

# National Counter Terrorism Centre



**NCTC Newsletter - Volume 67: August-September 2023**

## Upholding Humanity: The Unwavering Commitment to Protecting Civilians and Their Infrastructure

“The Prophet ﷺ said:  
Go in Allah's name,  
trusting in Allah, and  
adhering to the religion  
of Allah's Apostle. Do  
not kill a decrepit old  
man, or a young infant,  
or a child, or a woman;  
do not be dishonest  
about booty, but collect  
your spoils, do right  
and act well, for Allah  
loves those who do  
well.”

– Narrated by Anas ibn  
Malik, Sunan Abi  
Dawud 2614



"Civilians must be respected and protected at all times. Civilian infrastructure must never be a target." - Antonio Guterres, UN Secretary-General

In an increasingly complex world where conflicts and crises persist, one fundamental principle remains an unwavering beacon of hope and humanity: the protection of civilians and their infrastructure. It is a moral imperative, a legal obligation, and a cornerstone of global peace and security.

Amidst the turmoil of war, the international community stands united in its resolve to ensure the safety and well-being of civilians caught in the crossfire. The Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols have long served as the backbone of humanitarian law, emphasizing the inviolability of civilians in armed conflicts. The message is clear: civilians must be respected and protected at all times.

**A Pillar of International Law:** The foundation of these principles lies in the principle of distinction, which mandates a clear separation between combatants and non-combatants. Civilians are individuals who do not take a direct part in hostilities, and their safety is sacrosanct. This foundational principle is the bedrock upon which all international humanitarian law is built.

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# Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment Conducts “Hafthaares” in Alif Alif Atoll in Collaboration with NCTC

22-27 August 2023



The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment, in collaboration with the National Counter Terrorism Centre conducted a "Hafthaares" program in AA. Ukulhas. This program is aimed at promoting community empowerment and strengthening resilience against extremism and terrorism.

The 6-day program involved participants from various sectors of society including youth, senior educators, and community leaders. The sessions were designed to provide participants with the necessary tools and knowledge to build a cohesive and resilient community.

The sessions prioritize the dissemination of crucial information aimed at enabling individuals to recognize the root causes of violent extremism and terrorism, commonly referred to as the "push and pull factors." These programs actively encourage participants to tackle these factors through a cooperative "whole-of-society" approach.

The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Empowerment and the NCTC have been working together to strengthen community resilience and prevent violent extremism in the Maldives. This collaboration has led to the development of a range of initiatives and programs aimed at promoting community empowerment and countering extremism.

The success of these programs and initiatives is evident in the increased awareness of the knowledge and tools necessary to identify and understand the underlying factors that contribute to the spread of violent extremism. By fostering a comprehensive understanding of these factors, participants are empowered to address them collectively, bringing together various sectors of society to collaborate on effective strategies and solutions.



In addition to Youth Ministry, NCTC partnered with Ministry of Education, Ministry of Islamic Affairs, Maldives Police Service, and Islamic University of Maldives to conduct a variety of sessions concerning community empowerment. NCTC also conducted awareness sessions for parents, teachers and senior students of AA. Rasdhoo, AA.Thoddoo, AA.Himandho, AA.Mathiveri, AA.Bodufolhudhoo, AA.Maalhos and AA.Feridhoo.



## **NCTC conducts a Session on the Role of Civil Service Organizations in P/CVE Efforts**

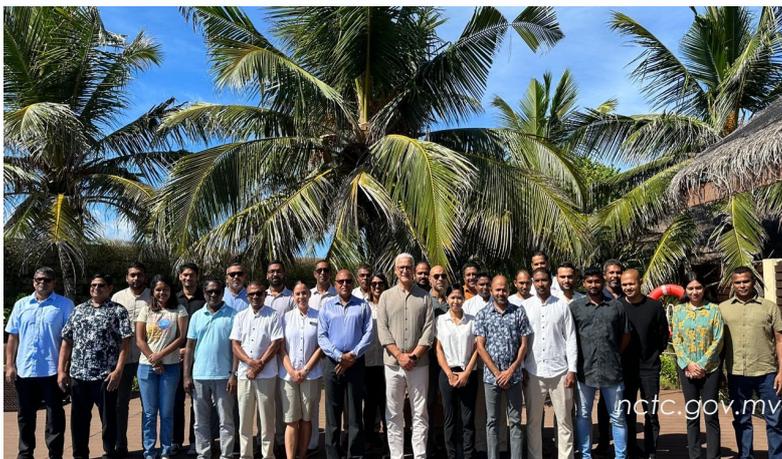
29 August 2023

Transparency Maldives organized the “Co-creation Workshop for ‘PRIME’ project subgrantees” aimed to create awareness on the key social issues in the Maldivian society and educate CSOs on developing projects that would complement the existing plans or works done by state institutions in the Maldives. NCTC conducted the session on push and pull factors of violent extremism and possible areas of collaboration with CSOs.



## **Session on Terrorism Threats and Responses at Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort and Spa**

25 September 2023



cybersecurity, crisis management and the importance of staff training and employee relations. Protection of the tourism industry is of utmost importance to the Maldivian government and society. Sessions like this aims to ensure that resorts and hotels in the Maldives maintain their reputation as a trusted and secure haven for visitors and to ensure that their employees are aware and

NCTC in Collaboration with Sheraton Maldives Full Moon Resort and Spa conducted a one-day session on “Terrorism Threats and Responses” for the executive committee members and Heads of Departments . The session addressed a spectrum of security-related topics such as physical security and critical infrastructure security measures,







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National Counter  
Terrorism Centre

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we can do better

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