

Sustainability

OBJECTIVE:

We take great pride in our commitment to provide green and sustainable initiatives. As challenging as it is, our team has introduced effective solutions to educate guests, promote practices to upkeep the island in its pristine state, and contributed to the community with a range of activities, projects and purchases made to local suppliers and vendors.

Environmental:

Day-to-day tourism operations are managed to minimize negative environmental impacts by reducing the energy and water used, as well as the solid and liquid waste produced.

Social:

Tourism business builds good relationships with their local communities. They invest their team members (fair pay, training opportunities and benefits). They also respect and preserve local culture, engaging and educating guests to the destination, its custom and heritage.

Economic:

Guests are encouraged to visit nearby attractions, such as restaurants offering regional cuisine, market or site of historic, cultural and spiritual interest. Also, buy product and services from local businesses.

APPLICABLE TO:

All Team members of Huvafen Fushi, Maldives and other team members of third party service provider who interact with our guests representing Huvafen Fushi, Maldives.

POLICY/PROCEDURES:

1. Definition of sustainable tourism?

The United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) defines sustainable tourism as:

"Tourism that takes full account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities".

2. Benefits of Travel Life Certification

- **Reduced costs**
 - Helps cut costs on overheads like energy, water and waste
- **Improved customer experience**
 - Engages team members in improving the guest experience
 - Tour operator research shows customers rate Travelife properties higher than others
- **Professional support**

- Travelife’s online checklist to help you to prepare for your onsite audit
- Access to Travelife’s “Help for Members”, providing a range of briefing notes, factsheets and templates that will help you to understand our requirements
- Personalized audit report, providing feedback on how you can further improve

- **Increased publicity**

- Helps your property stand out from the competition
- Internationally recognized certification recognizes your property’s sustainability achievements
- Travelife certification plaque and mark to use in publicity, profile on Travelife Collection website and promotion by partner tour operators

- **Supports the local economy**

- Supports local people, culture and economy by ‘buying or employing local’

- **Ready for the future**

- Sustainability planning helps reduce risk and meet customer or tour operator expectation

- **Current Sustainability Programme in Huvafen Fushi, Maldives**

- Laundry Wastewater (chemicals) connecting to STP.
- Increased the use of LED light in most of the area in the island.
- Training and awareness for sustainability program to team members.
- Awareness logo and sticker have been fixed all staff accommodation.
- Green Card, “to save energy” placed in all the Guest Bungalows.
- Increased the use of mulch/compost in the gardens resulting in very green vegetation.
- All the public area garbage/waste bins have been correctly labeled & segregated.
- Reef Restoration Project started in 2007. Gradually introduced new best practices to protect our coral reef which includes,
 - Coral frame adaption
 - Coral nubbin
 - Deep & Shallow nurseries, etc.
- Guests get information via:
 - Marine Life Presentations
 - Joining the snorkeling excursions with the Float
- Snorkeling & marine life Video continuously played in immersion.
- During resort orientation, giving helpful tips for snorkeling around our island.
- Eliminate the use of plastic water bottles and move towards reusable glass bottles using a specially designed eco-friendly and state of the art water filtration system.