

G. DH. VAADHOO

STRATEGIC PLAN



ABSTRACT

This book is a comparative study and investigates local profile of the island Gaafu Dhaalu Vaadhoo. Book compilation was done by performing analytic studies, observations, conducting interviews and research based on the island. Study of the island was carried out by the architecture students of semester 4 2017 of Faculty of engineering Technology, Maldives National University.

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Appearing from the horizon as a thin green line, G.DH.Vaadhoo is an island located near the southern coast of Maldives in the Indian Ocean. In order to reach this island people have to travel by sea vessel. Upon getting closer, the first thing noticeable is the vast greenery near the dock, not to mention the seemingly vast endless patches of green on the eastern and western side of the island.

The jetty of the island seemed bigger than which is anticipated with light posts decorating the dock. Light posts are not many in number, however during the dark night it gives you the chance to see the night sky speckled by tiny shimmering stars. The main road of the island from the northern end to the southern end, is wide and stretches from one point to the other. Walking down the main road, the transition of the architectural techniques and materials of the houses can be clearly witnessed.

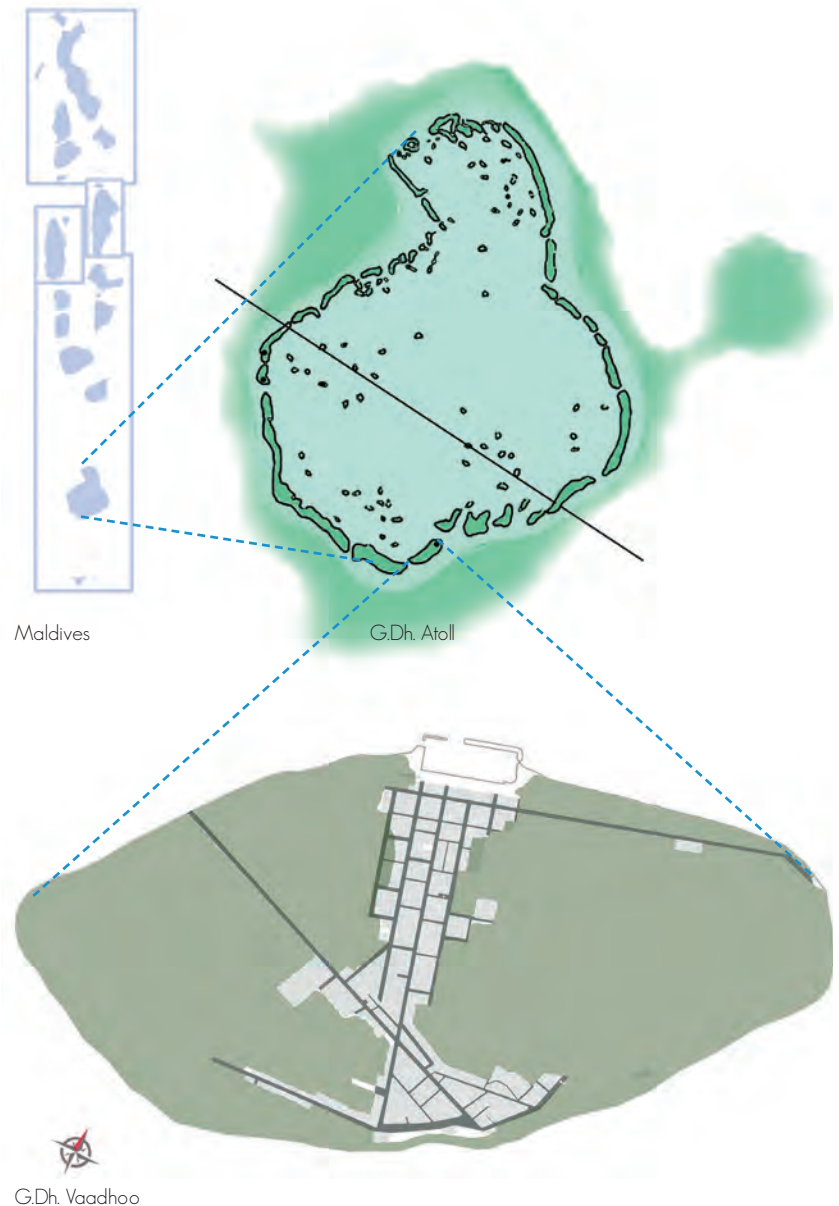
Even though the heat of the radiant sun "touches" the entire island, there are small muddy areas on the road that refuses to give in and dry up. Puddles decorate the street on rainy days in which ducks joyfully play around while frogs hop about here and there. The muddy roads are shaded with trees leading to the main road, where the trees are located within the boundary area of the houses, not providing any shade to the streets. Where ever you go, you will always see tall, luscious trees dominating the horizon.

Many species of flora and fauna are visible throughout the island growing in the forest regions and in the front and backyards of the local houses. At the southwestern part of the island, there lies a huge banyan tree that is said to be more than 400 years old. Traces of pre-Islamic and Islamic relics from the past are scattered all over the island can be found hidden deep in the woods and right next to mosques.

The island is filled with rich historic mysteries where monuments, mausoleum, tombs and many intriguing folklore can be discovered. Located at the east side of the island is the famous Blue Bowl surf spot which is a favorite stop for both locals and tourists. It is protected from onshore winds, due to being tucked away inside the pass between castaways and five islands.

VAADHOO AT A GLANCE

LOCATION





- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| Residential | Commercial | Infrastructure |
| Abandoned | Mosques | Graveyard |
| Empty Blocks | Utilities | Large vegetation |
| Recreational | Small vegetation | |



HISTORY



Vaadhoo is an island rich in history. Much of Vaadhoo Island's history still remains a mystery. It is home to a number of ziyaarai which were once used to seek assistance with fishing, weather, or with difficult pregnancies. A visit to the historically significant sites in Vaadhoo will contribute in enriching the knowledge of our ancestral culture. One of the most famous historical sites located in Vaadhoo is Hukuru Misky which contains a ziyaarai which is home to better known historical figure, Mohamed Jamaluddin.

Most of the sites that are not preserved for the sake of tourism or nationalist history have fallen into a state of ruin, or have already disappeared beneath developing communities and religious doctrine.

The first settlers of the island is unknown, but legend has it that the first area where people settled was the southern "Futtaru Faraai" of the island. Histroical evidence suggests that people have been living in this island before Islam was introduced to Maldives. Buddhists temple ruins still exists in the island.

With the discovery of several tombs in various part of the island, it is believed that people have been living in several parts of the island.

Over the years population of the island started growing slowly and people started moving more towards the central area of the island. Rumour has it the reason people lived on different parts of the island is because when there is a disease outbreak the sick are isolated in one area of the island and others move away to control the outbreak and spreading of the disease. These people were then buried in those area when they died.

Hukuru Misky in Vaadhoo was built in honor of one of their most beloved religious teacher, Mohamed Jamaluddin - also known as Vaadhoo Dhanna Kaleyfaan. This mosque has cultural significance in the Maldives.

Vaadhoo island is famous for the practice in black magic (Fandithah) in Maldives. Among the settlers of the island is Ali Manikufaanu famously known as Gahdhandhumanikufaanu who practiced fandithah and used it to heal people and provide assistance in areas they required.





Vaadhoo island is famous for the practice in black magic (Fandithah) in Maldives. Among the settlers of the island is Ali Manikufaanu famously known as Gahdhandhumanikufaanu who practiced fandithah and used it to heal people and provide assistance in areas they required.

Now considered among the locals of the island as part of the historical site is the house where Ali Manikufaanu and his family lived. The house is famous among the locals and is known as Gahdhandugey. This particular name was called because it was the land Ali Manikufaanu bought when he settled in the island. The layout and architectural style used in this house is rather different than the houses present during that time.

It is believed that people from all over the country visited this island to get help with the aid of Fandithah practicing locals of the island.



LOCAL PROFILE



From observational studies, research and personal communications the local profile of the island is identified in this section of the book. Main characteristics features of the island is highlighted and categorized into 9 different classifications. These include:

Physical features, climate and natural heritage and natural resource management

Population and housing

Economy and employment

Retail and commerce

Tourism and visitors

Recreation and open spaces

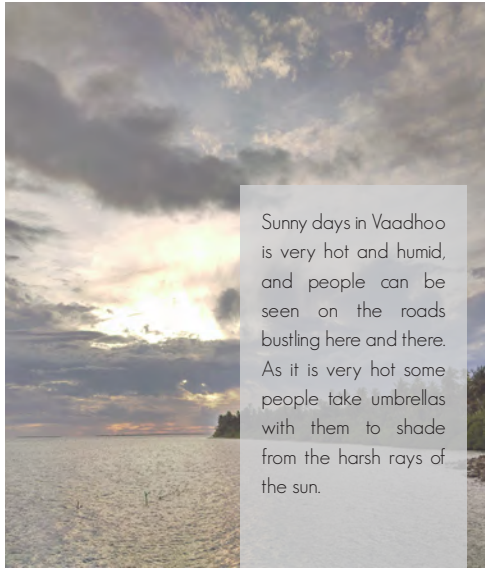
Community facilities

Urban design, character and heritage

Traffic and transport + infrastructure services

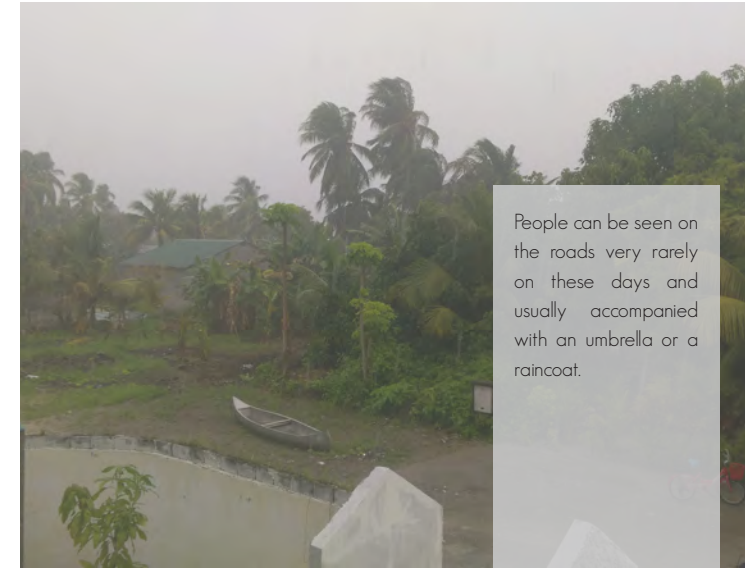
PHYSICAL FEATURES, CLIMATE & NATURAL RESOURCES

Vaadhoo is a wide oval shaped island with the width of 1.130km and a length of 2.320km. The total surface area of the island is 178 hectares. The island is oriented in a north east direction. Vaadhoo contains muddy soil which is very fertile. Over the years these fertile low areas of the island have become productive areas for vegetation and backyard agriculture.



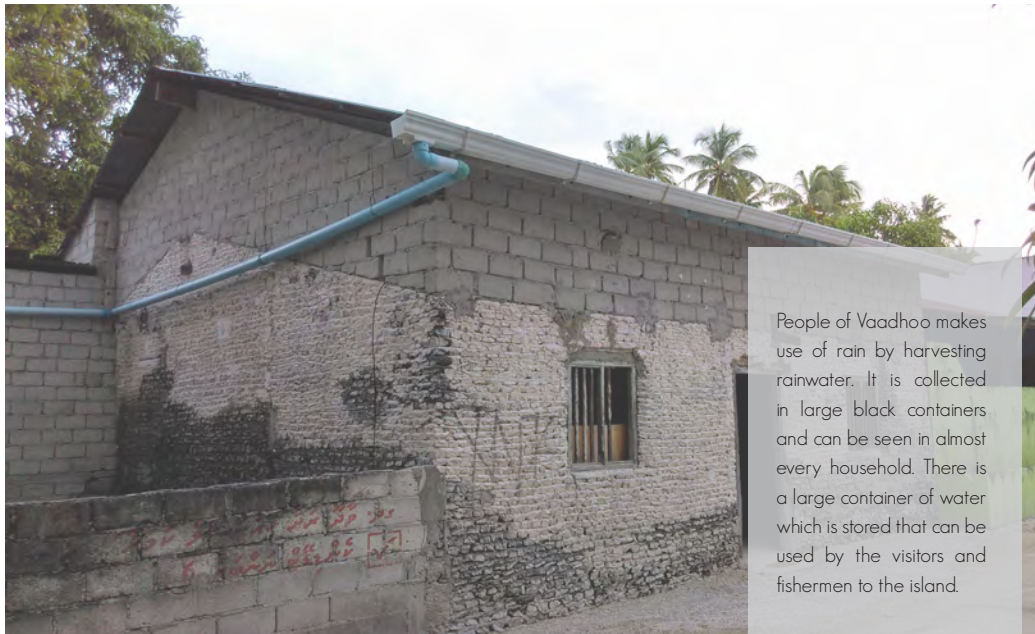
Sunny days in Vaadhoo is very hot and humid, and people can be seen on the roads bustling here and there. As it is very hot some people take umbrellas with them to shade from the harsh rays of the sun.

SUNNY DAY IN THE ISLAND



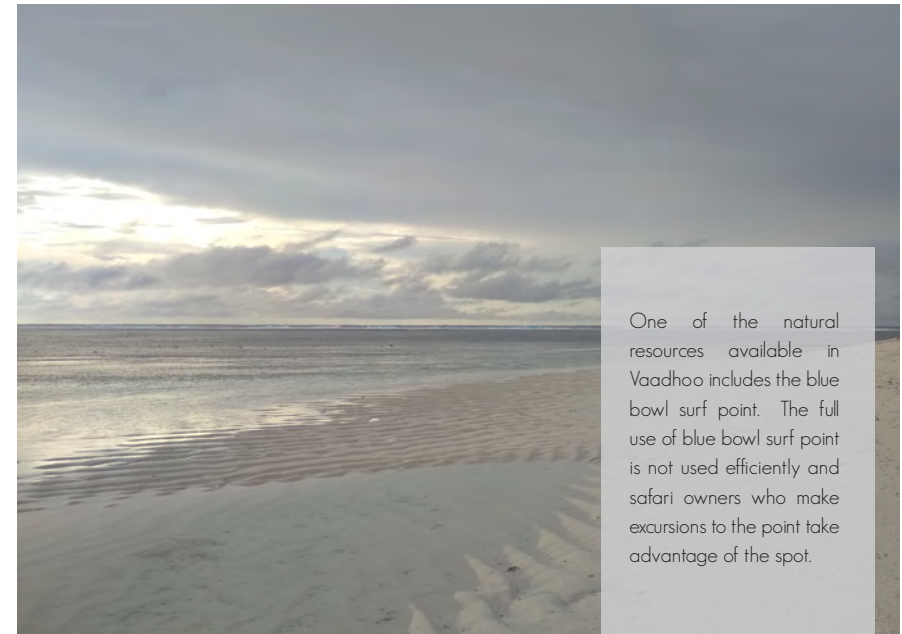
People can be seen on the roads very rarely on these days and usually accompanied with an umbrella or a raincoat.

RAINY DAY IN THE ISLAND



People of Vaadhoo makes use of rain by harvesting rainwater. It is collected in large black containers and can be seen in almost every household. There is a large container of water which is stored that can be used by the visitors and fishermen to the island.

RAINWATER USAGE



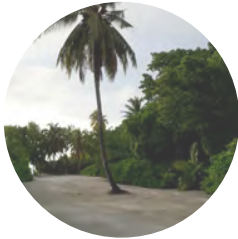
One of the natural resources available in Vaadhoo includes the blue bowl surf point. The full use of blue bowl surf point is not used efficiently and safari owners who make excursions to the point take advantage of the spot.

SURFING AREA AT LOW TIDE

TYPES OF VEGETATION



Magoo gas



Coconut Palm



Breadfruit tree



Dhigga tree



Mango tree



Water apple tree



Sabudheli Gas



Madhili tree



Guava tree



Jeymu gas



Hithi gas



Banana tree



Janburoalu tree



Kashikeyo tree

SOIL PROFILE

The soils in the center of the island is muddy and rich in humus making it fertile allowing the locals of the island to practice agriculture. However this type of soil prevents proper drainage of water during rainfall thereby creating puddles and flooding in several areas of the island. Formation of depressions can be seen on many parts of the island where most of the water settles. Compared to the center of the island soil in the periphery of the island is less fertile.

FORE SHORE

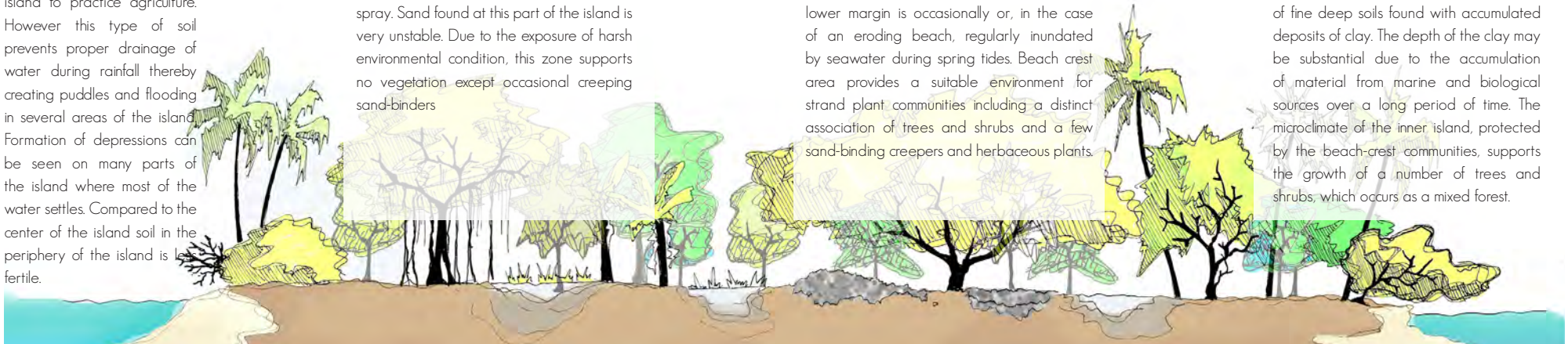
Soil found near the foreshore of the island is composed of gravel or shingle. This area is exposed to wave action, wind and salt spray. Sand found at this part of the island is very unstable. Due to the exposure of harsh environmental condition, this zone supports no vegetation except occasional creeping sand-binders

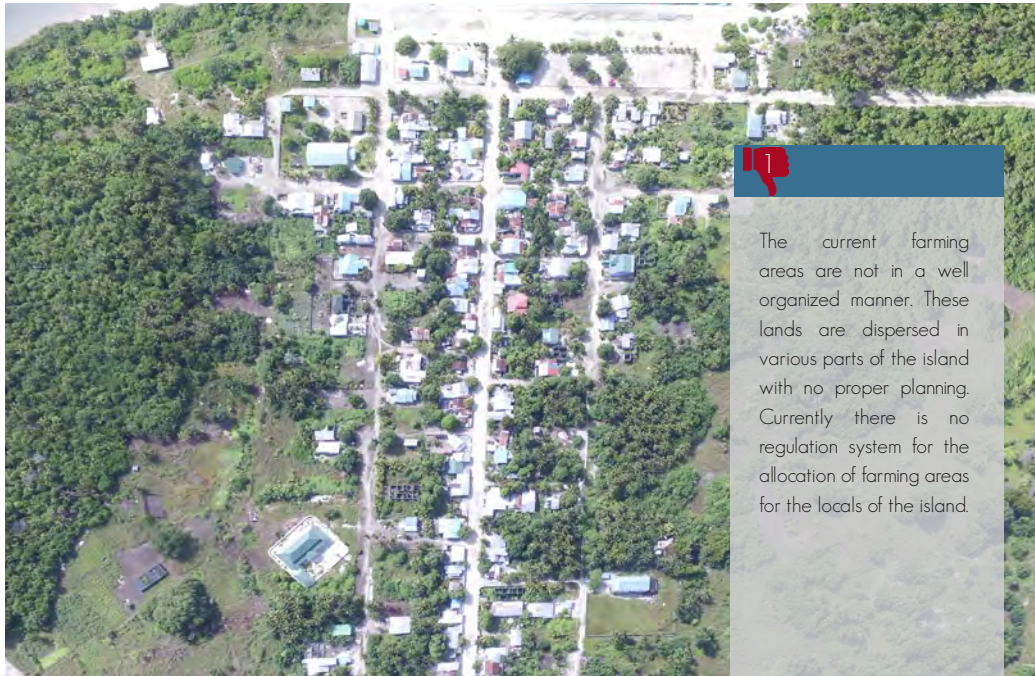
BEACH CREST

This zone is composed of coral sand and rubble. Like the foreshore environment, it is also exposed to winds and salt spray and its lower margin is occasionally or, in the case of an eroding beach, regularly inundated by seawater during spring tides. Beach crest area provides a suitable environment for strand plant communities including a distinct association of trees and shrubs and a few sand-binding creepers and herbaceous plants.

INNER ISLAND

In this zone the low-lying areas are subjected to significant mechanical breakdown from human activity. It consists of fine deep soils found with accumulated deposits of clay. The depth of the clay may be substantial due to the accumulation of material from marine and biological sources over a long period of time. The microclimate of the inner island, protected by the beach-crest communities, supports the growth of a number of trees and shrubs, which occurs as a mixed forest.

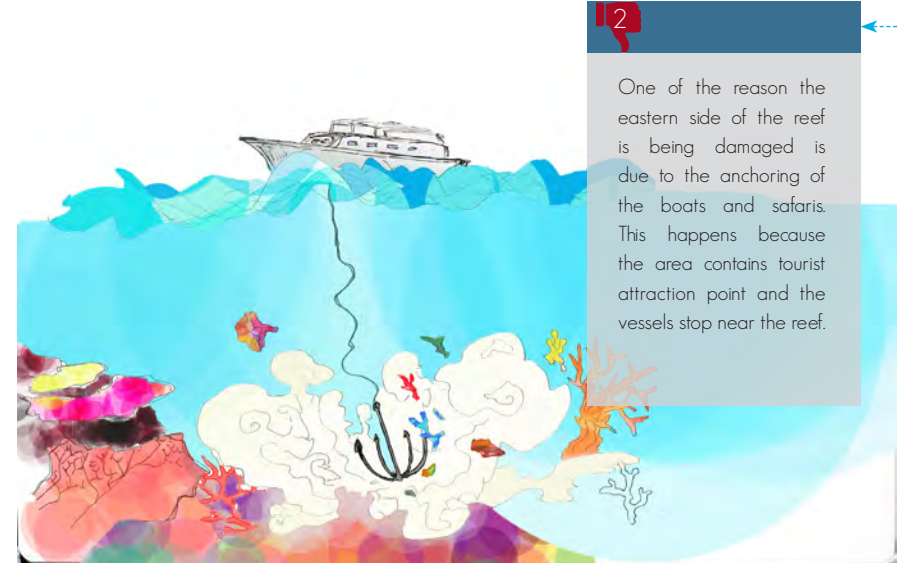




1

The current farming areas are not in a well organized manner. These lands are dispersed in various parts of the island with no proper planning. Currently there is no regulation system for the allocation of farming areas for the locals of the island.

FARMING AREAS LOCATED IN A SCATTERED MANNER



2

One of the reason the eastern side of the reef is being damaged is due to the anchoring of the boats and safaris. This happens because the area contains tourist attraction point and the vessels stop near the reef.

ANCHORING REEF



4

The type of soil present in the island, gives opportunity to practice farming and agriculture. Muddy soil present in the island is good at retaining water and is very fertile.

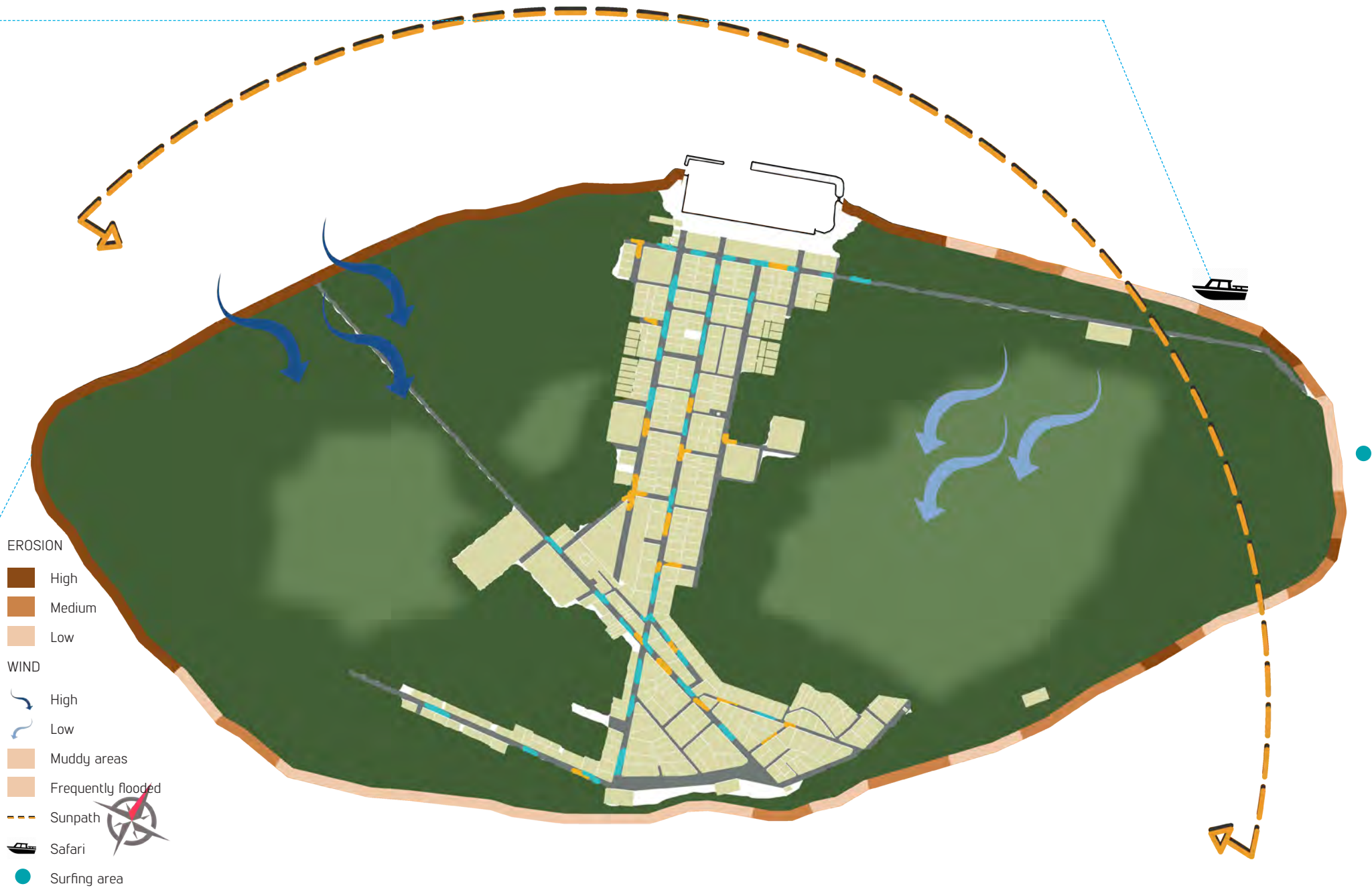
VEGETATION GROWN IN MUDDY AREA



3

The island is vulnerable to huge waves, lying low just barely above the mean sea level. One of the contributor in soil erosion is the human activities and strong wind from the western side of the island. These activities include coral mining and trampling on the coral reef. Soil erosion is most prominent in the northwestern side of the island.

EROSION IN THE ISLAND



EROSION

- High
- Medium
- Low

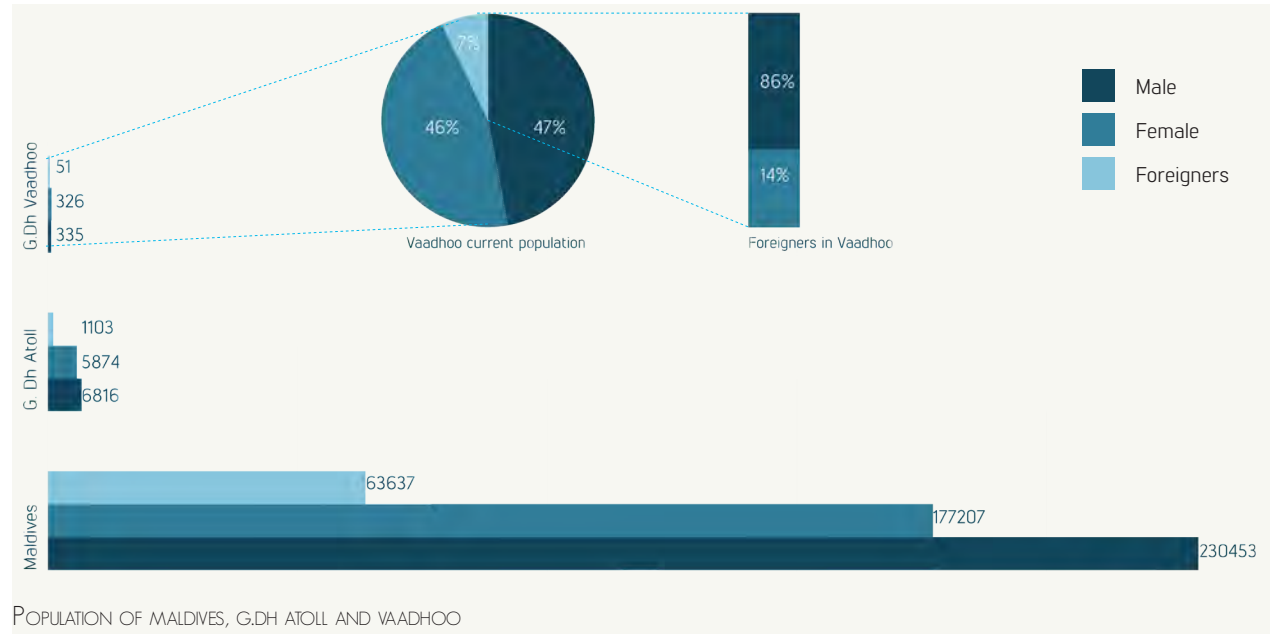
WIND

- High
- Low
- Muddy areas
- Frequently flooded
- Sunpath
- Safari

- Surfing area

POPULATION & HOUSING

Vaadhoo is an island vast in size, with a current population density of 4 people/hectare. A small population of 661 locals and 51 foreigners residing in Vaadhoo has a population growth rate which is considered relatively low compared to that of the Gaafu Dhaalu atoll. Number of total houses in Vaadhoo equates to 288, and of that 143 houses are used for dwelling purposes. The remaining 145 houses in the island are abandoned houses.



ARCHITECTURAL STYLES ADAPTED OVER THE YEARS

PRE - ISLAMIC

Recent archaeological evidence proves that before the conversion to Islam, Buddhist religion had existed in the island. Buddhist relics and ruins of monasteries have been found in two areas of the island. People from all over the country visited Vaadhoo in order to worship in the temples within the island. The main type of architecture adopted during this era is Vernacular Architecture.

ISLAMIC

After the conversion to Islam in the Maldives, order was given to destroy the temples. Mosques all over the island started being built in the island. From recorded history it was noted that there were 40 mosques which can be seen in the island. Same as pre-islamic era Vernacular architecture was used in housing.

BEFORE 1900s

A type of solid rock formation surrounding the shoreline was used in this era to make housing. "Aanugandu" rocks were taken and used to built "Gaafolhu" which prevents the house from getting flooded as the main part of the house lies on top of this Gaafolhu. This keeps the upper portion of the building elevated and safe from the moisture from ground. The building techniques and styles used in this era was Vernacular architecture, where houses were made from thatched leaves and materials available from surrounding. Over time thatched roofing materials changed to shingles called "Eetu".

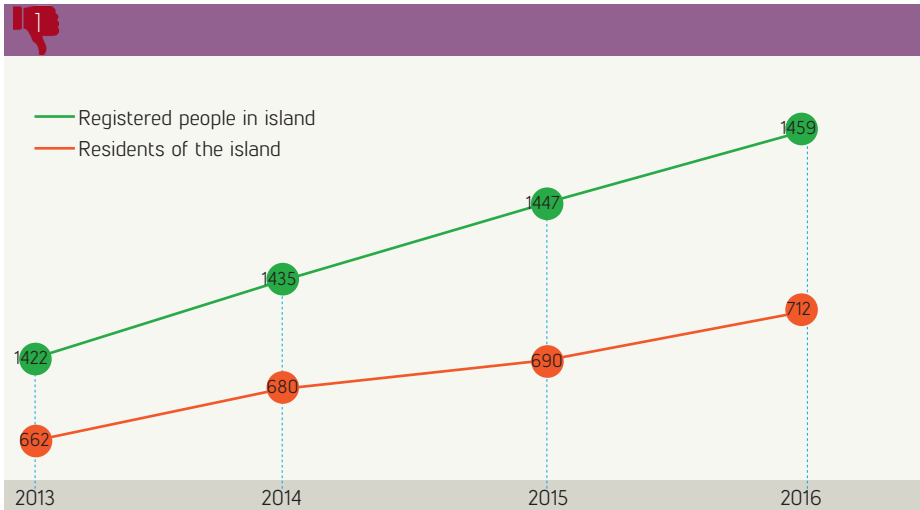
1900s TILL PRESENT

Over the years the changes were brought gradually to the type of materials used in housing. Roofing materials such as tin sheets started replacing shingles and thatched leaves. However, there are still thatched leaves used in some of the houses in the island. Almost all of the houses are single storey. It can be noted that there is no definite pattern in the orientation of the houses. The main materials used nowadays in the construction of housing is concrete, bricks and cement.



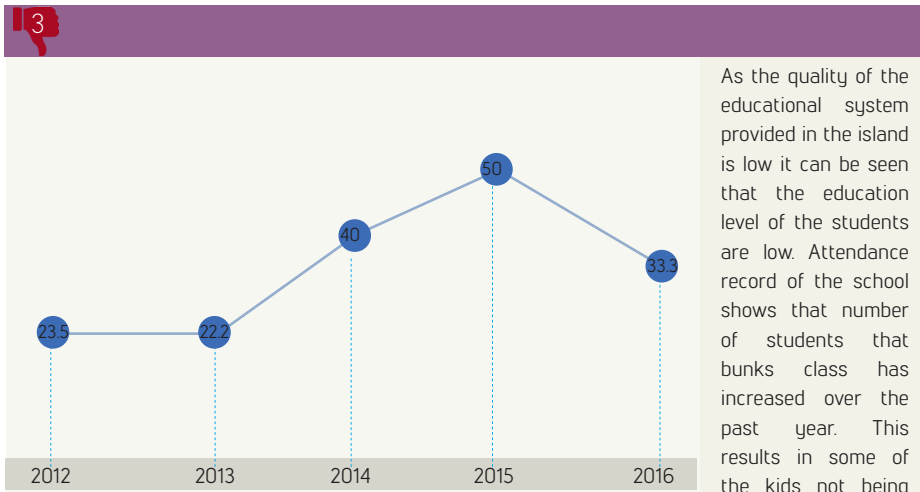


Traditional house



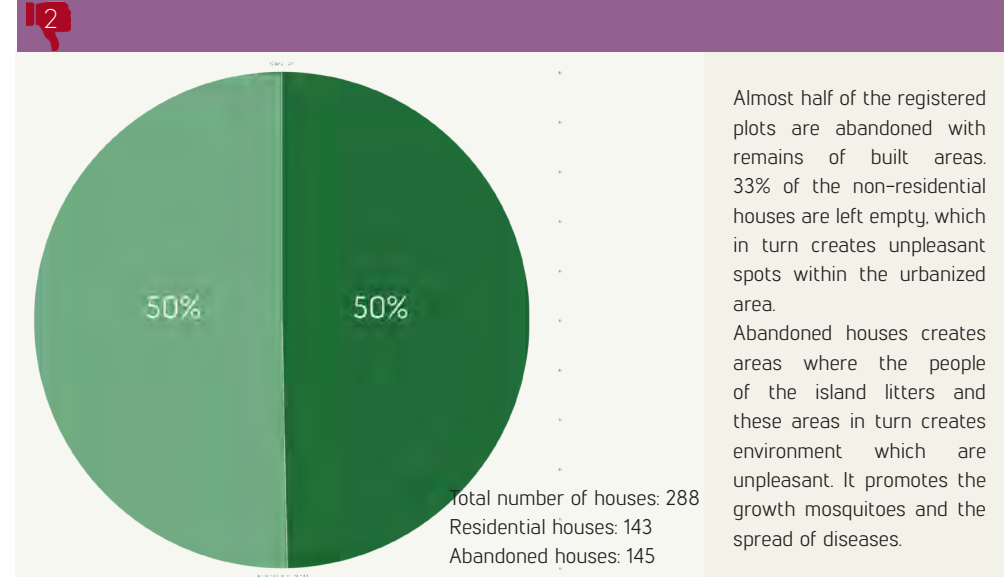
POPULATION OF ISLAND OVER THE YEARS

51 % of the population of the island has migrated to other places. 49% of the population, including 335 male, 326 female and 51 foreigners, resides in the island.

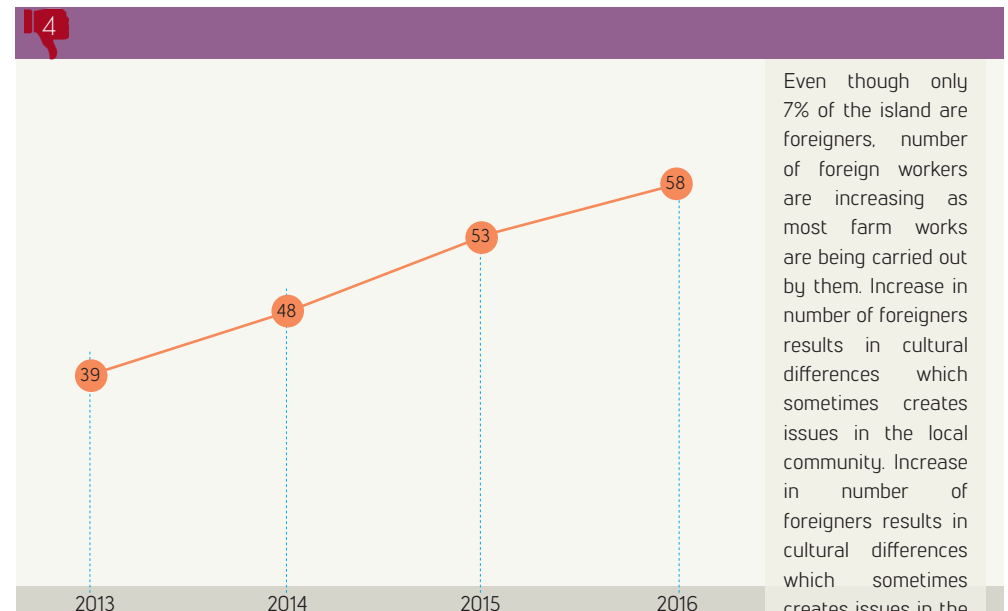


As the quality of the educational system provided in the island is low it can be seen that the education level of the students are low. Attendance record of the school shows that number of students that bunks class has increased over the past year. This results in some of the kids not being productive and going in the direction of using drugs.

Eventhough, slight increase can be seen in five subject pass percentage from 2013 to 2015, drastic decrease can be seen last year. As per the school authorities, attendance of most of students are very low.



Almost half of the registered plots are abandoned with remains of built areas. 33% of the non-residential houses are left empty, which in turn creates unpleasant spots within the urbanized area. Abandoned houses creates areas where the people of the island litters and these areas in turn creates environment which are unpleasant. It promotes the growth mosquitoes and the spread of diseases.



POPULATION OF FOREIGNERS OVER THE YEARS

Even though only 7% of the island are foreigners, number of foreign workers are increasing as most farm works are being carried out by them. Increase in number of foreigners results in cultural differences which sometimes creates issues in the local community. Increase in number of foreigners results in cultural differences which sometimes creates issues in the local community.

URBAN DESIGN, CHARACTER & HERITAGE

Urban design and heritage of the Vaadhoo Island gives an overall view of the arrangement of buildings, public spaces, transport systems, services, and amenities in the island. It shows the connections between people and places, movement and urban form, nature and the built fabric of the community. Heritage sites in the island is not preserved and many of them are ruins being damaged by people and covered up by nature.



Separate, scattered layout

Traditional materials used (limestone)

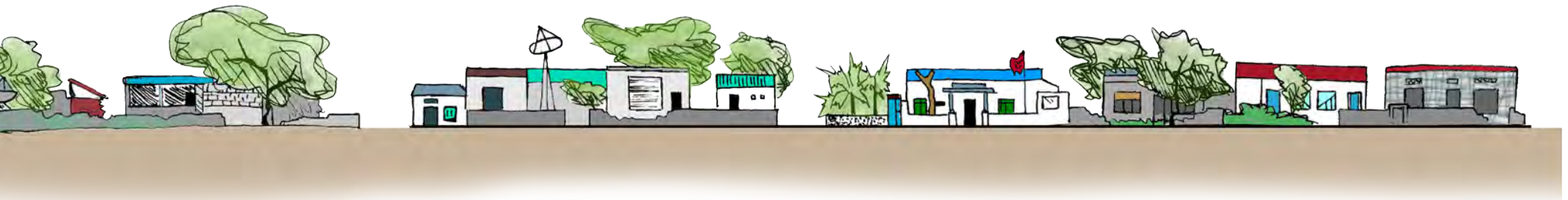
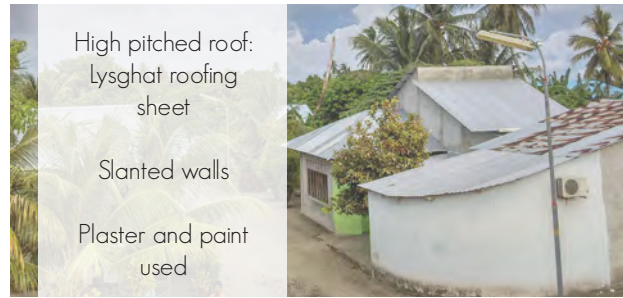


SOLID AND VOID SPACES

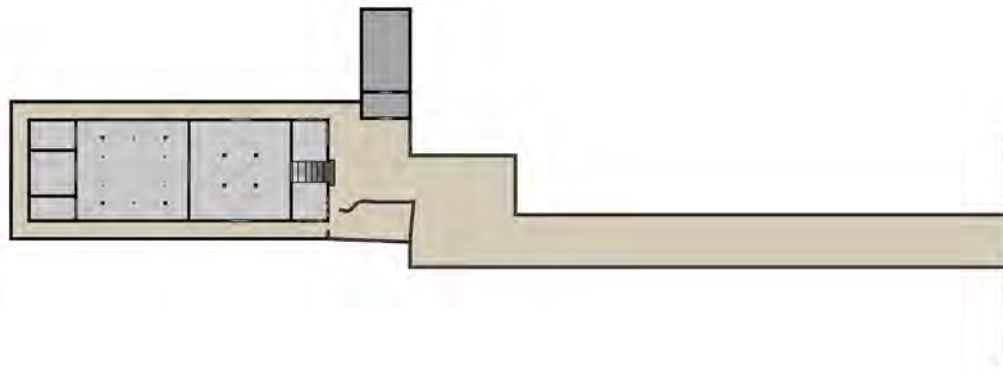


Separate, scattered layout

Traditional materials used (limestone)



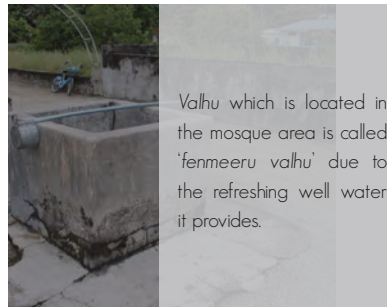
ANCIENT MOSQUE



FLOOR PLAN

Hukuru Misky in Vaadhoo was built in honor of one of their most beloved religious teacher, Mohamed Jamaluddin - also known as Vaadhoo Dhanna Kaleyfaan. This mosque has cultural significance in the Maldives.

Jamaaluddin is the famous 16th century scholar who brought the Shafi'i school of Islam to the Maldives from Yemen. It is said to be, that people from all over Maldives used to visit the island to gain knowledge from Jamaaluddin. Rumour has it people visit Jamaaluddin's tomb to request assistance with schoolwork. Part of the mosque still remains intact which shows the site where Jamaaluddin taught his students and performed his prayers.



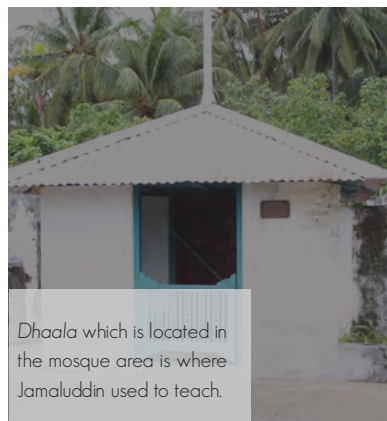
Valhu which is located in the mosque area is called 'fenmeeru valhu' due to the refreshing well water it provides.



Exterior perspective



Interior perspective



Dhaala which is located in the mosque area is where Jamaaluddin used to teach.

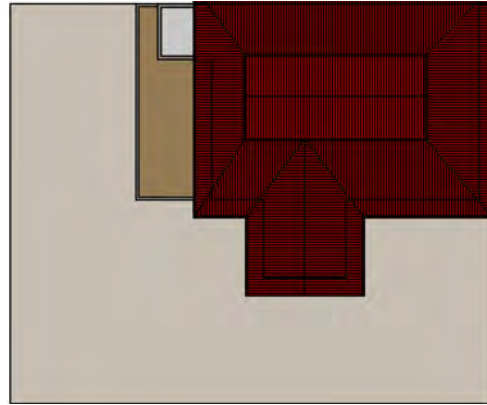


FRONT ELEVATION

GADHDHADUGE

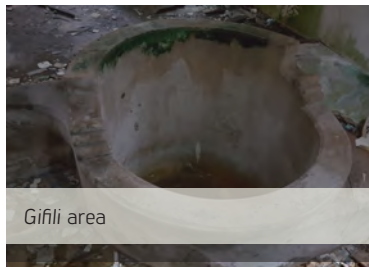


FLOOR PLAN



ROOF PLAN

Gadhdhaduge is considered among one of the historical sites of the island. The layout of the house is in a very grid pattern, which is rather different than the houses which were built during this time. The ceiling of the ground floor seems to contain a deck area. However, there is no evidence to suggest this area can be accessed due to absence of ladders or stairs.



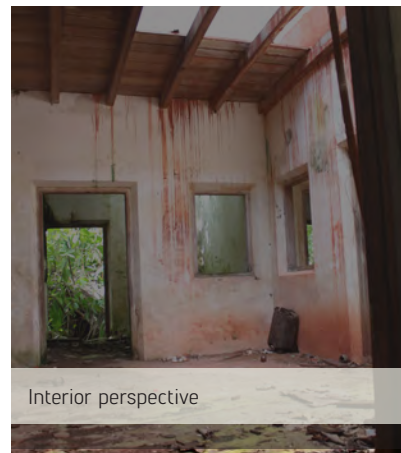
Gifili area



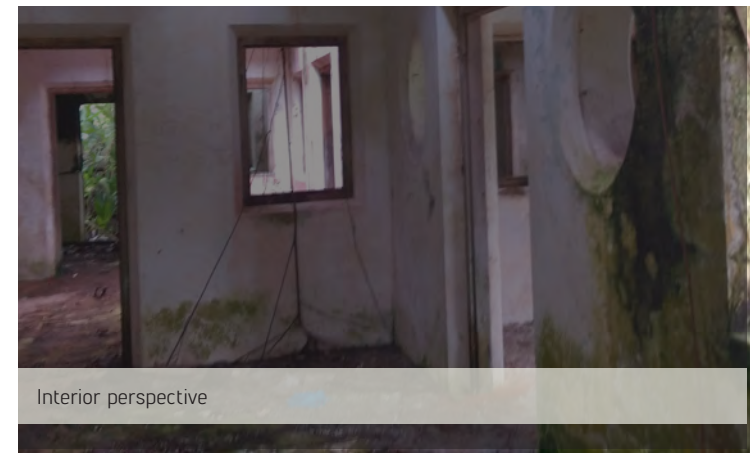
Exterior perspective



SIDE ELEVATION

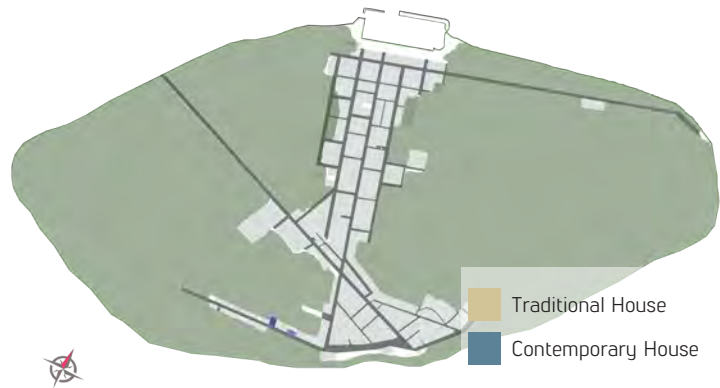


Interior perspective



Interior perspective

TRADITIONAL HOUSE



The study is carried out to understand the general plot layout of the island. The chosen block contains plots with different architectural techniques that were applied in housing. The plot chosen to study contains both contemporary and traditional housing methods. Both the plots are selected from the old town area of the island.



TRADITIONAL HOUSE FLOOR PLAN

TRADITIONAL HOUSE FRONT ELEVATION

CONTEMPORARY HOUSE



CONTEMPORARY HOUSE FLOOR PLAN



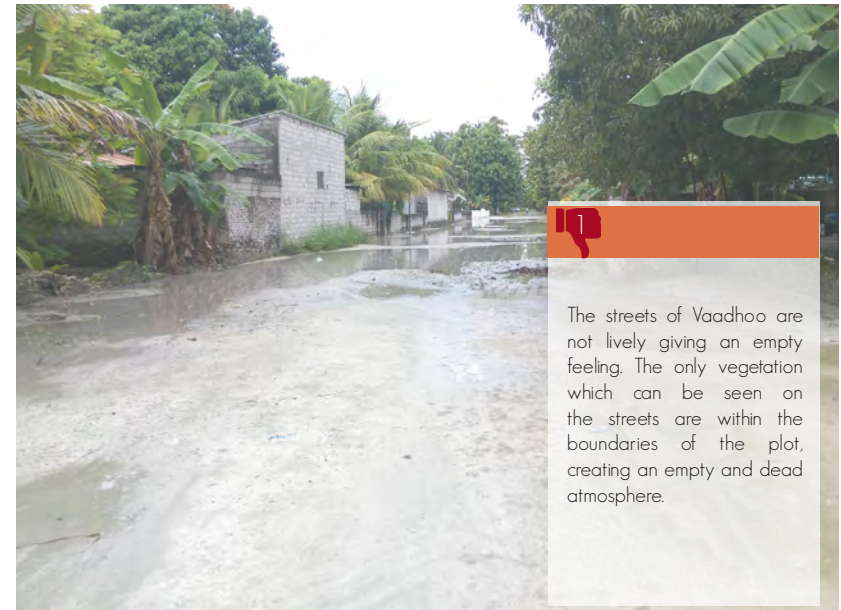
CONTEMPORARY HOUSE FRONT ELEVATION



Exterior perspective



Street leading to surfing spot

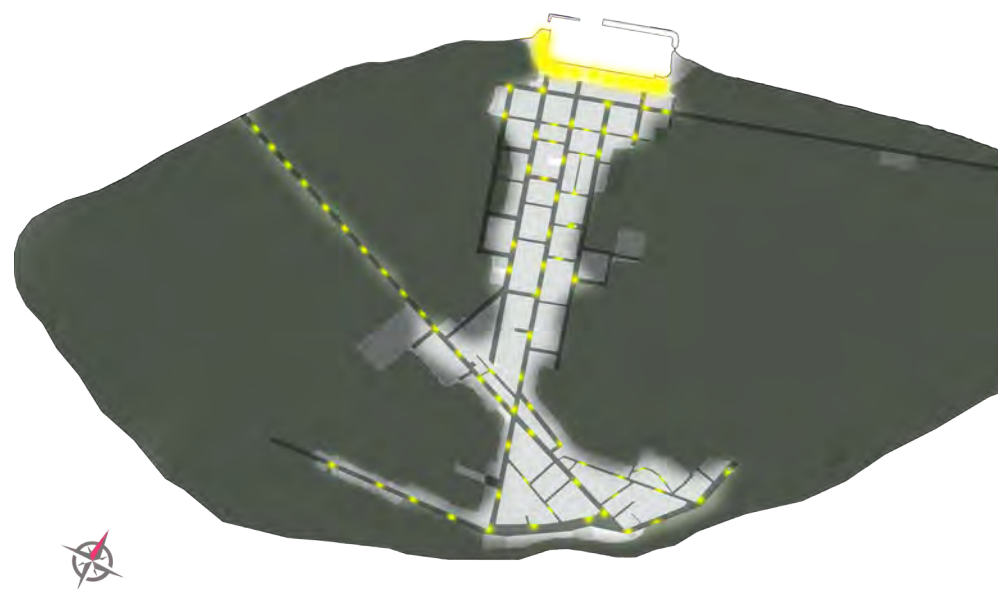


1
The streets of Vaadhoo are not lively giving an empty feeling. The only vegetation which can be seen on the streets are within the boundaries of the plot, creating an empty and dead atmosphere.

FLOODED STREETS



Night time at Vaadhoo



DARK AREAS AND LIGHT AREAS DURING NIGHT TIME

2
Light Posts placed in the island is not very efficient as it does provide sufficient lighting for wide range. However one of the good noticeable feature is that electricity is provided in the island 24 hours. From the map it can be seen that blind spots are created in the areas where people live.



1
HAVITHTHA (BIG)
 This used to be the location of a buddist stupa, which was demolished after embracing islam



2
GALE MISKIY ZIYAARAI
 Pregnant women in their last trimester used to come here for spiritual ritual. It is said that it will make labor easy for the women.



3
BULHANNAABU ZIYAARAI
 Rituals performed among the people due to their beliefs and that in doing so would aid them with the difficulties which arises when the odi dhoanis were late in arrival due to wind problems.



4
HAVITHTHA (SMALL)
 This used to be the location of a buddist stupa, which was demolished after embracing islam



5
JAMALLUDDIN ZIYAARAI
 Rumour has it people visit Jamaaluddin's tomb to request assistance with schoolwork.



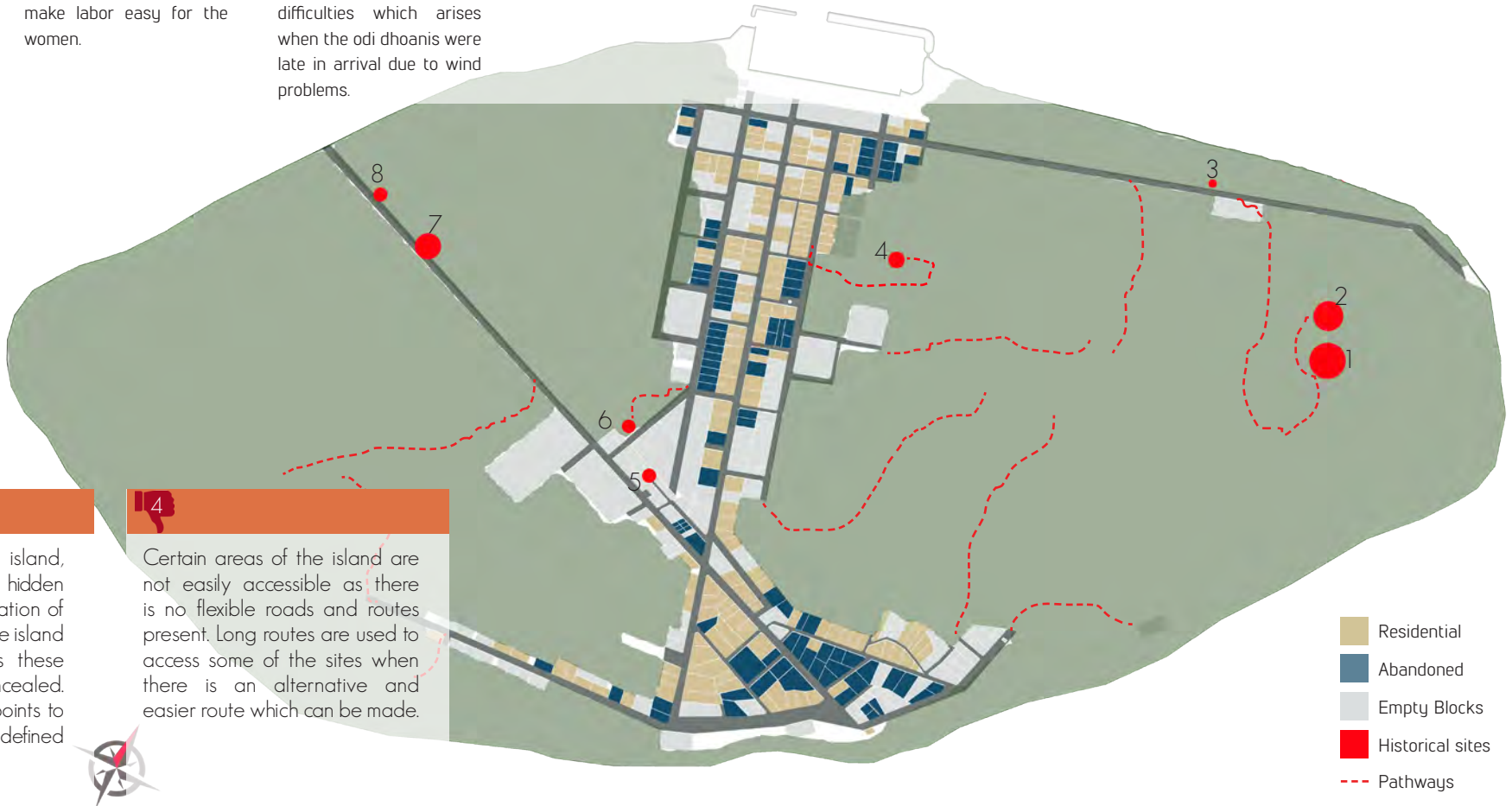
6
VEVU
 Ancient bathing area



7
THUNDEY ZIYAARAI
 Rituals are performed aiding assistance from the people buried there



8
NIKA GAS
 More than 400 years old Banyan tree is considered as the most aged tree in the island



3

Scattered all over the island, these historical sites are hidden among the dense vegetation of the island. Outsiders of the island are most likely to miss these sites as they are concealed. The routes and access points to these sites are not well defined making it difficult to find.

4

Certain areas of the island are not easily accessible as there is no flexible roads and routes present. Long routes are used to access some of the sites when there is an alternative and easier route which can be made.

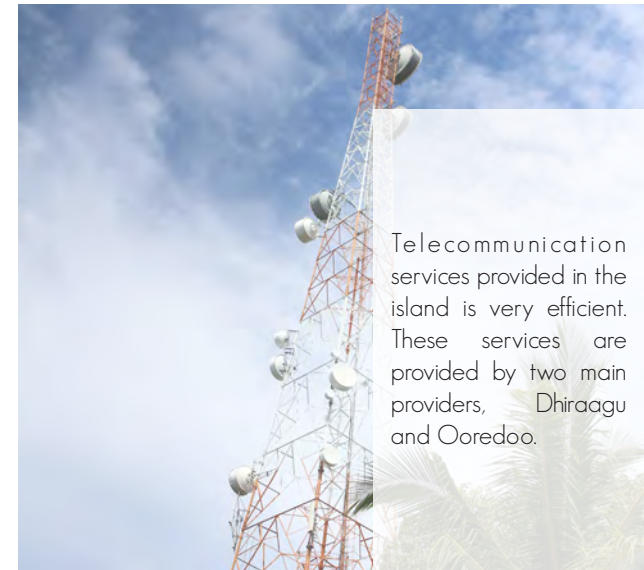
- Residential
- Abandoned
- Empty Blocks
- Historical sites
- Pathways

TRAFFIC, TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE

The island is accessible by sea, through ferry, boats and launch services. Telecommunication services to the island are provided by Dhiraagu and Ooredoo. Electricity and sewerage is provided by the government company Fenaka. Waste management of the island is managed by the local council. However, it is not managed effectively.



Vaadhoo Island contains a harbor area which enables easy access to the island via sea vessels.



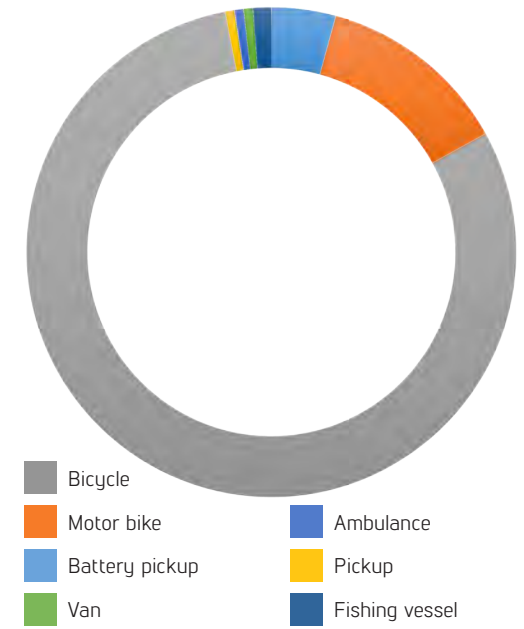
Telecommunication services provided in the island is very efficient. These services are provided by two main providers, Dhiraagu and Ooredoo.

TELECOMMUNICATION

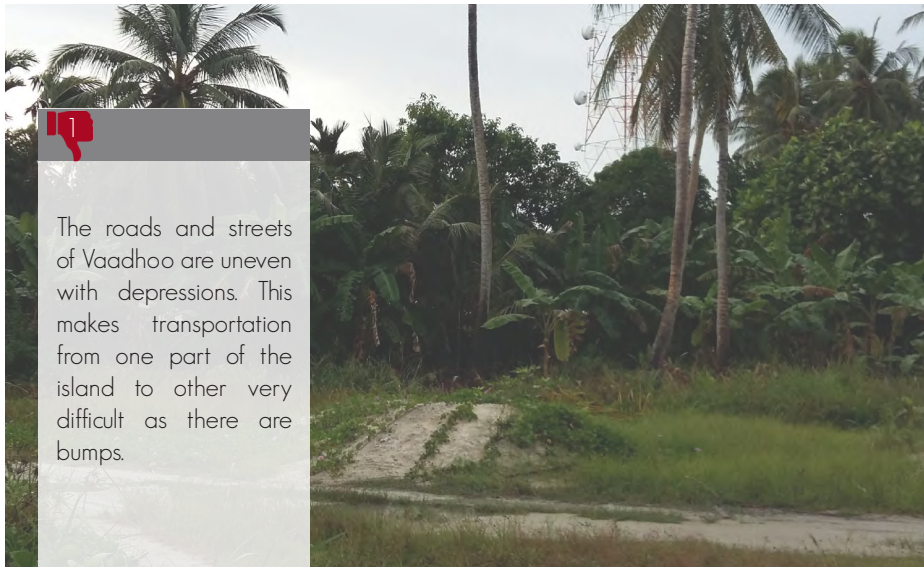


Vehicular circulation peak hours are:
 0645 - 0815
 0945 - 1000
 1250 - 1315
 1400 - 1430
 1600 - 1800

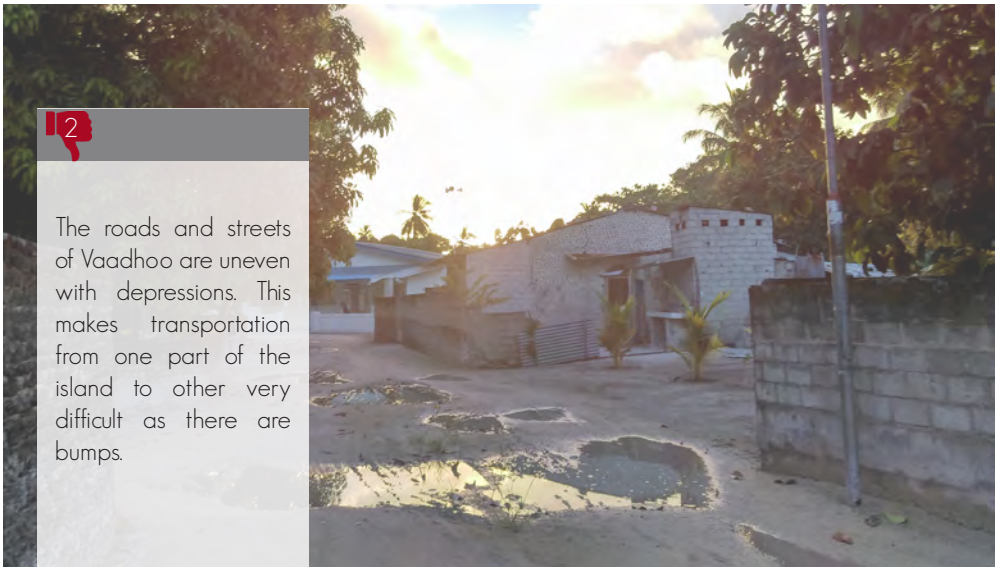
Compared to other islands the number of vehicles in the island are less in number. The main types of vehicles used in the island includes: bicycles, cycles, pickup and battery operated four wheeled pickups. There are a total of 7 battery operated pickup, 21 cycles, 132 bicycles, 1 van, 1 ambulance and 1 pickup.



TYPES OF VEHICLES AND VESSELS



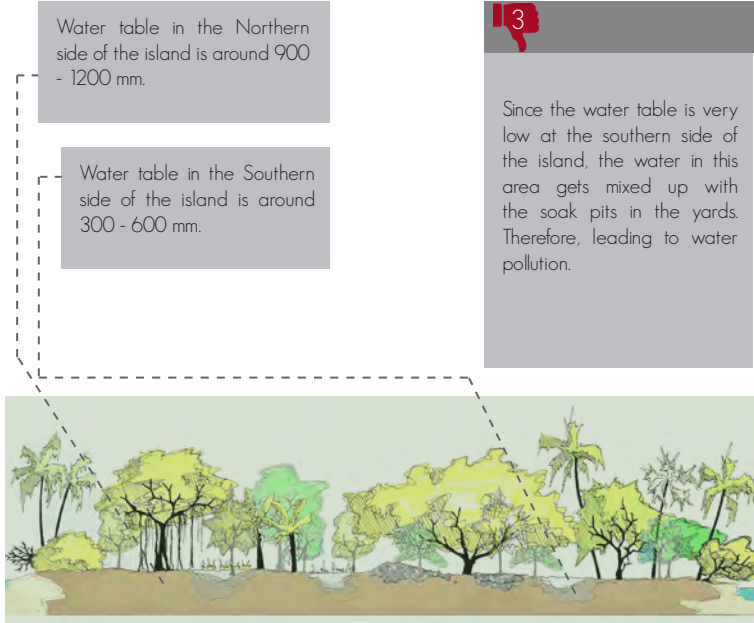
1 The roads and streets of Vaadhoo are uneven with depressions. This makes transportation from one part of the island to other very difficult as there are bumps.



2 The roads and streets of Vaadhoo are uneven with depressions. This makes transportation from one part of the island to other very difficult as there are bumps.

UNEVEN ROADS

FLOODED ROADS



SOIL PROFILE



4 The waste disposal site at the island is located at the eastern side of the island. However disposal of waste is not managed properly as there can be seen wastes scattered all over the island. Abandoned sites are being used as waste disposal area by the locals of the island.

WASTE MANAGEMENT



4 Waste dumped into sea washed up on the shore



4 Plastic bottle dumping area

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Community Facilities and services are essential for the health, social well being and economic prosperity of the community. Community facilities and services play a vital role in helping the community to develop resilience which is essential in the development and maintenance of strong community. Vaadhoo Island has the basic community facilities available in Maldives. However, the facilities that are provided in the island are in inadequate standards for current requirements.



Vaadhoo Jamaaluddin school was first established in 2nd July 1967. Since 2008 Jamaaluddin school teaches till 10th grade. The school consists of 157 students, 18 teachers and 31 staff members. School teaching hours are from 0715am till 1255pm. School contains standard and up to date facilities such as smart board. There are a total of 7 classrooms. The school occasionally holds awareness programs and offers students alternative career options if their grades are below certain level. As of last year only business stream option is available to the students.

SCHOOL



Interior of Health centre



Interior of Health centre



Magistrate court of Vaadhoo island was first established on 21st October 2010. The official name of the court is "Huavdhu Atoll Dhekunuburee Vaadhoo Magistrate Court". There are a total of 4 staffs working in the magistrate court. 1 magistrator, 2 administrative officers and 1 housekeeper. Common types of cases handled by the court from 2015 till present includes: sexual assaults, murder cases and drug problems.

MAGISTRATE COURT



Vaadhoo island contains a total of 6 mosques from which only 1 mosque is a new mosque. The mosques are small in size and can be seen in different parts of the island. The prayer carpet is oriented towards the northwest facing Mecca. The oldest mosque in the island is the Hukuru Misky which contains Jamaaluddin Ziyaarai.

MOSQUE



The cemetery of the island is located in the southern side. Adjacent to the "Hukuru Misky" of the island the cemetery is present where the dead is buried.

CEMETRY



The local council of the island is located in the general center of the island. There are a total of counselors in working in the local council. The main focus of the local council is to run island development projects and activities.

COUNCIL



Vaadhoo Police Station was opened in 2013 and is located in the northern side of the island close by to the jetty. As the station is located in this area, monitoring and controlling crimes is very difficult. There are a total of 4 staffs working in the police station. Crimes such as theft, burglary and murder is relatively low in the island. The main type of crime recorded in the island is the usage of drugs. As the island doesn't contain separate fire station fire fighting and safety is controlled by the police station.



POLICE



Vaadhoo health Centre was established in 2007 and is located at northwestern side near to the harbor area of the island. Health centre contains two wards; one general ward and a ward to keep patients with infectious diseases and these wards have a capacity of 9 beds. Currently the number of staffs working in the centre is 1 medical doctor, 1 nurse, 1 laboratory technician and 2 staff workers. In 2013 the service of Ambulance to the island was introduced. If the health centre is unable to provide proper health care, these rare cases are directed regional health centre located at Thinadhoo and from there to capital city Male'



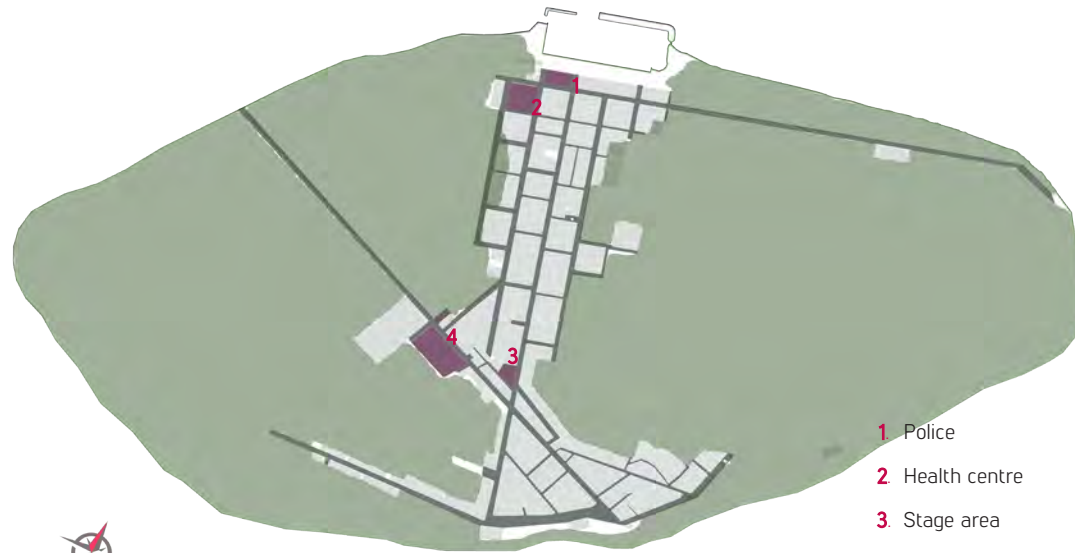
HEALTH CENTRE



Interior of classroom



Interior of school



- 1 Police
- 2 Health centre
- 3 Stage area
- 4 School



EXISTING COMMUNITY FACILITIES



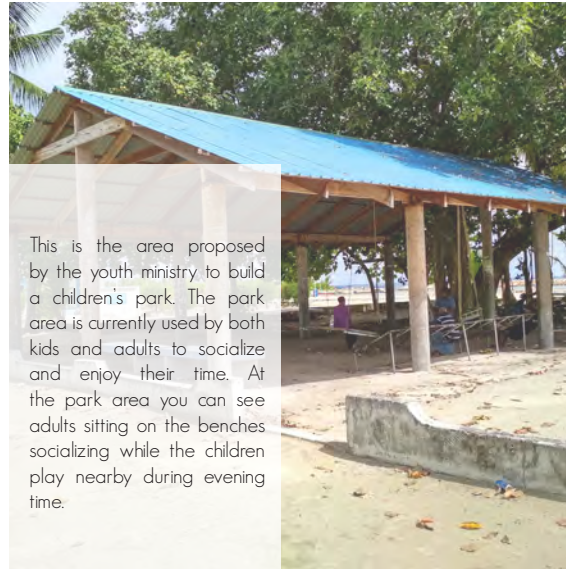
Space allocated for library is left half constructed. The construction of the library started during the presidency of Mohamed Nasheed and the construction came to a halt after the new regime.



LIBRARY

RECREATIONAL & OPEN SPACES

Open spaces are generally appreciated for the recreational opportunities it provides. These provide the locals of the community breathing spaces enhancing their health and social wellbeing. Across Vaadhoo Island, sporting, cultural and urban recreational facilities are available like any other place. People gather in these areas to enjoy their time and socialize with one another increasing the social cohesion.



This is the area proposed by the youth ministry to build a children's park. The park area is currently used by both kids and adults to socialize and enjoy their time. At the park area you can see adults sitting on the benches socializing while the children play nearby during evening time.

PARK AREA



Futsal field is located on the southern side of the island where the youths spend their evening enjoying themselves.

FUTSAL COURT



Near the Futsal field a volleyball court is also present. This court is not as much as in demand as the adjacent Bashi court and the futsal field.

VOLLEY COURT



Bashi is a traditional game played only in Maldives and is very popular among women. Frequent competitive games are played in the Bashi court and the ladies of island gather every evening to socialize and play.

BASHI COURT



Dhafi negun



Kurufali negun

1
Just next to the harbor of the island a place is created which is used for seating purposes. People gather in this area to socialize and enjoy the view. A calm ambience surrounds the area which contains the sound of ocean waves and filled with gently breeze from the sea.



SEATING AREA

2
Nearby to the school a football and netball field is present in the island. These courts are used to facilitate sports such as netball and football. Currently the space is being under construction and is not much in use.



AREA CONSISTING NETBALL AND FOOTBALL COURT



Football court area entrance locked



Netball court within the premises of arena



- 1. Seating area
- 2. Gathering area
- 3. Football & netball court
- 4. Stage area
- 5. Futsal court
- 6. Gathering area
- 7. Gathering area

3
EXISTING RECREATIONAL & OPEN SPACES

EXISTING RECREATIONAL & OPEN SPACES

4
The stage is mainly used on very few occasions to hold dances and shows. One of the occasions where the stage is used is during Eid celebration. Special types of traditional dances such langiri, bodu beru shows usually takes place on this stage.



STAGE

RETAIL & COMMERCE

Reaching the right customers and providing services which are in need at a large scale is one of the key challenges facing retailers. In Vaadhoo there are a total of 9 shops which are registered. Services and goods provided by these shops are general goods and hardware items that are of demand in the island.



Hardware store

Currently there are 2 hardware shops present in the island. Regardless of these shops being present they don't operate at specified times. Materials needed for construction usually need to be brought from capital city Male' as they are not available in the store.



General store

Likewise, the general stores are not open at specified times. Shops in the island don't have an inviting feel and it is hard to distinguish shops from the houses.

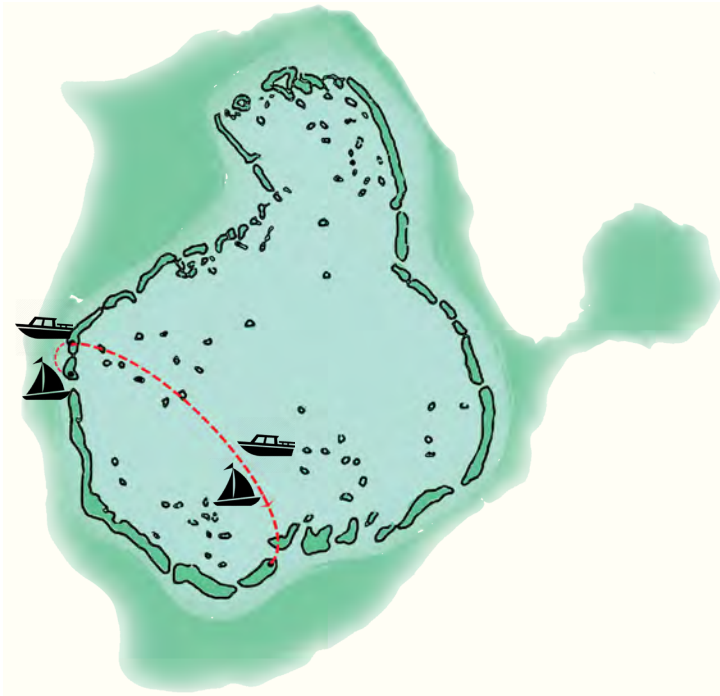


COMMERCIAL AREAS



Cafe'

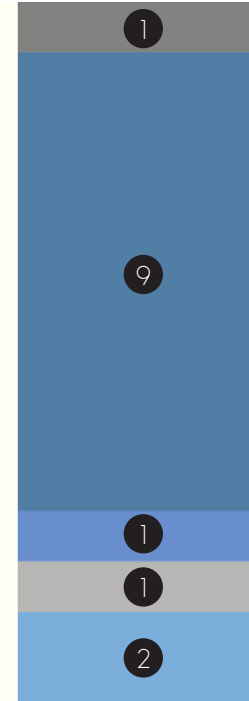
Only one cafe' is present in the island. The cafe's is located near the harbour which caters the needs of people who visit the island and readily for fishermen. The services available include coffee, tea and short eats.



TRANSPORT ROUTES TO THE ISLAND

1

Many issues are faced by the retailers in providing their services to the locals of the community. Most of the difficulties arise in the transport of goods to the island. The main reason for this is because there is no proper transportation vessel of cargo which can carry the goods for retailing and commerce purposes.



VARIETIES OF SHOPS

2

The types of goods sold in the shops are usually household items. From the 9 shops 2 shops sells hardware items. Regardless of hardware shops being present most of the items needed for construction has to be brought into the island from Male'. It can be observed that less variety of shops are located in the island.

- 1 Cafe
- 9 General shops
- 1 Clothing shop
- 1 Tailor shop
- 2 Hardware shops



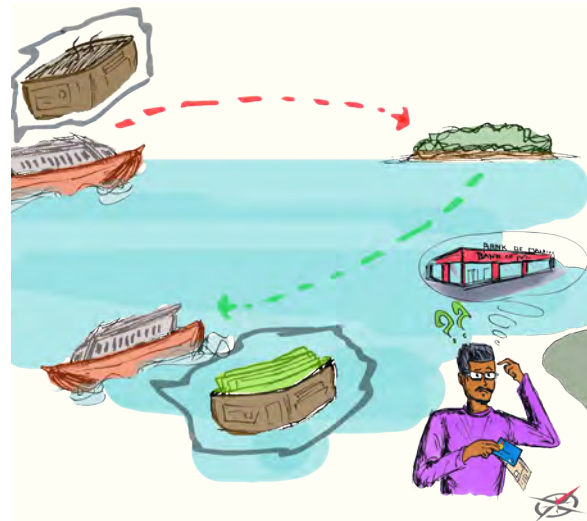
Rotten watermelon

3

Even though agricultural farming is practised in the island at a wide range there is no proper system established in selling the products. Wide varieties of products are produced yet the island does not contain a market to sell the goods.



Brinjals left to decay

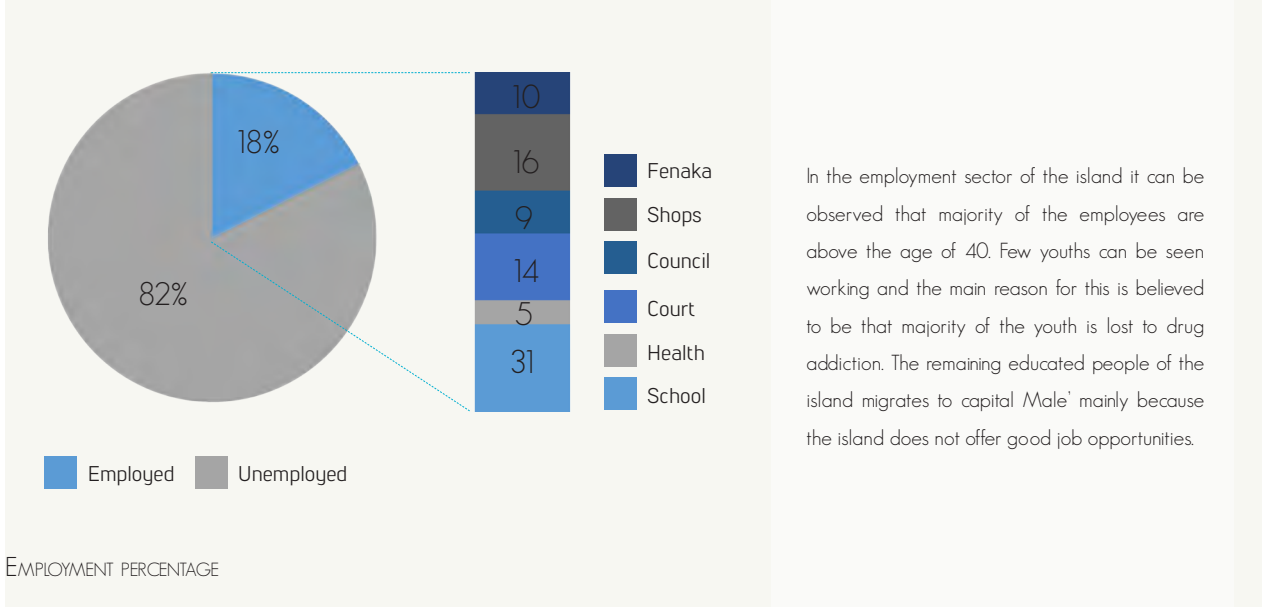


4

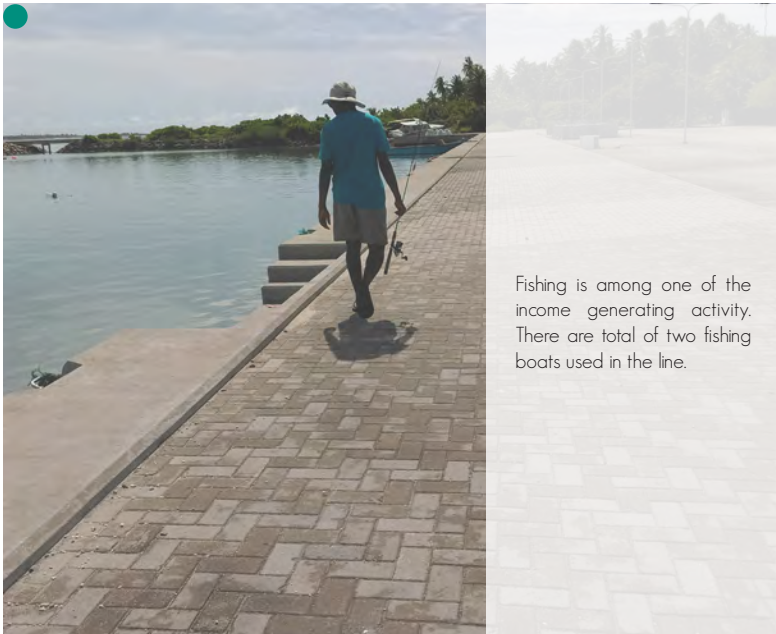
One of the difficulties that face the island is access to banking services. Vaadhoo island does not contain banks or ATM machines to provide the financial services to the people living in the island. Currently in order to get money people would have to travel to thinadhoo. The other option is provided by a shop where the owner transfers the money to the account. This person has a deal with bank of maldives to provide this service

ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT

Employment and unemployment are the main forces behind the economic growth and stagnation. In the island of Vaadhoo the main income generating economic activity is Agriculture and Fishing. However, there are also several people working in other occupations as well. Vaadhoo has several areas which can increase economic growth by creating jobs in sectors that have potential to absorb labor at a large scale.



In the employment sector of the island it can be observed that majority of the employees are above the age of 40. Few youths can be seen working and the main reason for this is believed to be that majority of the youth is lost to drug addiction. The remaining educated people of the island migrates to capital Male' mainly because the island does not offer good job opportunities.



Fishing is among one of the income generating activity. There are total of two fishing boats used in the line.

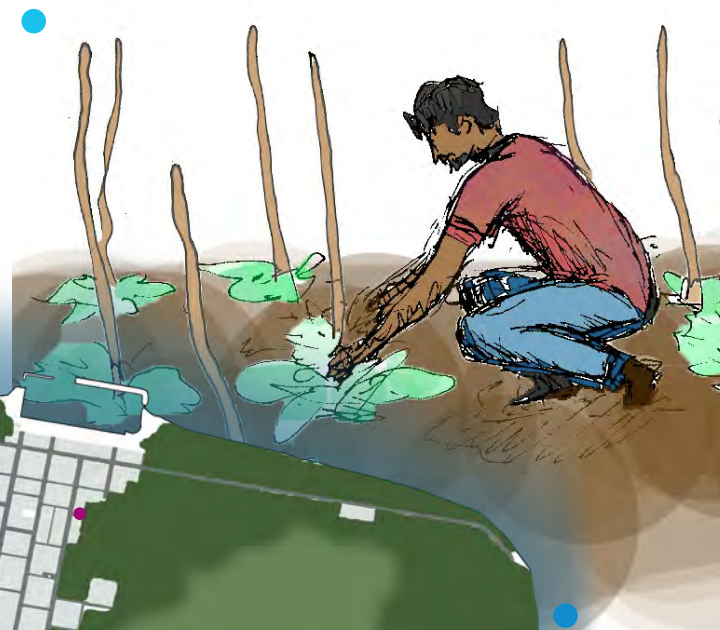


FISHING



1

Sea cucumber harvesting is a popular activity among the people of Vaadhoo. These are marine animals with a leathery skin and an elongated body found on the sea floor. High in quantity, in order to collect them people dive as deep as 30m.



2

Agriculture is the main occupation in this island. Vaadhoo island has small plantations of bananas, breadfruit trees, citrus trees, drumsticks, yams, millets, watermelons, papayas and coconut palms. In 2011 a farmers society known as "Vaadhoo Farmers Cooperation society" was formed which aides the agricultural sector of the island.



3

In Vaadhoo one of the craftwork practiced by few is weaving also known as "fangi vinun". It is becoming one of the lost artwork in the island as few practices it.



4

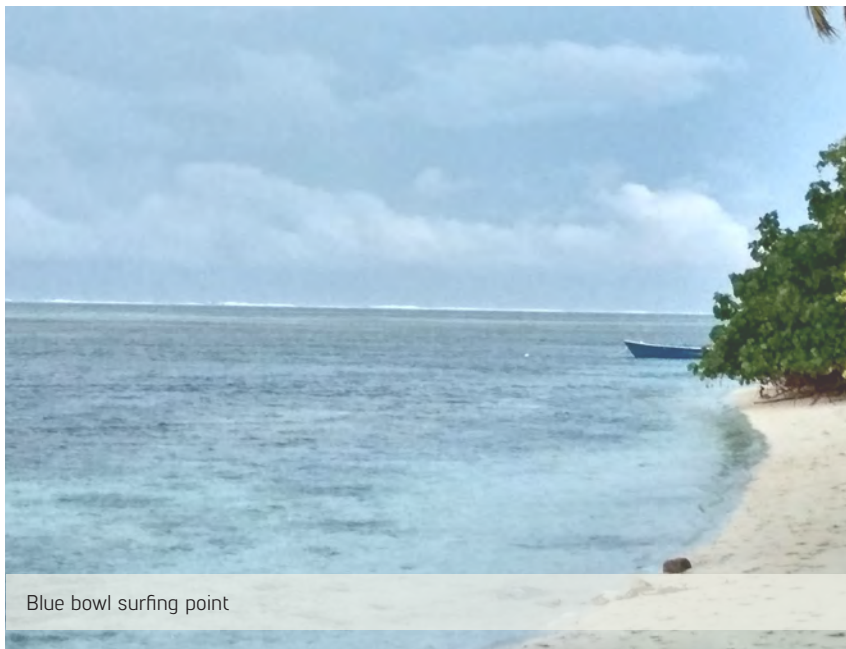
There is only one guest house in the island where guests are provided with opportunities to experience the underwater beauty of the reefs and surf area.

TOURISM & VISITORS

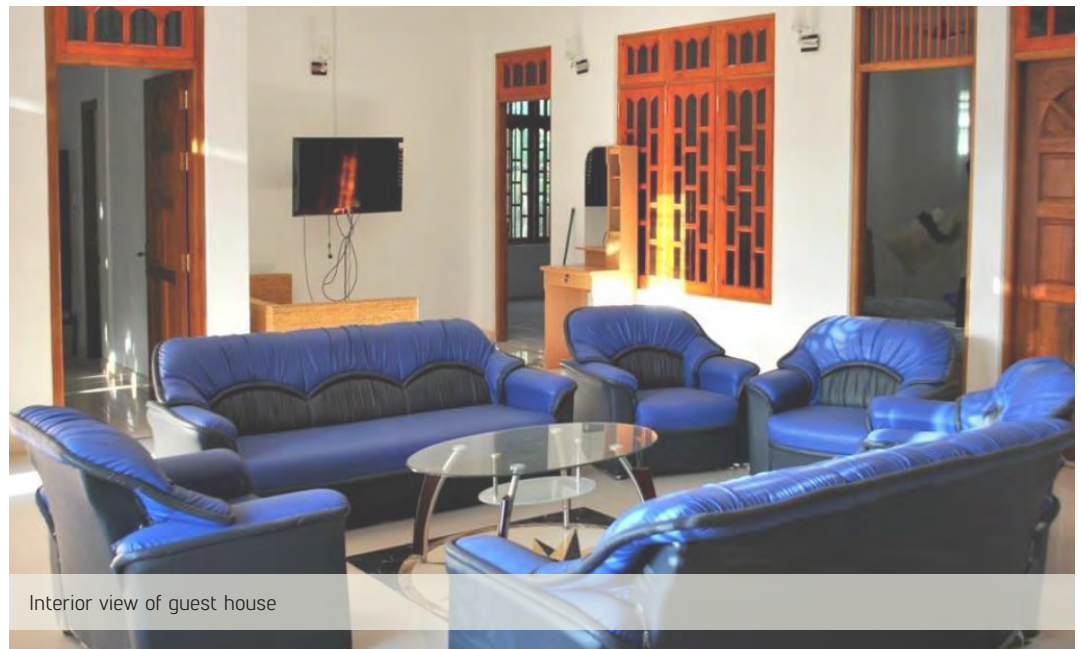
Tourism is being gradually introduced into the island. It is not run at a large scale in the island. Yet the island has great opportunity to expand in tourism industry to generate income into the island. Currently one guest house exists in the island where tourists can stay and it offers water sport activities such as snorkeling, diving and surfing.



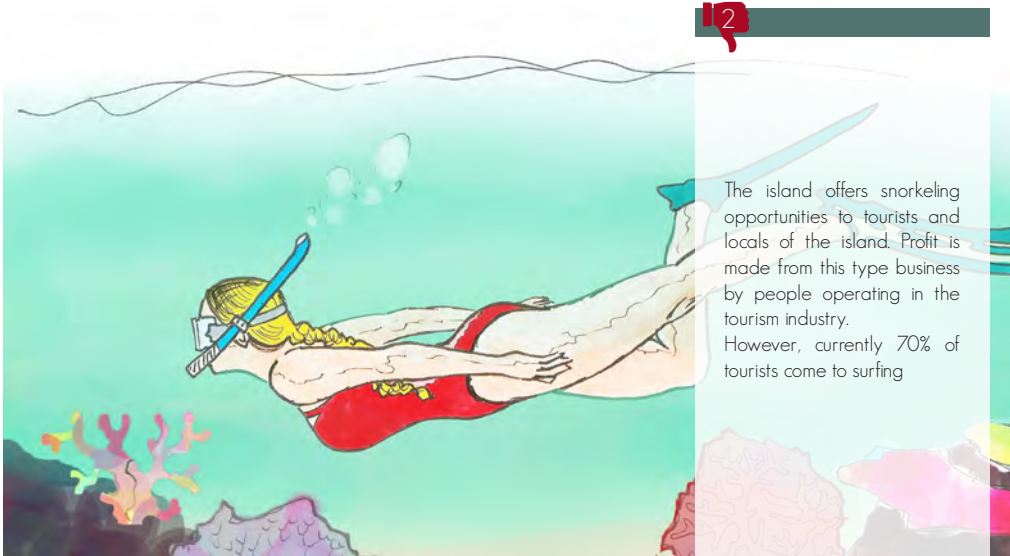
Serene Blue Bowls Inn is the only guest house present in the island. The guest house is situated close to the beach where guests can enjoy activities such as fishing, surfing, and snorkeling. Some of the facilities provided include BBQ facilities, childcare, cycle hire, tour desk and airport shuttle. This business generates lots of the income.



Blue bowl surfing point



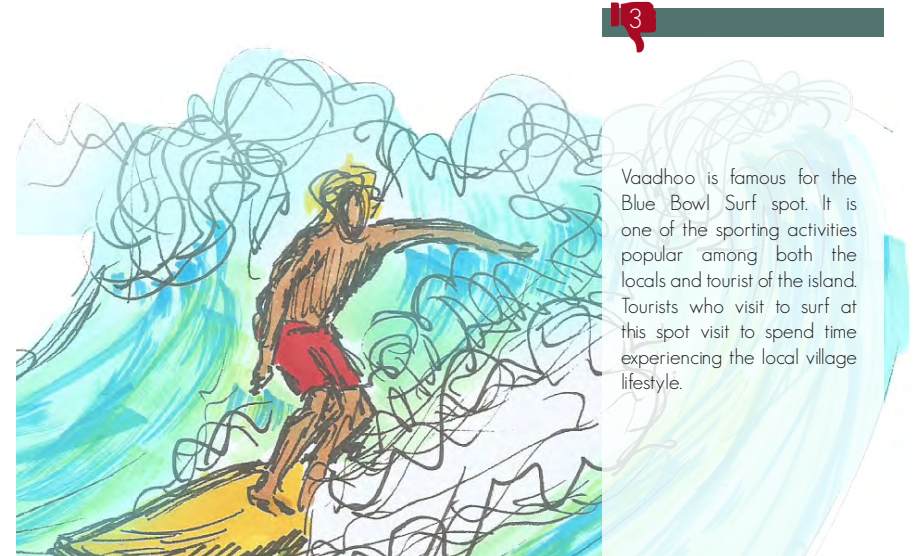
Interior view of guest house



2

The island offers snorkeling opportunities to tourists and locals of the island. Profit is made from this type business by people operating in the tourism industry. However, currently 70% of tourists come to surfing

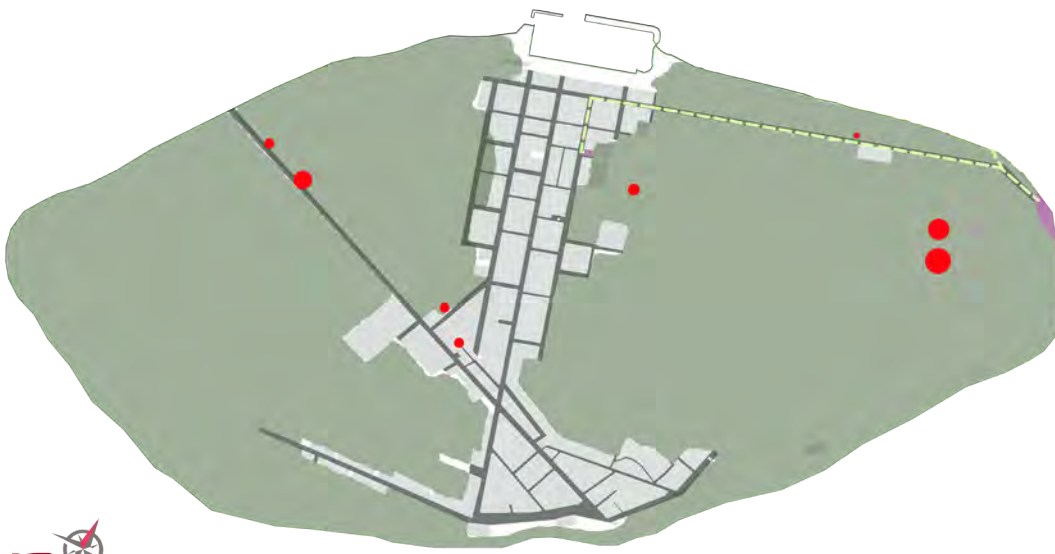
SNORKELING



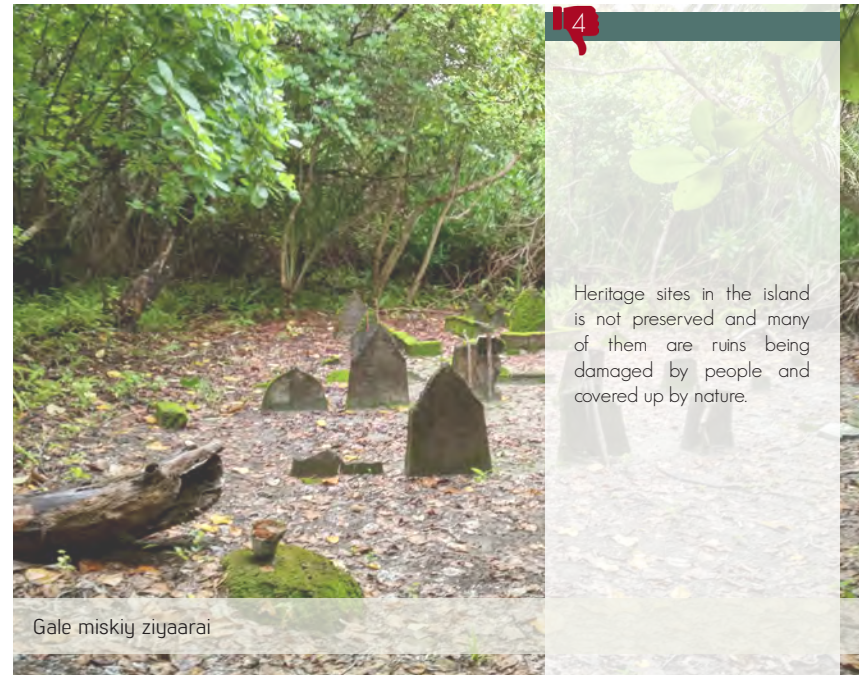
3

Vaadhoo is famous for the Blue Bowl Surf spot. It is one of the sporting activities popular among both the locals and tourist of the island. Tourists who visit to surf at this spot visit to spend time experiencing the local village lifestyle.

SURFING



TOURISM ATTRACTIONS AND HERITAGE SPOTS



4

Heritage sites in the island is not preserved and many of them are ruins being damaged by people and covered up by nature.

Gale miskiy zijaarai

PROPOSED STRATEGIES



From the analysis of the island in its current state, the issues identified from the previous section of the book, strategies are proposed in this part of the book. These proposed solutions mainly focus on socio-cultural, environmental and economic sustainability.

PHYSICAL FEATURES, CLIMATE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

1 NO SPECIFIC ORDER IN ARRANGEMENT OF FARMS

Proper arrangement of agricultural farms

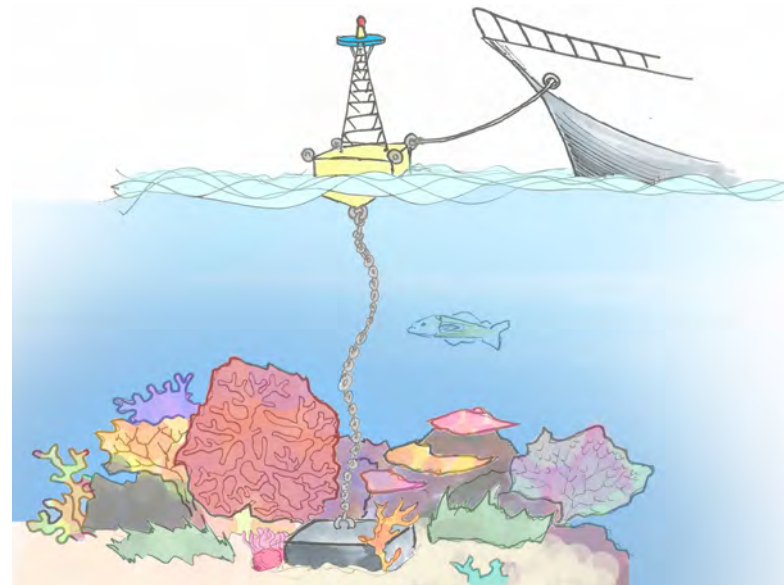
- Every household would be provided with a farm area
- Farms arranged in an organised manner, in grid pattern which is located north east side of the island



2 REEF DAMAGED BY ANCHORING

Put buoy in east side of the island.

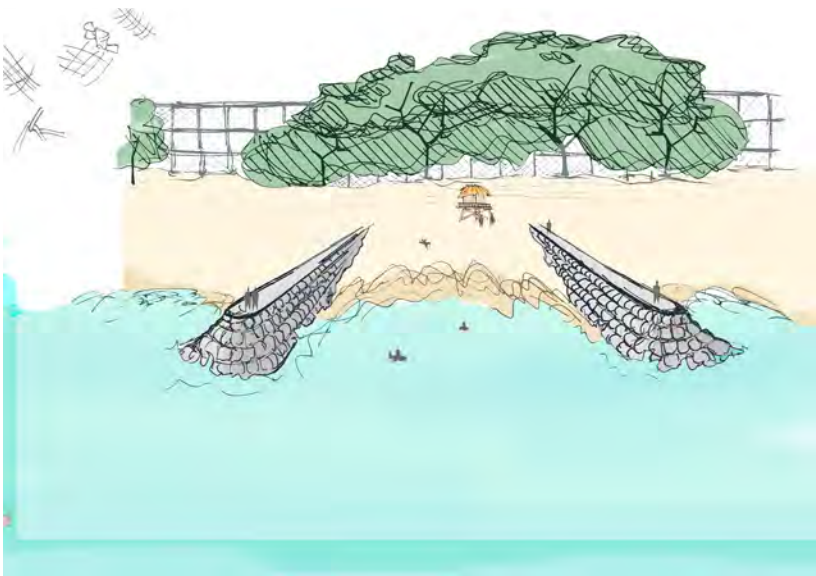
- Authorise vessels to dock within the boundaries of the island with the permission from the local council
- Vessels should use buoys instead of anchoring to the reef



3 EROSION ON WEST SIDE OF THE ISLAND

Build groins on west side of the island

- Groins can be used to withhold the soils from moving beyond it.



4 MUDDY SOIL PROFILE

-Muddy soil is considered to be good for agriculture as the moisture content of the soil is high providing suitable soil conditions for plants

- These types of clay soil may not be good for vegetation at times, depending on the weather

Organic materials can be added to maintain and improve soil quality



POPULATION AND HOUSING

1 MIGRATION

- Reduce migration of locals by providing job opportunities by the local council
- Propose higher education level
- Propose new research centres for agriculture
- Improve and maintain the services and facilities provided such as healthcare facilities and education



2 ABANDONED HOUSES WITHIN THE URBANISED AREA

- Use the abandoned plots more effectively by providing communal spaces for the public in the area instead of leaving it empty
- Use abandoned plots to provide varieties of shops



3 FOREIGN WORKERS % IS INCREASING

- Foreign workers can be limited using government laws
- Check if the foreign workers have proper documents
- Introduce machineries to reduce the jobs for cheap foreign labour and allow specialized locals with jobs



4 EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT RATE IS LOW

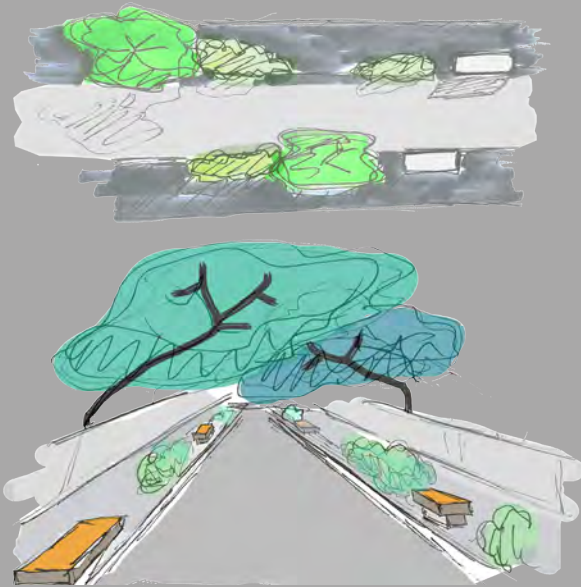
- Provide more entertaining and lively environment for learning
- Introduce vocational training



URBAN DESIGN, CHARACTER AND HERITAGE

1 STREET LANDSCAPE

-Trees , pavement and benches are going to be incorporated into the roads to make it feel more lively



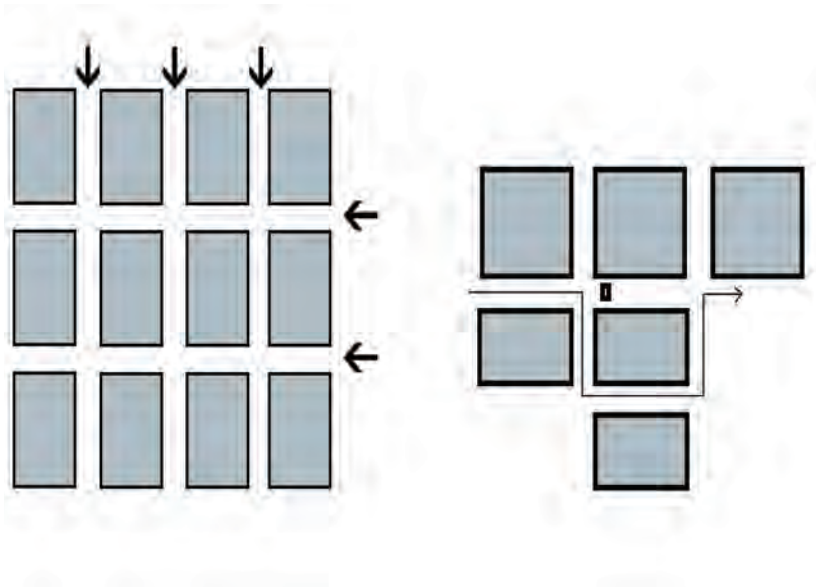
3 INADEQUATE LIGHTING

- Light posts for big roads (20ft to 35ft) will have a staggered light posts
- Light post for smaller roads (10ft to 15ft) will have one sided lightposts
- Spacing between each lightposts will be 50 metres



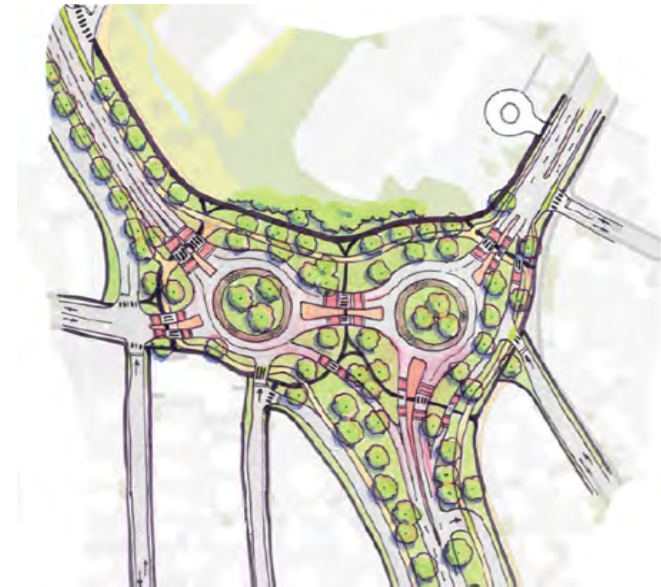
3 DIFFICULTY IN ACCESSING CERTAIN AREAS OF THE ISLAND

- For ease and flexibility grid network system is proposed
- All newly proposed roads will be 35 ft in width
- Proposing a marine drive around the island



4 HISTORICAL SITES ARE CONCEALED

- Incorporating the local historical sites into the roads making them visible
- Make roundabouts around the site allowing space for visitors and space for vehicles to travel and admire them

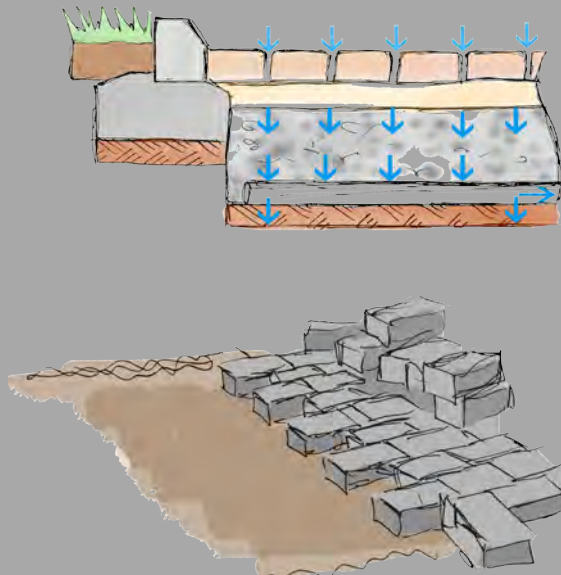


TRAFFIC, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE

1 DEPRESSION FORMATION IN ROADS

Road construction

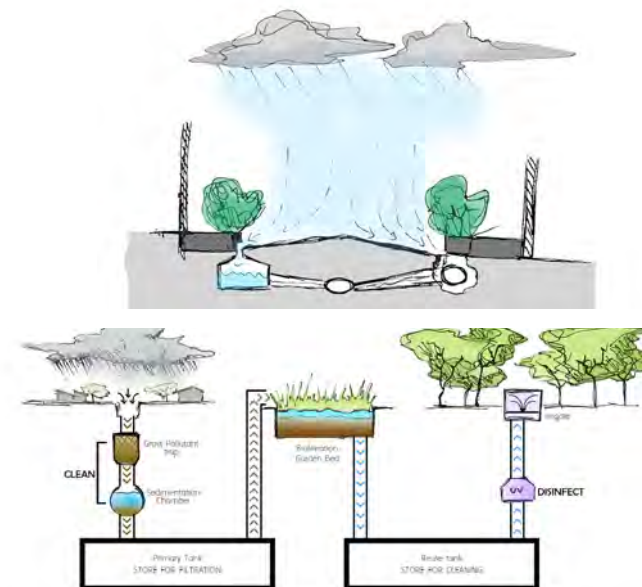
- Brick Road construction is proposed for the island to even the roads for easy transportation



2 FLOODED AND MUDDY ROADS

Storm water drainage

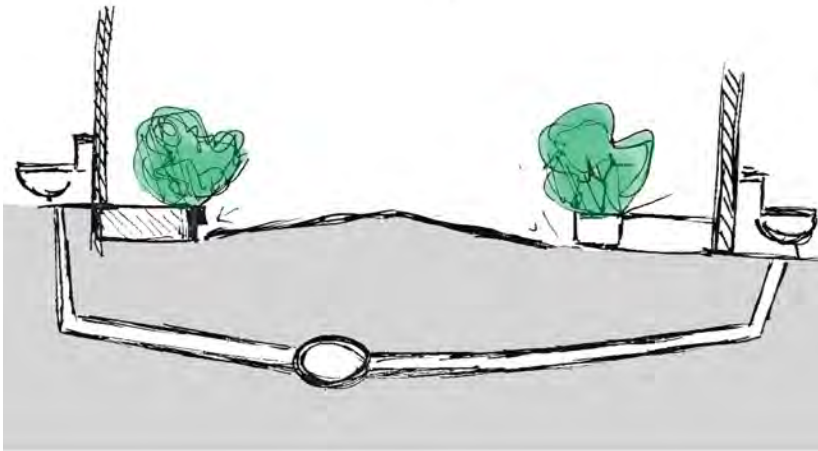
- Stormwater drainage lines will be installed beneath all the roads
- Water collected from stormwater drains are collected and stored
- The collected water are used for irrigation



3 SEWAGE CONDITION

Introduce sewerage soak pit

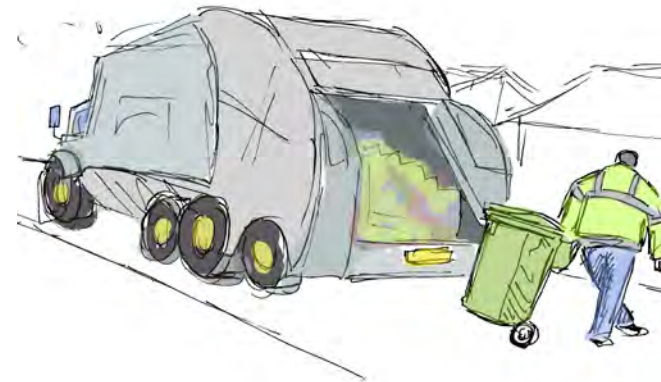
- Sewage lines are connected to all the residential houses and offices and it will be drained in a Soakpit
- the soakpit will be more than 30000sqft and will be capable of soaking the daily waste in the island
- the bio products from the soakpit will be used as fertilizers for farming



4 NO PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE

Waste management strategy

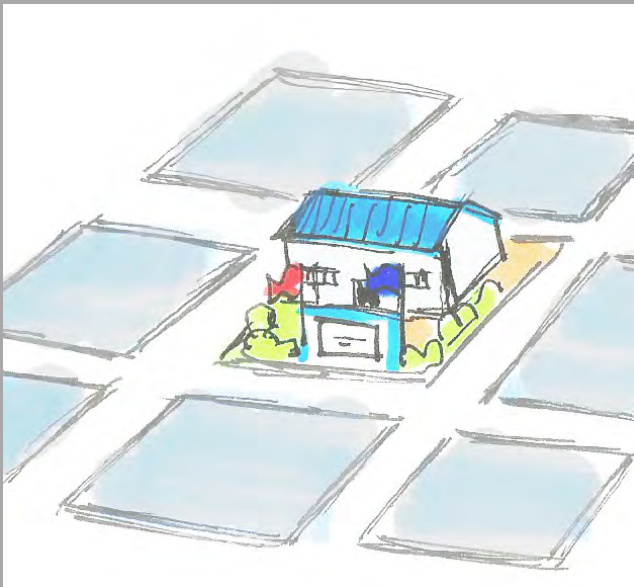
- Dustbins are provided to every household from which the waste are collected on a schedule
- Dustbin provided has to be within the boundaries of the household
- Collection of household waste carried out 2 times per day (morning and night)
- Two types of dustbins provided: organic waste and non organic waste



COMMUNITY FACILITIES

1 POLICE STATION LOCATION IS NOT CONVENIENT FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE

-Relocate police station towards central area of the island
to monitor and control the crime rates



2 LACK OF ADEQUATE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

-Introduce proper equipments required such as X-ray machine
-Provide health care services from specialists



3 LACK OF COMMUNAL SPACE

- Multi-purpose community centre introduced
- Create community centre with multi purpose uses, where the centre can hold meetings for the locals of the community
- Create the community centre which can be used as a theater and as a gaming arena



4 SPACE ALLOCATION FOR LIBRARY IS NOT UTILIZED

- Develop the library at the current location since it is close by to the school
- Access to the library for the whole community
- Provide up-to-date services



RECREATIONAL AND OPEN SPACES

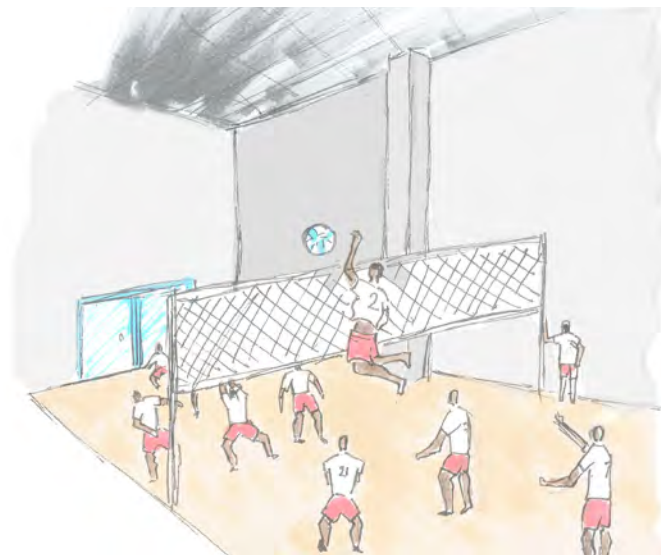
1 SEATING AREA NOT UTILIZED

- Provide more seating areas such as benches and picnic tables
- Create a barbaque spot



2 NETBALL AND FOOTBALL COURT NOT UTILIZED

- Develop the courts and propose to handover to the school to use for sports activities
- Accessible for the public usage as well



3 INCOHERENT DISPERSION OF RECREATIONAL SPACES

- Pocket parks are introduced within the urbanised area of the island
- Creates breathing space close by to the houses and within easy walking distance



4 STAGE IS VERY CLOSED OFF

- Provide a larger area with easy access
- Relocate the stage area to harbour area



RETAIL AND COMMERCE

1 DIFFICULTY IN TRANSPORTING GOODS

- Introduce a cargo boat run by the local council which would allow cargo transportation within the Atoll
- Make connections with Addu ferry so that they could bring cargo from Male' while traveling to Addu



2 LACK OF SHOPS FOR SPECIALIZED GOODS

- Introduce souvenir shops for tourists and opening agricultural shops within the island



3 NO LOCAL MARKET

-Propose a local market near the harbour area



4 NO PROPER BANKING FACILITY

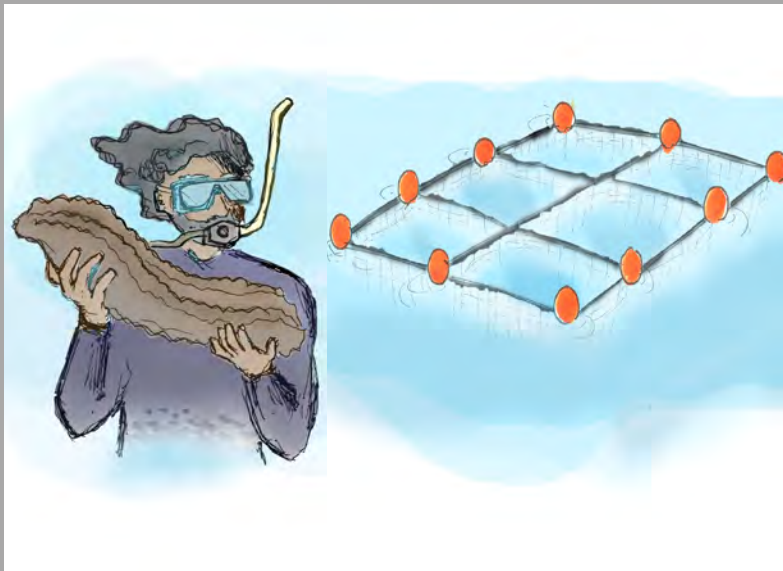
-Introduce ATM services along with POS services for the local businesses



ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

1 UTILIZING SEACUCUMBER

- Seacucumber farms can be made on on the south east and north west side of the lagoon (700 ft) from the shoreline
- 100ft to 100ft cages for seacucumber farming can be provided by the council on rent



2 NO REGULATION FOR FARMING

- Farming lands will be divided equally according to a plan provided by the Council
- Rent for the Farms will be made to the Council



3 NO PLACE TO PRACTICE AND SHOWCASE CRAFTWORKS

-Special place can be made to showcase the craft work and to practice and teach the methods to the people who are interested



4 LACK OF GUEST HOUSES

-Promote tourism in the island by providing guest house services



TOURISM AND VISITORS



LACK OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

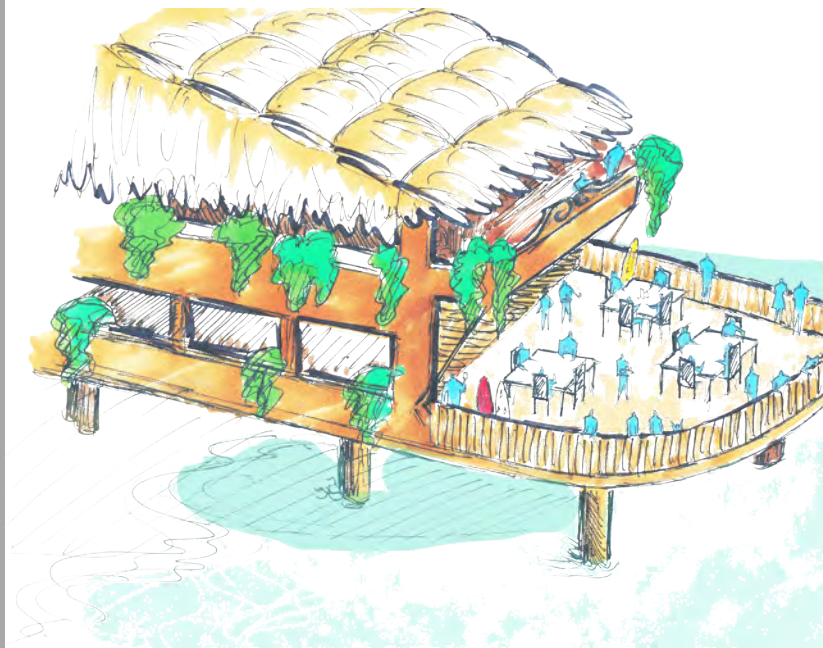
GUEST TRANSPORT SERVICES

-Introduce ferry, launch and land transport like buggy taxi

RESTAURANTS WITH COOL OFF AREA FOR SURFERS

-Introduce a restaurant near the proposed guesthouse area with access to locals and tourist

-Cool off area open to the nature can be extended from the restaurant for the surfers who can rest and admire the nature while having a coffee before retreating to their rooms





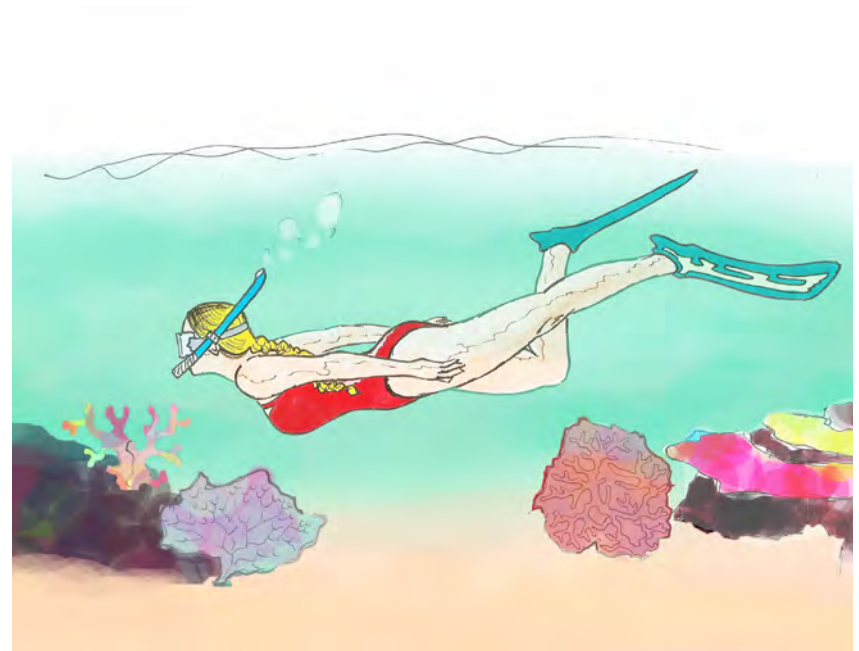
DIVE SITES AND SNORKLING AREA NOT UTILIZED

DIVE CENTER

- Dive center can be established with instructors
- Basic facilities for diving provided

SHOP (FISHING, DIVING AND SNORKELING)

- Provide fishing, diving and snorkeling gears, for rent and to buy
- Introduce diving and fishing vessels



TOURISM AND VISITORS

3

HERITAGE AND CULTURE NOT PROTECTED

HERITAGE HIKING TRAIL

-A continuous trail run through most of the important heritage sites. With the help of the tour guide and information boards, visitors can gain a rich knowledge

ARTS AND CRAFT CENTER

-Produce local arts and crafts
-Product can be sold as souvenir or to tourism infrastructure

AGRICULTURE TOUR

-Experience Agriculture of various items at different stages of growth, and taste and buy items from the site



SURF POINT NOT UTILIZED

SURF SCHOOL

- Be located on the beach front adjacent to the surf point
- Fully equipped with instructors for beginners to expert level surfers

SHOP (SURFING AND WATER SPORTS EQUIPMENTS)

- Provide surf board and other surfing gears and water sports items for rent and to buy

VIEW PLAT FORM

- Accessible from the beach of surf point area
- Lifted from the beach to an ideal height for personal photographers, and judges for competitions
- Put telescopes and binoculars systems



1

MUDDY SOIL PROFILE

- These types of clay soil may not be good for vegetation at times, depending on the weather
- Organic materials can be added to maintain and improve soil quality



2

REEF DAMAGED BY ANCHORING

- Put buoy in east side of the island.
- No vessels can dock within the boundaries of the island without the permission of the local council. These vessels have to use Buoys instead of anchoring to the reef.



3

EROSION ON WEST SIDE OF THE ISLAND

- Build groins on west side of the island
- Groins can be used to withhold the soils from moving beyond it.



4

NO SPECIFIC ORDER IN ARRANGEMENT OF FARMS

- Proper arrangement of agriculture farms
- Every household would be provided with a farm area.
- Located in a grid of farming areas which will be located North east side of the Island.



1

LACK OF ADEQUATE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

- Introduce proper equipment required, such as x-ray machines.
- Provide healthcare services from specialists



2

LACK OF ADEQUATE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

- Introduce proper equipment required, such as x-ray machines.
- Provide healthcare services from specialists



3

LACK OF COMMUNAL SPACE

- Introduction of a multi-purpose community centre
- Create community centre with multi purpose uses, where the centre can contain a theatre or community hall where council can hold meetings for the locals of the community.



4

SPACE ALLOCATION FOR LIBRARY NOT UTILIZED

- Develop the library at the current location as it is nearby to the school.
- Allow access for the whole community
- Provide up-to-date services



1

STREET LANDSCAPE

- Trees, pavement and benches are going to be incorporated into the roads to make it feel more lively



2

INADEQUATE LIGHTING

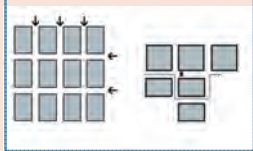
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- Proposing a marine drive around the island



4

HISTORICAL SITES ARE CONCEALED

- Incorporating the local historical sites into the roads making them visible
- Make roundabouts around the site allowing space for visitors and space for vehicles to travel and admire them



1

LACK OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

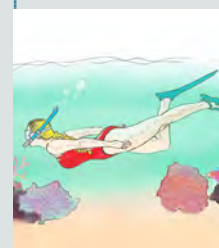
- Introduction of ferry, Launch and land transport like buggy taxi for the tourists/guests
- Can introduce a restaurant near the proposed guesthouse area with access to locals and tourist.



2

DIVE SITE AND SNORKELLING AREA NOT UTILIZED

- Dive center can be established with instructors. Basic facilities for diving provided.
- Provide fishing, diving and snorkelling gears, for rent and to buy.
- Introduction of diving and fishing vessels.



3

HERITAGE AND CULTURE NOT PROTECTED

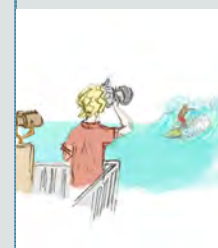
- A continuous hiking trail run through most of the important heritage sites. Visitors can gain a rich knowledge.
- Local craftwork displayed and sold at an Arts and Crafts workshop



4

SURF POINT NOT UTILIZED

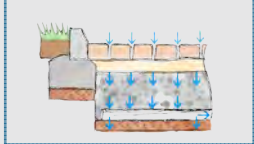
- Introduce a surf school located near the surf point to teach beginners how to surf
- Provide surf boards and other surfing gear and water sports items for rent and to buy at a shop.
- Provide a view platform where people can watch/photograph people surfing.



1

DEPRESSION FORMATION IN ROADS

- Road construction
- Brick Road construction is proposed for the island.



2

FLOODED AND MUDDY ROADS

- Stormwater drainage lines will be installed beneath all the roads.
- Water collected from stormwater drains are collected and stored.
- The collected water is used for irrigation.



3

SEWAGE CONDITION

- Introduce sewerage soak pit
- Sewage lines are connected to all the residential houses and offices and it will be drained in a Soakpit.
- The bio products from the soakpit will be used as fertilizers for farming.

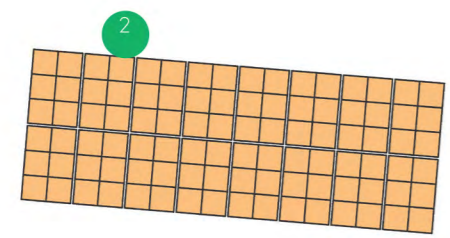
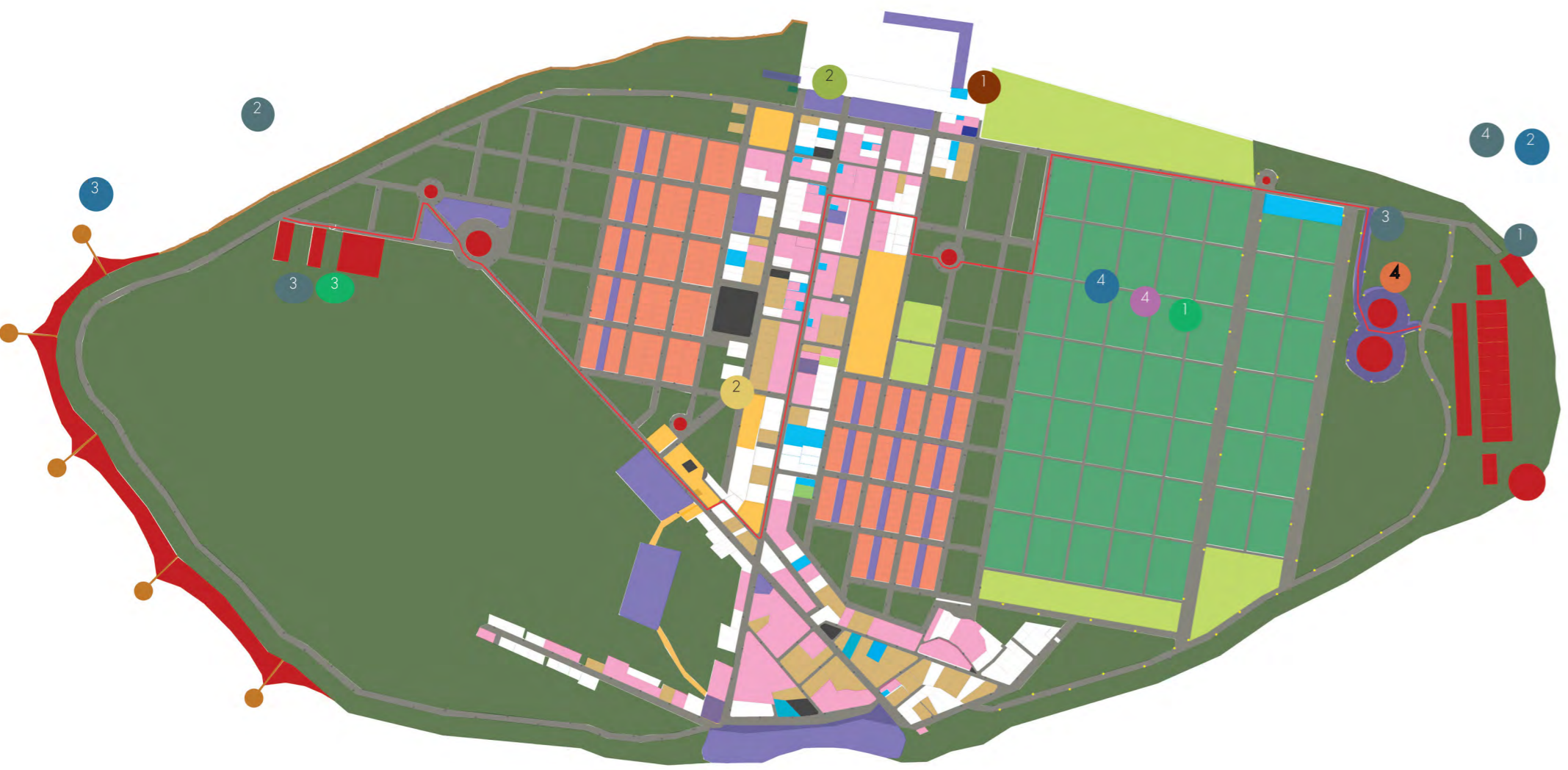


4

NO PROPER DISPOSAL OF WASTE

- Waste management strategy
- Dustbins are provided to every household from which the waste are collected on a schedule. The dustbin provided has to be within the boundaries of the household





- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| ● URBAN DESIGN, CHARACTER & HERITAGE | ● COMMUNITY FACILITIES | ● POPULATION & HOUSING |
| ● PHYSICAL FEATURES, CLIMATE & NATURAL RESOURCES | ● TOURISM & VISITORS | ● RETAIL & COMMERCE |
| ● TRANSPORT & INFRASTRUCTURE | ● RECREATION & OPEN SPACES | ● ECONOMY & EMPLOYMENT |
| ■ TOURISM | ■ VEGETATION | ■ ROAD |
| ■ FARMING | ■ UTILITIES | ■ COMMUNITY FACILITIES |
| ■ MOSQUES | ■ RESIDENTIAL HOUSES | ■ ABANDONED HOUSES |
| ■ RE-CREATIONAL FACILITIES | ■ PROPOSED PLOTS | ■ SEA CUCUMBER FARM |
| | | ■ EROSION |

1 MUDDY SOIL PROFILE

- These types of clay soil may not be good for vegetation at times, depending on the weather
- Organic materials can be added to maintain and improve soil quality

2 REEF DAMAGED BY ANCHORING

- Put buoy in east side of the island.
- No vessels can dock within the boundaries of the island without the permission of the local council. These vessels have to use Buoys instead of anchoring to the reef.

3 EROSION ON WEST SIDE OF THE ISLAND

- Build groins on west side of the island
- Groins can be used to withhold the soils from moving beyond it.

4 NO SPECIFIC ORDER IN ARRANGEMENT OF FARMS

- Proper arrangement of agriculture farms
- Every household would be provided with a farm area.
- Located in a grid of farming areas which will be located North east side of the Island.

1 STREET LANDSCAPE

- Trees, pavement and benches are going to be incorporated into the roads to make it feel more lively

2 INADEQUATE LIGHTING

- Light posts for big roads (20ft to 35ft) will have a staggered light posts
- Light post for smaller roads (10ft to 15ft) will have one sided lightposts
- Spacing between each lightposts will be 50 meters

3 DIFFICULTY IN ACCESSING CERTAIN AREAS OF THE ISLAND

- For ease and flexibility grid network system is proposed
- All newly proposed roads will be 35 ft in width
- Proposing a marine drive around the island

4 HISTORICAL SITES ARE CONCEALED

- Incorporating the local historical sites into the roads making them visible
- Make roundabouts around the site allowing space for visitors and space for vehicles to travel and admire them

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- Introduce proper equipment required, such as x-ray machines.
- Provide healthcare services from specialists

2 LACK OF ADEQUATE HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

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- Provide healthcare services from specialists

3 LACK OF COMMUNAL SPACE

- Introduction of a multi-purpose community centre
- Create community centre with multi purpose uses, where the centre can contain a theatre or community hall wh ere council can hold meetings for the locals of the community.

4 SPACE ALLOCATION FOR LIBRARY NOT UTILIZED

- Develop the library at the current location as it is nearby to the school.
- Allow access for the whole community
- Provide up-to-date services

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1 SEATING AREA NOT UTILIZED

- Pocket parks are introduced within the dwelling area
- Allocate public parks in the central zones that offers opportunities for the locals and the community to interact with each other.



2 STAGE IS VERY CLOSED OFF

- Provide a larger area with easy access
- Relocate the stage area to harbour area



3 NETBALL AND FOOTBALL COURT NOT UTILIZED

- Develop the courts and propose to hand them over to the school to use for sports activities
- Public accessibility is allowed



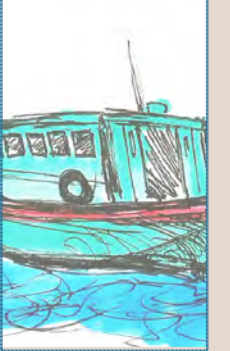
4 FEW OPEN SPACES WITHIN THE URBANIZED AREA

- Pocket parks are introduced within urbanized area
- Allocate public parks in the central zones that offers opportunities for the locals of the community to interact with each other.



1 DIFFICULTY IN TRANSPORTING GOODS

- Introduce a cargo boat run by the local council which would allow cargo transportation within the Atoll
- Make connections with Addu ferry so that they could bring cargo from Male' while traveling to Addu



2 LACK OF SHOPS FOR SPECIALIZED GOODS

- Introduce souvenir shops for tourists and opening agricultural shops within the island



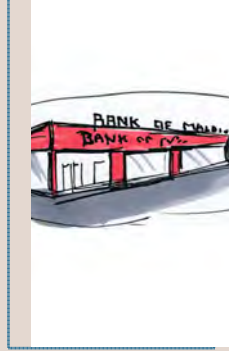
3 NO LOCAL MARKET

- Propose a local market near the harbour area



4 NO PROPER BANKING FACILITY

- Introduce ATM services along with POS services for the local businesses



1 MIGRATION

- Reduce migration of locals by providing job opportunities by the local council
- Propose higher education level
- Propose new research centres for agriculture
- Improve and maintain the services and facilities provided such as healthcare facilities and education



2 ABANDONED HOUSING AREAS WITHIN THE URBANIZED AREA

- Use the abandoned plots more effectively by providing communal spaces for the public in the area instead of leaving it empty
- Use abandoned plots to provide varieties of shops



3 FOREIGN WORKER % IS INCREASING

- Foreign workers can be limited using government laws
- Check if the foreign workers have proper documents
- Introduce machineries to reduce the jobs for cheap foreign labour and allow specialized locals with jobs



4 LOW EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Provide more entertaining and lively environment for learning
- Introduce vocational training



1 HARVESTING SEA CUCUMBER

- Seacucumber farms can be made on the south east and north west side of the lagoon (700 ft) from the shoreline
- 100ft to 100ft cages for seacucumber farming can be provided by the council on rent



2 NO REGULATION FOR FARMING

- Farming lands will be divided equally according to a plan provided by the Council
- Rent for the Farms will be made to the Council



3 NO PLACE TO PRACTICE AND SHOW-CASE CRAFTWORKS

- Special place can be made to showcase the craft work and to practice and teach the methods to the people who are interested



4 LACK OF GUEST HOUSES

- Promote tourism in the island by providing guest house services



LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Government allocated plots for other projects can be used for tourism and tourism ministry should give permission if the following requirements meet:

- If the plot is given for the government project by a government body or council
- If all the permission are taken to build from the related authorities.
- If tourist hotel or guest house construction is completed.
- If the hotel or guest house meets the requirement by the ministry of tourism.

Under tourism law no.4, new areas for tourism can be accepted by the president.

Bid proposal proceed

5)(a) Physical work for allocated areas for the building should have been started

(c) The guest house or hotel should have an investment of more than 500,000/-

6)(a) If the council wants to give a land for tourism, it should first get the approval of the housing ministry

(b) As mentioned in part a decision regarding renting of the land after obtaining necessary permissions would be given to the council by ministry.

Awarding of land process

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<http://www.tourism.gov.mv/laws-regulations/guidelines/>

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Maldivian Land Act

Maldives Environment protection and conservation Act (No. 4/93), Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, 19 April 1993

Maldives national energy strategy Ministry of housing and environment, 2010

Island council

Police station

Vaadhoo Jamaaluddin School

Healthcare centre

Magistrate court

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