full scholarships by MEMP during the life of the project.

Consultations held with key stakeholders of the project reveal that exceptional job opportunities will be available in the future job market for the graduates from this course.

