



Accounting for Nature to Safeguard the Maldives' Development

**IMPLEMENTATION ROADMAP FOR OCEAN ACCOUNTS
2025 - 2030**

**Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Republic of Maldives**

Acknowledgement

Preparatory support provided by Secretariat to Ministry of Tourism and Environment, as member of the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As a large ocean state, the Maldives holds vast potential for economic growth and prosperity through its marine and coastal biodiversity. The country's strategic vision aims to transform the Maldives into a developed nation, including by maximizing the economic opportunities presented by the 99% of national territory that is marine. This Roadmap establishes a framework for building a national system of Ocean Accounting from 2025-2030, aimed at measuring the dependence on marine and coastal biodiversity and enabling its strategic use to achieve developed nation status by 2040 in a way that ensures sustainability.

The Maldives' marine and coastal ecosystems provide services that support the functioning and sustainable growth of social and economic activities. For instance, natural assets such as coral reefs provide natural coastal protection that, if lost, would require substantial public investment in alternative infrastructure (which will still not act as a perfect substitute), diverting resources from other economic development priorities. These ecosystems also provide a diverse range of co-benefits to economic sectors, increasing the stock of commercially valuable fish species through nursery areas, while pristine marine environments attract high-value tourism. Prudent investment in the measurement and management of these natural assets is crucial for sustaining economic growth.

Advancing sustainable development requires an integrated and adaptive decision-making approach based on comprehensive information systems that capture both traditional economic metrics and the contribution of marine and coastal biodiversity. Ocean Accounts integrate environmental and economic data to support investment decisions, policy implementation, and strategic development planning. By providing standardized metrics aligned with international frameworks, these accounts enable the Maldives to demonstrate progress toward its development and conservation goals while also helping attract sustainable finance. The accounts complement existing national frameworks established under the Environmental Protection and Preservation Act, Fisheries Act, and Tourism Act.

This Roadmap establishes a framework for building the national system of ocean accounting in Maldives from 2025-2030 and beyond. It encompasses institutional arrangements for coordinated implementation, technical components for measurement, and mechanisms for regional cooperation. The Roadmap aims to mainstream ocean accounts into decision-making by 2026, scale nationally by 2028, and fully integrate accounts into development planning by 2030. This systematic approach will help the Maldives ensure the sustainable use of the country's marine and coastal biodiversity to maximize the economic potential of its ocean territory while positioning itself as a leader in ocean accounting globally.

The Maldives' strategic vision for development is supported by its marine and coastal biodiversity.

Marine and coastal ecosystems underpin social and economic prosperity for the Maldives.

Ocean accounts enable evidence-based strategic planning for the Maldives' development

The Maldives is committed to building a national system of Ocean Accounts and to lead global ambition for ocean accounting.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY 2

1. MALDIVES’S OBJECTIVES FOR OCEAN-BASED DEVELOPMENT 5

 1.1 Constitutional and Legal Basis for Sustainable Ocean Development..... 5

 1.2 National Visions, Policies and Action Plans for Development 5

 1.3 Measuring Progress “Beyond Gross Domestic Product” 6

2. OCEAN ACCOUNTS AS ENABLER OF ECONOMIC GROWTH 8

 2.1 Structure and Function of Ocean Accounts..... 8

 2.2 Use Cases for Ocean Accounts in the Maldives 8

3. GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR OCEAN ACCOUNTS ROADMAP 11

 3.1 Strategic Goals..... 11

 3.2 Coordination structures for Ocean Accounts implementation 11

 3.3 Scope of Activities within Ocean Accounts Workstreams..... 13

4. OPERATIONAL COMPONENTS 14

 4.1 Workstream 1: Design and compilation of Ocean Accounts 14

 4.2 Workstream 2: Policy Mainstreaming of Ocean Accounts..... 15

 4.3 Workstream 3: Stakeholders Cooperation for National OA Implementation 16

 4.4 Workstream 4: International Leadership Activities for Ocean Accounts 16

1. MALDIVES'S OBJECTIVES FOR OCEAN-BASED DEVELOPMENT

The Maldives is one of the world's most geographically dispersed countries, consisting of 1,192 coral islands grouped in a double chain of 26 natural atolls. Its ocean territory is approximately 2500 times larger than the country's land area. Maldives's globally significant wealth of marine and coastal natural assets are a foundation for its long-term development and prosperity, through prudent management in the context of a growing range of complex risks and threats.

1.1 Constitutional and Legal Basis for Sustainable Ocean Development

As mandated by Article 22 of the Maldives' Constitution, the protection, preservation, and maintenance of the Maldivian natural environment and resources are a fundamental obligation of the State. This constitutional requirement recognizes that environmental protection and sustainable use of resources supports the achievement of Maldives' strategic vision of becoming a developed nation.

The Environmental Protection and Preservation Act (EPPA/1993) serves as the primary umbrella law for environmental protection, which establishes fundamental principles for environmental impact assessment, protected area designation, protection of biodiversity and waste management. Implementation of the EPPA is supported by, most relevantly:

- Protected Areas Regulation (2018/R-78) provides the framework for the designation and management of Protected Areas
- Protected Species Regulation (2021/R-25) provides the framework for the conservation management of protected species
- Penalty and Liability Regulation (2011/R-9) provides the framework for penalties and liabilities for breaches in environmental laws or for environmental damages
- EIA Regulation (2012/R-27) and Reclamation and Dredging Regulation (2013/R-15), both provide the framework for environmental safeguard mechanisms in development planning.

Additionally, for governing major economic sectors that depend on Maldives' marine and coastal natural assets, there exists: the Fisheries Act (14/2019) and the Tourism Act (2/1999). The Fisheries Act provides the framework for sustainable fisheries management within Maldivian waters. Complemented by ten implementing regulations, this legislation focuses on improving data collection and monitoring capabilities for evidence-based fisheries management. The Tourism Act and its regulations further reinforce sustainability principles and standards in the tourism sector, which depends heavily on healthy marine and coastal ecosystems.

The legal foundation has been further strengthened by legislation responding to emerging challenges, in particular: the Climate Emergency Act (9/2021), the Maldives Energy Act (18/2021), and the Waste Management Act (24/2022). The Climate Emergency Act sets ambitious targets, including carbon neutrality by 2030, and strengthening multilateral relationships in alignment with climate goals and acquisition of foreign aid for projects related to climate change, environmental sustainability and renewable energy. The Maldives Energy Act promotes sustainable development in the energy sector, aiming to reduce dependence on imported fossil fuels while supporting the renewable energy transition. The recently enacted Waste Management Act establishes comprehensive waste management protocols for the Maldives to prevent and mitigate any negative effects caused by waste on the environment and public health.

1.2 National Visions, Policies and Action Plans for Development

The Maldives has established an ambitious vision to transform into a developed nation by 2040¹, leveraging its strategic geographical position and vast ocean territory to drive economic growth and prosperity. At the heart of this vision is a commitment to diversifying the economy beyond traditional

¹ See Towards a Developed Nation by 2040: A year in review (2024), Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Maldives

sectors, which is enabled by the sustainable use of marine and coastal space and resources. Several key development priorities are being pursued to achieve this vision:

- **Maritime Services Development:** The Maldives Economic Gateway Project aims to capitalize on the country's strategic location across major shipping routes, introducing a range of maritime services while generating new investments and employment opportunities.
- **Economic Diversification:** Development plans emphasize reducing dependency on single sectors through initiatives like: international bunkering services to create new revenue streams; development of agricultural economic zones to enhance food security; establishment of the Airport Economic Zone to expand commercial, tourism and financial services.

Tourism continues to play a vital role in the country's development trajectory, guided by the Fifth Tourism Master Plan (2023-2027).² The plan envisions positioning the Maldives as a global leader in sustainable tourism while ensuring the benefits of tourism development reach all atoll communities. This approach recognizes that sustainable tourism growth must balance environmental protection with economic development, particularly as the sector expands into new areas and market segments.

This comprehensive approach to development recognizes that achieving developed nation status by 2040 requires both economic transformation and careful stewardship of the country's marine and coastal biodiversity. In this regard, the updated National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) will be a key national document outlining mechanisms to coordinate across all sectors to integrate biodiversity considerations into national development plans and policies, as well as align national efforts with global frameworks such as the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework. Similarly, Maldives' Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) highlights the importance of conserving biodiversity, particularly the protection and restoration of coral reefs to enhance their resilience to climate change.

1.3 Measuring Progress “Beyond Gross Domestic Product”

Decision-making to advance development, consistent with Maldives's visions, policies and plans, depends on well-organised accounting systems that produce regular flows of accurate, timely and relevant indicators for social, environmental and economic conditions.

As recognised by the Sustainable Development Goals, Convention on Biological Diversity, and other international commitments, these systems should mainstream and prioritise values of nature and people into decision-making about development (including ocean development, specifically concerning the sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity),³ enabling measurement of progress that complement Gross Domestic Product in accordance with international statistical standards.⁴

“Beyond GDP” accounting in the context of decision-making about ocean development and particularly the sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity (hereinafter “Ocean Accounts” or “OA” as defined in more detail Section 2 below) is strongly emphasised and relevant to implementation of Maldives's strategic vision for development.

By integrating environmental and economic data, OA enables the Maldives to track both the contribution of natural resources to the economy and how economic activities impact the environment.

² See Maldives Fifth Tourism Master Plan 2023- 2027, Ministry of Tourism

³ See in particular **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15.9** (“integrate ecosystem and biodiversity values into national and local planning, development processes, poverty reduction strategies and accounts” and Goal 17.19 (“build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries”); **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) Decision 15/4 (2022):** Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework Target 14 (“Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework”; **CBD Decision 15/24 (2022):** Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine and Coastal Biodiversity Paragraph 8 (urging Parties and other Governments “to strengthen national, subregional, and regional efforts toward ocean accounting and economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by marine and coastal biodiversity and use this information to support decision-making for conservation and sustainable use”

⁴ See the System of National Accounts (SNA) 2008 (currently under revision), System of Environmental Economic Accounting (SEEA) Central Framework 2012, and SEEA Ecosystems 2021.

This systematic approach helps measure critical dependencies that are currently invisible in national accounts, such as:

- Aesthetic, recreational and other cultural values of marine and coastal ecosystems, which are the main drivers of Maldives' tourism sector
- Food security through sustainable fisheries, which depends on healthy coral reefs, mangroves and seagrass beds serving as fish nursery areas
- Coastal protection services provided by reefs and vegetation, which would require substantial infrastructure investment to replace
- Climate resilience enabled by marine ecosystems, particularly against sea level rise
- Public health benefits from healthy marine ecosystems

This broader measurement framework aligns with the Maldives' ambition to achieve developed nation status by 2040, recognizing that true prosperity requires maintaining the natural assets that underpin both economic growth and community wellbeing. Regular compilation of these accounts will help policymakers identify trade-offs, evaluate policy effectiveness, and ensure development enhances rather than depletes the country's natural wealth.

2. OCEAN ACCOUNTS AS ENABLER OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

2.1 Structure and Function of Ocean Accounts

The Ocean Accounts describe the interactions between the economy and the environment, the stocks and flows of environmental assets (natural capital) that provide benefits to people, and the social and governance factors that influence and are affected by these assets and benefits.

Building upon the legal and policy foundations described in Section 1, Ocean Accounts are structured into five interconnected modules pursuant to Guidance maintained by the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership (GOAP). This modular approach enables progressive implementation aligned with national priorities, while maintaining consistency with international standards such as the UN System of National Accounts (SNA) and UN System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA).

These modules operationalize the measurement requirements established in Maldives's regulatory frameworks through standardised components:

1. **Environmental Assets:** Measures the extent and condition of marine and coastal ecosystems and natural resources.
2. **Flows to the Economy:** Quantifies and values ecosystem services and economic contributions from ocean-related activities.
3. **Flows to the Environment:** Assesses impacts of economic activities on marine ecosystems, such as pollution and resource extraction.
4. **Ocean Economy:** Tracks economic metrics for ocean-based industries and activities, including monetary supply and use between different sectors.
5. **Ocean Governance:** Covers relevant laws, policies, institutional arrangements and management measures, in addition to relevant social conditions.

2.2 Use Cases for Ocean Accounts in the Maldives

Ocean Accounts provide a standardized framework to measure and manage natural assets (marine and coastal biodiversity) in ways that directly support the Maldives' development objectives. By systematically tracking changes in marine ecosystems and their contributions to the economy, these accounts mitigate the loss of vital services that are costly to replace by strengthening biodiversity conservation and management, enhancing spatial planning, enhancing tourism development, strengthening climate action, and enabling and guiding sustainable finance and investments in the Maldives.

Strengthening Biodiversity Conservation and Management

Ocean Accounts enhance biodiversity conservation and management by providing a comprehensive measurement system that tracks ecosystem health, biodiversity trends, and resource use over time. The application of Ocean Accounts in conservation efforts includes:

- Monitoring the health of marine and coastal ecosystems, quantifying their role in fisheries productivity, coastal protection, and carbon sequestration.
- Tracking the impact of human activities on biodiversity, supporting policy interventions for overfishing, habitat degradation, and pollution control.
- Provide data for the development and implementation of NBSAP, and the monitoring and management planning for Protected and Conserved Areas
- Providing data for sustainable financing mechanisms, such as biodiversity offsets, conservation trust funds, and payments for ecosystem services (PES), ensuring long-term funding for conservation initiatives.

By embedding Ocean Accounts into resource governance, policymakers can enhance conservation efforts while ensuring that natural capital remains a productive asset for sustainable development in the Maldives.

Enhancing Spatial Planning

Effective spatial planning, including Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), is essential for balancing competing uses of ocean space while safeguarding ecosystems and natural resources. By systematically mapping ecosystems and resources, biodiversity hotspots, and socio-economic dependencies, Ocean Accounts enable an “Ecosystem-Based” approach through:

- Evidence-based zoning decisions that optimize spatial use while minimizing ecological degradation and maximising the supply of ecosystem services,
- Identification of priority areas for conservation, restoration, and economic development initiatives, and
- Scenario modelling for marine development projects, evaluating potential trade-offs between economic benefits and environmental costs.

Enhancing Tourism Development

In line with the Tourism Master Plan 2023-2027, the accounts provide metrics to help maximize tourism's contribution while ensuring sustainable development. The accounts provide specific metrics such as:

- Quantifying the economic value and dependency of tourism on the goods and services ecosystems provide,
- Identifying optimal configurations for tourism development through spatial analysis, incorporating environmental and socio-economic aspects,
- Enabling evidence-based optimization of environmental fees and charges.

This structured approach to measuring nature's contributions enables policymakers to align multiple strategic objectives. The OA could demonstrate how investments in nature supports fiscal sustainability and environmental stewardship while strengthening progress towards Maldives' development priorities.

Strengthening Climate Action

The accounts provide crucial data for climate strategies by:

- Quantifying the blue carbon sequestration potential of the country, critical for international climate reporting under frameworks like Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).
- Monitoring ecosystem-based adaptation services, enhancing resilience to climate change impacts.
- Tracking progress toward the 2030 carbon neutrality goal, ensuring alignment with global commitments.
- Informing nature-based solutions for climate resilience.

Enabling and Guiding Sustainable Finance and Investments

Ocean accounts strengthen both risk assessment and opportunity identification across financial decisions. By quantifying dependencies between economic sectors and marine ecosystems, the accounts help financial institutions evaluate nature-related risks in their portfolios and make more informed lending and investment choices. For example, the loss of ecosystems providing coastal protection or flood mitigation may inadvertently lead to loss of homes and infrastructure. This may result in the need for costly public investment into drainage systems, retention and rainwater infrastructure and other management systems.

Ocean accounts provide a standardized foundation by translating environmental data into aligned metrics used by financial institutions and investors in decision-making. The accounts enable verification of environmental performance for multiple financial instruments, including:

- Rigorous carbon stock and sequestration measurements needed to access carbon finance that align with measurement, reporting and verification (MRV),⁵
- Specific indicators related to result-based payouts and other impact investments, and
- Measurement frameworks needed to design new market mechanisms like biodiversity offsets or payments for ecosystem services.

⁵ Monitoring, Reporting and Verification, is mandated under Paris Agreement (Article 13). MRV ensures additionality and permanence. Additionality refers to emissions reductions or removals from a project that are demonstrably beyond what would have occurred in a business-as-usual scenario, representing a real and measurable climate benefit (see Article 3(4) of the Kyoto Protocol). Permanence ensures that sequestered carbon remains stored long-term, preventing its release back into the atmosphere and maintaining the intended climate impact (see Article 6 of Paris Agreement).

3. GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR OCEAN ACCOUNTS ROADMAP

The operational governance framework for Ocean Accounts implementation in Maldives elaborates on the policy, planning and regulatory frameworks described in Sections 1 and 2. Drawing on lessons learned from implementation of Maldives's first Natural Capital Accounts for Laamu Atoll,⁶ through pilot projects and stakeholder engagement, this framework establishes strengthened coordination mechanisms to support scaled implementation. The components of this governance framework are:

3.1 Strategic Goals

The Strategic Goals (SG) of this Roadmap are as follows:

- SG1: By 2026, the Maldives has developed a foundation for an integrated ocean accounting system and has identified and prioritized the compilation of decision-relevant indicators related to the extent and condition of environmental assets (including ecosystems), flows from the environment to the economy (including ecosystem services), ocean-related economic activity and relevant social and governance circumstances.
- SG2: By 2028, the Maldives has scaled pilot studies to a national system of Ocean Accounts that uses evidence-based decision-making for marine and coastal resource management, development planning, and sustainable finance. Key statistics and indicators are regularly compiled, with access facilitated by an integrated dashboard. Environmental-economic statistics have been mainstreamed into planning processes and environmental assessments, with standardized metrics supporting budgetary processes and enabling innovative financing mechanisms.
- SG3: By 2030, contributing to the Maldives strategic vision for development, has mainstreamed a national system of Ocean Accounts that functions as a decision-support system for relevant national and atoll level decision-making concerning sustainable ocean development, including marine conservation and management, climate change, marine and coastal permitting and planning, strategic development planning, sectoral development, economic and fiscal instruments for marine and coastal biodiversity management and increased flows of sustainable finance (including innovative flows of climate and biodiversity finance from national and international sources) for the sustainable use of marine and coastal biodiversity.

3.2 Coordination Structures for Ocean Accounts Implementation

The implementation of this Roadmap will be coordinated by the Ministry mandated with the Environmental Portfolio of the Government of the Maldives. The Environmental Portfolio will chair a committee, that will provide advisory support in delivering the Ocean Accounts work program.

To ensure policy integration and strengthen implementation, strategic decisions related to the implementation of Ocean Accounts will be submitted to the Cabinet for approval, led by the Minister responsible for the Environmental Portfolio. Cabinet engagement will be structured to:

- Secure policy directives and institutional commitments for integrating Ocean Accounts into national planning and governance frameworks.
- Ensure budgetary and resource allocations necessary for sustained implementation, including funding mechanisms and cross-sectoral investments.
- Authorize legislative and regulatory measures, where required, to support the effective application of Ocean Accounts in decision-making.
- Align Ocean Accounts with broader national priorities, ensuring coherence with the development strategy of the Maldives.

⁶ Key lessons learned include the importance of data harmonisation and coherence across social, economic and environmental datasets; continued piloting of Ocean Accounts as a foundation for scaled implementation of different account components, continued engagement with partners to address capacity and resource constraints, cross-Ministerial coordination on a regular basis at policy and technical levels, data visualisation and dashboards to improve the public accessibility of Ocean Accounts.

Cabinet submissions will be prepared strategically, ensuring they are aligned with national policy cycles. The Committee will provide technical input and recommendations, but final policy decisions will be made by the Minister for Environment. Where implementation activities intersect with local governance, relevant Atoll Councils will be engaged to ensure alignment with community-level development priorities and governance structures.

The Roadmap is structured around four workstreams:

- W1: Design and compilation of Ocean Accounts (including data collection and processing);
- W2: Policy mainstreaming of Ocean Accounts, including iterative development and testing of decision-support and scenario analysis tools, policy analysis processes and indicators for decision-making;
- W3: cooperation with domestic and international stakeholders, including capacity strengthening activities and resourcing; and
- W4: international leadership activities by the Government of Maldives through regional, multilateral and other modalities.

The Committee's responsibilities include:

- Providing technical recommendations to guide Ocean Accounts implementation.
- Reviewing progress through quarterly technical assessments of workstream deliverables and milestones.
- Facilitating inter-agency coordination and stakeholder consultations for feedback and adaptive implementation.
- Overseeing independent evaluations, including a mid-term (2028) and final (2030) assessment of the Roadmap.

3.3 Scope of Activities within Ocean Accounts Workstreams

The scope of specific activities within each Roadmap Workstream are summarised in the table below, with further details described in Sections 4. The deliverables, milestones and timelines for each activity will be agreed by the OA Steering Committee and reviewed in accordance with appropriate procedures.

Workstream	Scope of Activities
W1: Design and compilation of Ocean Accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W1.1 Standards and draft methods statements for OA, including the National Ocean Accounts Framework. ● W1.2 Pilot projects for different components of the Ocean Accounts Framework. ● W1.3 Design and development of technology platforms and administrative processes for OA deployment.
W2: Policy mainstreaming of Ocean Accounts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W2.1 Iterative development of the OA Dashboard platform. ● W2.2 Design, development and piloting of Beyond GDP policy-relevant indicators based on OA components.
W3: Stakeholder cooperation (domestic, international) for national OA implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W3.1 Cooperation with local communities, CSOs and NGOs to support OA implementation and policy mainstreaming. ● W3.2 Cooperation with international development partners (bilateral, multilateral, NGOs, universities) to support national OA implementation, national and provincial policy mainstreaming, and mainstreaming of OA into relevant development projects and programmes.
W4: International leadership activities for OA as a foundation for sustainable ocean development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● W3.1 Strengthening of the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership as framework for international collaboration. ● W3.2 Mainstreaming of OA as appropriate into regional and global agreements, partnerships and commitments.

4. OPERATIONAL COMPONENTS

Each Workstream Activity within the OA Roadmap has several subcomponents, which are listed below with explanatory notes. These Activities build on the foundation of preparatory work undertaken within Maldives to develop OA through the Enhancing National Development through Environmentally Resilient Islands (ENDhERI) project, which produced the following:

- Data integration framework: Standards for combining environmental and economic data, particularly through spatial data management and analysis.
- Implementation Guidance: Operational manuals and technical documentation to support account compilation, covering:
 - Data collection and processing
 - Account structuring and compilation
 - Valuation methodologies for the contribution of ecosystems (“ecosystem services”), including coastal protection services, fisheries production, tourism-related values and carbon sequestration.

4.1 Workstream 1: Design and compilation of Ocean Accounts

Activity	Subcomponents
W1.1 Standards and draft methods for OA.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publish an official overarching technical and conceptual framework for OA (National Ocean Accounts Framework) informed by relevant international guidance documents and standards but localized for the context of the Maldives. ● Publish official methods statements (including data specifications) and national guidance documentation for OA, for different components of the National Ocean Accounts Framework, informed by relevant international standards and harmonised with national policy (e.g. One Map).
W1.2 Pilot projects for different components of the National OA Framework.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implement additional strategic pilots of Ocean Accounts to identify successful approaches and areas for improvement. ● Coordinate pilot projects performed by other stakeholders to ensure strategic alignment and continuity. ● Establish time series data collection protocols for existing pilot sites to enable long-term monitoring and trend analysis. ● Develop a quality assurance framework incorporating lessons learned from pilot evaluations.
W1.3 Design and development of technology platforms and administrative processes for OA deployment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop a national plan to fill any knowledge and/or resource gaps (concerning biodiversity or socio-economic data) as well as any gaps in institutional resources (human, financial, etc.), and regulatory and governance mechanisms that exist for sustained national OA implementation,. ● Develop a technology platform and administrative procedures underpinning OA implementation, with coordination between MCCEE, MBS, and other key stakeholders. Key candidate areas for continued platform development and refinement include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Centralization of account-relevant data through established data sharing protocols and agreements between key agencies. ○ Decentralized, yet standardized, environmental and socio-economic data collection ○ User-friendly access to OA statistics, including dashboards (see W2.1).

4.2 Workstream 2: Policy Mainstreaming of Ocean Accounts

Activity	Subcomponents
W2.1 Iterative development of the Ocean Accounts Dashboard and decision-support platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop and implement a OA Dashboard with a focus on (1) enabling practical decision-support functionality for appropriate Ministries and stakeholders, and (2) integration with existing government statistical monitoring platforms and dashboards (such as those maintained by MBS). ● Summarise national priorities for OA within indicator domains, to embed into the Dashboard. ● Pilot models for sustainable finance transactions, underpinned by OA data and summary indicators.
W2.2 Design, development, piloting and deployment of Beyond GDP policy-relevant indicators	<p>Including staged piloting and scaling of OA and associated decision-relevant indicators across the following indicator domains:</p> <p><i>Initial stages</i></p> <p>(1) Aggregate and disaggregate extent, condition and service provision from Maldives’s marine and coastal ecological assets (including change over time, and with thematic sub-focuses on biodiversity, climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk).</p> <p>(2) Tracking of spatially-explicit ecosystem service flows to specific communities and economic sectors.</p> <p>(3) Cross-cutting thematic indicator sets, including for blue carbon and natural resources management.</p> <p><i>Follow-on stages (concurrent if feasible considering available resources)</i></p> <p>(5) Dependency of Maldives’s economy on marine and coastal ecosystems (e.g. as a % of GDP/GVA).</p> <p>(6) Comprehensive wealth indicators / national asset balances sheets including ecological natural capital.</p> <p>(7) Scale and composition of Maldives’s ocean economy, including associated livelihood and equity dimensions.</p> <p>(8) Resource efficiency indicators (e.g. value added per unit of environmental change).</p> <p>(9) Flows of finance impacting positively or negatively on marine/coastal ecosystems and associated services.</p> <p>(10) Integrated reporting against national sustainable development indicators, and against indicator frameworks established by multilateral agreements (e.g. CBD, SDGs).</p>

4.3 Workstream 3: Stakeholders Cooperation for National OA Implementation

Activity	Subcomponents
W3.1 Cooperation with local communities, universities and other research and training institutions, CSOs and NGOs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated agenda items focused on stakeholder cooperation, awareness raising and capacity strengthening as part of National OA Workshop. • “On-location” training and awareness raising workshops delivered in collaboration with Atoll Councils and relevant non-government stakeholders. • Research cooperation and knowledge production framework (supported by appropriate MoUs) with Maldivian and international research institutions to: (1) advance a national research agenda concerning OA and (2) to train future leaders of OA in Maldives.
W3.2 Cooperation with international development partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated agenda items focused on development partner coordination as part of National OA Workshop. • Publish official Strategic Priorities and Needs Statement for OA Roadmap, including tracking of existing project activities of local and international partners, and preparation of requests to appropriate development partners. • Publish official Guidelines for Project-Level Data Sharing with Maldives’s National Ocean Accounting System and determine responsible agencies.

4.4 Workstream 4: International Leadership Activities for Ocean Accounts

Activity	Subcomponents
W4.1 Strengthening of the Global Ocean Accounts Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active contributions to the GOAP global work program as the principal multilateral community of practice for OA, contribution of technical and policy lessons learned, and cooperation with other GOAP members to explore avenues for long-term resource mobilisation. • Leadership of formal GOAP events at relevant multilateral conferences and negotiations.
W4.2 OA Mainstreaming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership of efforts to mainstream OA, as appropriate, into regional cooperation mechanisms: IORA, International Coral Reef Initiative, regional activities of multilateral financial institutions and facilities, and others. • Leadership of efforts to mainstream OA, as appropriate, into global multilateral processes for sustainable ocean development: CBD, UNFCCC, UN Ocean Conference, global activities of multilateral financial institutions and facilities.