

DM2009 Project Summary

Project Number: 3648 Booth Number: 39

Innovative Gardening and Education to Adapt to Climate Change in the Maldives

COUNTRY: Maldives

ORGANIZATION: Live & Learn
Environmental Education

FUNDING REQUEST: \$168,500

OBJECTIVE: To increase the quality and quantity of local food production, using new techniques resilient to increasing groundwater salinity. The objective will contribute to increased food security, and links the Maldives to needs and priorities strategies. To increase community members' understanding of climate-change processes and likely local impacts by integrating local and scientific knowledge. Through Island Women's Committees (IWC), develop a sustainable community network for promoting resilient techniques for local food production.

RATIONALE: The project seeks direct and measurable benefits in three interrelated areas: (1) food security and livelihoods through development, testing, and extension of innovative approaches to gardening and market access; (2) island ecosystem resilience through broad-based education and training; and (3) enhancement of women's roles through organizational strengthening, networking, and dialogue building. The project is based on community research that emphasizes that remote and vulnerable communities have low-capacity resilience in living with climate change mainly because they lack access to basic services, and also have knowledge gaps and limited capability to organize, mobilize, and network.

INNOVATION: The project promotes innovative methods of local food production using raised "no-till" gardens, which prevents increasing salinity, improves nutritional content of produce by balancing soil pH, and enhances water efficiency by reducing losses due to soils with low adsorption capacity.

CONTACT: Fathimath Shafeega
maldives@livelearn.org
www.livelearn.org