



# THE MALDIVES

*The Sunny Side of Life*



## RISK & CRISIS MANAGEMENT IN THE MALDIVIAN TOURISM INDUSTRY - SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES



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# Disaster Management

- **PLANNING AND MANAGING**

1) Readiness

2) Response

3) Recovery



# ❖ Disaster Risk Reduction

- Concept and practice of reducing disaster risks through systematic efforts to analyze and manage the casual factors of disaster through:
  - ✓ Reduce exposure to hazards
  - ✓ Lessened vulnerability of people/property
  - ✓ Wise management of land/property
  - ✓ Improved preparedness for adverse events



# Elements of Risk

- ❑ Physical
- ❑ Economic
- ❑ Societal
- ❑ Environmental

- *Note: Above components affected by disaster impact can lead to monetary and non-monetary "costs" or "losses" of a hazard event.*

# Disaster Management Unit - Ministry of Tourism

- Develop Safety/Security **guidelines and regulations**
- **Monitor** safety/security standards of facilities through inspections
- **Revise** tourist facility's DMPs and update record
- Liaise with the relevant authorities and tourist facilities
- **coordinate** rescue, relief, evacuation and recovery activities in the event of an emergency/disaster.
- *Monitor the drills/trainings conducted in the industry*
- **Disseminate** *alert information to relevant focal points*
- *Conduct **regular trainings** to make ministry staff aware for the internal SOP during disasters*

# Measures taken to mitigate incidents/disasters

- **Insurance** of all tourist properties
- Disaster management **plans**
- Circulars circulated to the industry regarding safety/security
- Safety **Regulation**
- Alert **disseminated** Via bulk message
- **Establishment of National Disaster Management Center**

# Stages of various levels of emergency



## Stage 1 – Lookout (White)

- Occurrence of an earthquake in the Indian Ocean, including South East Asia and the Carlsberg Ridge, no immediate threat or consequence of the occurrence to Maldives



## Stage 2 – Alert and Warning (Yellow)

- an imminent natural disaster threat, a direct or indirect disaster will be felt in Maldives
- An alert warning on any type of natural disaster



## Stage 3 – Action (Red)

- When NDMC confirms that the threat of a disaster is definite, and NDMC authorizes a Red Alert or when a disaster strikes any part of the country



## Stage 4 – Step Down (Green)

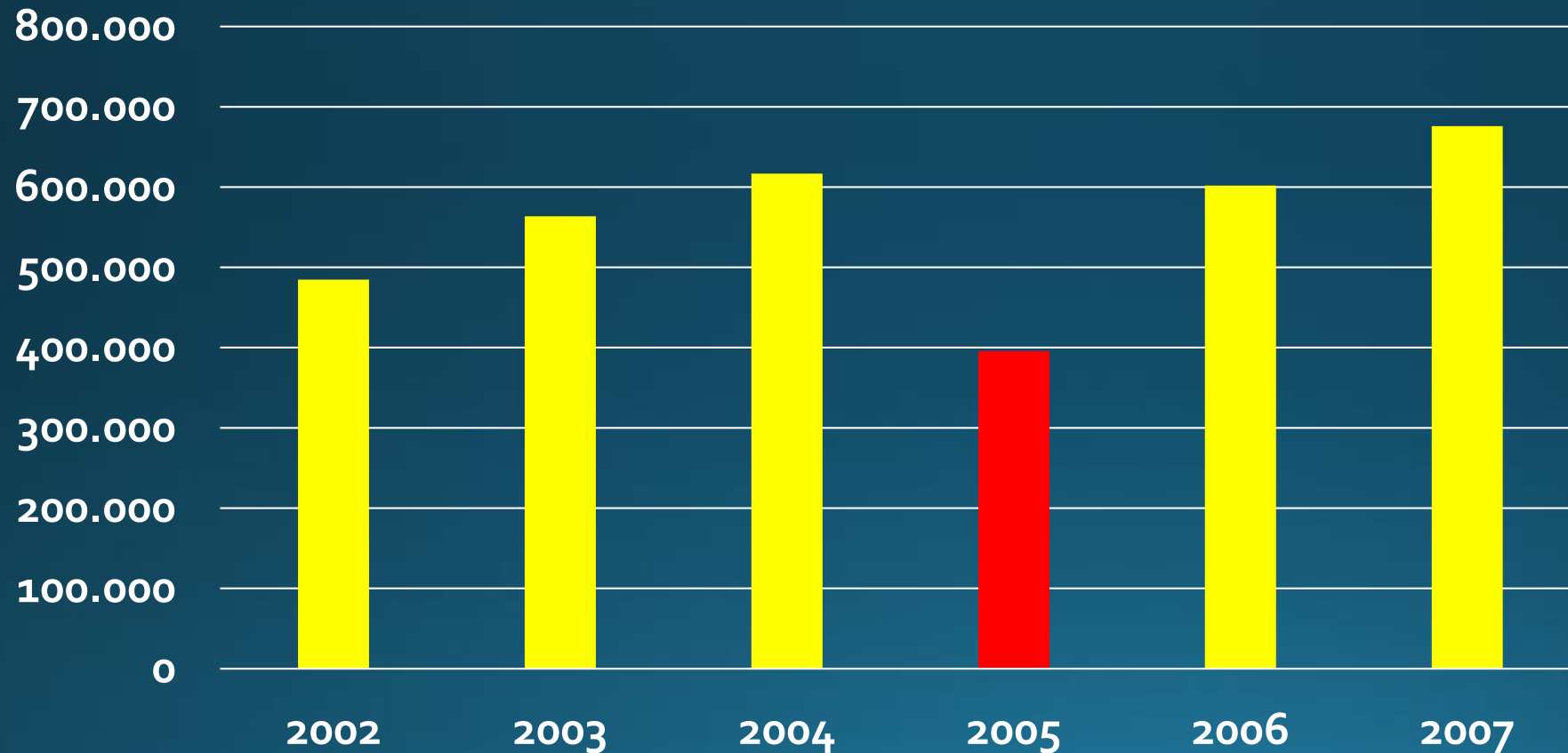
- When the threat of the disaster ceases and rehabilitation work commences  
(Detailed actions at national, regional, atoll and island level for all stages will be specified)

# Tsunami 2004

- Realization of **importance of preparedness** for natural disasters
- **Total death – 82 including 3 tourists, 1 resort staff**
- **Total missing – 24**
- **Infrastructure damage – 20 islands**
- **Complete evacuation – 13 islands**
- **Disruption of water supplies and electricity – 70 islands**
- **Lack of safe drinking water – 79 islands**
- **Resorts affected - 21**



# Impact of Tsunami of 2004 on Tourist Arrivals In The Maldives



# Measures taken after Tsunami 2004

## ❖ Second Earthquake – 28 March 2005

### ➤ Steps taken at National level:

- Tsunami Warning announced through the Government administrative network and television and radio.

### ➤ Steps taken at island level:

- Population gathered together in structures that withstood earlier tsunami such as schools and Government administrative buildings.
- Residents near the beach front were evacuated
- Measures were taken to protect:
  - electricity generating stations
  - communications equipment
  - homes
  - fishing boats
  - food supplies

# MULTI-HAZARD DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PLANNING AND MITIGATION (Post Tsunami)

- Establishment of early warning systems
  - Develop systems to integrate national warning systems with regional systems
  - Department of Meteorology will be focal point
- Emergency response
  - Emergency operations center and develop standard operating procedures in emergencies at island level
- Preparedness planning
  - Vulnerability and risk assessment at island level
  - Identification of possible evacuation sites
  - List vulnerable persons; develop plans for safeguarding lifeline facilities; storage of critical supplies; develop an inventory of skills and persons available as volunteers

THANK YOU