

Some of these problems are listed below, in different groups. We would like to ask you to tell us which are the important ones in your life. Please give the most pressing problems first, and then the next most important, and so on, until all twelve areas have been covered:

1. Access to quality education

The quality education of the island schools and the presence of middle and high schools on the island are important. Access to quality education of high schools in the atoll or Male', (through relatives or family friends) and the cost of sending children to schools on other islands are other issues.

2. Access to health services

The presence on the island of qualified medical staff and a midwife are important. The ease with which a clinic or hospital in the atoll or Male' can be reached is also important. The costs associated with illness (travel, medicines, treatment, etc) have also to be considered.

3. The quality of the house

This includes the materials used: the availability of a good kitchen and sanitary facilities indoors: also, its size in comparison with the number of people living in the house (crowdedness) is important.

4. Availability of electricity

Even if available, the cost of electricity connection and use charges, and the hours of operation may be problematic

5. Possibilities to earn a good income

Direct employment, but also better prices for fish and other goods produced by the household are important factors. A regular, frequent sale of these products to traders is another aspect.

6. Employment opportunities

This includes both employment on the island or resort and improvements in selling various products such as fish, copra and other goods produced by the household to traders to earn an income.

7. Availability of drinking water

Especially during the dry season, drinking water can be a big problem.

8. Availability of transport services

Including the availability of a dhoani on the island for emergency travel: the ease with which the island can be reached and the regularly and cost of transport to the atoll island and Male'.

9. Food security all year round

The availability of sufficient food of good quality throughout the year is necessary to enjoy life.

10. Communication Facilities

The availability of (radio) telephone for emergency needs is important. Postal services, newspapers and magazines, radio and television enable people to keep up with what is happening outside the island.

11. Access to consumer goods

The availability of daily needs (food) at reasonable prices from a store on the island is important, A regular supply of other household goods on the island or atoll also affects living conditions.

12. Environmental security

The sanitary and garbage disposal facilities on the island and the level of groundwater pollution describe environmental conditions. Also the condition of the reef and erosion of the island are important in this regard.