

## **Tourism Generates Employment. But for Whom? Maldivian Tourist Resort Labour Market.**

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### **Abstract**

Tourism is developed in many countries for its economic contribution to development. It is seen as a blessing, especially for those nations with limited resources, which may be isolated from the rest of the world.

This is clearly seen in the recent rapid development of tourism in small island nations. In order to gain the maximum benefit from tourism, it is important that locals play a major role in the tourism industry. Island nations such as the Maldives introduced tourism for its economic benefits to the extent that it has taken over the traditional fishing industry. Today, tourism is the main economic engine of the country.

This study examines the human resource related issues in the Maldivian resort labour market and reports the findings of a quantitative research project undertaken among resort operators in the Maldives. Tourism at a global level, as well as in developing countries, is explored with respect to human resource management. Based on the research findings, a number of conclusions are drawn and specific recommendations to increase local participation in Maldivian resorts are proposed.