

QUESTIONNAIRE

Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States survey for the SG report in 2018.

Please take time to read thoroughly, before starting the Questionnaire.

PART A

Policy, Legal, Institutional and Financial Arrangements for Implementation

1. (Organizational Arrangements) Is there a Focal Point/Unit dealing with implementation of the Samoa Pathway? If yes, where is it located within the institutional architecture of your country or institution? If no, please explain how the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway is currently coordinated?

Yes – the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade maintains a focal point for all SIDS policy issues including coordinating implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. This focal point is a shared function across our Development Policy team and our United Nations team to ensure that we bring both a development and a multilateral perspective to the policy leadership. Implementation itself is distributed among relevant development and policy staff thematically, for example, specific staff are responsible for all climate change and environment efforts, including, but not only for SIDS. Given New Zealand’s geographic focus is the Pacific, and in some sectors (i.e. energy) the Caribbean, there is a high degree of overlap between everyday delivery, and implementation of the Samoa Pathway.

2. (Policy and Legislative arrangements) Is the Focal Point/Unit supported by an enabling policy and/or legal framework? If yes, please describe. If no, how is the Focal Point/Unit enabled to lead or facilitate the implementation of SAMOA Pathway. How has this affected progress on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in your organization at national and regional levels?

New Zealand has a SIDS strategy called the ‘SIDS Action Plan’ that acts as an overarching framework to promote policy efforts that support SIDS priorities in multilateral forums. While the Action Plan is not specifically for the SAMOA Pathway alone, it does include the priority areas set out under that Pathway and serves the purpose. There are two focal points coordinating this Plan. The Aid Programme has a strong focus on the Pacific, which have their own comprehensive strategies at the country level, and dedicated Country teams.

3. (Financial Arrangements) Please give an indication of:
 - (i) **For States** - the percentage of national budgets allocated to supporting SAMOA Pathway thematic priorities over the last fiscal year.
 - (ii) **For UN system agencies, Regional institutions and international development partners** - percentage of the total budgets invested into SIDS priority areas over the last Fiscal year:

NB: Figures are based on projected spend (NZD) and as % total of ODA budget for the current 2017-18 financial year. This information is extracted from our central information system, which is not principally aligned to the Samoa Pathway priorities areas, although there is a high degree of overlap.

Priorities identified in the Samoa Pathway	Budget Allocation (NZD) for 2017-18 Financial Year	As percentage of Aid Programme budget
Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth <i>Education and scholarships</i> <i>Private sector/trade.</i> <i>ICT</i>	Education: 21,976,000 Scholarships: 37,174,000 Private sector/trade: 15,615,000 ICT: 10,417,000	13.2%
Climate Change <i>climate change funding</i>	11,679,000	1.8%
Sustainable Tourism	20,254,000	3.1%
Sustainable Energy <i>Renewable energy projects</i>	38,883,000	6%
Disaster Risk Reduction	Disaster Risk: 10,794,000 Emergency response: 53,324,000	1.7% plus humanitarian dis. Resp. 8.2%
Food Security and nutrition <i>Agriculture</i>	Agriculture: 13,633,000	2.1%
Water and sanitation	15,313,000	2.4%
Oceans and seas, biodiversity <i>All fisheries, oceans related</i> <i>Biodiversity & invasive alien species</i>	23,938,000 Environmental protection: 10,733,000	5.4%
Sustainable transportation	17,711,000	2.7%
Health and non-communicable diseases	24,448,000	3.8%
Social development <i>Peaceful societies (governance, law)</i> <i>Education</i>	26,635,000	4.1%
Means of implementation (including partnerships and institutional support)	Economic governance: 32,747,000 Budget support: 18,500,000 Sector support: 13,662,000	10%
Total	417,436,000	64.5%

Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and Support to SIDS

4. (Work Programme Arrangements) Please give an indication of:

- (i) **For SIDS** - Does your country have a current long-term National Development Plan? If yes, to what extent has it been aligned to the SAMOA Pathway and/or the 2030 Agenda? Is this plan being implemented? If no long-term plan exists, please indicate what is being used in place of a long-term National Development Plan. N/A
- (ii) **For UN system agencies, Regional institutions and international development partners** – what strategic documents/frameworks/policies/plans guides support for the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and/or the SDGs if any? How is it resourced and implemented? How often is it revised?

As noted in 2 above, New Zealand has a Small Island Developing States Action Plan. This includes efforts to implement the Samoa Pathway. The Plan was adopted in 2016, and is periodically reviewed in response to ongoing monitoring and feedback. Resourcing (staffing) is described in answers to questions 1 and 2 above.

Regarding the SDGs, we are currently developing a new International Development Cooperation for Sustainable Development Policy Statement, which will articulate New Zealand's approach to sustainable development (and the SDGs) across our development, trade, security and environment portfolios.

5. Using the table below, please provide an overview of the work (programmes, projects, actions, etc.) that your Organization/Government is implementing or plans to implement in support of the SAMOA Pathway and/or the SDGs for the biennium 2017-2018? (Please exclude Conferences and partnerships as this is covered in a separate section).

New Zealand has committed to spending over 60% of our total aid programme budget in SIDS during this period. This covers a large array of activities that address particular areas of the SIDS agenda. We have not sought to list or describe all these activities here, however we do summarise some of the more significant initiatives being implemented over the 2017-2018 biennium:

- Sustained advocacy for SIDS voice, issues and responsiveness within the multilateral system including specific advocacy for increased SIDS financing for development;
- Financing of three seminal studies on SIDS financing issues and policy options by the World Bank, the UNDP and the OECD DAC.
- Scaling up of New Zealand's development assistance by one third for the period 2018-2022, focused on supporting sustainable development in Pacific SIDS
- Delivery of a Paris Agreement linked commitment to climate financing of NZ\$200 million over 2016-2019, the majority of which will be delivered in SIDS;
- Delivery of a major programme of renewable energy partnerships and projects in SIDS in the Pacific, the Caribbean, and Africa totalling NZ\$32.7 million
- Commitment to deliver 20% of our official development assistance as Aid for Trade to Pacific SIDS
- Support to an ongoing programme of public financial management reform and capacity building within Pacific SIDS

- Ongoing implementation of and an increased cap on the Recognised Seasonal Employer programme which provides labour market access to workers from Pacific SIDS.
- Supporting improvements in maritime and air transport safety in SIDS by funding aerodrome charting and the design of Global Navigation Satellite System landing procedures for domestic and international airports in 38 aerodromes in the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Vanuatu. Investing NZ\$6 million towards improving maritime safety delivering safety initiatives in Tonga, Kiribati, the Cook Islands, Niue, Tokelau and Tuvalu.
- Investing in primary healthcare services and developing monitoring and surveillance systems to decrease premature mortality from non-communicable diseases in Pacific SIDS

PART B

1. What challenges have you encountered in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, or in supporting SIDS to implement? What solutions or potential solutions have been or can be adopted to address these challenges?

Building and sustaining consensus among the international community (across different forums/constituencies, e.g. multilateral development banks, the OECD, and bodies of the UN) for SIDS unique vulnerabilities, is a challenge. Encouraging shifts in donor practice to accommodate SIDS realities and their highly heterogeneous contexts which demand tailored approaches, different both from other developing countries and other SIDS, is an ongoing challenge in the effort towards building a coherent approach to supporting SIDS. Improving the evidence base on SIDS issues, identifying common challenges shared between and beyond SIDS, and prioritising efforts behind policy change in these priority areas, are potential ways to build support for change.

2. To what extent is your country capable of meeting the human and financial resource requirements for implementation of the SAMOA Pathway?
3. To what extent has your country been able to access international development assistance required to implement the key aspects of the Samoa Pathway? N/A

PART C

1. For the year 2017, please describe any key results achieved as a result of ongoing work being implemented by your organization/Government in the thematic areas of the SAMOA Pathway. What impact, if any, has this had at national and/or regional levels.

NOTE: New Zealand's development cooperation activities usually span multiple years, thus isolating impacts or activities related to 2017 is difficult. Some of the following span more than 2017.

Oceans, Seas and Biodiversity

New Zealand invested approximately NZ\$67 million over the 2015-18 triennium New Zealand to the Pacific to assist in improving sustainable fisheries management, reducing illegal, unreported and

unregulated (IUU) fishing; and improving coastal fisheries management and sustainable aquaculture. As part of this, the Pacific Fisheries Training Programme (PFTP) was introduced to ensure a greater contribution from the seafood sector in the Pacific. Over 2013-2017, 700 men and women were trained in fisheries including business development and seafood safety and handling. The level of behavioural change to which PFTP has contributed is amongst the highest witnessed by the independent evaluation team. The application of learning from the training had significant impact on the lives of community fishers and the performance of fisheries officers in the workplace.

Sustainable Energy

The Pacific Energy Conference held in Auckland in June 2016 successfully generated additional support for energy initiatives in small island developing states of the Pacific. International donors committed NZ\$1 billion in investments. Private sector investment and access to climate finance is expected to further increase regional investment.

Co-hosted by the New Zealand Government and the European Union, the conference focused on investment opportunities to increase renewable energy, energy efficiency and energy access for Pacific island countries. It was attended by leaders and representatives from across the Pacific, partner countries, the private sector and development organisations.

The conference built on the success of the Pacific Energy Summit in 2013, which kick-started wide-scale international investment in energy in the Pacific, and has resulted in over NZ\$900 million of energy projects being developed across the region.

It means more than NZ\$2 billion investment in increasing access to clean, reliable, and affordable energy in the Pacific between 2013 and 2024.

- In Samoa, New Zealand and the Government of Samoa have established a renewable energy partnership to provide efficient, reliable, safe, affordable and sustainable electricity supply for Samoa. This has been achieved through technical assistance, solar energy projects, hydro power, and grid stability support. The solar energy projects alone have saved 615,000 litres of diesel.
- In Tonga, New Zealand's energy investment has led to improvements in electricity access and reliability and reduced costs in the sector. It has also directly addressed key strategic and development priorities for Tonga and New Zealand. The strategic vision in this sector is strong with a high level of political buy-in.
- In Tuvalu, renewable energy has seen immediate benefits, including greater reliability of electricity supply in the outer islands and reduced dependency on diesel imports. Longer term benefits will, to a large extent, depend on Tuvalu's ability to effectively plan for, fund and implement necessary infrastructure maintenance and replacement work.
- In Solomon Islands, New Zealand and the United Arab Emirates have jointly funded a 1 megawatt grid connected solar farm near Henderson airport in Honiara. This resulted in an annual savings of around US\$500,000 per annum in reduced cost of diesel and additional generation capacity supporting growth in demand. The project was also the first large-scale solar farm in Solomon Islands.

- In Papua New Guinea, New Zealand has supported off grid hydro power and grid extension projects which will provide sustainable electricity to over 30,000 people in Enga Province and Central Province.
- In Vanuatu, New Zealand’s partnership with the World Bank’s Rural Electrification Project provided electricity access to 3,247 people. New Zealand also provides technical assistance to towards the exploration of the Takara geothermal energy site.
- In Kiribati, New Zealand has funded the rehabilitation of all electricity substations in Tarawa and partnered with the European Union to fund a 200 kilowatt solar farm, a new high voltage network and grid extensions on Kiritimati Island. These initiatives have improved access to sustainable energy for an estimated 30,000 people.

New Zealand has also invested in sustainable energy programmes in SIDS beyond the Pacific region.

- In the Caribbean, New Zealand provided niche technical assistance support to the Eastern Caribbean states of Dominica, Grenada, St Vincent and the Grenadines, and St Lucia to progress geothermal resource development. The major focus has been support to the Government of Dominica via embedded project management support to establish the Dominica Geothermal Development Company, and to plan and prepare for procurement and construction of its first geothermal power plant.
- In Comoros, New Zealand has provided ongoing technical assistance to support the government progress and secure funding for geothermal development. Technical inputs delivered in 2017 included preparation of infrastructure and water supply assessments and delivery of a comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessment for the geothermal well drilling programme.

Financing

2017 saw the release of a number of analyses on SIDS unique development and financing challenges (which New Zealand contributed to both with funding and data), relevant to the ‘Means of Implementation’ priority within the Samoa Pathway. The UNDP released ‘Financing the Sustainable Development Goals in Pacific Small Island Developing States’, the World Bank formally launched its ‘Pacific Possible’ series, and the OECD published ‘Making Development Cooperation work in Small Island Developing States (in 2018). These reports strengthen the evidence base on SIDS, and are (and will continue to) inform discussion of SIDS challenges in regional and multilateral forums in the future. The latter report was referenced in the Inter-Agency Task Force’s 2017 global report on the status of Financing for Development.

PART D

1. Indicate the extent to which the issues and concerns of SIDS are given due consideration in

conferences or similar processes organized or supported by your organization during year 2017. In your explanation, please include the purpose, frequency, size (funds, participation) of the conference.

	Title of the Process/Conference	Purpose	Average no. of participants every year	Please explain SIDS participation in the conference /process	Outcome document and how SIDS priorities are reflected in the documents.
1					
2					
3					
4					

New Zealand doesn't run regular conferences, but we do provide support for Pacific SIDS to attend relevant events hosted by others, to ease the constraints on their participation.

We have a dedicated fund for this purpose, details of which are available on our website. The fund covers travel and accommodation costs, and all Pacific Island Countries, the majority of which are SIDS, are eligible. More information can be found here:

<https://www.mfat.govt.nz/en/aid-and-development/working-with-us/contestable-funds/pacific-island-countries-participation-fund-pic-fund/>

PART E

1. Have you implemented any new partnerships **during the year 2017?**

No.

PART F

Please include any other information you may wish to share.

Thank you.