

ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

“We acknowledge our presence in this atoll impacts the fragile ecosystem and endeavour to minimise our footprint through a commitment to protect both the environment and local communities via education through environmentally conscious actions and positive knowledge sharing.”

From its inception, environmental and socially sustainable initiatives have been an integral part of Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa’s operational culture. This vastly unexplored area is home to stunning coral reefs, indigenous fish species, and remote islands where the traditional Maldivian way of life centred on the sea and its resources. The resort is a 50 villa accommodation located in North Huvadho, Gaafu Alifu Atoll. The resort includes two swimming pools, 24 plunge pools, gym facilities, spa, dive and activity centre, two restaurants and a bar. We acknowledge that a 50 villa island resort with its accompanying infrastructure in the midst of an extremely isolated and pristine tropical atoll poses a risk to the surrounding area and its people. This has empowered us to dedicate our resources to protect this unique and fragile environment. Being environmentally conscious is critical not only in this atoll but also in the Maldives as a whole, since rising water levels would have potentially devastating effects on this country first and foremost.

Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa has collaborated with EarthCheck to monitor our performance in accordance with a stringent internationally recognised approach. We strive to surpass Best Practice benchmarking levels and continually improve upon the existing environmental and social sustainability performance within the confines and parameters of a remote location such as ours. As the first resort in the Maldives to commit to the EarthCheck principles throughout the design, construction and operational stages our commitment has been unwavering. It was this commitment that allowed us to achieve the prestigious EarthCheck “Building Planning and Design standard” certified status in August 2008. We continued improving our sustainability efforts throughout the years and was then awarded the Silver certification followed by the Gold certification by EarthCheck.

In 2017, we were audited by Green Globe and was also certified Gold for our practices. To ensure we monitor our efforts and strive for improvement, we have appointed our Resident Marine Biologist as the Green Globe Coordinator, who is responsible for identifying environmental risks, recording and monitoring our performance through benchmarking, whilst driving the environmental and social initiatives undertaken by the resort.

The unspoilt and remote location of the resort necessitates a symbiotic relationship with the local islands and their communities. Special consideration is given to employing and empowering local residents and wherever possible, sourcing local and fair trade products and services. With this in mind, Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa has formed a committee of elected ‘Hyatt Thrive Ambassadors’ to represent the different communities. Through better connectivity, shared knowledge, development of business skills, and encouragement and participation from both sides, Park Hyatt Maldives Hadahaa

leads mutually beneficial programmes that inspires sustainable development projects, allows the resort to gather supplies and recruits from nearby islands, and ensures the local communities develop and prosper. Hyatt Thrive utilizes the knowledge and abilities of employees as well as the wider communities, in order to give everyone a means, as well as the education, to act on their concerns.

In addition to this, we ensure that the resort and the management comply with the national legislation, laws and regulations, and that we do not infringe on local customs and cultural practices. We strive to benefit the local community through shared knowledge and joint endeavours.

We are honoured to be recognized and certified by Green Globe and EarthCheck, and are proud of our commitment to sustainable tourism. Therefore we encourage all our employees, guests and all our stakeholders to support our efforts to continue in caring for the environment and respecting our local communities through active engagement.

Pravin Kumar
General Manager

