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SECRETARIAT OF THE VAADHOO COUNCIL,

NORTH MAALHOSMADULU,

VAADHOO- REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

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Why Invest?

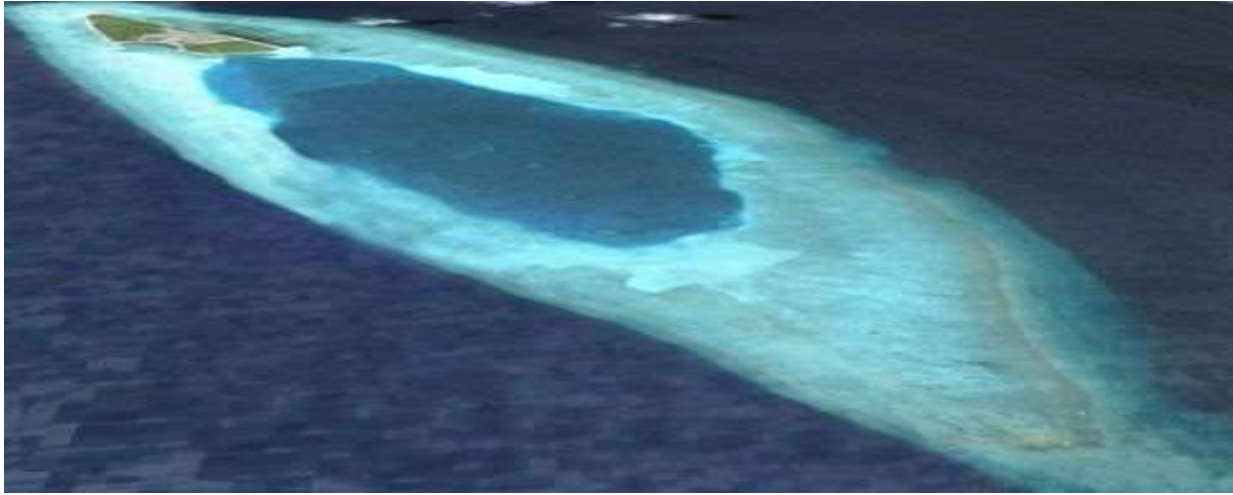
Sustainable investment opportunities with promising outcome.



Vaadhoo is one of the unique islands in Raa Atoll which is located on a massive coral reef containing vast area of shallow lagoon, spreading 3.41 mile from North to South and 0.75 miles from East to West. The size of the reef is 518 Hector and it has potential to develop large scale tourism related activities including water sports facilities and fishing. Average depth of the shallow lagoon is 2 to 3.5 meters which can easily be converted into dry lands for additional investments. If the shallow lagoon can be reclaimed, the reef has potential to accommodate a large population combined with multiple businesses.

The huge reef of Vaadhoo has potential for development of various industries in its boundaries. The surrounding of the Vaadhoo reef is rich with marine life. The shallow lagoon covering bright sandy bottoms under the crystal clear water are the most amazing places in Vaadhoo.

In addition, it has a deep lagoon of 155 Hector, which can either be used for aquaculture or as a natural safe harbor for Safaris or tourism related activities. The average depth of the deep lagoon varies from 30 to 60 feet.



The land capacity of the island is 44 hectors however, only 40% of the total land area is currently occupied. The remaining lands are available for multiple investment opportunities. The land can be used for large scale agriculture, animal harvesting, fish processing or for other commercial activities. Lands are also available for fiberglass works, boat building, oil supply, large scale wholesale warehousing ect.



The island has two natural sand banks (locally named 'Thundi') at the two corners of the island. The Thundi is a very famous picnic area across the region and it can easily be converted into a theme part or invested in tourism related activities.





Vaadhoo Lagoon is rich with natural lives. The Reef itself contains attractive natural beauty on every location large number of sea Turtles live and breed in the lagoon. In addition, the corals reef around Vaadhoo contains many different species of live especially the location is famous for dolphins and sting rays.

There are many deep coral lagoons located around Vaadhoo. Raa atoll consist many rich coral reefs with crystal clear visibility in the water. The coral are rich with natural beauty and are famous diving destinations in the region. There are 2 main reefs opposite to the Project location which is 12 meter deep on average and is just few minutes' way from the site. In addition, there are several other reefs around Vaadhoo which is rich with marine life. In addition some of the reefs have sand banks called "finolhu" which are perfect picnic islands.



Vaadhoo Council is highly enthusiastic to welcome anyone who would like to invest in Vaadhoo. The council is very keen to facilitate the investors to establish and enhance their business. The Council would strongly put focus on the risks and challenges expected, and in addition Council is continually invests in infrastructure developments which could assist the industries to grow in Vaadhoo.

Our Strengths

- The island has the lowest crime rate in the country
- Vaadhoo council is ranked in the 9th out of 209 local councils in Maldives.
- Highly motivated management team in the administrations.
- One of the fastest developing infrastructure in the region.
- Friendly and supportive community to development projects
- Few political disputes and strongly supports peaceful culture.
- Large capacity in the island reef.
- Vast empty lands in the island.
- Drug cases are nil.
- Growing population.

Investment Opportunities

Find interested investment categories.

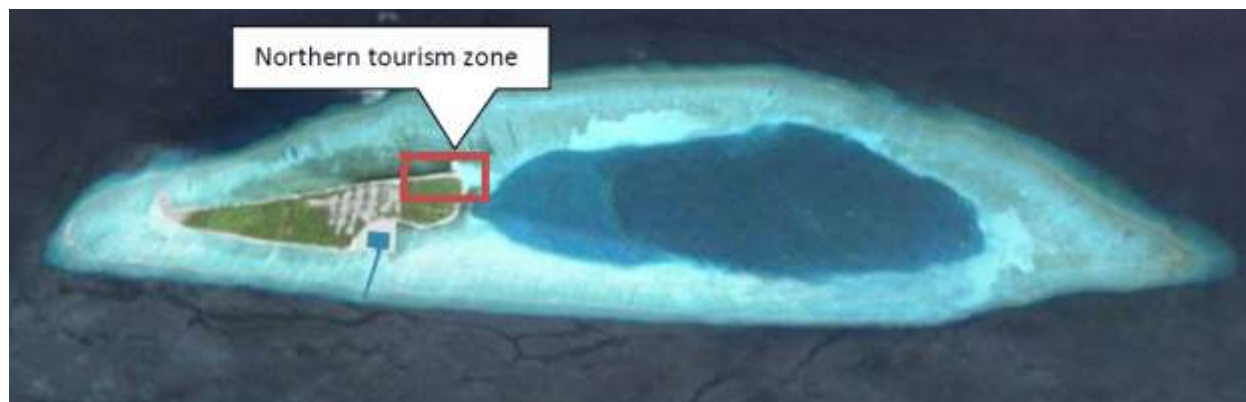
Vaadhoo Council plans to convert Vaadhoo West harbor into a Regional Commercial Harbor. The aim is to open lands for large scale wholesalers to establish distribution points in Vaadhoo.

Vaadhoo is located in access to Shaviyani, Noonu, Lhaviyani and Raa atoll, so the location can be an advantage to capture regional market share.

For this purpose, lands are allocated at the harbor area from small scale to large scale businesses.



Lands are also available to for tourism development in Vaadhoo over a lease period of 50 years. The Council has allocated 3.5 hector of land from North West corner of the island. This is one of the most attractive beach in Vaadhoo. To develop guesthouse in this land, all the permission from the relevant administrations of the government has been obtained by the council. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between the Ministry of Tourism and Vaadhoo Council. This land are available to bid for the interested investors.



Council also plans to lease lands for large scale industrial purposes. The interested parties could come to an agreement between Vaadhoo Council to reclaim 7 hector of land from Vaadhoo North East corner. The investor may be allowed to keep an agreed proportion of land with a minimum rent for over and extended period of time to develop the obtained proportion of land for any commercial use.



In addition, interested parties may invest in large scale agriculture, animal and fish farming and aquaculture, fish processing, boat building and food processing.

Main investment categories in R Vaadhoo are:

- Tourism
- Aquaculture
- Agriculture
- Fish processing
- Farming
- Boat building
- Education
- Health Service
- Fiberglass works
- Wholesale goods supply to the region
- Oil supply to the region
- Water bottling

How to Investment?

Learn how to invest and find the guidance.

Investors could submit proposal to the Council on any chosen industry. The council would accept any proposal and evaluate them. If the Council finds the proposal is acceptable then, the council would sign a memorandum of understanding between the investor and council to formalize the legalities before signing an agreement.

Highest privilege is given to industries related to Tourism, Education, Health, Fishin.

Temporary lands are always available for any commercial related activity for a maximum time of 2 year on request.

3.5 hector of land are allocated for guest house and guest house related activities. Proposals are acceptable for mentioned purpose.

Maximum of 3 acre of lands are available for agriculture. Temporary lands are available on request for a maximum of 2 years. Based on proposals, lands could be arranged over a maximum period of 10 years.

Lands are available for fish processing over a period of 5 years. However, additional lands could be arranged with the Housing Ministry on request of any interested party.

Lands are available near the harbor area for commercial use. The lands could be leased over a maximum period of 10 years. However, proposals are required for this purpose.

Investors could submit proposal to the Council on any chosen industry. The council would accept any proposal and evaluate them. If the Council finds the proposal is acceptable then, the council would sign a memorandum of understanding between the investor and council to formalize the legalities before signing an agreement.

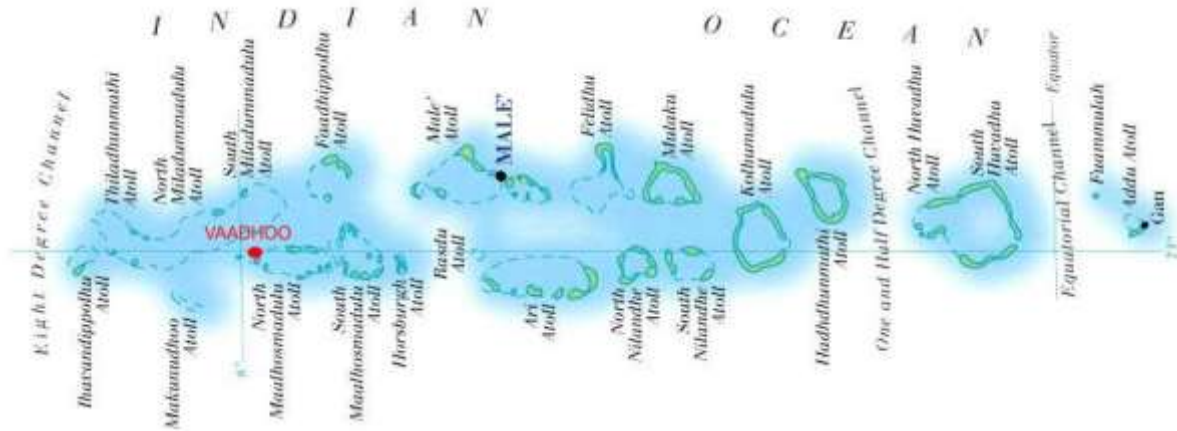
Requests can be made either via letters, emails or fax. Relevant documents must be attached and proposals are needed for extra information.

Explore us

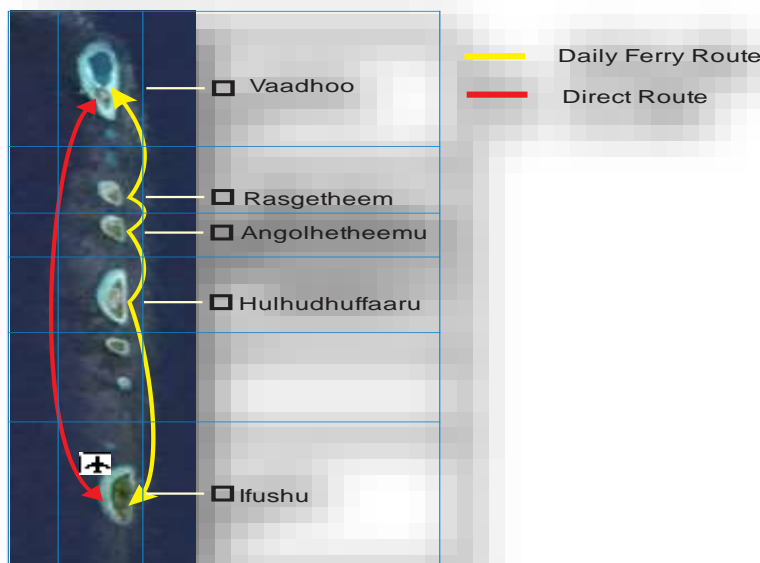
Explore new areas to invest in our unique business environment.

1.1 Geographic location

Vaadhoo is located in Southern part of the country and is the second inhabited island in Raa Atoll. The island reef is the one of the largest in the atoll including a deepwater lagoon and vast area of shallow lagoon. Geographically the island is located at Longitude 72.991073 and Latitude 5.855380. It is located 194.36 km (120.77 mi) away from Capital island Male'.



1.2 Access by Air



2. General Information of Vaadhoo

2.1 Population

The total population of Vaadhoo stands at 568 on 29 February 2016 and the land area being 35 hectares the population density is 15 people per hectare.

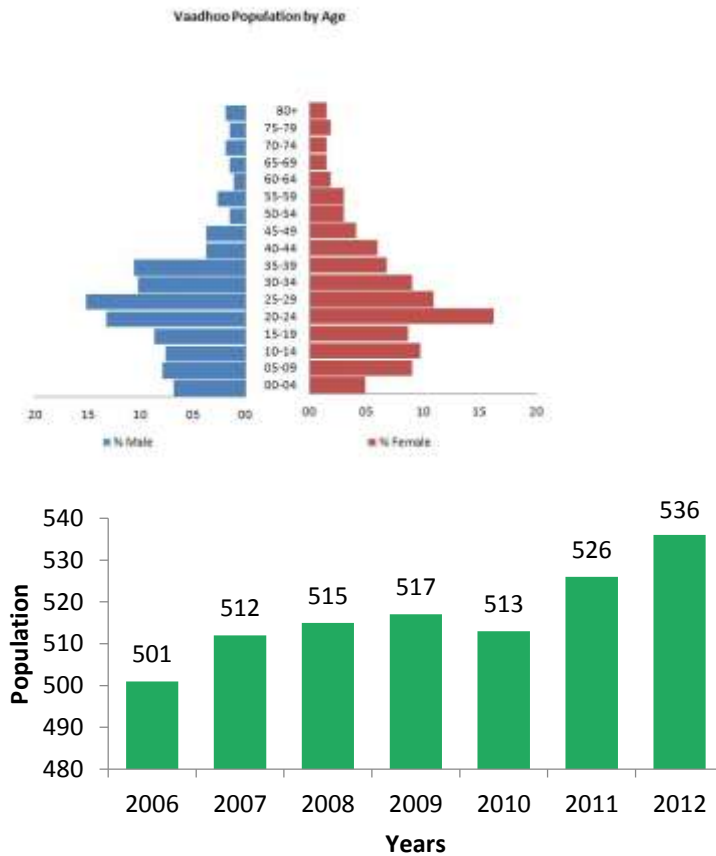


Figure 2.1: Total population

Figure 6.1 above illustrates the increasing trend of the urban population of Vaadhoo. With continuing migration from Vaadhoo for employment opportunities in other islands, mostly Capital (Male') is the reason for slow growth in population. A large number of labors are working in the tourism industry, mostly tourist resorts in other region. However a majority of the young labor force finds employment in Vaadhoo.

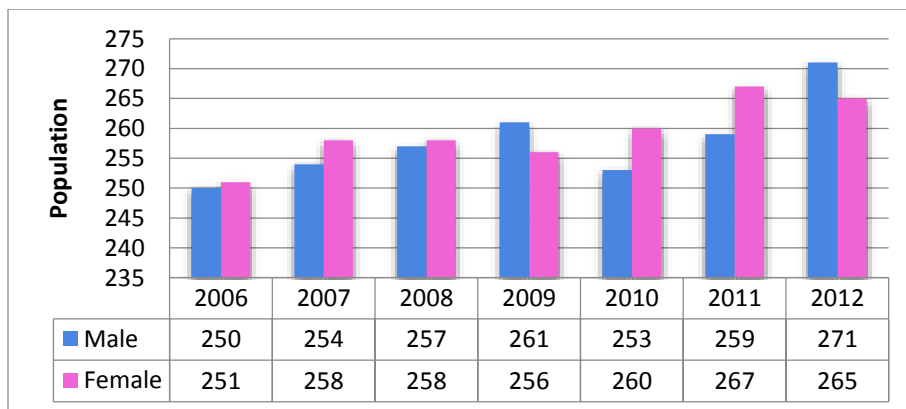


Figure 2.2: Gender distribution

2.2 Culture

The long history of Vaadhoo has developed unique characteristic of an independent culture. Centuries old traditional recipes has evolved in to unique taste, which can be found only in Vaadhoo. Some unique foods such as Eid Bon'di is a good example of rational food which can be found only in Vaadhoo. Cultural entertainments like 'Kuruvali jehun' and 'Boduberu' are the most famous activities in the island. Celebrations of historic and religious festivals have unique events which have passed through generations.



Figure 2.3: Celebration of Eid festival

2.3 Herbal Medicine

Vaadhoo is a famous island for traditional herbal medicine. The methods have been passing through generations and some traditional techniques are very effective to common diseases, broken bones and constant pain. The medicines are prepared combining local herbs and other supplies. Such ingredients include tree leaves, roots, flowers, corals, fish bones, local sand and more. The traditional therapists combine the right proportions of relevant ingredients based on the level of pain and injury. These medicines are sometimes more effective as they are customized accordingly. This skills has been passing through generation and due to continuous practice and applications, the techniques are becoming more effective in time.

2.4 Supporting Economic Sectors in Island

2.4.1 Fishing

This is one of the largest industries in Vaadhoo. The sector employs 35 % of the labor force. The average fish catch is 4.5 metric tons of fish per month. The excess to daily consumption of fish is mostly processed and sold to Capital Island (Male'). Current industry has the capacity to provide a continuous supply of fish to proposed project.

2.4.2 Palm Weaving (Fanvinun)

Palm weaving is second largest industry in the island; more than 50% of the women are involved in the industry. The traditional methods of palm weaving are famous product in the countries tourism industry. It is a historic product used to build traditional huts. Currently the product is used to build similar traditional huts for tourist attraction. Currently the island produces more than 10,000 units a year and is sold to tourist resorts.



Figure 2.4: Palm Weaving

2.4.3 Agriculture

This is the third largest industry in Vaadhoo. More than 10% of the total population involves in the sector. Poor soil and scarce arable land have historically limited agriculture to a few subsistence crops, such as coconut, banana, breadfruit, papayas, mangoes, watermelon, taro, betel, chilies, sweet potatoes, tomato, and onions.

However, Vaadhoo soil is most suitable for coconuts, water apple and breadfruit which are the largest production in the island.



Figure 2.5: Agriculture

2.4.4 Animal Harvesting

Few animals such as chicken and rabbits are harvested. However this is a growing industry in the island. Major production is chicken eggs and rabbits.

2.4.5 Fiberglass Industry

This is a fast growing sector in the island. Varieties of fiberglass products are produced from speed boats to household items according to customized orders. Major production involves speed boats, cannon, water sport products and local drums (Boduberu).



Figure 2.6: Local drums (Boduberu)



Figure 2.7: Speed boat production

2.4.6 Handcrafting

The citizens are very skilled with producing tourist souvenirs. Few produces produce at commercial scale.



Figure 2.8: Souvenirs

2.5 Crime rates

Vaadhoo has a very low crime rate. There is no observation of criminal and violence in the past 3 years. In the same period not a single case against theft or drugs has been reported. Vaadhoo can be one of the peaceful islands in the region.

2.6 Social Services

2.6.1 Health Facility

A Community Health Center provides generation consultation facilities including minimum investigation. A pharmacy provides drugs for common diseases. The health center is responsible for conducting programs against common diseases and improving awareness of the people.

2.6.2 Education Facility

The education services are available in two schools including a Pre-school and a Primary and secondary school. The literacy rate in Vaadhoo is 98% and the rate of school leaves going to higher education is increasing gradually.

2.7 Attractive location

2.7.1 Historic sites

There is historic evidence that people have been living in Vaadhoo for hundreds of years. The sign of ruins found in various parts of the island suggests the establishment of people in various locations of the island in different times.



Figure 2.9: Centuries old cemetery



Figure 2.10: First island administrative building

2.7.2 Attractive locations



Figure 2.11: Northern beaches (North Thundi)



Figure 2.12: Northern beaches (North Thundi)





Figure 2.13: Government administrations

Contact: 6580074

Email: council@vaadhoo.gov.mv

Website: www.vaadhoo.gov.mv

Facebook: www.facebook.com/vaadhoo.council