

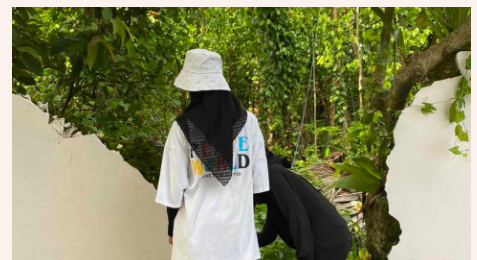
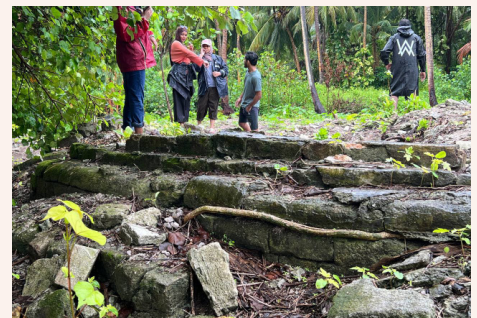
Architecture students field trip to Thoddoo



Architecture students from the Faculty of Engineering Science and Technology visits the island of Thoddoo. The main aim of this trip is for the students to get practical experience in the islands and local communities. Stuednts will explore the rich Maldivian culture and also will get an opprotunity to talk to the locals and and share the local knowledge from the islanders.

This semester's field visit was to the island of Thoddoo. Thoddoo is an island which is about 1 hour by speed boat from the capital island Male. Thoddoo has got a rich culture and history. The main objective of this trip was to design a museum for the island. Students should be located at the island's heritage site. Students should study the site well and propose the best model for the design. Students when they return to Male should work and present a prototype model to the public.

Students conducted surveys and took several measurements using state-of-the-art surveying tools, using appropriate computer software. The students collected a lot of data. The collected data were discussed among the local population. In design projects, close relationships with the design community are an important concept that should be carried out. All our courses are designed keeping the local community in mind.



Maldives and Sustainable Architecture

Maldives “The sunny side of life” is rich with its natural resources like sun, sea, rain and sand. While the development in Maldivian archipelago was severely affected on the past by the absence of mineral resources, the nation is currently leading the way in depending on sustainable energy resources. Besides, thanks to its turquoise water, clear sky and sandy beaches, it became the upmarket tourist destination. Tourism and fishery are together contributing to the Maldivian Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at almost 33%. And as Maldives is one of the most vulnerable nations to climate change, especially sea level rise, the nation is trying to reduce depending on international economic resources as the tiniest fluctuations in the world market are strongly affecting the economics of Maldives, and that was clearly showed during Covid-19 pandemic. The country is currently taking effective steps towards sustainable development, nowadays Sustainable architecture is the trendy used term all over the world. Green architecture can be defined as “philosophy of architecture that advocates sustainable energy sources, the conservation of energy, the reuse and safety of building materials, and the siting of a building with consideration of its impact on the environment”. The main Sustainable strategies could be categorized as:

- Heating, ventilation and cooling system efficiency
- Renewable energy generation (Solar panels- Wind turbines...
- Sustainable building materials
- Recycled materials
- Waste management

It's highly recommended to incorporate these strategies when designing new buildings in Maldives, even the old buildings could be modified and renovated with taking in consideration these strategies. Maldives is already owning the world's largest oceanic floating solar plant which is located the resort on Dhiidhoofinolhu as shown of the following figure.



The diagram illustrates the difference in thermal insulation between single and double window panes. On the left, a 'Single' pane is shown with a red arrow indicating that 'Outside temperature permeates through' the glass. On the right, a 'Double' pane system is shown, consisting of 'Two Sheets of Glass' separated by a 'Sealed Air Space'. An 'Airtight Seal (around entire frame)' is indicated at the bottom. A red arrow shows that 'Minimal outside temperature permeates through' the double-pane system.



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