

**State-of-the-art Technical and Vocational
Education and Training Center**

**Alifushi, North Maalhosmadulu,
(Raa Atoll)**

Introduction

Technical and Vocational Education and Training System (TVET system) of Maldives is a *demand driven, accessible, beneficiary financed* and *quality assured* system, which meets the needs of the industries for the stability and socioeconomic growth of the country.

To assure the quality of workmanship and to increase the local productivity, a competent and reliable workforce of both young women and men need to be made active. Number of young people trained with employable skills needs to be increased. Equal opportunity to explore, experience various fields of work and to obtain skills, knowledge, and attitude to continue mastering new technologies needs to be provided to all.

Hence, to make this a reality, institutes with state-of-the-art training facilities with qualified instructors needs to be established. The purpose of this document is to highlight the facilities required to commence operations of technical training institutes to be established in selected regions of Maldives.

Definition of State-of-the-Art TVET Institutions:

Rebranding Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) to make it attractive to the youth is a widely discussed topic globally, and in Maldives. This is necessary because of the role technical and vocational skills is expected to play in reducing the increasing rate of unemployment and under-employment among the youth.

Main objectives of government's initiative to establish state-of-the-art TVET Institutes are to attract youth for skills programs, to develop a skilled workforce by offering industry driven courses with modern facilities and resources. Students will have opportunities to explore their innovative ideas, create, and experiment their business ventures with the help of mentors and support from the established inhouse services centers.

Courses offered in the State-of-the-Art TVET Institutes will starting from MNQF level 1 to 6, that is up to Advanced Diploma. Students who graduate from State-of-the-Art TVET Institutes will be able to go for higher levels of courses offered at the local and international universities.

All programs conducted in the State-of-the-Art TVET Institutes will be MQA approved programs. Students will be able to join their interested programs in all levels.

An **Aptitude assessment** will be conducted to all students enrolling in the TVET Institutes.

Literacy and numeracy modules will be taught as a core module for the students who do not pass through the pre-assessment exercise.

The programs offered in the three locations will be based on the industries and services available in the regions.

Proposed Modality

Proposed model for the development and operation of TVET Center is Public-Private Partnership model, whereby private partners will play a vital role in the development, running and operation of the TVET institutes.

Public Private Partnership Model



Under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, the private partner/investor (an industry representative) may use their name/business name in running of its operations. Investor may propose to build commercial areas and conduct business activities that are relevant to an education institute setting (eg: business support services or activities relevant to practical trainings or internships required for the students etc) within the campus area. These Commercial activities are meant for additional revenue generation, in order to support sustainability of the business operations.

Under this agreement, the private partner will develop the physical infrastructure and facilities to run its academic and administrative operations in a profitable model, while utilizing the given land and facilities for revenue-generation.

The role of the government under the PPP model will be to set minimum required standards, regularly inspect and monitor facilities and operation, and provide sponsorship to students (as tuition fees).

Development of Institutions

Overview of Maalhosmadulu (Raa and Baa Atoll)

North Maalhosmadulu Atoll Islands or Raa Atoll is an administrative division of the Maldives, which includes Northern Maalhosmadulu Atoll and the island of Alifushi. The capital is Ungoofaaru. According to National Bureau of Statistics, the total population of the atoll is over 20,297.

South Maalhosmadulu Atoll or Baa Atoll is the southern part of the atoll, Eydhafushi is the capital island of the atoll, the atoll has a population of 21,145.

There are total of 29 resorts, 42 guesthouses in the atoll with the bed capacity of over 6600 in the Maalhosmadulu. The region has two airports, two regional hospitals, and 48 government and private schools and a private a vocational training center in the region.

One of the highly populated regions of the country with over 41,000 out of which over 7000 are school age students enrolled in the schools in the atoll, which is one of the highest numbers of student populated regions in the country. There are over 1000 students studying in the capital.

Alifushi is one of the inhabited islands of North Maalhosmadulu, that is famous for its carpentry and wooden and fiberglass boat building. The region is famous for traditional mat weaving and unique traditional feyli weaving. Moreover, it has a world-famous biosphere reserve protected by UNESCO and is widely promoted for tourism.

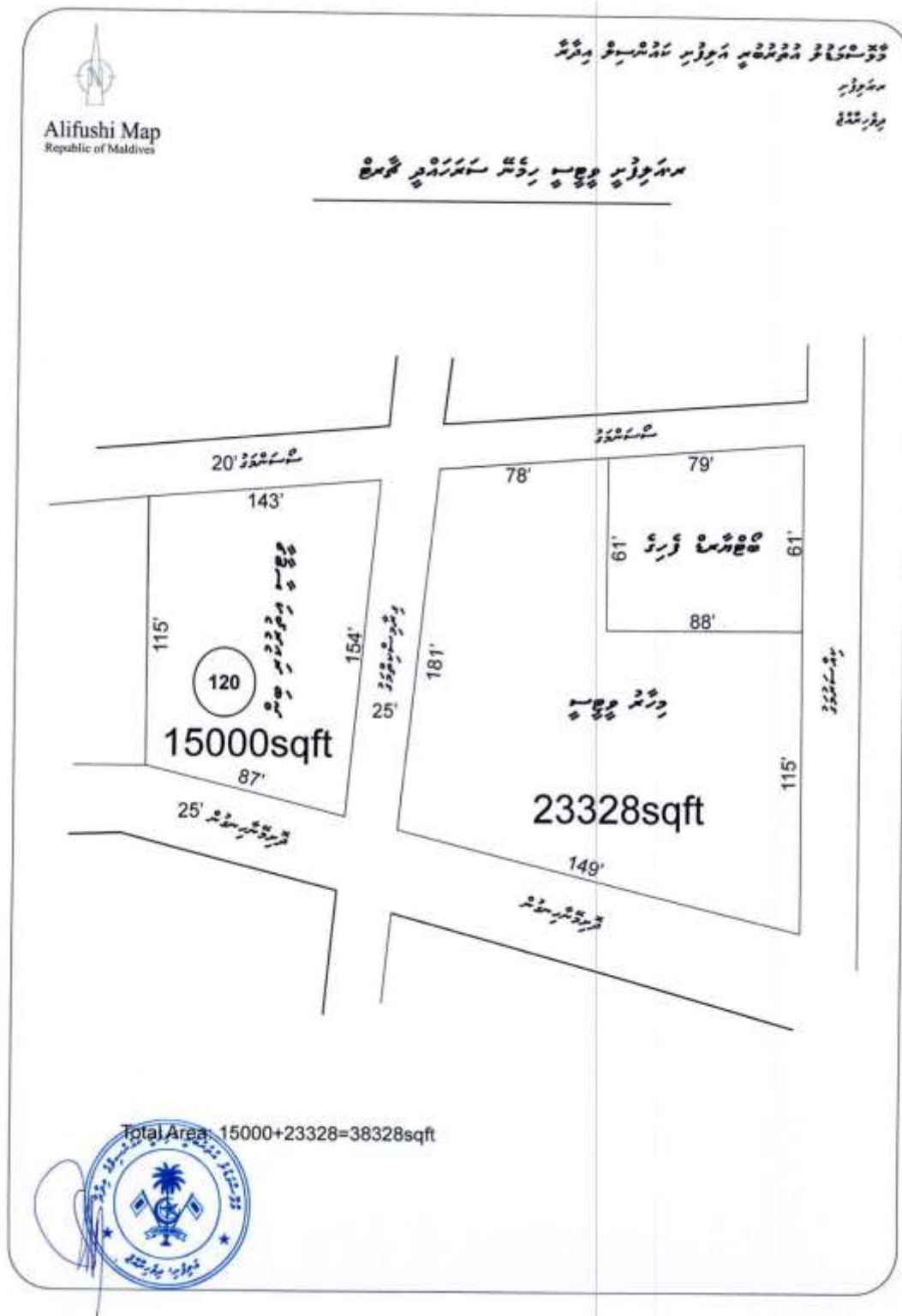
According to the information published in the HIES 2016, the employment status of Raa Atoll and Baa Atoll is 50.2% and 52.5% respectively. Therefore, the labor force participation of the combined two atolls is 51%, and an average of 6% unemployment is recorded in the region which is also close to the national average.

Land Acquisition

The government will provide land/facility for long term use under the PPP model. Ministry of Higher Education (**MoHE**) shall secure and provide plots from selected islands for the development of TVET Centers. No rental fees would be charged for the land plot.



Location
R.Alifushi



Proposed Land for TVET Center, R.Alifushi



Existing Vocational Training building + the new land space(R.Alifushi)

Plot area available for the construction and development of TVET Center and Accommodation Block in R.Alifushi is **38,328** square feet (sq. ft). Under the Public-Private Partnership model, the private partner (an industry representative) may utilize the land area for other revenue generating options, provided that it does not affect the primary goals of these institutes and shall be approved from MoHE.

Proposed Agreement Period

Proposed lease period is **25-30** years. The duration of lease is negotiable and can be extended up to 50 years.

Benefits / Revenue Streams

- ✓ No rental fees will be charged from the private party for the acquired land plot.
- ✓ MoHE to provide a developed design (concept design and detailed design/drawing) for the development of TVET Institute with Accommodation Block. Detailed design will provide sufficient information for applications for statutory approvals (such as building regulations approval) to be made, thus eliminating the need for design works and associated costs. This shall in no way limit interested party's choice to propose their very own concepts, design or additional facilities to the design. Private party may choose to propose new concept/detailed designs or modify the existing design with approvals from MoHE.
- ✓ Course fees for the pre-approved programs enrolled by local students' will be paid by the government.
- ✓ Additional courses and workshops can be conducted as additional revenue streams. These programs can vary from short courses or workshops to more advanced programs.
- ✓ Investor may propose commercial establishments and business activities that are relevant to an education institute setting (eg: business support services or activities relevant to practical trainings or internships required for the students) within the campus. These Commercial activities are meant for additional revenue generation, in order to support sustainability of the business operations.
- ✓ Private parties may propose their own terms as they deem fit in the development and operations of TVET Institute as long as the primary requirements are met. Such terms shall be agreed upon with MoHE at the agreement stage.

Social Benefits

These institutes are expected to further expand the higher education opportunities for the youths and adults, especially within the outer islands of Maldives. The establishments will create opportunities to acquire skills relevant for the current and emerging employment market needs, especially to young population and the community as a whole, thus reducing the proportion of youth 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' (NEET). Additionally, new job opportunities will be created in the island, which in turn bring in more revenue, thus enriching the lives of people. These institutes are further expected to benefit the established businesses directly and indirectly with a significant number of student population enrolling from other islands each year.

Proposed Programs

Technical and vocational training programs can be offered in various different areas. The *courses* offered at the State-of-the-Art Centers could be as follows. Private party has flexibilities of choosing their own choice of vocational training areas along with the proposed subject areas.

Materials (glass, paper, plastic and wood)

- *Boat building (non-motor)*
- *Cabinet making*
- *Carpentry (furniture)*
- *Ceramics (Industrial)*
- *Furniture crafts*
- *Furniture making*
- *Glass production*
- *Glass working (industrial)*
- *Timber technology*
- *Wood machining and turning*
- *Wood technology*
- *Woodwork trades*
- *Woodworking and carpentry*

Handicrafts

- *Ceramics (craft)*
- *Conservation of cultural material*
- *Craft programmes*
- *Crafts, folk arts and artisan*
- *Decorative and metal crafts*
- *Embroidery (craft)*
- *Fibre, textile and weaving art*
- *Floristry (flower arranging)*
- *Glass art and craft*
- *Goldsmithing*
- *Handicrafts*
- *Indigenous crafts*
- *Jewellery design*
- *Jewellery making (craft)*
- *Lapidary and jewellery*
- *Needle craft*
- *Picture framing*
- *Silversmithing*
- *Stone carving (craft)*
- *Weaving (craft)*
- *Woodcarving*

Fashion, interior and industrial design

- *Costume design*
- *Design*
- *Design of industrial products (artistic)*
- *Interior architecture*
- *Interior decorating*
- *Interior design*
- *Three-dimensional design*

Information Communication Technology

This facility provides the trainees with the opportunity to receive training related to the creating, installing and repairing electronic devices, and installing and repairing devices related to Information Communication Technology. Students will explore their creativity and innovations through industry linkage programs and self-research assignments, which will allow the students to exhibit and market their products publicly through incubations centers.



Facilities

Student Service Center

Student service center comprises of Care Center and Activity Center

Care Centre

This centre provides in-house counselling services for trainees and staff in a professional manner. The main objective of this centre is to develop the psychological, social, developmental and learning skills of the trainees. The centre provides holistic services to the trainees and staff of the institute by facilitating individual and group counselling sessions, motivational and experience sharing talks and workshops to develop communication and leadership skills of the trainees.

This is where the counsellors provide a safe and comfortable environment for the trainees to openly express their feelings or any issues that trouble them and receive professional help.



Career Services

Career guidance services provides information and guidance about the career pathways, career development methods and information of the different fields of careers available locally and globally.

Administrative Services

Administrative services aim to provide a one-stop service for trainees to receive information about administrative matters such as student passes, student lockers, fees and financial matters.



Academic Staff Room

It is a typical office space with work stations for lecturers. It may refer to a communal work area where lecturers have their desk, comfortable chairs, cabinets and prepare lessons if they do not have a personal office, or may be a common room where teachers and/or school staff can relax, discuss work, eat, drink and socialize while not in class. Academic staff room shall be able to accommodate 18 lecturers.



Smart Classrooms

Classrooms designed with the capacity to accommodate 20 trainees at a time. These classrooms are equipped with Wi-Fi connectivity, configurable tables and chairs, portable poster holders, smart boards, digital sound technology and smart televisions.



Conference/ Seminar Hall

- 50 pax Capacity
- Sound system with mic and Audio /Video

Technical and Vocational Training Laboratories/Workshops

These are Technical and Vocational training laboratories or workshops meant for practical activities and hands-on experience for trainees. These labs can vary from institute to institute depending on the proposed curriculum. Each laboratories or workshops should be equipped with proper facilities, tools and machineries to conduct practical trainings for at least 15 students at a time. Vocational training facilities will be needed in the following areas.

- Boat Yard (boat building works), with a storage area
- Carpentry Workshop / Machine Shop
- Multi-purpose workshop (welding, air-conditioning, electric , marine engineering)

An ICT Lab will also be needed to conduct ICT related programs.

Sports Complex

Sports Complex consists of indoor and outdoor sports area. The indoor facilities can accommodate Badminton, Table Tennis, Billiard, Chess and Carrom while the outdoor area provides space to play games like, basket, volley, futsal, netball and hand ball.

The flexible usage of the open field for sports and games, helps to increase interest in sports as well as promotes health and fitness for trainees.



Activity Centre

This is an informal learning area. It is where the trainees gather to play, learn or collaborate. Trainees are welcome to book various facilities and equipment such as meeting rooms, foosball tables, pool tables, board games and digital games. These games aim to promote interaction and discussions among trainees.



Gym

The gym is intended for trainees of Sports and Fitness related programs. It contains equipment for health and fitness performance and assessments that are aligned to the industry standards. Access to public shall be granted on paid basis, this will raise fund for Gym maintenance.

Meeting Rooms

- Meeting rooms of different sizes: small, medium and large for different occasions

Accommodation Block

This facility provides accommodation for 100 students. Accommodation block must be housed in a separate building.

- Each room will accommodate 2 people.
- AC rooms with attached bathroom.
- Every trainee will be provided with a single bed, wardrobe and a study desk.
- Common kitchen, dining area and laundry facility for every floor.
- Security, storage and maintenance room.
- Management Office
- Cafeteria (food catering services to students/staffs accommodating at the university and accommodation block)

Other Facilities within the campus

Prayer Rooms

- Prayer rooms with ablution area for both men and women separately.

Toilets / Showers

- Two toilets in every floor for trainees and for staff. One set of showers for every workshop for trainees to use to clean themselves after workshop sessions.

Security

- CCTV coverage of all critical locations within and outside. A control room for security personnel.

Storage Facility

- Storage of tools, equipment and consumables used at workshops to be safely stored for further use.

Lockers

- Facility to store personal belonging like books, stationaries and etc.

Landscaping

- Landscape design of investors choice to create an outdoor oasis, from florals to canopied pathways.