**Format for Mid the Term Evaluation of the Achievement of Sector Outcomes of the Strategic Action Plan (2009 – 2013) of the Government of Maldives**

***[Strengthening Family Ties (Child and Family Protection)***

1. **Sector Overall Progress (500 words)**

***{A description of the extent to which the Sector Outcomes as specified in the policy goals were realized in the period under review}***

|  |
| --- |
| **Service delivery of child and family protection at central and province level strengthened:**   1. In order to enhance and set values and standards of Social Work a code of conduct for social workers were developed and endorsed by the Maldives Health Sciences Board on 15th February 2011. 2. Utmost priority has been given to develop and strengthen the capacity of human resources in the field of child and family protection, 3. Furthermore, for the purpose of strengthening the database of Child and Family Protection (CFP), a common multi sectoral database was developed. 4. In order to ensure the mobilization of the community and enhance community responses for the CFPs, Department of Gender and Family Protection Services (DGFPS) has taken the primary role to advocate and motivate NGO’s to participate and advocate for the rights of CFPs. 5. A supervisory mechanism for the FCSCs had been developed and regional managers appointed to facilitate seamless service provision and planning based on community needs.   **Alternative care systems for Children, women, elderly and disabled persons, strengthened.**   1. High priority has been given to strengthen the legislative systems of children, women, elderly and person’s with disability. 2. Since the government prioritizes non-institutional care system, DGFPS has provided the necessary technical support to develop the social security mechanism for affording benefits for orphans and those caring for orphans. 3. As Maldives has very limited formal support services for the victims and survivors of Domestic Violence, since 2008 government is on track to conclude the process of establishing the first ever shelter for women and girl children in Male’, Villingili.   **Comprehensive and Coordinated National Response to Child and Family Protection Established with Trained service providers:**   1. The groundbreaking Child Protection Conference took place in February 2010 with representation of all relevant sectors and stakeholders in CP, with focus on interagency coordination and collaboration. Participants of the conference reiterated their commitment to CFP and declared enhanced interagency collaboration. 2. As emphasized under the new Children’s Rights, Child Care and Protection Bill, a National Council for the Rights of Children will be established with the representative from key agencies. In order to provide holistic and coordinated services, an inter-agency technical committee named as Child Protection Committee has been established and regulation pertaining to the committee is awaiting endorsement. 3. In order to ensure a better implementation of the necessary legislations and regulations related to CFPs work is underway to sensitize the policy makers & religious leaders on these issues.   **Rights of Children, Women, Elderly and Person’s with Disability safeguarded:**   1. For the purpose of safeguarding the rights of women, children, elderly and also person’s with disability, a systematic referral mechanism such as helpline for children has been setup. 2. Participatory rights of children were key to the establishment of the helpline and planning of the National Child Protection Conference, allowing evidence based policy.   **Public Polices and services aligned to address promotion of family well-being.**   1. DGFPS has been very instrumental in advocating and mainstreaming gender equality in the legislatures of Maldives. 2. DGFPS has been interested to sensitize school-aged children on key problems, henceforth a substantial amount of work has been done to sensitize the students and teachers in selected schools and this would be an ongoing effort with the cooperation from Education Ministry.   **Juvenile justice system established and institutionalized**   1. High priority has been given to revise the existing bill on juvenile justice system(2007), taking in to account the new constitution(2008) and other relevant child and family legislations and the feedback provided by relevant stakeholders. 2. Efforts have been made to establish a mechanism to promote the co-ordination between relevant sectors therefore; a juvenile justice co-ordination committee has been formulated and in progress. 3. To understand the situation of Juvenile Offenders in Maldives, Juvenile justice Unit has conducted a situation analysis of two regions in Maldives. Furthermore, to ensure that general public and media are sensitized on the circumstances of at risk children and their needs, Juvenile Justice Unit/JJU has been publishing media reports which includes an in-depth analysis of the problem of juvenile delinquency. 4. In order to have specialized personnel on juvenile justice bill and on UN guidelines and best practices at all levels of law enforcement, therefore, juvenile justice unit has undertaken a training programme for relevant personnel of HA, HDh & Shaviani. 5. Importance has been given to increase public awareness of the rights of the child especially those at risk and also the services available, therefore a leaflet was produced regarding the services provided by JJU. |

* 1. **Progress on Key Sector Outcomes**

***{For each sector outcome briefly describe the achievement made and the extent to which implementation was carried out as envisaged by the Strategies / Intervention List of the SAP. If there were any deviations what were they and the causes}***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Outcome | | Progress | Issues |
| 1. | Service delivery of child and family protection at central and province level strengthened | 1. Act on the Rights of Persons with Disability and financial assistance was enacted in 2010 and stakeholder meeting conducted to align with PWD act and finalize the action plan on Persons with Disability. 2. Code of conduct for social workers developed and registration process under way for social workers at Maldives Board of Health Sciences. 3. Students studying advance certificate in social work in Faculty of Health Sciences were given field placement at central and regional level social service provision centers of DGFPS. 4. Annual managers review meetings were held to evaluate and monitor the programs of FCSCs. 5. FCSC monitoring conducted for 9 FCSC’s. Expected to be completed by end of September 2011. 6. Central and regional Level managers were identified and trained on supervision to increase delivery of effective services and quality of supervision of CFPS and FCSCs. 7. Maldives Child Protection Database was established to strengthen the database of DGFPS. Relevant staff from DGFPS was trained on the data base and case cording system was revised. 8. One year Child protection campaign launched in collaboration with HRCM. | Delays in finalizing relevant procedures, regulations and laws on Child and Family Protection. |
| 2. | Alternative care systems for Children, women, elderly and disabled persons, strengthened | 1. Amendment to the Child Rights Act (9/91) made in 2010. In addition, draft allied regulation such as regulation on State Custody regulation, Fostering regulation, and minimum standard of children’s home were developed. Likewise, a mental health policy has been developed and SOP for Women’s and Girl’s Shelter has been developed as well. 2. A significant increase has been seen in the number of families requesting for fostering for abandoned and maltreated children. Through the establishment of such mechanism, aftercare services for children leaving Children’s home (Kudakudhinge Hiya) has been in progress. 3. To ensure the services provided by the institutions are up to the international standards and to mobilize the community, close partnership has been established with associations such as Red Crescent, and regulations revised and are in the process for finalization. |  |
| 3. | Comprehensive and Coordinated National Response to Child and Family Protection Established with Trained service providers | 1. In order to provide holistic services an inter-agency technical committee named as Child Protection Committee has been established. With the support and assistance from this committee, a regulation has been drawn and would be finalized which mainly focuses on the referral mechanisms linking all the relevant sectors working for Child and Family Protection. 2. Work underway to finalize the regulation on stakeholders working together for Child and Family protection | Due to lack of Gender specialists within the Country, reporting to the international bodies has been a challenge.  E.g. writing of CEDAW report. |
| 4. | Rights of Children, Women, Elderly and Person’s with Disability safeguarded | 1. Child Hotline has been established 2. Similarly with child hotline experience work is in progress for establishing a women’s hotline. Therefore, with this, the number of cases reported to DGFPS and FCSCs is estimated to increase. 3. Simultaneously DGFPS has been developing a campaign on prevention of child abuse based on BCC strategy. 4. Moreover, for a sustainable mechanism for the prevention of abuse gender sensitization training held for different departments of Maldives Police Services. 5. Penal discussion held among school children to sensitize and familiarize on the rights of Elderly. |  |
| 5. | Public Polices and services aligned to address promotion of family well-being | 1. Department has lobbied to make the employment act of 2008 more gender neutral. 2. Concept paper developed and was open for bids for developing a child care centre. However, there was no interested party. |  |
| 6 | Juvenile justice system established and institutionalized | 1. Juvenile justice bill (2007) amended and revised according to the feedback from the relevant agencies and now forwarded to Attorney General’s Office.(This bill still in AGO\_2012) 2. Juvenile justice coordination committee established 3. Media reports developed and disseminated to media with an analysis of the situation of children (juvenile offenders) 4. 20 law enforcement officers and magistrates trained on the juvenile justice bill, regulations and on the international guidelines. 5. Leaflet produced and disseminated to general public and relevant agencies regarding the services provided by JJU 6. Situation analysis of two regions of the Maldives 7. In 2012 a training was given to Laamu Atoll and Raa Atoll(This training was mainly focused to magistrates, police and FCFC Staffs) | 1. Delay in submitting the JJU bill to parliament. |

* 1. **Institutional Achievements in relation to the Sector Outcomes**

**{Briefly d*escribe the role of key institutions in relation to the key sector outcomes and their achievements*}**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Institution(s) | | Major Responsibilities towards outcomes | Achievement |
| 1. | Department of Gender and Family Protection Services | * Promote health and well-being of families. * Ensure access to quality of child and family protection services throughout the country * Promote the rights of children, women, elderly, and persons with disability. | * Code of conduct for Social Service Workers developed. * Increase in number of trained staff * society organizations commitment in Child and Family Protection Programmes * Child Protection committee established. * Legislative framework strengthened to promote the rights of people with Disability. |
| 2. | Ministry of Home Affairs/Juvenile Justice Unit | * Enable restorative justice for children in conflict with the law. | -legislatives amended and sensitization of relevant personnel and public. |

1. **Overall Assessment of Sector Performance related to key aspects**

|  |
| --- |
| Operational Progress(300 words)  **{*Explain the Extent to which implementation was carried out as envisaged by the Strategies / Intervention List of the SAP. If there were any deviations why was this and what where they.*}** |
| * Strengthen the legislative framework for CFP (implementation of mental health policy, Drafting of children’s act with final chapter & finalized foster regulation) * Decentralized Child Family Protection Services/CFPS (CFPS service provided by FCSCs in all the atolls) * Establish partnership with civil society organizations (advocacy to increase the participation of NGOs) * Service delivered by CFPS accessible to persons with disabilities * Strengthen institutional capacity by establishing linkages with FHS and other universities * Registration mechanism for all qualified working people in the field * Establish and strengthen state care institutions and services (minimum standards of children’s home regulation to be finalized) * Develop mechanism for affording benefits for orphans * Inter agency national database on child protection established and codes of CFPS case work amended * Technical inter-sectoral co-ordination committee known as Child Protection committee established * Behavior change programmes targeted for the general public * Child helpline established * Juvenile justice bill (2007) has been amended according to the changes to the constitutions, relevant legislation, government polices and also from the feedback received from UN agencies. * Juvenile justice coordination committee established. * 20 law enforcement personnel and magistrates have been trained. * Leaflets of the services of JJU and Media reports and analysis of the situation of juvenile offenders developed and disseminated to media and public and relevant agencies. * Situation analysis of two regions of the Maldives has been completed. |
| Financial Performance (200 words)  **{*To what extent was the budget allocation utilized and if budgetary shortfalls were encountered what were the likely causes what impact did it have in regard to pursuing the Strategies / Intervention List of the SAP*}** |
| * In order to implement the strategies in SAP, detailed budget worked out and proposed every year. However, approved budget received is limited and thus have to re-prioritize activities which have implications on achieving the outcomes identified in SAP. * The international donor agency funds that we receive are utilized to achieve outcomes in SAP as the work plans are aligned with SAP. |
| Institutional Linkages (100 words)  **{If *any institutional linkages were expected to be developed during the implementation, to what extent were they achieved. If not what were the main causes and what was the affect on the implementation.*}** |
| * In terms of developing and strengthening the capacity of Staffs of CFPS and FCSCs, and the development of legislative framework, UNICEF , UNFPA, UNIFEM has provided immense support by providing international expertise’s and other necessary technical and budgetary support. * Linkages and support provided by the relevant sectors for CFP such as Maldives Police Services, Juvenile Court, Juvenile Justice Unit at Ministry of Home affairs, Family Protection Unit in IGMH, Attorney General’s Office, Ministry of Education, Prosecutor General’s Office, HRCM, Courts/Judiciary, and NGOs. * UNICEF has been instrumental to make JJU a reality, by taking the initiative and lobbying the government to formulate a separate unit for juvenile offenders by providing both technical and financial support. * Juvenile justice unit has linkages and support with relevant sectors such as MPS (FCPD, SOCD), juvenile court, ministry of education, schools, ministry of health and family, department of gender and family protection services, FCSCs,DDPRS, DPRS, attorney general’s office, prosecutor general’s office, HRCM, and NGO’s. |
| Sustainability (100 words)  **{*To what degree could the operational aspects; including institutional linkages if any can be carried forward and describe any essential criteria required to facilitate this*}** |
| * Strengthened linkages with all relevant sectors in the response to CFP issues by formulating a mechanism for referral and necessary guidelines and SOPs developed * **Coordination of relevant sectors is always important in order to ensure the rights of the child, especially those who are at risk are protected.** |

**3.0 Key Issues encountered**

|  |
| --- |
| *Institutional (200 words)*  ***{Discuss the Strategic position of the Lead Agency and how it affected the Implementation of Strategies/ Operational Performance}****:* |
| * Though DGFPS is the lead agency in implementing the CFP, due to lack of technical capacity within the other relevant sectors- the sole responsibility of achieving the goals/outcome falls on DGFPS. * Legislative framework strengthening requires legal technical expertise’s which is an obstacle. * Recently Juvenile justice unit has been established and was given the lead role to provide counseling and rehabilitation of juvenile offenders; however, due to the shortage of resources, all the relevant sectors need to coordinate and combine the resources in order to provide a holistical support for child and family protection especially for those who are at risk. |
| *Implementation (200 words)*  **{*Matters relating to implementation finances, human resources, monitoring and oversight*}** |
| * Data collecting and analyzing capacity is low within all sectors, and also sectors need to establish a common coding system and provide a holistic picture of the current situation of children and family. * No proper mechanism for Monitoring and Evaluation. * Lack of local technical capacity hence have to rely on International technical support. * Budgetary constraint. |
| *Environmental :(100 words)*  **{*Environmental 9including Operational aspects) aspects which were encountered and need to be addressed*}** |
|  |
| *Political(100 words)*  **{*Political considerations encountered and to be addressed*}** |
| Local counsil, government structures are weak yet(Roles need to be differed) |
| *Socio/ Cultural(100 words)*  **{*Socio Cultural considerations encountered in respect of operation and implementation*}** |
| * Religious Fundamentalism * Social and community mobilization * Political instability * Lack of Parenting practices and delinquency among the family members. * Violence (Gang Violence and Delinquency, DV, VAW, and all form of abuse against children and families, discrimination for girl-child, no support system for working mothers) * Community participation and perceived reliance on state to provide all aspects of service provision * Economical situation of the country leading to poverty and exploitation of child. * Lack of after care and community rehabilitation programmes for juvenile offenders including informational educational programmes, vocational training pogrammes and employment opportunities. * The perception of the community for juvenile offenders. * Relevant sectors and public insensitivity to restorative justice approach. |
| *Gender (100 words)*  **{*Gender related issues encountered during operation and implementation*}**   * Lack of institutional and non institutional support for juvenile offenders (especially for girl child; no pre-trial detention facility for girls, no correctional facility for girls, no specialized drug rehabilitation institution for girls in Maldives.) * Exploitation of children, especially girls for prostitution and for drug trafficking purpose by gangs and drug dealers of the community. * In Juvenile offenders (girl child) cases often offenders are dealt with rather than victims who need care and protection. |
| * Attitudes/behaviors and cultural challenges * Economical Challenges * Understanding and upbringing. * Lack of sensitivity and participation among all levels at all sectors. |
| Statistical and Data Collection (100 words)  **{*All the data sources used. Other factors which surfaced in the operation and implementation*}** |
| * Due to the lack and proper data collection within the sectors, the emerging issues such as trafficking, teenage pregnancies, prostitution etc, are not properly identified, recorded and addressed. Hence difficult to show a holistic picture of the prevalence of such issues in Maldives. * Lack of proper monitoring and evaluation system. |

1. **Lessons Learnt (300 words)**

**{Discuss the Lessons Learnt in the process of carrying out interventions relevant to realization of the Sector Outcomes as specified in the SAP. Focus on the involved agencies and other stakeholders (including beneficiaries) and their willingness and capability to continue the interventions. If not what additional measures would need to be taken to strengthen them}**

|  |
| --- |
| * To realize the outcomes mentioned and specified in the SAP, we would require the necessary budget allocation from the government. However, though estimated budget are prepared annually, the actual amount received from the government is far less to achieve the outcomes mentioned in SAP. * Due to the lack of proper preplanning within the sector and also due to the unplanned activities, becomes a huge obstacle to achieve the planned activity. |

1. **Partnerships (200 words)**

**{*Describe any partnerships established with a donor, private sector of civil society organization to achieve an outcome(s)*}**

|  |
| --- |
| UN agencies – UNFPA, UNDP, UNWOMEN, WHO and UNICEF  NGOs- ARC, Hand in Hand, Rights for all, Hope for Women.  DHIRAAGU, MTCC, Wataniya, Muni home care, Tourist resorts. |

1. **Follow-up Actions & Recommendations (400 words)**

**{Recommendations for strengthening, reorienting and/or revising the implementation mechanisms and strengthening the key agencies and other stakeholders for achieving Sector Outcomes in future periods}**

|  |
| --- |
| * Proper Planning and monitoring of the SAP annually. * Proper and feasible resource management (human resource) * Require sufficient budget to achieve the proposed activities |

**Impact Indicator:**

1. Access to quality child and family protection services throughout the country
2. Children benefit from a responsive protection system and juvenile justice mechanism
3. Child and family protection strengthened through coordinated multi-sectoral committee

**Steering Committee**

1. DGFPS
2. MoHA (JJU)
3. Police (FCPD)
4. Civil Society Organization
5. HRCM
6. Courts/Judiciary
7. Moe
8. UNICEF
9. DDPRS
10. Health Services (FPU)

**Date:** 1st April 2012

**Name of Officer:** Fathmath Roona

**Designation:** Assistant Director