

# Marine Research and High Education Center



## Islands Tourism: Resilience and Development **International Workshop**

24 January 2020 - 1 February 2020

Magoodhoo Island - Maldives



**MaRHE Center**

**Marine Research and High Education Center**

**Magoodhoo—Faafu—Maldives**

**Coordinator: Elena dell'Agnese**

**Lecturers: Godfrey Baldacchino, Alexander Trupp,**

**Mizna Mohamed, Elena dell'Agnese,**

**Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg**

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## INTRODUCTION

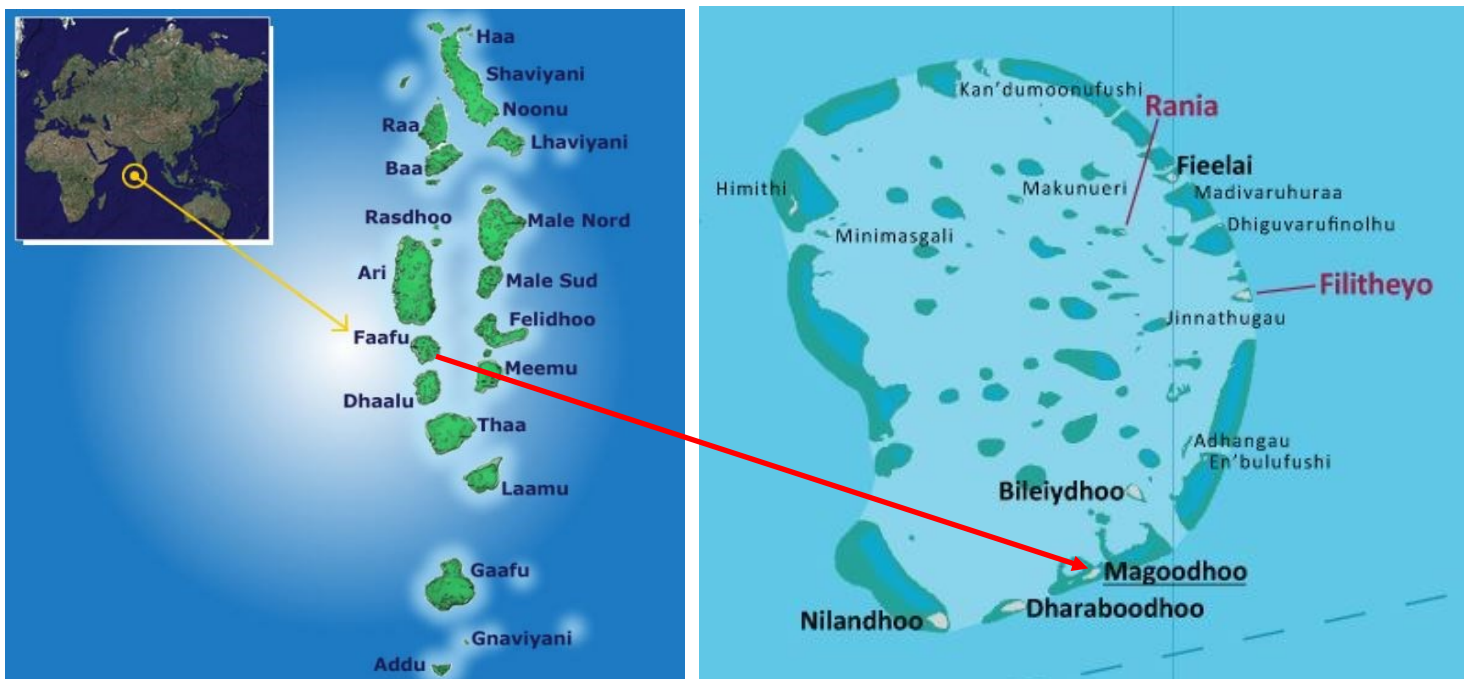
The workshop takes place on Magoodhoo island, Faafu Atoll, Maldives. The logistic base for the activities is the Marine Research and High Education Center (MaRHE Center) of Milano-Bicocca University in Magoodhoo: field activities will be held on the island and in the sea nearby Magoodhoo.

The main purpose of the workshop is to study the multiple aspects of tourism in the Maldives. A specific focus is dedicated to the small islands tourism as a driver of development. The course will be divided into a series of lessons and field activities (visits to resorts, “site inspections”, meetings with local management and small group activities) coordinated by international teachers, researchers, and experts of island tourism, development, and environmental policies. Lessons will be held at the Marine Research and High Education Center.

MaRHE Center is situated on Magoodhoo island in Faafu Atoll, one of the central atolls of the Maldivian archipelago. The island is located on the southern edge of the atoll and it covers around 22 hectares. Almost 700 people live in the small village behind the MaRHE Center. This close relationship with the local population allows guests of the Center to immerse themselves in the Maldives lifestyle. In addition to providing a base of operations for laboratory research activities in the Maldives, the MaRHE Center is open to any marine research or education programs. The facility is located within easy access to a broad variety of habitats, including reefs, sea grass beds, and terrestrial communities. By attending the workshop, participants will earn an **‘Open Badge’**, a digital international certification to recognize the skills and competences you will get on coral reef restoration through the Workshop. The Open Badge is released by the University of the Milano-Bicocca.

Lessons will be given in English

## LOCATION



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## **EXCHANGE**

The Maldivian currency is the Maldivian Rufiyaa. Euro and dollar are accepted in any bank and exchange office. 1 euro = 17 rufyiaa; 1 dollar = 15 rufyiaa;

## **COST AND REGISTRATION**

The cost of the *Workshop* is:

**900,00 euro (+100,00 for VISA) per participant**

### **This fee includes:**

- Boat transfer to/from Malé airport
- Transfer for all activities envisaged under the internship program
- Room and board at the MaRHE Center of Magoodhoo with full board treatment and accomodation in multiple room
- Lessons and activities provided for the internship program

### **This fee NOT include:**

- Flight to/from Malé
- Any passport renewal expenses
- Anything else not specified above

## **WITHIN 15TH NOVEMBER 2019**

Confirm your registration by e-mail sending the registration form duly filled (found below) to stefano.malatesta@unimib.it and marhe@unimib.it

Registration form: <https://forms.gle/8Y6emqkdopPKmyWQ7>



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## Lecturers

**Godfrey Baldacchino** PhD (Warwick, UK) is Professor of Sociology at the University of Malta, Malta and (since 2014) President of the International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA). He served as Canada Research Chair in Island Studies (2003-2013) and as UNESCO co-Chair (Island Studies and Sustainability) (2016-2020) at the University of Prince Edward Island, Canada. He is the founding editor of *Island Studies Journal*. His books include *Global Tourism and Informal Labour Relations: The Small Scale Syndrome at Work* (1997); *Extreme Tourism: Lessons from the World's Cold Water Islands* (2006) and *Archipelago Tourism: Practices and Policies* (2013).

**Alexander Trupp** PhD, Senior Lecturer at the School of Tourism and Hospitality Management, The University of the South Pacific, Fiji. His research is nested in the broad fields of tourism studies and human geography. He has conducted qualitative and quantitative research on host-guest encounters in ethnic and cultural tourism, rural-urban migration, urban street vending, Asian outbound tourism, immigrant entrepreneurship, tourism microbusinesses, and migration and natural disasters. Alexander is also the editor-in-chief of the *Austrian Journal of Southeast Asian Studies* and Associate Editor of the *Journal of Pacific Studies*.

**Mizna Mohamed** Executive Director of the local NGO International Centre for Environment, development and Operational Research. She has a PhD and Masters in Environmental Science from the University of Canterbury, New Zealand, and a Bachelor of Science in Oceanography and Meteorology from the Flinders University of South Australia. While her Masters research focused on the economic value of coral reefs, her doctoral research constituted a broader examination of the economic, social, ecological and cultural ways in which people attach values to reefs.

**Elena dell'Agnese** Geographer, full-professor at the University of Milano-Bicocca. She serves as Vice-President of the International Geographical Union (IGU) and she is the former-chair of the IGU's Commission on Political Geography. She teaches Urban Political Geography, Environmental Justices and Geopolitics of the Sea and Cultural and Environmental Heritage Geographies. She is the director of the Master Degree in Tourism, Territory and Local Development. Her research activity is nested in the fields of Tourism Studies, Political Geography, Critical Geopolitics, Media Studies, Heritage and Environmental Justice.

**Marcella Schmidt di Friedberg** Geographer, full-professor at the University of Milano-Bicocca. She is the Vice-Director of MaRHE Center and chair of the IGU's Commission on History of Geography. She teaches Geography, Cultural Geography and Coastal Hazard and Resilience. Her research activity is nested in the fields of Resilience, Cultural Studies, Environmental Policies, Island Tourism, Gender Studies and History of Geography.



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## USEFUL INFORMATION

### ***DOCUMENTS***

To go to Maldives is necessary to have a **valid passport** (valid at least six months after the exit from the country)

### ***CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT***

The air is around 28-29°C. The weather is always pleasant, even during the rainy months (Fig 1). Please note that most of the day will be occupied by field activities, seminars and exercises, it is therefore advisable to wear comfortable and sport clothes.

**It is recommended to avoid clothing too skimpy since Magoodhoo island is not a tourist resort and local costumes are those of an Islamic country.**

**For field activities into the sea is necessary to have, as well as a bathing suit and towel, the following equipment:**

- Mask;
- Snorkel;
- Fins (booties);
- Wetsuit;

### ***ACCOMODATION AND MEALS***

The accommodation has been organized at the guesthouse of the Centre, in multiple rooms with bathroom, with full treatment (breakfast, lunch and dinner). Sheets and towels are available. The food is prepared according to the local customs and consists for the most part, of fish, chicken, rice and vegetables prepared in different ways.

### ***HEALTH***

In Maldives no vaccinations are required for travelers coming from Europe. However, each participant should take care to this point in order to enter in the country.

### ***SAFETY***

Any field activity presents risks and dangers, and there are some basic rules to be observed in order to minimize these risks. In the water is necessary to respect the buddy system: working groups will be established, and, within the group, will be established working couples.

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## PROVISIONAL PROGRAM

<b>Day One</b> <b>24.01</b>	Departure
<b>Day Two</b> <b>25.01</b>	Arrival to Malé International Airport Transfer to Magoodhoo (by Speed Boat) Arrival to Magoodhoo Lunch First Briefing Guided Field Tour of Faaf -Magoodhoo Dinner
<b>Day Three</b> <b>26.01</b>	<b>8,30-10,30</b> Where are we? Cultural and Social Geography of the Maldives, M. Schmidt di Friedberg <b>10,30-11,30</b> The Specific Challenges of Island Tourism, G. Baldacchino <b>11,30-13,30</b> Coral reef System - Lesson <b>13,30</b> Lunch <b>14,30-16,30</b> Coral Reef System -Practical Activity <b>16,30-18,30</b> Briefing and Teamwork
<b>Day Four</b> <b>27.01</b>	<b>8,30-10,30</b> Branding Island Tourism Destinations, G. Baldacchino <b>10,30-12,30</b> Tourism and climate change in (small) island destinations, A. Trupp <b>12,30-13,30</b> Coral Reef System — Practical Activity <b>13,30</b> Lunch <b>14,30-16,30</b> Promises and pitfalls of tourism microentrepreneurship in (small) island destinations, A. Trupp <b>16,30-18,30</b> Briefing and Teamwork <b>20,00</b> Dinner <b>21,00-23,00</b> Briefing and Teamwork
<b>Day Five</b> <b>28.01</b>	<b>8,30-10,30</b> Can tourism benefit marine conservation in the Maldives?, M. Mohamed <b>10,30-11,30</b> Coral Reef System—Lesson <b>11,30-18,30</b> Field Excursion to Adanga Island <b>20,00</b> Dinner <b>21,00-23,00</b> Briefing and Teamwork

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<b>Day Six</b> <b>29.01</b>	<b>8,30-10,00</b> Tourism Development in local islands of the Maldives, M. Mohamed <b>10,00-11,30</b> Luxury and sustainability in the Maldivian resorts , E. dell'Agnese <b>12,00-13,00</b> Coral Reef System—Practical Activity <b>13,00</b> Lunch <b>15,30-17,30</b> Environment, resilience and climate change in the Maldives, M. Schmidt di Friedberg <b>18,00-19,00</b> Briefing and Teamwork <b>20,00</b> Dinner <b>21,00-23,00</b> Briefing and Teamwork
<b>Day Seven</b> <b>30.01</b>	<b>9,30-10,30</b> Enclave tourism in the Maldives, E. dell'Agnese <b>10,30-18,30</b> Field Trip to Filitheyo Island (Resort) - on site inspection <b>20,00</b> Dinner <b>21,00-23,00</b> Briefing and Teamwork
<b>Day Eight</b> <b>31.01</b>	<b>10,30-18,00</b> Field Trip to Dhaal Atoll <b>20,00</b> Dinner <b>21,00-23,00</b> Briefing and Teamwork
<b>Day Nine</b> <b>1.02</b>	<b>9,00-11,00</b> Teamwork Presentation <b>11,30</b> Departure to Malé Departure

**This is a provisional program: changes may occur  
due to flights' and boats' schedules**