

Initial Environmental Examination

PUBLIC

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Maldives: Greater Male Environmental Improvement and Waste Management Project

Outer Island Waste Management Improvements: Thinadhoo, Vaavu Atoll

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Greater Malé Environmental Improvement and Waste Management Project (GMEIWMP) will establish an integrated solid waste management system in Greater Malé and support Island Waste Management Centers (IWMCs) on 32 further inhabited islands in zone 3 which comprises the atolls of Alifu Alifu, Alifu Dhaalu, Kaafu, and Vaavu. Areas in which improvements will be introduced including collection, transfer, treatment using advanced waste-to-energy technology, disposal, recycling, dumpsite closure and remediation, and public awareness in reduce-reuse-recycle (3R), as well as institutional capacities for service delivery and environmental monitoring. The project will further improve climate change resilience and disaster risk management and contribute to reduced emissions into the environment.
2. The Initial Environment Examination (IEE) has been prepared for Thinadhoo in April 2022. This addendum has been prepared due to an extension of the proposed location for the waste management site.

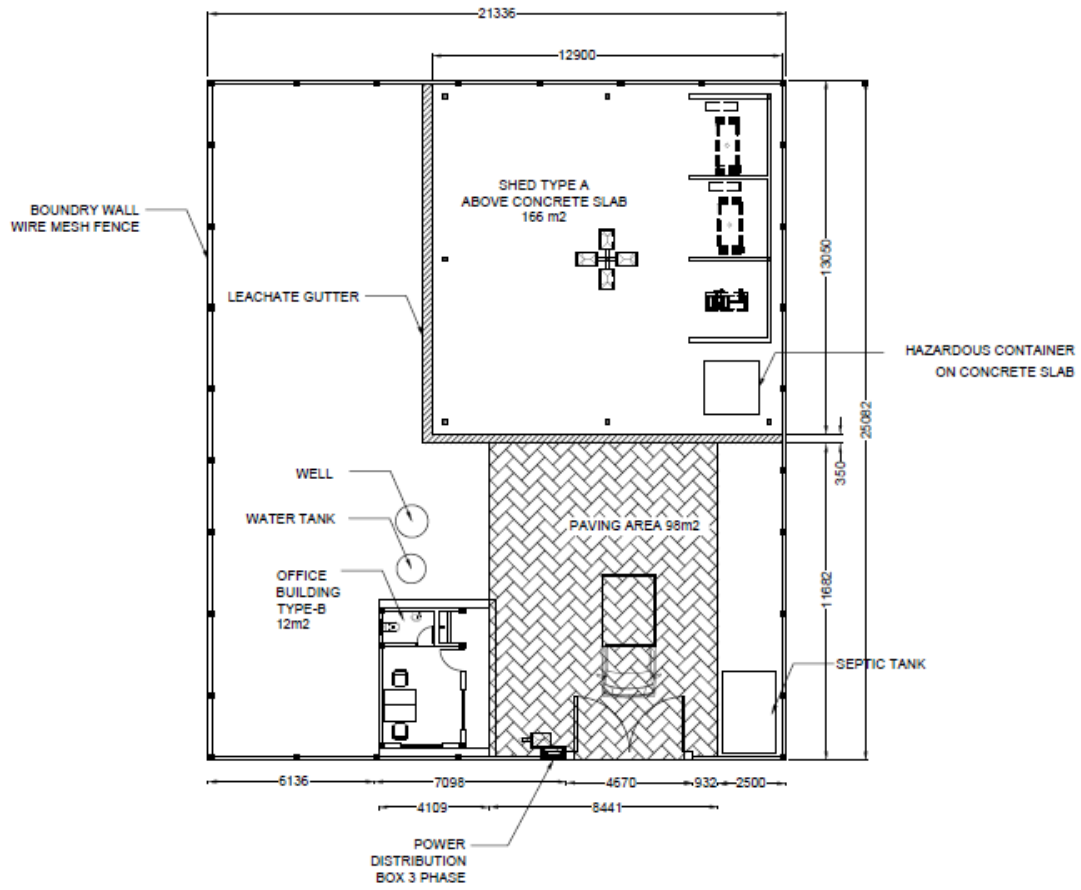
II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

3. A detailed description of the project is provided in the IEE for the project (Chapter 4).
4. The project proposes to construct a new Integrated Solid Waste Management Centre (ISWMC) in Thinadhoo Island. This centre will be used to manage the waste produced in the island before it is transferred to the regional waste management centre at Thilafushi.

A. Site Description

5. The Island Council of Thinadhoo has requested an extension of the initial site proposed for the IWMC. This extension was proposed as the Island Council anticipates that a larger area will be required to accommodate the waste generated at the island in future years. The official request by the Island Council is included in Annex 1. The proposed extension is by around 6 m total for two sides of the IWMC boundary. Figure 1 below shows the proposed location. From the original dimension of 15 m by 25 m, the new dimensions of the site will now be ~ 21m x 25 m. With this, the total area for the IWMC will increase from 375 sq.m to 525 sq.m.
6. Figure 2 shows the proposed site location. The concrete slab area for waste handling (166 sq.m.), hazardous waste container area (4 sq.m.), and office building (12 sq.m) will have the same dimensions and footprint area. The paved area for maneuvering vehicles will be reduced from 125 sq.m to 98 sq.m.
7. Details of vegetation at the site have been included in the April 2022 IEE. The site has been cleared by the Island Council and does not require any additional vegetation removal.

Figure 1: Proposed Site Layout



SITE LAYOUT - V. THINADHOO

1:200

Figure 2: Proposed Site Location



III. ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

8. A detailed description of anticipated Environmental Impacts and Mitigation Measures are provided in the April 2022 IEE for the project (Chapter 7). No additional impacts are anticipated due to the extension of the site boundary.

Unofficial Translation of Letter of Island Council V.Thinadhoo

Unofficial Translation of Letter

From: V.Thinadhoo Island Council

To: Ministry of Climate Change, Environment and Energy

Reference Number: 258/438/2024/2

Date: 20th August 2024

The contractor is ready to begin work at the IWMC site in V.Thinadhoo. However, the Island Council is very concerned that the currently allocated site will not be sufficient to handle the amount of waste that will be generated at the island in the future. Therefore, as there is additional space available at the site we would like to extend the site by 10 feet on two sides of the IWMC (total of 20 feet increase).

Our reasoning for this request is due to the anticipated increase in waste generation at the island, especially as there are a lot of guesthouse construction projects ongoing at the island. The total registered population at the island is 222, however with staff and tourists there are more than 800 people living at the island currently. It is anticipated that the total number of people living at the island will increase above 1,500 with an increase of 400 rooms at the island.

Therefore, we request that the IWMC site be extended and construction work at the site is started. We have included the proposed layout for the site with this letter.

Signed by Shifag Hussain, President of V.Thinadhoo Island Council