



**Voluntary National Survey on the Implementation of the
Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA) in Asia and the Pacific**
(to inform the Asia-Pacific Fourth Review and Appraisal of the
Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing)

Background

This voluntary national survey will inform the Asia-Pacific Fourth Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing ([MIPAA](#))¹ to be organized by ESCAP in 2022.

MIPAA is the global guiding document on population ageing adopted at the Second World Assembly on Ageing, in 2002. It calls for regular and systematic reviews of MIPAA implementation by Member States. After three successful reviews at national, regional and global levels, the General Assembly, through resolution 75/152, took note of ECOSOC resolution 2020/8 and decided to hold the fourth review and appraisal of MIPAA at the global level at the sixty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2023.

Pursuant to ECOSOC resolution 2020/8, regional commissions were asked to facilitate the fourth review and appraisal at the regional levels by: (a) providing assistance to Member States in organizing national review and appraisal exercises; (b) organizing regional review meetings using an inclusive and coordinated approach in relation to the participation of civil society in the process; (c) assisting Member States in following up on analysis resulting from the regional reviews; (d) promoting networking and the sharing of information; (e) providing an analysis of the main findings and identifying priority areas and policy responses by 2022; and (f) assisting and providing advice to Governments in the gathering, synthesis and analysis of information, as well as in the presentation of the findings of national reviews.

The 2022 regional reviews and appraisals will feed into the 2023 global review and appraisal, including the 2023 reporting for the [United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing \(2021-2030\)](#). The Asia-Pacific voluntary national survey on the implementation of MIPAA is an integral part of the preparations for the Asia-Pacific Regional Review and Appraisal in 2022. The process consists of: (a) voluntary national surveys; (b) stakeholder consultations; (c) documentation; and (d) the intergovernmental meeting. For more information on the Asia-Pacific Regional Review and Appraisal, see: <https://www.population-trends-asiapacific.org/mipaa> (to be updated regularly).

Suggestions for completing the Asia-Pacific voluntary national survey on MIPAA implementation

The survey should be completed by ESCAP member States, through their national ageing focal points.² It is structured according to the MIPAA priority directions, issues and objectives.³ Some objectives have been merged to facilitate reporting. As MIPAA is a multi-dimensional framework, it is recommended that the national focal points complete the survey in consultation with ministries and departments involved with implementing the various MIPAA priority directions and objectives. The following guidelines are intended to assist member States in reporting on the national follow-up to MIPAA:

¹ Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

² In December 2020, ESCAP requested member States to nominate ageing focal points.

³ For a list of priority directions, issues and objectives of MIPAA, see the Annex.

1. A bottom-up participatory approach should be followed by inviting, inter alia, civil society, including organizations of older persons, to contribute to survey responses (ECOSOC 2020/8, OP5).
2. Gender perspectives should be mainstreamed when answering the questions.
3. Member States are encouraged to reflect on any national data collection initiatives for implementing the 2030 Agenda and related SDGs and report on the respective SDG indicator (relevant SDG indicators are listed along with the questions, when applicable).
4. Answers should focus and report on progress made during the period 2018–2022, (ECOSOC resolution 2020/8, OP3).
5. Answers may combine quantitative and participatory qualitative data and analysis, disaggregated by age, and by other relevant factors, including sex and disability, and, where appropriate, include sharing of good practices in such data collection (ECOSOC 2020/8, OP6).
6. Answers should include information on lessons learned and good practices to ensure this review and appraisal exercise contributes to South-South, North-South and triangular regional and international cooperation (GA resolution 75/152, OP39).
7. Ideally, countries should respond to all questions, but it is fully understood that, given the national context, they might not be able to do so.
8. Supporting documentation should be included, if possible.

The companion document attached to this survey provides explanations of some key terms.

The survey should be completed (and submitted/returned), together with relevant attachments by 31 October 2021, by email, to: escap-sdd@un.org or online at: <https://icts-surveys.unog.ch/index.php/974559?newtest=Y&lang=en>

Please indicate whether the completed survey may be posted on the public website of the Asia-Pacific Regional Review and Appraisal of MIPAA

Yes: No:

Please do not hesitate to contact escap-sdd@un.org should you have any questions.

A. Contact information

Please identify the office responsible for coordinating the responses to this survey and completing it and include its contact information.

Country Maldives	
Ministry/Office/Agency Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services	
Name contact persons (First and Last) [REDACTED]	Title/Position [REDACTED]
Name of ageing focal point (First and Last) [REDACTED]	
Email [REDACTED]	Telephone [REDACTED]
Mailing address [REDACTED]	

B. Methodology

What methodology was used to complete this survey? Was a bottom-up approach used to involve a variety of stakeholders? Was a whole-of-government approach used? (see also companion document) *please elaborate:* focus group meetings with key stakeholders, bottom-up approach and whole-of-government approach used

I. National policy and MIPAA implementation

Coordinating body

1	Does your country have a national coordinating body/committee/agency or national multi-stakeholder forum on population ageing and/or older persons? <i>If “yes”, please provide information on the following:</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Name of the coordinating body/committee/agency/national multi-stakeholder forum: <i>please elaborate:</i> National Committee on Healthy Ageing and Rights of Elderly		
1.2	Year of establishment: <i>please elaborate:</i> 2019		
1.3	Level (ministerial or other): <i>please elaborate:</i> Technical		
1.4	Functions: <i>please elaborate:</i> To monitor and provide technical support and guidance for the successful Implementation of National Elderly Action Plan (NEAP 2019-2023)		
1.5	Contact information, including mailing address, telephone/fax, email and website link: <i>please elaborate:</i> Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services, Sea Tracs Building, 7th floor, Male', Maldives, elderly@gender.gov.mv, www.gender.gov.mv)		

Definition of older persons

2	Please define “older persons” as used in official Government documents (e.g., legislation, census forms, etc.). <i>please elaborate:</i> Z (People who are at the age of 65 and above according to Census Maldives		
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National legislation, policies and action plans on older persons

3	Does your country have a dedicated legislation, policy and/or action plan to promote and improve the well-being of older persons and protect their rights, such as a “decree or law on older persons”?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1	If “yes”, for each of the following questions, please provide information on: (a) name of legislation, policy and/or action plan and year of enactment; (b) description of legislation, policy and/or action plan; (c) main achievements; and (d) financial and human resources allocated to implement. <i>but if “no”, please elaborate also:</i> a) National Elderly Policy, (b) The National Elderly Policy aims to address the socio-economic challenges faced by older persons, and to promote ways to ensure their protection, participation, and contribution as responsible members within families and communities while enjoying a high quality of life. (c) Awareness campaign on elder abuse and rights of elderly named, ‘Ranveyla’ has been successfully carried out in the islands of 6 atolls. In 2019 594 youths and 464 elderly participants joined these awareness sessions. In 2020 55 youths and 14 elderly took part in these sessions. And in 2021 76 youths and 121 elderly took part in these awareness sessions. These awareness sessions include topics on mental health, nutrition and healthy aging, financial literacy and pension. Work on establishing elderly homes in 2 regions (Male ‘and Addu City) is ongoing. Maldives’ National Grandparents Day was enacted and celebrated for		

	<p>the first time in 2019. It is celebrated since then every year with the main objective to encourage and foster a good relationship with grandparents and the younger generation, and to value and celebrate their contribution to the society. A ‘Bedridden program’ where home based health care services were started across Maldives in 2014. Between 2019 and 2021, this campaign has facilitated 93 home visits/monitoring for elderly bedridden patients.</p>		
3.1.1	<p>Have gender and disability concerns of older persons been explicitly addressed in the legislation, policy and/or action plan? <i>please elaborate:</i> A policy is developed exclusively for the elderly where gender and disability concerns are addressed, however, we don’t have any legislation which has addressed concerns of older persons explicitly. However, Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services reports that work is being carried out to enact the law on Elderly. A consultant has been hired to this and the first draft is planned to submit to Majlis in the first quarter of 2022.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.2	<p>Is there a monitoring framework for the implementation of the legislation, policy and/or action plan? <i>please elaborate:</i> The action plan gives a monitoring framework for implementation of the policy. The action plan will be renewed after the development of the law on elderly. However, since the Action plan was launched in November 2019, no monitoring has been done since the pandemic situation.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.3	<p>Are older persons and their organizations included in any monitoring activities of legislation, policy and/or action plan on older persons? <i>please elaborate:</i> there is an absence of such forums to engage older persons and their views during formulation of legislation, policy and action plans. However, it is worth noting that the existing limited NGOs working in the area of elderly are engaged in the activities that are run by Ministry of Gender Family and Social Services on Grandparents Day, World elder abuse awareness day and Older persons day. And these NGOs are given opportunities to promote their activities such as media interviews.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.4	<p>Does the Government foster effective consultation with, and involvement of, older persons and/or their representatives at the national, regional and local levels in designing policies? (SDG 16.7.2) <i>please elaborate:</i> According to Ministry of Gender, the 3 key NGOs currently actively working for this cause, and their views were considered when the policy was formulated. They have also been given the opportunity to represent their NGO at the Monitoring committee as well. Moreover, the Nationwide situational analysis of older persons is currently ongoing, and this would give a broader perspective of the current situation of Elderly in Maldives and the data will be considered while drafting the law on elderly, and enacting better policies.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.5	<p>Does the Government foster work and volunteering of younger and older persons in intergenerational settings? <i>please elaborate:</i> As the national policy on elderly came about two years back and with the pandemic a lot of governments initiatives are on hold. However, in the year 2019 Maldives celebrated the first ever National Grandparents Day, which was mainly focused on bridging the gaps between the youth and Elderly. In addition to this most of the activities</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

	conducted as a part of International Older Persons Day and Elder abuse awareness day also involves active participation from the youth and Elderly equally.		
3.1.6	Does the Government offer opportunities for intergenerational contact and exchange? <i>please elaborate:</i> As mentioned above National Grandparents Day was declared and celebrated for this reason and all activities that were held regarding marking days related to elderly were focused on fostering an intergenerational environment.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.1.7	Does the Government encourage the private sector and non-profit organizations to involve older persons in planning and design of goods and services? <i>please elaborate:</i> Yes. MoGFSS is trying to establish relationship with NGOs working for this target group and private sector collaboration. their opinions has being sought regarding the establishment of Elderly Home as well.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
3.2	If “no”, are there any efforts towards the development and adoption of such a legislation, policy and/or action plan? <i>please elaborate:</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Challenges to legislation/policies

4	In the development and implementation of legislation with a focus on older persons, has the Government encountered any of the following challenges? [1 = never, 2 = sometimes, 3 = always]			
Challenge	1	2	3	If answer 2 or 3, have you addressed the challenge? <i>please elaborate:</i>
4.1 Lack of human resources dedicated to population ageing issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	limited agencies work towards ageing with limited dedicated and trained human resources
4.2 Lack of financial resources dedicated to population ageing issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Limited Budget dedicated for this area.
4.3 Lack of data on older persons and/or population ageing at the national and/or subnational levels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data collection is expensive with limited capacity/resources
4.4 Lack of overall political support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other pressing issues take precedence when designing policies and dedication from government
4.5 Lack of cross-ministerial coordination on population ageing issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	overarching issue of lack of coordination among government sector and private sector partners affect the

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	limited agencies working in the area
4.6 Lack of international support and cooperation on population ageing issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited capacity to seek out international support
4.7 Lack of public awareness and understanding of population ageing issues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Limited budget and stakeholders to work. Information on issues faced by older person is limited. lack of data in the area creates gaps in designing interventions targeted at the issues
4.8 A bottom-up approach to population ageing not followed (e.g., involvement of older persons)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Limited stakeholders working directly with elderly
4.9 Misconceptions and stereotypes about population ageing and older persons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	unknown as information is limited on this
<p>4.10 Any other challenges (please name them)</p> <p><i>please elaborate:</i> In urban setting limited older people are visible in the community but in small island communities more people gather in parks and cafés. With any kind of health issues, even in small communities elderly stays home with low quality of life in all domains. Limited outreach services, home visits, nursing and social participation designed for older persons. Especially in urban settings such as Male' there is absence of community spaces and activities to ensure social interaction and participation of older persons in the community. No specific law targeting the elderly and their rights, and limited data on the situation of elderly which makes it difficult for policy makers to get an in-depth perception of their situation, moreover geographical challenges in data collection also makes it cumbersome.</p> <p>In addition to this as there is also lack of technical level human resource capacity in Maldives with regard to aging and age related matters making.</p>				

Priorities of MIPAA “issues”

5	<p>Which of the “issues” listed under the three priority directions of MIPAA has your Government prioritized (for a list of “issues”, see the Annex)?</p> <p><i>please elaborate:</i> older person development, advancing health and well being into old age and ensuring, enabling supportive environments are prioritized. . (1,2,3)</p>
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II. Older persons and development

Instruction: For the following questions, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan; (b) date of implementation and time frame; (c) its main elements; and (d) its main achievements. Please elaborate and please attach copies of relevant documents or provide their link.

Active participation

6	<p>Has the Government undertaken any measures to promote the active participation of older persons in society and in decision-making processes at all levels? (<i>SDG 5.b.1; SDG 11.3.2; SDG 17.8.1</i>) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Ministry of Gender Family and Social Services has initiated this by electing a key member from one of the NGO's working for elderly rights to be represented in the 'Rehendhi award' committee at the ministry. Rehendhi award is an award given by the Government for woman who have done notable work in different areas of work. however, much work is required to increase their participation in other forums and committees.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
7	<p>Has the Government taken measures to facilitate older persons' participation in physical activity? (<i>see also companion document</i>) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Communal parks and outdoor gyms are developed for the whole population which is also used by elderly. parks are especially in greater Male' area and in some islands. <i>In 2019, a training was conducted for 70 sports council officers at island level to train them to carry out physical activities and exercises targeting elderly. This was carried out in collaboration with Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment. A similar training is planned for this year as well. Moreover, through the Ranveyla campaign, information regarding active aging and importance of doing regular exercise will be given with demonstrations, at island level.</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
8	<p>Do older persons' organizations exist in your country? How many are active and what types of organizations are these? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i></p> <p><i>Aged care Maldives: Aged Care Maldives is a nonprofit organization that focuses on the needs of the senior populace and their families. Aged Care Maldives aims is to promote healthy aging, encourage elders to be contributing members of the community and to assist those in need to maintain their individuality.</i></p> <p><i>Dhivehi israhvehinge Jamiyya (Maldives Senior Citizens association): A non-profit organization working to create awareness on issues related to aging and elderly rights.</i></p> <p><i>G-Care Maldives: Nonprofit organization working for elderly rights and well-being. G care has an active group of members who are keen on teaching and sharing different skills and activities that elderly people can do at home. Before the pandemic G-Care was also actively providing transportation services for elderly people as well.</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
9	<p>Does the Government provide any financial, technical or policy support to these organizations? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Government at present does not provide any sustainable financial support for these organizations, however technical support and platforms are created</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

	<i>for these organizations to showcase their activities and increase public awareness.</i>		
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Work

10	Has the Government engaged in actions to support older persons' participation in income-generating work, as long as older persons want and are able to do so? (SDG 8.5.1; SDG 8.5.2) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: there is no law or regulation stating that older persons cannot engage in income-generating work, however, more targeted interventions are required to fully achieve this goal.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.1	Has the Government instituted a statutory retirement age? If "yes", what is it (women/men)? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Early retirement at age 55, and retirement at age 65 year for both men and women and they get monthly financial allowances afterwards for as long as they live.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.2	Does the Government provide incentives for longer working life opportunities and more flexible retirement choices? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: (YES) early voluntary retirement is allowed at age 55</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.3	Does the Government provide work-related training and learning opportunities for older workers? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: No data</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10.4	Does the Government recognize the benefits of increased work experience with age in the labour market? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: In 2021, government of Maldives has started giving nationwide recognition for those who has completed a certain time in working in government and private sector. They are given recognition and encouragement award.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.5	Has the Government implemented any measures to better utilize older persons' work experience? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: No data</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10.5.1	Has the Government implemented any measures to support employers to retain or rehire older persons? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: No data to support</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
10.5.2	Has the Government promoted age-friendly workplaces through policies and training on age inclusion or unconscious bias? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Through the 'Ranveyla' awareness program, sessions for youth are conducted with the focus on eliminating these unconscious biases and age-related discrimination. However there is no such policy specifically targeting work places.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.6	Has the Government undertaken measures to close gender pay or pension gaps? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: No pension gaps as such as everyone above 65 is eligible for same amount of pension.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10.7	In addition to closing the gender pay or pension gap, has the Government accounted for the special situation of older women in work-related policies?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

	<i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: As mentioned above, all citizens above the age of 65 will be eligible for basic pension of MVR 5000/- (\$324.25).</i>		
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Rural and urban areas

11	<p>Has the Government implemented any measures to address challenges, such as isolation and marginalization, of older persons in (a) rural or remote areas, and (b) urban areas, including slums? (SDG 9.1.1; SDG 11.1.1)</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: With the challenges that comes with Maldives being a geographically dispersed country, Ministry of Gender Family and Social Services has its presence at Atoll level with Family Children Service Centers (FCSC), these centers play a key role in catering to the needs of Vulnerable people in rural and isolated communities, However, due to the limited budget, FCSC's are not able to fully cater to the needs of older people at risk in all islands. Between 2018 and 2021, 270 elderly abuse cases have been reported to Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services. It is noted that males were more among the victims.</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Education, training

12	<p>Has the Government supported older persons' access to knowledge, education and training? (SDG 4.3.1; SDG 4.4.1; SDG 4.6.1)</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: One off projects such as digital literacy with Ooredoo Maldives, which was a program by Ooredoo Maldives where they were teaching older people how to use basic digital devices. Moreover Ministry of Gender Family and Social Services has also advocated and has had discussions with Ministry of Higher Education to remove the age related restrictions that are seen in trainings and scholarship offers.</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
12.1	<p>Does the Government pursue a life-course approach to knowledge, education, training and work, such as lifelong learning opportunities?</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: No data</i></p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
12.2	<p>Has the Government undertaken measures to promote digital literacy among older persons? Are there any programmes which encourage and support intergenerational exchange on digital literacy?</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: As mentioned above Ministry has had discussions and has advocated to remove the age related barriers and restriction in the education system.</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Income security, social protection (intergenerational)

13	<p>Has the Government implemented any of the following measures concerning income security, social protection and social security? (SDG 1.3.1; SDG 1.a.2; SDG 2.3.2; SDG 8.3.1; SDG 8.10.2; SDG 10.2.1)</p> <p><i>If yes, please answer 13.1 – 13.8</i> <i>If no, please proceed to 14</i> <i>please elaborate with data as appropriate: for social protection and social security, National Social Protection Agency provides universal</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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	<p><i>National Social Protection Agency implements the programs under the Act. This includes disability allowance, single parent allowance, foster parent allowance, and staple food assistance program as monthly cash transfers to the beneficiaries. This is non-contributory to National Health Care Scheme 'Asandha' for all Maldivian citizens and contributory and non-contributory to the pension scheme of elderly. Pension Income Support is provided for people who are above 65 years of age by the Maldives Pension Administration Office.</i></p>		
13.1	<p>Social protection floor for the total population, including older persons (see also companion document) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Domestic Violence Act 3/2012 prohibits violence that occurs in a domestic setting, however, it doesn't state older person's rights or doesn't mention anywhere on how they will be protected.</i> <i>The National Social Protection Agency (NSPA) was established in 2011 with the enactment of National Social Health Insurance Act in 2011 which provides legal framework for ensuring universal health insurance coverage for all citizens. Although this ensures that older persons above the age of 65 receives financial allowances, it doesn't necessarily ensure social protection of elderly and their rights. Social Protection Act 2/2014, although provide some measures to support the vulnerables in the community doesn't specify older persons and the support they might receive.</i> <i>Education is provided free from kindergarten to Higher Secondary level which ensures education for all and prevents children from not attending to school due to financial reasons.</i> <i>Basic income security for older persons is covered by the non-contributory old age basic pensions (for all persons above 65 years of age) and contributory to retirement pension scheme of Maldives. The government is also working on implementing an unemployment insurance program through Ministry of Economic Development.</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
13.2	<p>Old age contributory pensions schemes (universal coverage, or for specific professional groups) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Retirement pension scheme is applicable to all citizens above the age of 65 years</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
13.3	<p>Old-age non-contributory (or social) pension (universal coverage or targeted at some segment of older persons) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Maldives Pension Act 8/2009 specifies that everyone above 65 will receive pension. at present the amount provided is MRF 5000 monthly</i></p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
13.4	<p>Specific pension schemes for the informal sector <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: all citizens are eligible under the pension irrespective of whether they work in private or government sector</i></p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13.5	<p>Other income-support schemes that specifically benefit older persons <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: no data</i></p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13.6	<p>Income-support schemes focused on older women <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i></p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
13.7	<p>Financial inclusion or financial literacy of older persons</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

	<i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Through 'Ranveyla Campaign' Maldives Pension Administration provides information related to the basic pension scheme and financial literacy		
13.8	Any other measures (please name them)? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Poverty

14	Has the Government undertaken measures to eradicate poverty of older persons? (SDG 1.1.1; SDG 1.2.1; SDG 1.2.2; SDG 1.4.1; SDG 1.4.2; SDG 2.1.2) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> One of the key reasons to establish the basic pension scheme was to help the vulnerable elderly population, As mentioned above everyone above 65 of age in the Maldives will be eligible for the basic pension scheme where they will be getting a monthly allowance of MVR5000/-	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Resilience

15	Has the Government implemented policies to help older persons cope with emergency situations? (SDG 11.5.1; 13.2.1) <i>If yes, please answer 15.1 – 15.4</i> <i>If no, please proceed to 16</i> <i>please elaborate with data as appropriate:</i> National Disaster management center has policies with regard however there is no such policy specifically targeting older people.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
15.1	Have concrete measures been taken to protect and assist older persons affected by natural disasters, political conflict or other humanitarian emergencies? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> As mentioned above National Disaster Management has special policies to be followed at times if Disasters and Emergencies, however it is there is no special policy for elderly.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15.2	Are challenges faced by older persons in disaster situations addressed in national disaster response policies and strategies? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Since no policies were there to address the needs of older people in the covid 19 situation the response was somewhat reactive rather than being proactive, however with the increase in cases in Male' region and Atolls 'haalubelun' was introduced in collaboration with Health Protection Authority and volunteers were doing checkups on the elderly via phone, and assisting to their needs. They were able to contact via phone to 1500 elderly residing in Male'.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15.3	Does the Government recognize the agency of older persons in supporting response, recovery and reconstruction following natural disasters, political conflict or other humanitarian emergencies? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Not at the moment. And there is no legislation suggesting or encouraging Government to do so.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
15.4	Are older persons recognized as having a role in mitigating climate change? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

III. Advancing health and well-being into old age

Instruction: For the following questions, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan; (b) its time frame; (c) its main elements; and (d) its main achievements. Please supply details of and links to relevant documents or attach copies of them.

Overall health and well-being

16	Has the Government developed policies or programmes to promote health and well-being throughout life, including active and healthy ageing? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> National elderly policy was enacted along with the action plan. Moreover, as mentioned above ministry has also launched a nationwide campaign on health aging called ‘Ranveyla’ where the main aim is to raise awareness on healthy aging and age related issues.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
16.1	Has the Government strengthened the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol among older persons? (SDG 3.5.1; SDG 3.5.2) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Government has not established successful strategies to combat substance use issue in the country. Lack of proper treatment facilities and aftercare services is noticed.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
16.2	Has the Government implemented any measures to improve access to food and adequate nutrition for all older persons, if needed? (SDG 2.1.2; SDG 6.1.1) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Data on general population included where SDG 6.1.1 is achieved in the Maldives. however, there is no strategies in place to ensure food security for older persons.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

17	Are issues related to older persons integrated into health policies and programmes, and, if so, how? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Included under health act. Health care services for bedridden elderly are provided by the health care facilities in both the capital and island level.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Health-care and long-term care services

18	Has the Government undertaken any of the following measures related to universal and equal access to health-care services for older persons? (SDG 3.8.1; SDG 3.8.2; SDG 3.b.3) <i>If yes, please answer 18.1 – 18.4</i> <i>If no, please proceed to 19</i> <i>please elaborate with data as appropriate:</i> Since Universal Health coverage is offered by National Social Health Insurance Scheme, elderly population is accessible to free health care. Further, a pharmacy is present in every inhabited island of the Maldives to provide medicine through this scheme.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
18.1	Equal and affordable access to primary and secondary health-care services, including affordable access to essential medication, therapeutic measures and medical devices for older persons <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Same as above	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

18.2	Health coverage (universal coverage or targeted at some segment of older persons): (a) population coverage; (b) benefit coverage; and (c) financial coverage) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Eventhough Maldive has a UHC - total population is covered, some of the needed services for older persons are not accessible in the islands and the finacial coverage does not include the transport/accomodation to a higher level of facility when needed. Transport and medical treatment is provided by Asandha during medical emergencies for everyone.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
18.3	Involvement of older persons in the development and strengthening of health-care services? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> No data or resources suggesting that older persons are involved in the development and strengthening of health-care services.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
18.4	Digital technology to promote inclusive health-care services <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> ?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19	Has the Government put in place any of the following long-term care measures for older persons? <i>If yes, please answer 19.1 – 19.7</i> <i>If no, please proceed to 20</i> <i>please elaborate with data as appropriate and proceed:</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
19.1	Long-term care services for older persons <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Basic health care service are accessible for all. Bedridden home visit services are also done in all islands, as mentioned above.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
19.2	Coordination of social and long-term care and health services, including in-home, residential and community services <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> In order to this need ministry has initiated the establishment of elderly homes in 2 regions (Male' and Addu City) of Maldives. Currently work on establishing an elderly residential home along with a day care facility is underway in the southern region of Maldives. The elderly day care facility is partially funded by the Asian Development Bank and the residential facility is funded by the Government. The land area for Addu Elderly Home has been confirmed, the home will include a residential facility and a day care facility. The main aim of this day care component is to ease the caregiver burden which is mostly on women. This home is funded by the Government of Maldives. This home is planned to open in 2023. Elderly Home in Male' region was supposed to be located in Hulhumale' initially, however, the land that was allocated for this purpose didn't meet the requirements and is at a halt at the moment.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
19.3	Health insurance schemes that cover long-term care costs <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> National Social Health Insurance Scheme	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
19.4	Long-term care costs covered by a separate insurance scheme <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> National Social Health Insurance Scheme covers long-term care as well	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
19.5	Geriatric and gerontological planning and training for health and social care providers	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

	<p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Currently ministry is working with Maldives polytechnic and WHO Maldives to develop a curriculum to conduct a level 2 and 3 course on elderly care. This course would also target those health care workers and caregivers currently working at the Home for People with Special Needs (HSPN). The modules and curriculum has been drafted and will be sent to Maldives Qualification Authority during the first quarter of 2022. These courses are scheduled to start after the approval from Maldives Qualification Authority.</p> <p>Moreover, this would also be an opportunity for those who are currently taking care of a bedridden elderly and who needs basic knowledge on elderly care. Ministry has also had close discussions with the Higher education to provide opportunities for scholarships in these areas. (See attached file with the draft)</p>		
19.6	<p>Involvement of older persons in the development and strengthening of long-term care services</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> As mentioned above ministry has had close interactions with the key NGOs working for elderly rights. All the NGO's are given a key role in the discussions following the establishment of the residential home.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
19.7	<p>Any other measures (please name them)?</p> <p><i>Please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i></p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Integration of health and social care services

20	<p>Has the Government undertaken measures to develop mechanisms for coordinating health and social care services for older persons?</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> As part of the Bedridden program, home based health care services are being provided to the bedridden elderly in collaboration with Ministry of Health. Public can request for this service and Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services carries out an initial assessment together with Dhamanaveshi (in Male') and Hulhumale Hospital. In the atolls this assessment is done with the help from Health Centers and Island Council Offices. MoGFSS plays a monitoring role and Ministry of Health delivers the health care services.</p> <p>In the Male' region ministry plays a monitoring role in these cases, and ministry also provides social support for these families. Moreover Home for People with Special Needs (HPSN) caters to the needs of elderly at state care.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Monitoring of health care services

21	<p>Has the Government undertaken measures to establish standards and monitoring mechanisms to ensure the quality of older persons' care services?</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Not all the health care services are monitored by the ministry of gender family and social</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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	services, however those bedridden elderly who are registered at the ministry will be monitored regularly, and a monitoring framework is established at the ministry. Public can request for this service by submitting a form to MoGFSS.		
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Discrimination in access to health-care services

22	Has the Government undertaken actions to record and prevent discrimination on the basis of age in access to health services including access to providers, medicines and preventive measures? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Healthcare act provide ways to record and prevent discrimination	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Mental health services

23	Has the Government implemented measures to enhance mental health services for older persons related to dementia or other psychosocial disabilities? (SDG 3.4.2) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Some mental health services are covered under National Social Health Insurance Scheme. Mental health services are provided freely at Center for Mental Health at Indira Gandhi Memorial Hospital located in Male' for all age groups. Which is the only tertiary facility which caters to the mental health needs of the whole nation. Psychiatrists are available at some regional hospitals but they are not established mental health services hence there is a delay in accessing to services. Home for People with Special Needs houses elderly patients who are looked after by state care. Although medical treatment is provided in HPSN, there is lack of structured program and measures to engage elderly in daily activities of living.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Support to older persons with disabilities

24	Has the Government undertaken measures to support older persons with disabilities, such as the provision of rehabilitation services, appropriate care and the provision of assistive technologies and social transfers, like disability allowances? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Disability allowance is provided to all registered persons with disabilities (irrespective of age). Financial assistance for therapeutic services for registered persons with disabilities as well as financial assistance for assistive devices is provided by National Social Protection Agency.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Decade of Healthy Ageing

25	Is the Government implementing any follow-up actions related to the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021–2030), ⁴ such as a national action plan? (see also companion document) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> National policy and action plan has been enacted.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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IV. Ensuring enabling and supportive environments

⁴ General Assembly resolution 75/131 of 14 December 2020.

Instruction: For the following questions, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan; (b) its time frame; (c) its main elements; and (d) its main achievements. Please elaborate and either link to or attach copies of relevant documents.

Housing and living environment

26	Has the Government undertaken any of the following measures with regard to the housing and living environment of older persons and their families? (SDG 11.2.1; SDG 11.7.1) <i>If yes, please answer 26.1 – 26.4</i> <i>If no, please proceed to 27</i> <i>please elaborate with data as appropriate:</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26.1	Promotion, safeguarding and ensuring the right to housing and shelter for older persons <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> no data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26.2	Promotion of “ageing in place”, such as the promotion of affordable public housing with age-friendly and accessible housing design or multigenerational housing options (see also companion document) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Elderly population is not eligible to apply for social housing schemes.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
26.3	Improved availability of accessible and affordable transportation to improve older persons’ mobility <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> The government offers free transportation for elderly (above 65 years of age) in the Male’ region and also in regions where the government transport services such as buses and ferries are available.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
26.4	Universal design in public buildings, areas and transportation (see also companion document) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Somewhat considered, but no data	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Caregiving

27	Has the Government undertaken measures to support formal and informal caregivers of older persons, including training programmes, accreditation and pay? (SDG 5.4.1) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> As mentioned above ministry is working closely with the Polytechnic Maldives to develop short term courses and trainings for care givers on elderly care.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Family support

28	Has the Government undertaken measures to support women and families who often take care of older persons? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> As mentioned above a day care facility for elderly is being established under ADB funding in Addu Atoll, this project is being carried out with the broader imitative of Gender equality. As most of the caretakers of elderly are women, establishment of the day care would aid in minimizing the burden on these women.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Integration of older migrants

29	Has the Government implemented measures facilitating the integration of older migrants within their new communities, including: (SDG 10.7.2; SDG 10.7.4) (see also companion document) If yes, please answer 29.1 – 29.3 If no, please proceed to 30 please elaborate with data as appropriate:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29.1	Older migrant workers returning to countries of origin after lifetimes of overseas employment please elaborate with data, as appropriate: No data	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29.2	Older persons returning home to rural areas after having spent their working life in urban areas please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Not applicable	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
29.3	Refugees, internally displaced people or stateless persons please elaborate with data, as appropriate:	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Neglect, abuse and violence

30	Has the Government:		
30.1	Addressed neglect, abuse and violence against older persons? (SDG 5.2.1; SDG 5.2.2; SDG 11.7.2; SDG 16.1.3; SDG 16.1.4) please elaborate with data, as appropriate: The domestic violence act, Family law, Social protection act, covers the areas related to abuse, violence and neglect of older people. Ministry of Gender Family and Social Services also has a Hotline (1421) to report such cases. Moreover the law on elderly is also being drafted to specifically address these.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
30.2	Put in place any services for victims of elder abuse, neglect and violence, including training of care and social service professionals, family members and older persons? please elaborate with data, as appropriate: Yes as per the ministry's mandate social protection will be provided to all vulnerable elderly people and a social worker will be allocated to manage the case and provide the immediate social protection	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Public recognition and ageing with dignity

31	Has the Government undertaken measures to enhance public recognition of older persons with regard to their authority, autonomy, self-determination, wisdom, productivity and contributions to society? (SDG 10.3.1; SDG 16.7.1; SDG 17.18.1) please elaborate with data, as appropriate: National award of recognition is given for the elderly with regard to their respective field	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
32	Has the Government undertaken measures to protect older persons' dignity and enjoyment of all human rights, including to address and eliminate 'ageism' and age-based discrimination? (see also companion document) please elaborate with data, as appropriate: 'Ranveyla campaign' plays a major role in eliminating such discrimination and raising awareness with regard to this. Moreover the law on elderly would also be beneficial in terms of eliminating these issues.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

33	Has the Government undertaken measures to recognize and support exercise of legal capacity of older persons, such as supported decision-making? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Information, innovation and technology

34	Has the Government put in place mechanisms to improve the availability and accessibility of information specifically for older persons? (SDG 9.c.1) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Information is disseminated through various programs and campaigns. But this is not under any regulation hence enforcement is poor across sectors.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
35	Has the Government fostered development of any innovative methods and services in support of older persons, such as user- and age-friendly technology and products? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

V. Data

Instruction: For the following questions, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan; (b) its time frame; (c) its main elements; and (d) its main achievements. Please elaborate and either link or attach copies of relevant documents.

Lack of ageing-related data and research

36	Is the lack of ageing-related data and research a matter of concern for your Government? If so: (a) what data and research are needed; and (b) how are you addressing these concerns? (SDG 17.18.1; SDG 17.18.2; SDG 17.18.3; SDG 17.19.1; SDG 17.19.2) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Data specific to older persons are not generated but data available for general public - eg: access to water and sanitation situational analysis and assessment of elderly is underway and this would give a better perspective into the challenges faced by the elderly.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
37	Has the Government undertaken any efforts in data collection activities, including at the national and subnational levels, to disaggregate data by age and sex, with age groups disaggregated beyond 50+ or 60+(e.g., Household Social and Economic Survey, National Transfer Accounts)? (see also companion document) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES) and most of the national surveys given data disaggregation by age. Pension administration Maldives also has a database with segregated data on population above 65.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

National surveys

38	Has there been: (a) a stand-alone national survey focusing on population ageing or older persons; or (b) inclusion of specific modules	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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	on older persons or population ageing into national surveys, such as a National Survey on Older Persons, or DHS, since 2017? If so, please provide: (a) the name of the survey; (b) its focus; (c) the name(s) of the responsible ministries, agencies and institutions; and (d) relevant links. <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> a) Nationwide Assessment on the situation of Elderly Population b) status of elderly c) Ministry of Gender Family Social Service d) This is survey done by MoGFSS to analyze the situation of elderly in Maldives. This is done under WHO funding. Villa College of Maldives has been hired to conduct the survey. The final report of this survey is planned to be submitted by end of February 2022.		
39	Is there any longitudinal data on older persons collected with a focus on their health, and social and economic situation? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> However, Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2019 and national surveys collect age disaggregated data. However, this survey is not focused on their health and social and economic situation.	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Titchfield Group⁵

40	Is the Government active in the Titchfield Group on Ageing-related Statistics and Age-disaggregated Data? If so, how does the Government contribute to the group? (<i>see also companion document</i>) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> None	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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VI. COVID-19 and older persons

Instruction: For the following questions, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy and/or action plan; (b) its time frame; (c) its main elements; and (d) its main achievements. Please elaborate and either link to or attach copies of relevant documents.

Effects of COVID-19 on older persons

41	Were hospitalizations and death rates among older persons in 2020 and 2021 higher than for the general population, or as compared with previous long-term observations? (<i>please provide age and sex disaggregated statistics and their sources</i>) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Ministry of Health Data	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
42	Have older persons been affected socially and economically? How? (please provide any statistical evidence disaggregated by age and sex) <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> no data available	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Government response to COVID-19

43	Did the Government put policies or measures in place that addressed the impact of COVID-19 on older persons with regard to the following issues: (<i>SDG 3.b.1</i>) <i>If yes, please answer 43.1 – 43.5</i> <i>If no, please proceed to 44</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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⁵ The creation of the Titchfield City Group on Ageing and Age-disaggregated statistics was mandated by United Nations Statistical Commission resolution 49/118 in 2018 to contribute to identifying gaps and establishing international standards and methods for the compilation of statistics and data on the major of dimensions related to ageing and age-disaggregated data across the life course. For further information, see <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/49th-session/documents/Report-on-the-49th-session-E.pdf>

	<i>Please elaborate with data as appropriate: Priority was given to older people during Covid19 vaccination</i>		
43.1	Access to health-care services (both usual services and COVID-19 tests) <i>please indicate when the measure was put in place and elaborate with data, as appropriate: Asandha covers all medical expenses for everyone. Special priorities were given to older people to get vaccinated and for treatment.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
43.2	Protection of older persons' higher vulnerabilities to COVID-19 (e.g., isolating nursing homes, home delivery of medicine or food, etc.) <i>please indicate when the measure was put in place and elaborate with data, as appropriate: Isolation, home delivery of food and healthcare was provided to all population groups but no specific treatment of older persons</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
43.3	Economic conditions (e.g., employment, income maintenance, immediate assistance) <i>please indicate when the measure was put in place and elaborate with data, as appropriate: Income support was given for households, but it was not specifically for elderly people.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
43.4	Social situation (e.g., loneliness, social isolation, stress)? <i>please indicate when the measure was put in place and elaborate with data, as appropriate: A program named 'Haalubelun' was implemented where calls were made to identified vulnerable older persons during Covid19 response.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
43.5	Prioritized access to COVID-19 vaccines <i>please indicate when the measure was put in place and elaborate with data, as appropriate: Priority was given to older people during Covid19 vaccination</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Good practices/lessons learned in Government response to COVID-19

44	Are there any good practices and lessons learned from the above-mentioned policies and/or measures, including expanding participation of older persons? <i>Please give examples: Key gaps in service delivery was identified during these times, like digital literacy among older people. As during the lockdown there were many elderly people who needed help with doing basic tasks like using digital devices to order basic necessities and paying to those digitally. Since they had no prior knowledge on these, this was a challenge that they faced during the covid 19 times.</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Coordination of services for COVID-19 response

45	Has the Government implemented measures to improve the coordination of primary health care, long-term care, social services and community-based services for older persons in order to ensure a continuum of care and support during the COVID-19 pandemic? <i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate: PHC home visits - Mobile medical response team, HECO records and presentation, online support 'Haalubelun'</i>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Long-term measures

46	<p>Once the pandemic has subsided, do you intend to maintain any measures that were implemented to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on older persons?</p> <p><i>please elaborate with data, as appropriate:</i> Online support 'Haalubelun' Online support 'Haalubelun' financial literacy, online services, continued.</p>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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VII. Other issues

47. How has the Government designed and/or implemented measures for the pre-ageing population (future older persons) in the following aspects: (a) work; (b) income security; (c) health; and (d) participation. (*open-ended question; please limit response to 750 words*).
- Policy on older persons was gazetted in 2017, it details rights of older persons interms of right to work, right to health, right to participate in the community and income security. However, strategies or activities has not been carried out since the endorsement of policy to ensure that these rights are attained.
- An action plan was created in 2019 with a monitoring framework, however this was not carried out due to challenges faced during the pandamic. Ministry of Gender Family and Social Services plans to pursue this action plan forward.
- A home for people with disability is established in K. Guraidhoo, where people who come under state care for different purposes are kept. Human Rights Commission of the Maldives has highlighted the importance of having regular structured activities in this facility several times, however, less has been achieved.
- Lack of day homes or communal spaces dedicated for older persons create social isolation and increases vulnerability of older persons. Attached please find the policy on elderly.

Ranveyla Campaign

The Ministry of Gender & Family has launched a nation-wide awareness campaign in August 2016 by the name of “Ranveyla” which translates to “Golden Age” and targets the well-being of senior citizens.

Initially the program included a Training program for public health and social workers at island level, which was focused on building their capacity in catering to the needs of senior citizens that require assistance and support. As part of the program, health screening programmes were carried out for senior citizens, to detect health issues requiring further medical interventions.

In 2018, the campaign was re-launched with a change in approach, which includes awareness sessions for senior citizens on healthy aging, nutrition, exercise and mental health. The program is now being carried out with assistance from Maldives Pension Administration Office and information regarding the pension schemes for elderly as also disseminated through the program.

The Program also focused on providing information to caregivers of older people, especially bedridden older people, by providing basic health and mental health related information. Moreover, information regarding protective measures and report any form of abuse related to elderly are also provided within these interactive sessions.

In addition to this, the program also includes awareness sessions targeting Youth, to bridge the inter-generational gap between the elderly population and youth. These sessions promote interaction between youth and senior citizens, encourage youth to treat elderly with respect, and help create conditions for senior citizens to participate in and contribute to societal development.

Home visit program for elderly

In 2015, the Government introduced a “Home-visit Program for Bedridden Persons to ensure that older bedridden persons are able to access adequate health care from their own homes. This program focuses on providing basic health care services for bedridden patients above 65 years of age across the country.

Registered bedridden elderly persons under the program receive the benefit of home visits by medical professionals, and are provided with basic medical care and counselling if and when necessary.

As of 2021, total 77 patients are receiving regular health checkups through this program in the Male’ region. They have identified 1215 bedridden patients in 8 atolls in the country islands

48. Would you like to highlight any other issues related to the main challenges and opportunities of population ageing/older persons in your country since the adoption of MIPAA in 2002? Are there any lessons learned or good practices you would like to share? (*open-ended question; please limit response to 750 words*).

Challenges are many, lack of data and information on the hurdles faced by older persons, lack of specialised geriatric services, lack of nursing care and home services.

There is only 2 NGO's working with older persons. Aged care facilitate nursing home care for a fee and G-care provides voluntary services such as regular contacts over phone, support with shopping and creates social gathering opportunities for older persons. The works of these NGO's needs to be supported and strengthened so that can make their services accessible to a larger population or can be widespread. Government should create opportunities to work collaboratively with these NGO's and work collaboratively to combat issues faced by older persons. (3 NGOs)

49. Is the Government engaged in any regional cooperation on matters related to “population ageing”, including the sharing of experiences in the implementation of MIPAA among ESCAP member States and/or engagement with ASEAN (where applicable) on the implementation of the 2015 Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Ageing (*open-ended question; please limit response to 750 words*).

THANK YOU!

SAMPLE RESPONSE

I. Older persons and development

For the following questions, please provide: (a) the name of the legislation, policy or action plan; (b) date of implementation and time frame; (c) its main elements; and (d) its main achievements. Please elaborate and attach copies of relevant documents or provide links to them.

Education, training

12	<p>Has the Government supported older persons' access to knowledge, education and training? (SDG 4.3.1; SDG 4.4.1; SDG 4.6.1)</p> <p><i>In 2012, the Government of XX adopted the Older Persons' Decree which established that older persons have a right to lifelong learning (see: www.xxx.gov). The 3rd National Plan on Older Persons (2012–2020) requested that the Ministry of Education, through public universities and schools, offers free continuing education programmes for persons, 60 years or older. Older women and persons with disabilities will be given priority if demand for such programmes is greater than supply ...</i></p> <p><i>For SDG 4.3.1, the latest data from the National Statistical Office show that as of 2020 (June), 85 per cent of youth (15-24 years) at the national level were in formal education in the previous 12 months (see: www.xxx.gov)</i></p> <p><i>For SDG 4.4.1, country XX has not collected any data; however, it has included a question on this in its 2022 population and housing census.</i></p> <p><i>As of May 2021, according to the Ministry of Education (2019–2020 Annual Report of the Ministry of Education, see: www.mineducation.gov), 5 out of 20 public universities offer tuition-free continuing education programmes (3-months during the summer and fall semesters) to older persons. About 250 persons 60 years or older are enrolled in such programmes and are taking courses in architecture, literature and business administration. About 75 per cent of the “older students” are women.</i></p> <p><i>Since 2015, the City of XX and the City of YY in Country AA, have partnered with the City of ZZ in Country BB and are offering an exchange programme for older persons studying at their local universities. Since its inception in October 2015, 66 older persons have participated in the exchange programme and older persons of both countries have praised the exchange programme highly. The City of XX is exploring to expand the exchange programme to other countries and intends to make the programme intergenerational, something participates favoured.</i></p> <p>...</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Reference is made to legislative mandates, with links to websites.</p> <p>Policies, programmes focusing on women or persons with disabilities are highlighted.</p> <p>Make specific reference to data on SDG indicators; where data are lacking, highlight this as well and indicate what has been done to address the lack of data</p> <p>Concrete evidence is listed, including with reference to the source of the data.</p> <p>Examples of good practice and lessons learned are listed.</p> <p>Qualitative and quantitative evidence is combined.</p>
a	<p>Does the Government pursue a life-course approach to knowledge, education, training and work, such as lifelong learning opportunities?</p> <p>...</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
b	<p>Has the Government undertaken measures to promote digital literacy among older persons? Are there any programmes which encourage and support intergenerational exchange on digital literacy?</p> <p>...</p>	<p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>

Annex: Priority directions, issues and objectives of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing⁶

Priority Direction	Issue	Objective	
Older persons and development	1. Active participation in society and development	1. Recognition of the social, cultural, economic and political contribution of older persons	
		2. Participation of older persons in decision-making processes at all levels	
	2. Work and the ageing labour force	1. Employment opportunities for all older persons who want to work	
		3. Rural development, migration and urbanization	1. Improvement of living conditions and infrastructure in rural areas
			2. Alleviation of the marginalization of older persons in rural areas
	4. Access to knowledge, education and training	3. Integration of older migrants within their new communities	
		1. Equality of opportunity throughout life with respect to continuing education, training and retraining as well as vocational guidance and placement services	
	5. Intergenerational solidarity	2. Full utilization of the potential and expertise of persons of all ages, recognizing the benefits of increased experience with age	
		1. Strengthening of solidarity through equity and reciprocity between generations	
	6. Eradication of poverty	1. Reduction of poverty among older persons	
7. Income security, social protection/social security and poverty prevention	1. Promotion of programmes to enable all workers to acquire basic social protection/social security, including, where applicable, pensions, disability insurance and health benefits		
	2. Sufficient minimum income for all persons, paying particular attention to socially and economically disadvantaged groups		
8. Emergency situations	1. Equal access by older persons to food, shelter and medical care and other services during and after natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies		
	2. Enhanced contributions of older persons to the re-establishment and reconstruction of communities and the rebuilding of the social fabric following emergencies		
Advancing health and well-being into old age	1. Health promotion and well-being throughout life	1. Reduction of the cumulative effects of factors that increase the risk of disease and consequently potential dependence in older age	
		2. Development of policies to prevent ill health among older persons	
		3. Access to food and adequate nutrition for all older persons	
	2. Universal and equal access to health-care services	1. Elimination of social and economic inequalities based on old age or any other ground, including linguistic barriers, to ensure that older persons have universal and equal access to health care	
2. Development and strengthening of primary health-care services to meet the needs of older persons and promote their inclusion in the process			

⁶ Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

		3. Development of a continuum of health care to meet the needs of older persons
		4. Involvement of older persons in the development and strengthening of primary and long-term care services
	3. Older persons and HIV/AIDS ⁷	1. Improvement in the assessment of the impact of HIV/AIDS on the health of older persons, both for those who are infected and for those who are caregivers for infected or surviving family members
		2. Provision of adequate information, training in caregiving skills, treatment, medical care and social support to older persons living with HIV/AIDS and their caregivers
		3. Enhancement and recognition of the contribution of older persons to development in their role as caregivers for children with chronic diseases, including HIV/AIDS, and as surrogate parents
	4. Training of care providers and health professionals	1. Provision of improved information and training for health professionals and paraprofessionals on the needs of older persons
	5. Mental health needs of older persons	1. Development of comprehensive mental health-care services ranging from prevention to early intervention, the provision of treatment services and the management of mental health problems in older persons
	6. Older persons with disabilities	1. Maintenance of maximum functional capacity through the life course and promotion of the full participation of older persons with disabilities
Ensuring enabling and supportive environments	1. Housing and the living environment	1. Promotion of “ageing in place” in the community with due regard to individual preferences and affordable housing options for older persons
		2. Improvement in housing and environmental design to promote independent living by taking into account the needs of older persons, in particular those with disabilities
		3. Improved availability of accessible and affordable transportation for older persons
	2. Care and support for caregivers	1. Provision of a continuum of care and services for older persons from various sources and support for caregivers
		2. Support the caregiving of older persons, particularly older women
	3. Neglect, abuse and violence	1. Elimination of all forms of neglect, abuse and violence of older
		2. Creation of support services to address elder abuse
	4. Images of ageing	1. Enhancement of public recognition of the authority, wisdom, productivity and other important contributions of older persons

⁷ This issue has not been addressed in the survey.