

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION

A. Major Development Partners: Strategic Foci and Key Activities

1. The Maldives' major development partner in its transport sector is the Islamic Development Bank (IDB). The country's Seventh National Development Plan, 2006–2010,¹ and Manifesto of the Progressive Party of Maldives for 2013 to 2017,² that have been guiding the development in the sector emphasize the need for enhanced connectivity between atolls, particularly in the southern and northern regions.

2. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) began its involvement in the Maldives' transport sector in 1981. More recently, ADB supported the funding for the enhancement of harbor capacity in Malé North Harbor under the Domestic Maritime Transport Project, which was completed in 2013.³ ADB also supported the government with the establishment of the Maldives' Transport Maritime Masterplan, which was accepted by the government in November 2013.⁴ The IDB, with cofinancing from the OPEC Fund for International Development and the Government of Saudi Arabia, completed the development of 10 public harbors under the Tsunami Harbor Reconstruction Project, and approved support for the development of another 10 public harbors under the Tsunami Harbor Reconstruction Project II. In transport sector, ADB has not had any co-financed project with other agencies, however the possibility for partnership could be further explored.

Major Development Partners

Development Partner	Project Name	Approved	Amount (\$ million)
Transport			
ADB	Inter-Island Transport Project	1981	0.85
	Multi-Project ^a	1984	2.27
	Malé Port Development Project	1987	6.87
	Second Malé Port Project	1993	7.84
	Domestic Maritime Transport Project	2007	5.33
IDB	Airport Project	1982	1.79
	Refinancing of Merchant Shipping Loans	1986	6.70
	Airport Extension Project	1990	1.95
	Gan–Hithadhoo Link Road Project	2000	3.02
	Viliingili Harbor Project	2000	3.32
	Gan–Hithadhoo Link Road Project, Phase 2	2002	1.58
	Tsunami Harbor Reconstruction Project	2008	5.20
	Tsunami Harbor Reconstruction Project, Phase 2	2014	15.30

^a The project included infrastructure investments to support the deepening of priority island harbors.

ADB = Asian Development Bank, IDB = Islamic Development Bank.

Source: ADB estimates.

¹ Government of the Maldives, Ministry of Planning and National Development. 2007. *Seventh National Development Plan, 2006-2010*. Malé.

² Progressive Party of Maldives. 2013. *Manifesto of the Progressive Party of Maldives, 2013-2017*. Malé. Working Document. Unofficial English Translation. Unpublished.

³ ADB. 2007. *Report and Recommendation of the President to the Board of Directors: Proposed Loan to the Maldives for the Domestic Maritime Transport Project*. Manila (Loan 2327-MLD).

⁴ ADB. 2013. *Maldives Maritime Transport Master Plan*. Consultant's report. Manila (TA 6337-REG).

B. Institutional Arrangements and Processes for Development Coordination

3. The approach of using a project management unit under the implementing agency is used in most projects in the Maldives by ADB. This approach is also used by the Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure for projects under the IDB.

4. Coordination with major development partners is done directly through coordination meetings during missions, or indirectly through the relevant line ministries: the Ministry of Housing and Infrastructure, the Ministry of Economic Development, and the Ministry of Finance and Treasury. Possible cofinancing could also be identified during project processing, in consultation with the line ministries.

C. Achievements and Issues

5. Several discussions and meetings have been done with the IDB and World Bank, particularly regarding lessons learnt from their recent supports to the government, and progress of current projects in the Maldives. Discussions regarding future supports to the Maldives have also been done to enhance development coordination and awareness.

D. Summary and Recommendations

6. To support the effective use of resources and achieve development effectiveness in the Maldives, ADB will continue to coordinate with development partners through the relevant line ministries (para. 4) to support the government's efforts to (i) enhance connectivity between atolls and regions; and (ii) improve access to socioeconomic activities, health services, and education facilities, particularly for residents of remote atolls.