



Maldives National Skills Development Authority



# National Competency Standard for Gardening and Landscaping

Standard Code: FNA-04L3-V2-24

Qualification Name: National Certificate III in Gardening and Landscaping

## 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 Gardening and Landscaping 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 Jauharee	Dean	College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences, Maldives National University
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 Jauharee Chairperson Fisheries and Agriculture Sector Council			
Maldives National Skills Development Authority Umar Zahir Office Building, 5th Floor, Orchidmaa Hingun, HulhuMale' , Republic of Maldives			
Date of Endorsement: 17.07.2024		Date of Revision: 17.07.2024	

TECHNICAL SUPPORT			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01			
02			

TECHNICAL PANEL MEMBERS			
#	Name	Designation	Organisation
01	Gasith Mohamed	Partnership Specialist	UNOPS
02	Mohamed Rihwan	Assistant Director	Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture
03	Ahmed Afrah	Industry Expert	-
04	Adam Adeel	Agronomist	Agro National Corporation
05	Ibrahim Sharmeel	Assistant Manager	Housing Development Corporation
06			
07			
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VERSION	DEVELOPER	DATE	STANDARD CODE
V2	Maldives Institute of Technology	17/07/2024	FNA-04L3-V2-24

## Standard Review Process

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To begin with, Gardening and Landscaping 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-3 in Gardening and Landscaping 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 “Gardening and Landscaping”

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The National Certificate III in Gardening and Landscaping is designed to impart foundational skills and knowledge in the dynamic field of gardening. This course is meticulously planned to equip individuals with the necessary competencies required for proficient gardening techniques.

Participants will delve into practical insights, emphasising essential methods and practices vital for creating beautiful gardens with skill and precision.

## Recommended changes to the existing National Certificate III in Gardening and Landscaping Standard

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The changes proposed by the Technical Panel (TP) for National Certificate III in Gardening and Landscaping 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 gardening sector.

## Job opportunities upon completion of “National Certificate III in Gardening and Landscaping”

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

1. *Garden Maintenance Assistant*
2. *Nursery Assistant*
3. *Assistant Landscaper*
4. *Landscaper and Nursery Worker*

## KEY FOR CODING

### Coding Competency Standards and Related Materials

DESCRIPTION	REPRESENTED BY
Industry Sector as per ESC (Three letters)	Construction Sector (CON) Fisheries and Gardening (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 GARDENING AND LANDSCAPING		
3. Qualification code: FNA-04L3-V2-24		Total Number of Credits: 85
<b>4. Purpose of the qualification</b> This qualification aims to provide learners with a comprehensive understanding of gardening principles, techniques, and practices, enabling them to effectively maintain, design, and manage gardens and outdoor spaces. By completing this qualification, individuals will be prepared to contribute to the horticultural sector by enhancing the aesthetic appeal, functionality, and sustainability of landscapes while adhering to industry standards and best practices.		
5. Regulations for the qualification		National Certificate III in the occupation of Gardening and Landscaping 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+22+23
6. Schedule of Units		
Unit No.	Unit Title	Code
<b>Common Competencies</b>		
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
<b>Core Competencies</b>		
06	Apply science and engineering measurements for gardening	FNA-04-CC01-V2-24
07	Apply knowledge of AutoCAD	FNA-04-CC02-V2-24
08	Operate irrigation systems	FNA-04-CC03-V2-24
09	Understand plant nutrition soil	FNA-04-CC04-V2-24
10	Operate machinery and equipment	FNA-04-CC05-V2-24
11	Control weeds	FNA-04-CC06-V2-24
12	Control plant pests, diseases and disorders	FNA-04-CC07-V2-24
13	Handle and store chemicals	FNA-04-CC08-V2-24
14	Implement soil improvements for garden and turf areas	FNA-04-CC09-V2-24
15	Perform pruning operations	FNA-04-CC10-V2-24
16	Cultivate turf	FNA-04-CC11-V2-24

17	Implement a landscape maintenance program	FNA-04-CC12-V2-24
18	Propagate plants	FNA-04-CC13-V2-24
19	Install and maintain interior plant displays	FNA-04-CC14-V2-24
20	Install drainage systems	FNA-04-CC15-V2-25
21	Implement hydroponic gardening techniques	FNA-04-CC16-V2-24
22	Maintain nursery plants	FNA-04-CC17-V2-24
23	Understand agriculture and gardening rules and regulations	FNA-04-CC18-V2-24
<b>7. Accreditation requirements</b>		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.
<b>8. Recommended sequencing of units</b>		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	05	50	25
06	Apply science and engineering measurements for gardening	FNA-04-CC01-V2-24	III	04	40	20
07	Apply knowledge of AutoCAD	FNA-04-CC02-V2-24	III	04	40	20
08	Operate irrigation systems	FNA-04-CC03-V2-24	III	04	40	20
09	Understand plant nutrition soil	FNA-04-CC04-V2-24	III	03	30	15
10	Operate machinery and equipment	FNA-04-CC05-V2-24	III	03	30	15
11	Control weeds	FNA-04-CC06-V2-24	III	04	40	20
12	Control plant pests, diseases and disorders	FNA-04-CC07-V2-24	III	04	40	20
13	Handle and store chemicals	FNA-04-CC08-V2-24	III	04	40	20
14	Implement soil improvements for garden and turf areas	FNA-04-CC09-V2-24	III	04	40	20
15	Perform pruning operations	FNA-04-CC10-V2-24	III	03	30	15
16	Cultivate turf	FNA-04-CC11-V2-24	III	03	30	15
17	Implement a landscape maintenance program	FNA-04-CC12-V2-24	III	03	30	15
18	Propagate plants	FNA-04-CC13-V2-24	III	04	40	20
19	Install and maintain interior plant displays	FNA-04-CC14-V2-24	III	04	40	20
20	Install drainage systems	FNA-04-CC15-V2-25	III	05	50	25

21	Implement hydroponic gardening techniques	FNA-04-CC16-V2-24	III	03	30	15
22	Maintain nursery plants	FNA-04-CC17-V2-24	III	05	50	25
23	Understand agriculture and gardening rules and regulations	FNA-04-CC18-V2-24	III	03	30	15
Total				85	850	425

### **Packaging of National Qualifications:**

National certificate III in Gardening and Landscaping 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+22+23

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## 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.