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**Subject:** Fwd: Preliminary Baseline Polling Memorandum

**Date:** Sat, 23 Feb 2013 14:51:36 +0000

**Attachments:** Maldives\_Issues-Polling\_Information\_(13.01.13).docx

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McGee,

Please find attached a copy of the questionnaire with comments from some of our colleagues.

We should consider the following issues in the questionnaire.

1. Drug and alcohol abuse. National survey of drug users completed recently indicates there are 7500 active drug users, only 174 persons can be treated at any given time in the current facilities.
2. Infrastructure: sewerage systems, safe water and harbors. Currently roughly one fifth of government budget on these projects. Everywhere we go that seems to be the demand along with good quality education and health care.
3. Population concentration. Majority of islands with population under 1000. 64 out of 196 inhabited islands with less than 100 students in school. Per capita cost of investing in infrastructure and tertiary services for these small islands is prohibitive compared to their relocation to bigger islands. Issue is sensitive because people don't like moving to other islands unless there is an incentive package including new homes and financial compensation. These issues also need to be reflected in the questions.

For next Friday meeting, Shafeeu will be in Sri Lanka, but we will try to bring him and Jeff Waheed into the discussion.

Best regards

Waheed

Begin forwarded message: