



MCDGI Governance & Professional Development Fund (GPDF)

Call for Proposals – 2026

About MCDGI

The Maldives Capacity Development and Governance Institute (MCDGI) is a professional institute dedicated to delivering high-quality training, consultancy, and applied professional initiatives aimed at enhancing workforce capabilities and supporting organizations in achieving governance standards aligned with international best practices.

MCDGI promotes professional excellence, institutional effectiveness, innovation, and sustainable organizational development across public and private sectors.

In supporting national development priorities of the Republic of Maldives, MCDGI contributes to strengthening governance capacity, advancing professional competencies, and supporting sustainable economic transformation aligned with the country's development vision, digital transformation agenda, and resilience initiatives.

Program Overview

The MCDGI Governance & Professional Development Fund (GPDF) supports high-quality projects that strengthen professional competencies, enhance governance practices, and advance institutional and organizational performance.

As MCDGI's annual competitive funding initiative, the GPDF promotes governance innovation, professional excellence, and evidence-based research that informs policy and supports sustainable development in the Maldives.

Within the Maldivian context, institutions and organizations face increasing demands to strengthen governance frameworks, build skilled human capital, and adopt innovative solutions in response to evolving economic, technological, and sustainability challenges. The GPDF supports initiatives that contribute to national capacity development, institutional resilience, and long-term economic transformation across key sectors of the Maldivian economy.

Objectives

- Strengthening professional, managerial, and institutional capacities
- Promote sound governance, transparency, and accountability practices
- Support innovation, digital transformation, and financial sector development
- Encourage applied research addressing economic, financial, and policy challenges
- Foster collaboration among academia, industry, and public institutions

Priority Thematic Areas

- Macroeconomic stability and monetary policy
- Financial sector resilience, regulation, and financial reporting & audit quality
- Climate risks, sustainability reporting, and financial stability
- Digitalization, fintech, and financial inclusion
- Economic diversification and sustainable growth
- Islamic finance and sustainable development
- Labour market and education development

Contribution to National Development

Projects funded under the GPDF are expected to contribute to the Maldives' national development priorities by strengthening governance, enhancing institutional and financial sector capacity, supporting workforce development, and generating evidence-based insights that inform economic policy, financial stability, innovation, and sustainable growth.

Eligibility

Applications are open to individuals or teams from the Maldives and internationally, including academic institutions, think-tanks, consulting organizations, professional bodies, and independent researchers with demonstrated research or professional expertise.

Lead applicants should possess at least a Master's degree in a relevant field; PhD-level researchers are encouraged to apply. Proposals must clearly articulate research questions, methodology, expected outcomes, and alignment with GPDF priorities.

The Principal Investigator (PI) or at least one Co-Principal Investigator (Co-PI) must be affiliated with a recognized Maldivian institution, including universities, research institutes, government agencies, professional bodies, or registered organizations based in the Maldives.

Project Duration

Project Duration: Twelve (12) months

Proposal Requirements: Applicants must submit

1. Project Title
2. Abstract (max. 250 words)
3. Research Objectives and Questions
4. Background and Literature Review
5. Methodology

6. Expected Contributions and Policy Relevance
7. Timeline with Milestones

Evaluation Criteria

All submitted proposals will be evaluated by the Academic and Technical Review Committee based on:

- Relevance to MCDGI mission and Maldivian economic priorities
- Originality and potential policy impact
- Methodological soundness and feasibility
- Researcher/team qualifications
- Efficient and justified use of funding

Funding and Support

Selected proposals will receive financial support. Funding levels will vary depending on project scope, quality, and expected impact.

Final funding allocations will be determined by the Academic and Technical Review Committee based on proposal quality and available resources.

Funding may cover expenses such as data acquisition, fieldwork and surveys, software, and research assistance.

Deliverables for Funded Projects

- Periodic research progress and fund usage reports
- Final research report (5,000–10,000 words)
- Policy brief summarizing key findings
- Participation in an MCDGI dissemination or knowledge-sharing event

Key Dates

- Submission Deadline: 15 March 2026
- Evaluation Period: 16–30 March 2026
- Notification of Selected Projects: 1 April 2026
- Project Duration: Twelve (12) months

Submission Instructions

Proposals must be submitted electronically in PDF format.

Submission Email: programs@mcdgi.edu.mv

Subject Line: GPDF Proposal Submission – 2026

Late submissions will not be considered.

MCDGI Commitment

Through this initiative, MCDGI is committed to supporting high-quality research and professional projects that strengthen governance frameworks, enhance institutional and financial sector

capacity, and contribute to sustainable economic development and long-term resilience in the Maldives.

Supporting Partners

The following partners of MCDGI are also supporting partners of the Governance & Professional Development Fund (GPDF)



Women on Boards



Dhivehi Investment Partners



For further information contact: 960 797 6620, programs@mcdgi.edu.mv
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