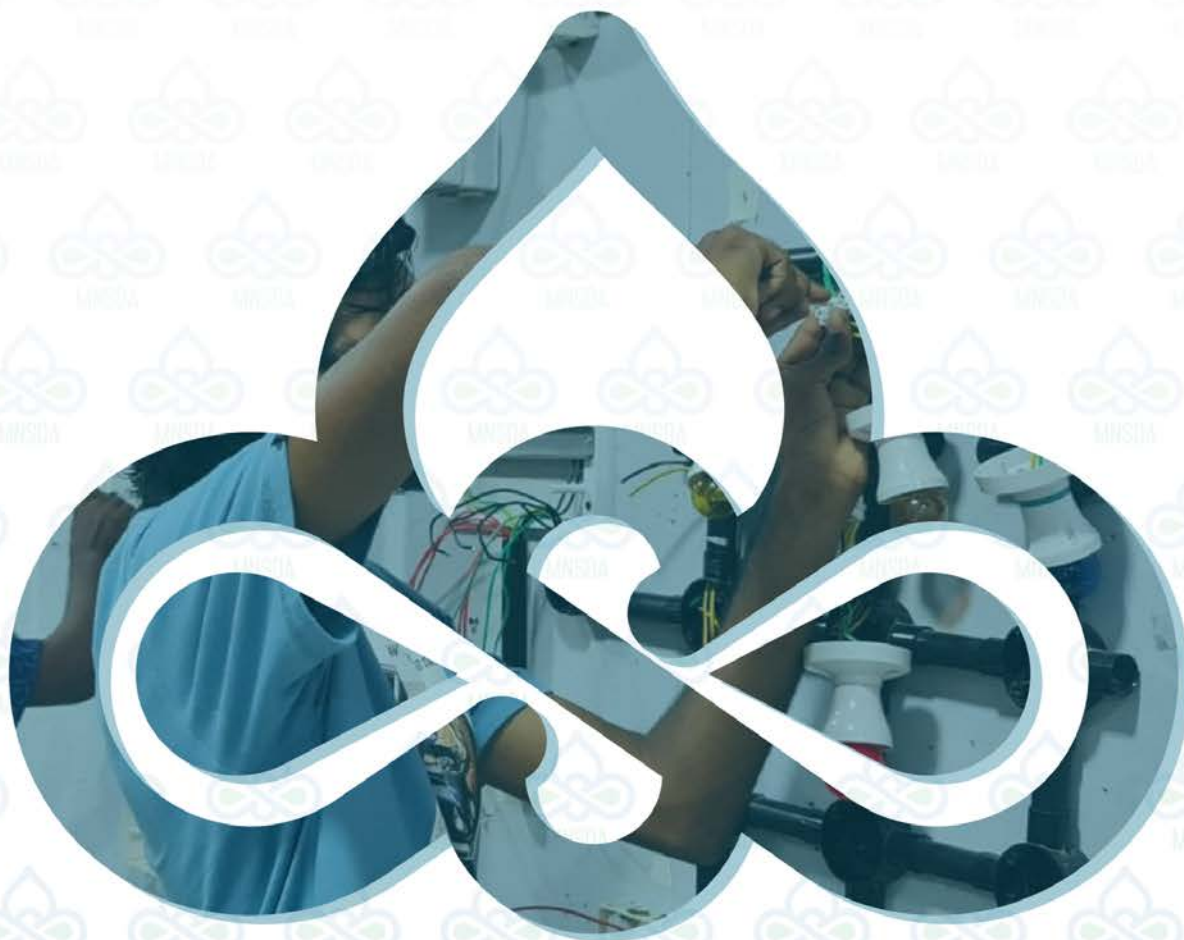




Maldives National Skills Development Authority



National Competency Standard for Agriculture

Standard Code: FNA-03L3-V3-24

Qualification Name: National Certificate III in Agriculture

FOREWORD

The pivotal role of the Maldives National Skills Development Authority (MNSDA) in meticulously implementing and expanding Technical and Vocational Education & Training (TVET) exemplifies the steadfast commitment of the Maldives to build a skilled and resilient workforce. This commitment is evident from the strategic formulation of National Standards and the establishment of a comprehensive framework for training and certification.

Under the Higher Education and Training Act 7/2021, the MNSDA assumes an instrumental role, reflecting the government's unwavering dedication to streamlining TVET policies and procedures. This includes the establishment of a robust system for accrediting and registering both Institution Based Training (IBT) and Employer Based Training (EBT) providers. The MNSDA's active involvement in conducting the National Apprenticeship Program (NAP), National Trade Testing and Certification (NTTC), and the issuance of National Certificates reflects a comprehensive approach to ensure elevated quality standards and competency within the workforce.

The National Competency Standards (NCS) revised through the Maldives Enhancing Employability and Resilience of Youth (MEERY) project accentuates the commitment to updating and sustaining contemporary skill sets aligned precisely with industry demands. Deliberate efforts to revise existing NCS, coupled with the development of curriculum, teaching materials, resource books, and logbooks, attest to our dedication to ensuring the ongoing relevance and currency of the TVET system in the Maldives.

The active engagement of Technical Panels and Employment Sector Councils in the NCS development and approval process, coupled with alignment to the Maldives National Qualification Framework (MNQF) and accreditation by the Maldives Qualifications Authority (MQA), certifies that the TVET system not only remains highly responsive but also ensures the quality standards demanded by industries. This approach enables the system to effectively meet the diverse needs of industries and adapt to the evolving economic landscape.

The collaborative development of the National Certificate III in Agriculture by the MNSDA, MEERY, and the Maldives Institute of Technology exemplifies the practical implementation of TVET initiatives. This training package represents a critical stride towards addressing the requisite skills while fostering opportunities to integrate sustainable economic development within the TVET framework.




Dr. Zahra Mohamed

Chief Executive Officer

Maldives National Skills Development Authority

EMPLOYMENT SECTOR COUNCILS			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01	Dr.Hussain Sinan	Director	Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources
02	Ali Amir	Director	Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Welfare
03	Musthafa Abdul Gafoor	Senior Policy Officer	Ministry of Economic Development & Trade
04	Mifrah Naseem	General Manager- Sales and Marketing	MIFCO
05	Dr. Ahmed Riyaz Jauhary	Dean	College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences
06	Adnan Ali	Industry Expert	-
07	Maizan Ahmed Manik	Industry Expert	-
08	Aishath Shazleena	HR Manager	Agro National Corporation Ltd (AgroNat)
09	Shakeeba Ali	Director General	Maldives National Skills Development Authority

National Occupational Standard has been endorsed by:



Dr. Ahmed Riyaz Jauhary
Chairperson
Fisheries and Agriculture Sector Council

Maldives National Skills Development Authority
Umar Zahir Office Building, 5th Floor,
Orchid Ma higun, HulhuMale' , Republic of Maldives.

Date of Endorsement: 17/07/2024	Date of Revision: 17/07/2024
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TECHNICAL SUPPORT			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01			
02			

TECHNICAL PANEL MEMBERS			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01	Gasith Mohamed	UNOPS	Partnership Specialist
02	Mohamed Rihwan	Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture	Assistant Director
03	Ahmed Afrah	-	-
04	Adam Adeel	Agro National Corporation	Agronomist
05	Ibrahim Sharmeel	Urban co	Assistant Manager

VERSION	DEVELOPER	DATE	STANDARD CODE
V3	Maldives Institute of Technillogy	17/07/2024	FNA-03L3-V3-24

Standard Review Process

To begin with, Agriculture occupation competencies were profiled through study of the occupations across the Maldivian workplaces aligned to the principles of "Functional Analysis", a methodology used for reviewing Competency Standards. Referred occupational profiling process compared existing competency units incorporated within the National Competency Standard of Level III in Agriculture program.

Draft Review of the occupational standard is then compiled and submitted to the Technical Panel (TP) organised by the Maldives National Skills Development Authority (MNSDA). The Draft Standard is then edited based on comments from TP members under the direct observation of MNSDA. With series of reviewing and editings, TP approved standard is then tabled at Employment Sector Council (ESC) meeting for endorsement.

All the Standards of MNSDA are endorsed from the ESC before being published on its website.

Description of “Agriculture”

The National Certificate III in Agriculture is a meticulously designed program tailored to impart foundational skills and knowledge in the dynamic field of agriculture. This course is intricately structured to equip individuals with essential competencies required for proficient agricultural practices.

The certification serves as a starting point for individuals entering the field of agriculture in the Maldives, offering a solid foundation in the basic skills required.

Recommended changes to the existing National Certificate III in Agriculture Standard

The changes proposed by the Technical Panel (TP) for National Certificate III in Agriculture Standard aim to synchronise the curriculum with contemporary industry benchmarks. These revisions are intended to ensure that the program aligns seamlessly with current standards and practices prevalent within the Agriculture sector.

Job opportunities upon completion of “National Certificate III in Agriculture”

Upon successful completion of the National certificate III in Agriculture, students can work in the following jobs.

1. *Agriculture Officer*

KEY FOR CODING

Coding Competency Standards and Related Materials

DESCRIPTION	REPRESENTED BY
Industry Sector as per ESC (Three letters)	Construction Sector (CON) Fisheries and Agriculture (FNA) Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Transport Sector (TRN) Tourism Sector(TOU) Social Sector (SOC) Foundation (FOU)
Standard Number - Occupation with in an industry sector	Two digits 01-99
Common Competency	CM
Core Competency	CC
Unit Number - Occupation with in an Standard	Three digits 01-99
MNQF level of qualification	L1, L2, L3, L4 etc.
Version Number	V1, V2 etc.
Separator	-
Year of Last Review of standard, qualification	Two digits responding to the year of last review, example 23 for the year 2023
Qualification Code	Refers to Standard code in cover page

1. Endorsement Application for Qualification 01		
2. NATIONAL CERTIFICATE III IN AGRICULTURE		
3. Qualification code: FNA-03L3-V3-24		Total Number of Credits: 72
4. Purpose of the qualification The purpose of the National Certificate-3 in Agriculture is to provide individuals with comprehensive training and knowledge in various aspects of agricultural practices. This qualification aims to equip learners with the essential skills and competencies needed to effectively engage in agricultural activities.		
5. Regulations for the qualification		National Certificate III in the occupation of Agriculture will be awarded to those who are competent in units 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18+19+20+21
6. Schedule of Units		
Unit No.	Unit Title	Code
Common Competencies		
01	Apply occupational health and safety requirements	FNA-01-CM01-V2-24
02	Apply work ethics and optimise professionalism	FNA-01-CM02-V2-24
03	Practice effective workplace communication	FNA-01-CM03-V2-24
04	Perform computer operations	FNA-01-CM04-V2-24
05	Respond to emergency situations	FNA-02-CM05-V1-24
06	Understand basic book keeping	FNA-03-CM01-V3-24
Core Competencies		
07	Apply knowledge of agriculture	FNA-03-CC01-V3-24
08	Perform handling of agricultural and gardening tools and equipment	FNA-03-CC02-V3-24
09	Build a small plant nursery	FNA-03-CC03-V3-24
10	Provide information on crops suitable for Maldives and their culture	FNA-03-CC04-V3-24
11	Apply science and engineering measurements	FNA-03-CC05-V3-24
12	Undertake preparation of land for agriculture	FNA-03-CC06-V3-24
13	Perform planting, seedling and propagation	FNA-03-CC07-V3-24
14	Install an irrigation system	FNA-03-CC08-V3-25
15	Undertake proper use of fertilisers and soil ameliorant	FNA-03-CC09-V3-24
16	Plant vegetable, ornamental and fruit trees	FNA-03-CC10-V3-24
17	Perform plant care and management practices	FNA-03-CC11-V3-24
18	Control plant pests, diseases and disorders	FNA-03-CC12-V3-24

19	Carryout harvest and post-harvest activities	FNA-03-CC13-V3-24
20	Understand types of hydroponic systems and protected structures	FNA-03-CC14-V3-24
21	Practice other forms of agriculture	FNA-03-CC15-V3-24
7. Accreditation requirements		The training provider should have made arrangements to ensure students are provided with adequate theory and practicals for them to develop all the required knowledge and skills stipulated in the National Competency Standard.
8. Recommended sequencing of units		As appearing under the section 06

Unit Details

Unit No.	Unit Title	Code	Level	No. of credits	Credit hours	Contact hours
01	Apply occupational health and safety requirements	FNA-01-CM01-V2-24	III	04	40	20
02	Apply work ethics and optimise professionalism	FNA-01-CM02-V2-24	III	03	30	15
03	Practice effective workplace communication	FNA-01-CM03-V2-24	III	03	30	15
04	Perform computer operations	FNA-01-CM04-V2-24	III	03	30	15
05	Respond to emergency situations	FNA-02-CM05-V1-24	III	03	30	15
06	Understand basic book keeping	FNA-03-CM01-V3-24	III	04	40	20
07	Apply knowledge of agriculture	FNA-03-CC01-V3-24	III	04	40	20
08	Perform handling of agricultural and gardening tools and equipment	FNA-03-CC02-V3-24	III	03	30	15
09	Build a small plant nursery	FNA-03-CC03-V3-24	III	04	40	20
10	Provide information on crops suitable for Maldives and their culture	FNA-03-CC04-V3-24	III	03	30	15
11	Apply science and engineering measurements	FNA-03-CC05-V3-24	III	03	30	15
12	Undertake preparation of land for agriculture	FNA-03-CC06-V3-24	III	03	30	15
13	Perform planting, seedling and propagation	FNA-03-CC07-V3-24	III	03	30	15
14	Install an irrigation system	FNA-03-CC08-V3-25	III	03	30	15
15	Undertake proper use of fertilisers and soil ameliorant	FNA-03-CC09-V3-24	III	04	40	20
16	Plant vegetable, ornamental and fruit trees	FNA-03-CC10-V3-24	III	03	30	15
17	Perform plant care and management practices	FNA-03-CC11-V3-24	III	03	30	15
18	Control plant pests, diseases and disorders	FNA-03-CC12-V3-24	III	03	30	15
19	Carryout harvest and post-harvest activities	FNA-03-CC13-V3-24	III	04	40	20
20	Understand types of hydroponic systems and protected structures	FNA-03-CC14-V3-24	III	05	50	25

21	Practice other forms of agriculture	FNA-03-CC15-V3-24	III	04	40	20
Total				72	720	360

Packaging of National Qualifications:

National certificate III in Agriculture will be awarded to those who are competent in units 1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9+10+11+12+13+14+15+16+17+18+19+20+21

Qualification Code: FNA-03L3-V3-24

COMPETENCY BASED ASSESSMENT

The final assessment of the National Competency-Based Programmes conducted by the Maldives National Skills Development Authority (MNSDA) is a competency-based assessment.

The Competency-Based Assessment ensures that the students' performance meets the requirements specified in the National Competency Standards (NCS). This assessment approach is designed to verify that graduates are job-ready and meet established occupational competency requirements within their respective fields.

Eligibility for Final Assessment

To be eligible for the final Competency-Based Assessment, students must fulfil the following conditions:

- achieve a **minimum of 80%** attendance
- deemed competent in each of the units of the programme in the pre-assessment

Competency-Based Assessment Process

Upon submission of the Pre-assessment report by the training provider, MNSDA will check for all the necessary supporting documents and conduct Competency-Based Assessment through a National Assessor registered with MNSDA. It is important to note that any trainer involved in the training process is **not permitted** to conduct the assessment to maintain impartiality and integrity of the process.

The final Competency-Based Assessment conducted by MNSDA includes both:

- **Theory:** Evaluating students' knowledge and understanding of key theoretical aspects of the competency.
- **Practical:** Assessing hands-on skills and application of knowledge in real-world or simulated environments.

Once the assessment is completed, the National Assessor will send the Competency-Based Assessment Report to MNSDA.

Competency Status Requirement

For certification to be granted, the student must be officially declared "**Competent**" in each of the units of the programme by the National Assessor.

Conclusion

Competency-Based Assessment is a critical component in ensuring the quality and credibility of technical and vocational skills-based training. By adhering to the outlined procedure, MNSDA upholds the standards required to certify students who are fully prepared to meet industry demands.