

# Mariculture Development

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# The state of affairs in a nutshell

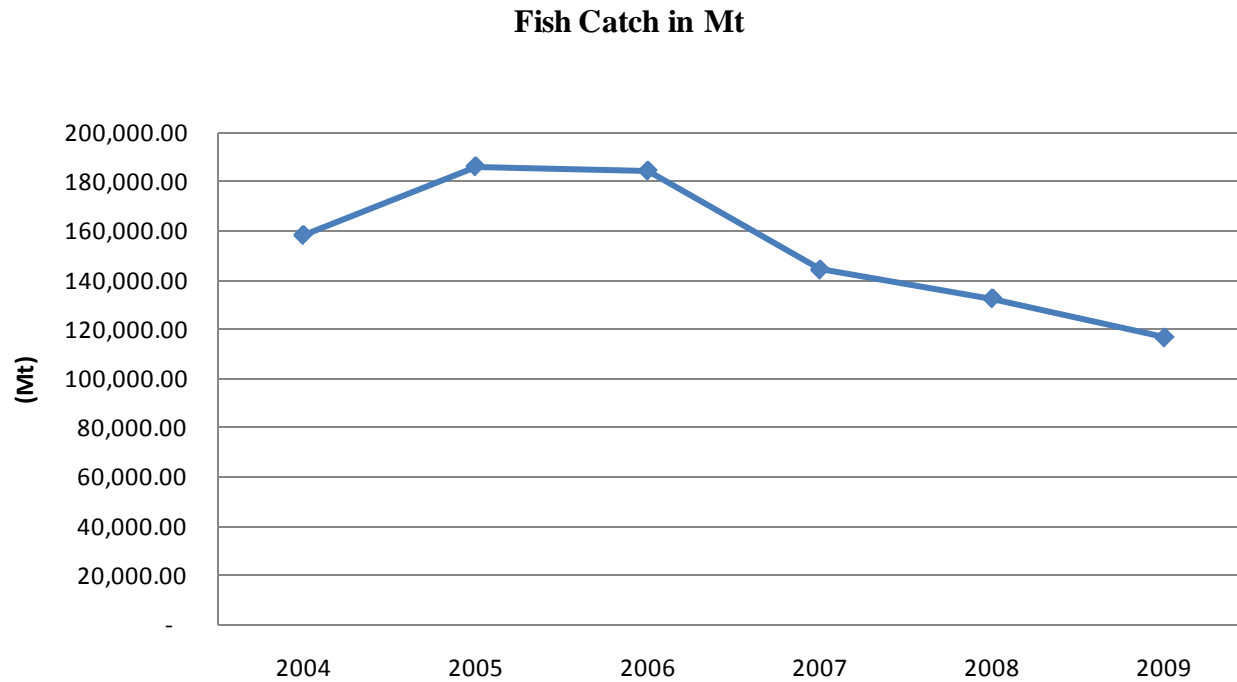
- Locality: 26 natural atolls (1190 islands) in the north Central Indian Ocean.
- 750 km from north to south and 120 km from east to west
- Total area: approximately 90,000 sq km (about 99.5% ocean).
- Jobs/ livelihood: 15,000 fishers + families
- Fleet: around 1200 registered & 600 licensed vessels
- Fisheries GDP Contribution:
  - Total Catch 116,735.86 ,
  - GDP contribution: 7%

# The state of affairs in a nutshell

- Main fisheries:
  - Tuna pole & Line 2009 (99,885.08 t)
  - Hand line fishery for large yellowfin and Bigeye (20,733.01t ).
  - Grouper fishery
  - Sea cucumber fishery (77,690 t)
  - Reef fish fishery (20,938.07 t)

# The Problem

- Volume of skipjack tuna landings from the pole & line fishery declining since 2006.

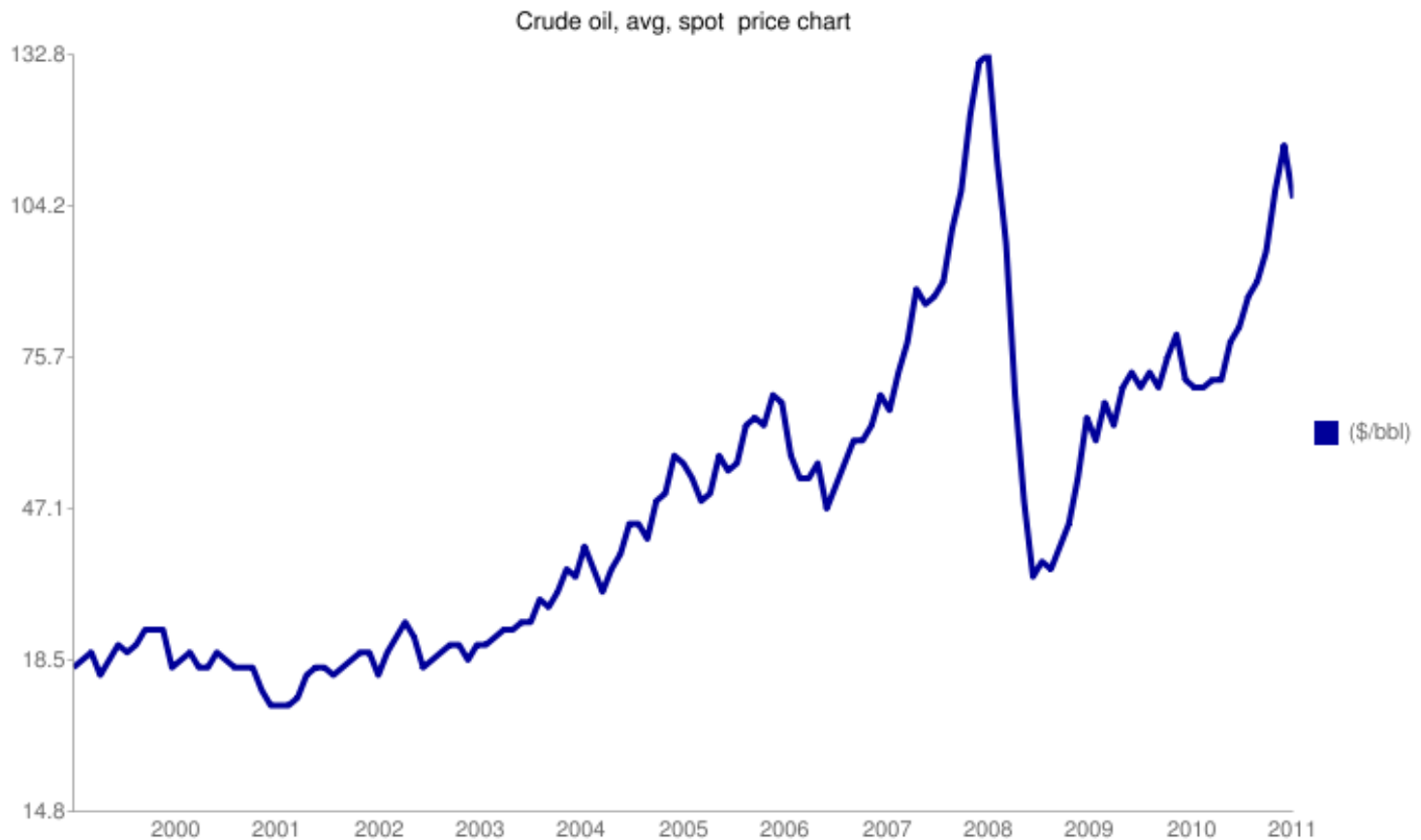


# The Problem

- Stocks of yellowfin and bigeye tuna in the Indian ocean considered fully exploited.
  - MSY of YFT 300,000 t BET of 110,000 t
  - Very high catch of YFT 2003-2006 (Average 464,000 t)
  - YFT catches decreased to 282,000 t in 2009
  - BET catches recommended to be kept around 102,000 t/year to avoid over fishing

# The Problem

- World fuel prices increasing steadily in the past few years.



# The Problem

- Exploitation level of groupers and other reef resources becoming a concern.

# Key Fisheries Policies

- Policy 1: Expand the scope of the fisheries sector in the economy and diversify fish and marine products in a sustainable manner.
- Policy 2: Open up the market to ensure that changes in the buying price of fish in the international markets are passed through to local fishermen.
- Policy 3: Facilitate business development, trade and export promotion in fisheries.
- Policy 4: Provide training and capacity building opportunities in the sector
- Policy 5: Promote research in fisheries and introduce fish breeding and productivity.
- Policy 6: Establish modern fisheries infrastructure in different regions of the country.
- Policy 7: Enhance the regulatory framework to ensure sustainable fishery development and management.

# Policy 5

- Promote research in fisheries and introduce fish breeding and productivity.
  - **Goal :**
    - **Introduce mariculture and provide the private sector with financial and technical assistance to develop this segment within the fisheries industry**
      - Identify potential islands for mariculture development and open up for bidding process.
      - Establish a Mariculture Development Corporation

# Current Position

- Aquaculture of sand fish (seacucumber) project at Nalandhoo (Private party)
- Pearl Culture farm at B.Thulhaadhoo (Corporative Society)
- Maldives clownfish culture pilot project (MRC)



# Current Position

- Grouper culture Pilot project (MRC)

# Proposed SME Project

Two components:

- Supporting the private sector to establish commercial mariculture enterprises.
  - a multi-species hatchery – to facilitate production and provision of fingerlings to private sector.  
( Training, Research and Development will also be conducted.)

# Proposed SME Project (cont)

- Supporting the government authorities to regulate and develop a mariculture subsector within the fisheries sector.
  - Develop a fully equipped quarantine facility for Mariculture.

# Private Investments

- Approved projects in 2005
  - Tiger prawns and Japanese Tiger (B.Goidhoo)
- Approved projects in 2006
  - Seacucummbur (Nalandhoo)
  - Pearl culture farming (V.Varah)
  - Clawfish, pearl, seaweed garden (K.Vabinfaru)

# Private Investments

- Approved projects in 2007
  - Culture Reef fish and Shripm (Dh. Maadheli)
  - Seacucumber (Sh. Eriadhoo)
- Approved projects in 2008
  - Mariculture farm (MIFCO)
- Approved projects in 2010
  - Sea cucumber (G.Dh. Dhgulaabadhoo)

# New Projects

- NPC Approved 2011
  - Sea cucumber, Pearl Oyster, Giant Calm & Spinny rock lobster (Lh.Thilamaafushi)
  - Fish Farming proposal (A.Dh.Athafaru)