Supplemental Material S2. Education and ICT milestones and actions in the Maldives.

Milestones	Specific actions and policies
1986	ICT courses were introduced in secondary schools, which was limited to a small number of students. (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2004	Following the Maldives Science and Technology Master Plan, every secondary school was mandated to ensure all school graduates were computer literature. (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2006-2007 Education Master plan	Policies included: • 'Enhance and optimise teaching, learning and management through the use of Information and Communication Technology.' (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2007 Teacher resource centres	The Ministry of Education in collaboration with UNICEF, inaugurated 20 Teacher Resource Centres (TRCs) to enable teacher training throughout the country using virtual learning environments. (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2009-2013 Strategic Action Plan	Policies included: • 'Enhance and optimise teaching, learning and management through the use of Information and Communication Technology.' • 'Ensure that all Maldivians are educated to cater for the basic needs of life in literacy, skills and knowledge through opportunities for lifelong learning.' (President's Office Maldives, 2009)
2010 Education Act was drafted (has not been ratified yet)	Aims of this act included: • 'the holistic development of the child,' • 'the development and expansion of capacity in ICT,' • 'expansion of the capabilities in analytical and research skills necessary for skills in the job market.' (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2013-2017 The Education Strategic Plan	Policies included: • 'To ensure that every school in the country is happy, enabling environment conducive to learning, with professional teachers, facilities, and is financially stable.' (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)

2015-2018 ICT in Education Master Plan	Outlines 10 deliverables to be achieved by 2018: 1. A national study on the state of ICT in education in the Maldives. 2. All teachers trained in ICT literacy and ICT pedagogy-integration. 3. All schools met the Ministry of Education standard on ICT equipment. 4. A national education portal providing all schools access to quality teaching and learning materials. 5. All schools have their own ICT in education development plans. 6. All Teacher Resource Centre (TRCs) upgraded. 7. School curriculum and student assessment updated to integrate ICT. 8. Distance education courses accredited for the continuing professional development of in-service and pre-service teachers. 9. An online educational management information system (EMIS); and 10. An ICT in education conference organized annually. (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2018 Digital education program / Digital schools project	This program was projected to roll out in 2018 by networking all schools to offer Wi-Fi connectivity to its community. By mid-2018 students and teachers were to be provided with tablets with digital access to learning and teaching resources. According to Ministry of Education, the project has not proceeded according to plan and tablets has only reached some schools. (Ministry of Education - Maldives, 2019)
2019 Education sector analysis	Recommendations for ICT enhancement and integration include: • Conduct an analysis of current practice on ICT integration in teaching and learning. • Train all teachers in ICT literacy and ICT pedagogy-integration. • Develop a national education portal. A central education portal for the education sector will attract more contributions throughout the Maldives, thereby increasing the resource base. • Establish Ministry of Education standards on ICT infrastructure for teaching and learning. • Assist all schools to develop their own ICT in education development plans. • Currently, SEN is not accounted for in the Digital School. Curriculum developers could come up with smart ways to incorporate tablet devices to SEN students so that their learning experience could be improved. • Since the TRCs can ensure decentralized and close access to resources, enhance the ICT related resources at these centres.