

South Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum PHOTO SUMMARY

Kurumba, Republic of Maldives

2-5 June 2014



US Army Corps of Engineers
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Introduction



- U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM) J4 and the Maldives National Defence Force conducted the South Asia Regional Environmental Security Forum 2-5 June 2014 in the Republic of Maldives.
- Forum was attended by 80+ participants from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the United States.
- Event focused on operationalizing water security, waste management, resource protection, and energy.





Group Photo



SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY FORUM
2-5 June 2014, Republic of Maldives

Day 0 – Facilitator Training



**Dr. Michelle Haynes (USACE)
explains the IWRM activity to
the facilitators**

Day 0 – Facilitator Training



**MNDF puts together
participant welcome packets**

Day 1 – Greetings



**Mr. Chris Sholes (USPACOM)
greets the Maldives Minister
of Defence, Col (Retd) Nazim**



Day 1 – Opening Ceremony



**MNDF cultural procession starts
the RESF**

Day 1 – Opening Ceremony



The MNDF Cultural Band makes a performance during the opening ceremony

Day 1 – Opening Ceremony



General Officers and Ministers listen during the opening ceremony



Day 1 – Opening Ceremony



MG Richard Stevens (USACE) provides opening remarks on behalf of USPACOM



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Day 1 – Opening Ceremony



Minister of Defence Nazim delivers opening remarks on behalf of the Maldives



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Day 1 – Water Security



Dr. Herath Manthrithilake (IWMI) speaks on the connection between water security and national security

Day 1 – Water Security



Mr. Dipak Gyawali (Nepal) speaks on the need for water security action to be taken at the local level

Day 1 – Water Security



Mr. Mohamed Rasheed (Male' Water & Sewerage Company) speaks on Maldivian water security concerns

Day 1 – Water Security



A water security panel session is conducted with all Day 1 speakers

Day 1 – Water Security



Participants from Thailand listen to the water security panel session

Day 1 – Water Security



Indian representatives listen and take notes during the water security discussion

Day 1 – Water Security



Students from local schools listen to the water security panel session

Day 1 – Water Security



Representatives from Nepal ask questions during the water security panel session

Day 1 – Water Security



Dr. Michelle Haynes (USACE) explains the Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) work activity



Day 1 – Water Security



Participants listen and prepare for the IWRM work group activity

Day 1 – Water Security



Ms. Nicole Griffin (MARFORPAC) facilitates a work group



Day 1 – Water Security



Dr. Michelle Haynes (USACE) explains a question during the IWRM work group activity



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Day 1 – Water Security



Participants work through the decision-making process during the IWRM work group activity

Day 1 – Water Security



A student volunteers to record notes during the IWRM work group activity

Day 1 – Water Security



IWRM work groups brief their final results



Day 1 – Water Security



IWRM work groups brief their final results



Day 1 – Water Security



Mr. Bruce Fink (USPACOM) explains his work group's results





Day 1 – Water Security



**MG Richard Stevens (USACE)
summarizes the water security day**



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Day 1 – Water Security



Water security students pose for a group picture after the first day of the RESF concluded

Day 2 - Waste Management



Mr. Mohamed Musthafa (Maldives Environmental Protection Agency) introduces the waste management theme

Day 2 - Waste Management



Participants from Sri Lanka listen to the introduction of the waste management theme

Day 2 - Waste Management



**Brig Gen Ibne Fazal Shayekhuzzaman
(Bangladesh Army) briefs on post-disaster
debris management**



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Day 2 - Waste Management



**Mr. Dipak Gyawali (Nepal), Dr. Ari Nathan (US)
and Ms. Ninette Sadusky (US) listen to waste
management presentations**

Day 2 - Waste Management



Ms. Chamina Priyankari Alexander (SACEP) explains waste management strategies in each South Asian nation

Day 2 - Waste Management



Ms. Nicole Griffin (MARFORPAC) delivers a desktop demonstration of a waste management unit



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Day 2 - Waste Management



Waste management speakers respond to questions during the panel session

Day 2 - Waste Management



**Representations from Bangladesh
present a question during the panel
session**

Day 2 - Waste Management



**Ms. Fathimath Thasneem (Maldives)
asks a question during the waste
management panel session**

Day 2 - Waste Management



CAPT Joe Grealish (USPACOM) asks a question during the waste management panel session



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Day 2 - Waste Management



Mr. Purushottam Tiwari (Nepal) asks a question during the waste management panel session

Day 2 - Waste Management



**A local Maldivian student asks
a question during the panel
session**

Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



**The red group prepares to travel
to Thulusdhoo Island**



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Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



**MNDF assists participants get off
the boat at Thulusdhoo Island**

Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



**MG Richard Stevens (USACE)
reviews the Thulusdhoo Island site
visit brochure**

Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



**Ms. Nicole Griffin (MARFORPAC) explains
current waste management strategies at
Thulusdhoo Island**



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Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



Waste lines the road on Thulusdhoo Island

Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



Feb 2014



June 2014

A land reclamation project on Thulusdhoo has significantly altered the shoreline environment



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Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



Participants tour the water de-salinization plant at the Coca-Cola Factory on Thulusdhoo Island

Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



Residents on Thulusdhoo Island pile debris along the shoreline to prevent erosion and water intrusion

Day 2 – Thulusdhoo Island



Participants from the Red Group gather for a photo before departing Thulusdhoo Island

Day 3 – Resource Protection



**Brig Gen Ahmed Shahid
(MNDF) introduces the
resource protection theme**

Day 3 – Resource Protection



**Mr. Travis Sinniah (USEMB Colombo)
listens to the resource protection theme
introduction**

Day 3 – Resource Protection



Mr. Keyvan Izadi (SNV Netherlands Development Organisation) explains Payment for Environmental Service applications in Bhutan

Day 3 – Resource Protection



Dr. Nalin Wikramanayake (Sri Lanka) presents on maritime pollution

Day 3 – Resource Protection



Mr. Ibrahim Naeem (Maldives Environmental Protection Agency) briefs on coastal issues and challenges in the Maldives

Day 3 – Resource Protection



**Lt Col Ahmed Ghiyas (MNDF) listens
to the resource protection
presentations**

Day 3 – Resource Protection



**Resource Protection panelists
respond to questions from
participants**

Day 3 – Resource Protection



Mr. Dipak Gyawali (Nepal) poses a question to the Resource Protection panelists

Day 3 – Resource Protection



Mr. Chris Sholes (USPACOM) asks a question during the Resource Protection panel session



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Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



**Mr. Justin Pummell (USACE)
provides an overview of the Table-
Top Exercise (TTX)**



Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



**Col Kevin Thomas (USPACOM)
facilitates discussion during the
TTX**



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Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



Work groups respond to questions during the TTX

Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



**Mr. Kawakahi Amina
(USPACOM) reviews responses
during the TTX**

Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise




The White Group responds to questions during the TTX



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Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



The Sliver Group briefs their responses to the TTX



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Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



The Red Group briefs their responses to the TTX

Day 3 – Table-Top Exercise



A representative from the Black Group marks the map during the TTX

Day 3 – Kurumba Tour



Students and participants get a behind the scenes tour of Kurumba Island

Day 3 – Kurumba Tour



Students and participants get a behind the scenes tour of Kurumba Island

Day 3 – Kurumba Tour



Students and participants receive an explanation of Kurumba Island environmental sustainability practices

Day 3 – Kurumba Tour



**Brig Gen Mark McLeod (USPACOM)
and others learn about composting
practices at Kurumba Island**



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Day 3 – Kurumba Tour



**Kurumba Island staff explain their
water de-salinization process**

Day 4 – Energy



**Brig Gen Mark McLeod (USPACOM)
introduces the Energy theme**

Day 4 – Energy



Cdr (Retd) Neil Gadihoke (India) speaks on energy implications to India's maritime domain

Day 4 – Energy



**U.S. representatives listen to
Energy theme speakers**



Day 4 – Energy



**Mr. Manoj Mitra (Bangladesh)
takes notes during the RESF**



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Day 4 – Energy



Representatives from the Maldives and Australia listen during the Energy theme presentations

Day 4 – Energy



Dr. Sandip Shah (Nepal) presents on electricity supply security through regional cooperation in South Asia



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Day 4 – Energy



Dr. Arunabha Ghosh (Council on Energy, Environment, and Water) speaks on de-centralizing renewable energy

Day 4 – Energy



**Ms. Jane Holloway (Australia) speaks on
the Australian Defence Energy Integration
Framework**

Day 4 – Energy



Energy theme speakers respond to questions during the panel session

Day 4 – Energy



**Dr. Winnie Lau (USAID)
poses a question to the
Energy panelists**

Day 4 – Energy



CAPT Joe Grealish (USPACOM) asks a question during the Energy theme panel session



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Day 4 – Energy



Mr. Neil Gadihoke responds to a question during the Energy theme panel session

Day 4 – Energy



A student poses a question to the Energy theme panelists

Day 4 – After-Action Review



Participants sign the RESF posters

Day 4 – After-Action Review



**Brig Gen Ibne Fazal Shayekhuzzaman
(Bangladesh) completes his participant
evaluation form**

Day 4 – After-Action Review



Participants from Thailand prepare to deliver their After-Action Review comments

Day 4 – After-Action Review



**Participants from the
Maldives deliver their After-
Action Review comments**

Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



**Senior representatives join
the participants for the
closing ceremony**

Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



The official party, including AMB Sison (USEMB) and Honorable Thoriq Ibrahim (Maldives), listens to closing ceremony remarks



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Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



Minister of Defence Nazim delivers his closing remarks

U.S. ARMY



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Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



**Brig Gen Mark McLeod
(USPACOM) delivers his closing
remarks**



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Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



**AMB Michele Sison
(USEMB) delivers her
closing remarks**

Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



**Minister of Environment & Energy, Hon.
Thoriq Ibrahim, delivers a certificate to Dr.
Michelle Haynes (USACE)**

Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



AMB Sison (USEMB) and Minister of Defence Nazim (Maldives) exchange gifts



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Day 4 – Closing Ceremony



**Hon Thoriq Ibrahim, Maldives
Minister of Environment & Energy,
delivers his closing remarks**



Thanks



- Many thanks to MNDF who provided a majority of these photos
- Please contact Mr. Christopher Sholes (christopher.sholes@pacom.mil) or Mr. Justin Pummell (justin.d.pummell@usace.army.mil) if you have any questions.

