

# Veligandu Island Resort and Spa

## Sustainability Report 2018-2019

### Introduction

Veligandu Island Resort & Spa, surrounded by a beautiful lagoon, an excellent house reef and long stretches of white, sandy beach, is the only Resort of Veligandu, North Ari Atoll. It is 600 meters long by 150 meters wide, about 22 acres.

Veligandu being part of CCR, we adhere to the guidelines set out by the corporate sustainability report. As such below are the areas which Veligandu will strive to achieve so as to meet the corporate sustainability expectations.

### Energy management

Veligandu has targeted to save 7% energy, compare to 2016 at 93% occupancy.

Target reduction: 4.6KWH per guest night (End of year average of 2017)

Actual EOY 2017: 53KWH per guest night

Overall reduction: 2%

Target 2018: 3% reduction on the baseline of 2017

We have been changing the lighting to LED and in purchasing new equipment looking for lower consumption equipment. At the moment, 97% of our bulbs are LED and energy saving. Also we have been training the staff through our Training department energy saving and on the proper usage of the equipment. At the end of 2017, we have replaced 84% of our Air conditioners to inverter R410A gas type ones. We are scheduling to replace all of ACs to R410A at the end of 2019.

### Water management

Veligandu water saving in numbers

Target reduction: 189 Litres per guest night (end of the year 2018)

Actual EOY 2017: 1009 Litres per guest night

Overall reduction: 0.3%

Target 2018: 3% reduction on the baseline of 2017

Water management have been a very key area of concern for us and we have been adjusting the flow rates, calibrating the equipment for optimum water usage. Also one huge area that we have been concentrating on, is the Laundry, where we have trained the staff on the best usage of the equipment to reduce the water and energy consumption.

### Waste management

Veligandu Waste reduction in numbers

Target reduction: 5 Kg per guest night (End of year average of 2017)

Actual EOY 2017: .13 Kg per guest night

Overall reduction: 2%

Target 2018: 3% reduction on the baseline of 2017

When the waste receives to the waste management center, we segregate all the wastes and do as follows:

PETs: Compact all PETS and sell to Securebag at Thilafushi

Metals/ Aluminums: Compacted and sell to Securebag at Thilafushi

Cardboards: Compacted and sell to Securebag at Thilafushi

Glass bottles: Crushed and sell to Securebag at Thilafushi

Waste oils: Sell to Securebag at Thilafushi

All the waste which cannot be sold are sending to Thilafushi Corporation site.

At Veligandu we are only burning all leaves and branches from the trees.

In purchasing, we are looking for less packaging, larger containers and also more recyclable packaging where packaging is absolutely necessary. In local fruit and vegetable purchases, we are packaging free. All of these are brought in on plastic crates which are taken back by them when they leave.

## Chemical management

We have committed ourselves to purchasing environmentally friendly chemicals and thus we are buying all cleaning chemicals from Ecolab.

Also to note is that from 2017, we have stopped the purchase of R22 gas and have since started to replace it with R410A and R417A, which has a zero ozone depletion potential.

The fertilizers we are using for gardening is Coco peat and cow dung imported from Sri Lanka. We also use some wastes from the trees as fertilizers for the gardens as the green waste from our own gardens to make our own compost. We are also using all sewage water and sludge from the Sewage treatment plant for gardening.

All of the chemical wastes we are sending to Secure Bag, who is a licensed company for collection and recycling different types of waste.

## Environmental awareness

To achieve the sustainability goals, we had to make our staff more aware about the issues that we had on hand. To this end, a lot of the credit goes to the Training department for raising the awareness of the staff towards the matter. Till end of year 2017, we have conducted Environmental awareness training for a total of 180 staff, which 80% percent of all staff. Target for 2018 is to get 40% of staff to attend this training as well as refresher training.

We regularly do staff room Aircon-off day every Monday and Thursdays for five hours, which saves around 23% of energy compare to other days. We also have made such a program for the guests also to reduce the energy in guest rooms.

We have also organized and conducted activities to mark special events like the world environment day, earth hour and world tourism day, etc. which are designed to sensitize the guests and staff towards our fragile environment.

## Supporting local community

Veligandu supports the local community in different ways. The biggest being employment. Of all our staff, over 60% are locals, and all have the opportunity to work their way up the ladder. This can be seen from the senior management team which is also comprised of a majority of locals.

Another way in which we support the local community is by purchasing the fish locally from the fishermen themselves. This cuts out the middlemen, and the fishermen are given the market price for their product. All our fish come from fishing boats from our neighboring islands, and are fished using pole and line, which is one of the most sustainable fishing methods. The money as such this goes directly to the local fishermen from nearby islands.

We also purchase some vegetables and fruits from nearby island Thoddu once a week.

Fish purchases, Total 2016: USD 135,895.00

Fish purchases, Total 2017: USD 133,362.00

Fruits and Veggies, Total 2016: USD 67,873.00

Fruits and Veggies, Total 2017: USD 74,111.00

Also we use one hired speed boat for excursions at Veligandu from a local company. The amounts paid is exclusive of the diesel fuel, engine oil and all cleaning items are provided to them by us free of charge.

Boat hires, Total 2016: USD 59,144.00

Boat hires, Total 2017: USD 59,144.00

We also purchase all cadjan what we use for roof thatching from local islands, which costs around USD 20,000.00 to 25,000.00 annually.

We have also donated some waste management equipment to nearby island Rasdhoo which costs USD 15000.00.

We regularly do guest and staff excursions to Rasdhoo, which also earn quite a big money to local shops and restaurants.

We will continue to maintain this relations with the local community, and also try to find other areas in which we can get the participation of the local community.

## Moving forward

We are constantly striving to find greener, better, more responsible and sustainable solutions / methods to implement in our daily operations. For this end, continuous monitoring is going to be done and areas of improvement are going to be identified. Our aim is to meet and / exceed, our corporate expectations expressed in the corporate sustainability policy and to make our resort a model for sustainability and in doing so, uphold the high regard that the CCR maintains as the most sustainable hotel management chain in the Maldives.