

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?

UNDP supports and advocates for SIDS-specific development solutions. Furthermore, UNDP is committed to transparency and accountability in its efforts to support the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. It works in partnership with member states and other entities to support countries address priorities in the SAMOA Pathway. UNDP's Bureau for Policy and Programme Support (BPPS) provides policy and programming support to SIDS to deliver on the global commitments and position SIDS priorities high in the system-wide agendas and action plans. Riad Meddeb is the Global Focal Point and Policy Advisor to SIDS, within the Sustainable Development Cluster, BPPS.

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?

Guinea-Bissau: The Environment Secretariat of State (SEA), in its capacity of SIDS Focal Point, with UNDP support has worked closely with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Communities and the Ministry of Economy and Finance to mainstreaming the SAMOA Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy focal areas, the SDGs, Agenda 2030 and the African Union Agenda 2063 into the Country Strategic and Operational Plan "Terra Ranka" 2015-2020 and its Vision "Sol Na Yarde" 2015-2025. Through the leadership of the Secretariat of State of International Cooperation and the Secretariat of State of Planning and Regional Integration, belongs to the aforementioned ministries, more than 40 senior cadres from key line ministerial entities capacity has been strengthened to undertake the mainstreaming process, using the Methodology developed for this purpose. Is expected that this exercise will be completed in June 2018, enabling Guinea-Bissau to have a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation framework for the PEO "Terra Ranka", including selected national indicators for the SDGs 2030 and African Union Agenda 2063.

Maldives: The Focal Point for the SAMOA Pathway is the SDG unit at the Ministry of Environment and Energy.

Cape Verde: The Unit responsible to lead the implementation of SAMOA Pathway is the National Direction of Planning (DNP) within the Ministry of Finance. DNP leads the processes of national planning involving all line Ministries and the National Institute of Statistics which are all part of the national planning system. In 2017 The Joint Office of UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA supported the DNP in the effective integration of SDGs, Africa 2063 and SAMOA Pathway agenda in the new 5 years national plan to allow for the effective implementation of the commitments undertaken under these international agenda. Indeed, the national plan for sustainable development -known as PEDS- is now fully aligned with the SAMOA Pathway.

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:

| Priorities identified in the Samoa Pathway | Budget Allocation |
|--|--------------------------|
| Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth | 49,417,555.89 |
| Climate Change | 33,365,281.77 |
| Sustainable Energy | 4,340,325.24 |
| Disaster Risk Reduction | 21,403,765.56 |
| Oceans and seas, water and sanitation, biodiversity | 48,752,378.48 |
| Waste management | 546,790 |
| Health | 10,989,521.63 |
| Gender equality | 645,161.06 |
| Social development | 67,492,057.01 |
| Means of implementation (including partnerships and institutional support) | 10,608,005.96 |
| Etc. | |
| Total | 249,918,457.2 |

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.

The **United Nations Pacific Strategy (UNPS)** 2018-2022 is a five year strategic framework that outlines the collective response of the UN system to the development priorities in 14 Pacific Island Countries and Territories (PICTs), namely Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Republic of Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tokelau, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. The UNPS supports the 14 governments and peoples in the Pacific to advance a localized response to the global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This response is tailored to each country's national priorities, and responds to the Pacific Leaders' call to the United Nations system to "align its work programmes and operations to support internationally agreed outcomes, including the Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in the Pacific region" (2015 GA res. 69/318).

In **Cabo Verde**, UNDP supported the government in the preparation of its five-year National Sustainable Development Plan (PEDS). UNDP developed a methodology - and a number of accompanying tools - to integrate the SDGs, as well as the SAMOA Pathway, into the PEDS. The Plan is consistent and coherent with both the 2030 Agenda and SAMOA Pathway.

In the **Dominican Republic**, the National Development Strategy establishes the country's vision for 2030. Its priorities guide the four outcomes in the proposed UNDP Country Programme Document for the Dominican Republic (2018-2022), which it derives from the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) 2018- 2022.

The **Government of Belize** prioritizes poverty reduction and sustainable human development within its long term development agenda. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1, "End Poverty in all its forms everywhere," is the central point that anchors the other SDG pillars. This goal is aligned with other national development planning frameworks, including Horizon 2030—the National Development Framework for Belize between 2010 and 2030—and the newly endorsed Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy for Belize (GSDS) 2016-2020. For which UNDP will support the operationalization of the national Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (GSDS) by strengthening the national capacities required to integrate sustainable development approaches into processes supporting human and economic development.

- (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?

UNDP supports governments in their national planning processes. Since the adoption of the SAMOA Pathway and the SDGs this has included technical and advisory support to mainstream these international commitments into national and local planning processes.

One of the outcomes in the **UNDP Strategic Plan 2018-2022** is tailored to give special attention to “capacities developed across the whole of government to integrate the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other international agreements, including the SAMOA Pathway in development plans and budgets, and to analyze progress towards the SDGs, using innovative and data-driven solutions.

In 2016, following the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, UNDP and other development partners rolled out MAPS / UNDG Approach and initiated the “**MAPS Missions**” (mainstreaming, acceleration and policy support), as a way to help countries operationalize a more effective cross-thematic approach for integrated SDG implementation at the country level. The MAPS missions aim to provide a more systematic response to countries’ growing demand. Through MAPS missions, UNDP supports the Governments of SIDS to “achieve more with less” through mainstreaming integrated approaches and allocating their limited resources (human, financial, natural and economic capitals) to address their national priorities while making progress towards SDGs in their own country contexts. From 2016-2017, missions have been undertaken across all regions, with seven MAPS missions to small island developing states. MAPS missions to Aruba, Comoros, Mauritius, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, and Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago have taken place in 2017. In 2018, missions to Haiti, Samoa, St. Lucia, Guyana, Belize, Micronesia, and Antigua and Barbuda have and/or will take place.

The **United Nations Multi-country Sustainable Development Framework (UN MSDF)** is the business plan for the UN agencies, funds and programmes in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean for the period January 2017 to December 2021. The UN MSDF supports the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the SAMOA Pathway and other international development aspirations, and the national development plans of the individual countries in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean.

- 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).

| Name of Project/ Programme/ Activity | Themes/ Goals addressed | | Target Countries, Regions, Sectors | Expected Achievements | Intervention Type (tech transfer, Capacity development etc.) | Total Budget (US\$) |
|--|--|--|--|--|---|---------------------|
| | Samoa Pathway | SDGs | | | | |
| Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) United Nations Framework | The Programme works in line with the SAMOA Pathway. It reaffirms the | The Programme works in line with the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs as it sets targets | 39 AOSIS members and UN members across the | Build the institutional capacity of AOSIS and its members to | Capacity Development | USD 472, 726.22 |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--|----------------|--|--|--|
| Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Support Programme | special case of SIDS and the importance of international cooperation. | specific to SIDS including health, financing, quality education, modern energy, sustainable fisheries and national data systems. | three regions. | engage effectively in the major global development processes currently underway within UN system, the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and negotiations under the UNFCCC. | | |
|---|---|--|----------------|--|--|--|

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?

Guinea-Bissau: The main challenges for Guinea-Bissau are the following:

- Political instability has been impeding the mobilization of the legislative body to ratify SIDS DOCK, Paris Agreement and DOHA Amendment as well as to develop policy documents in the support of implementation of Samoa Pathway in some critical sectors such as water and sanitation, transport and communications;
- Poor national capacity to produce accurate statistic data, particularly environmental data;
- Communications constraints and/or absence of safe sea transportation means to the Bijagos Archipelago have negatively impacted the attempts to develop comprehensive projects to capture SIDS financing opportunities;
- Absence of baseline indicators in different Samoa Pathway focal areas.

In addition, under the described challenging environment, solutions found were those related to capacity building at central level on SAMOA Pathway mainstreaming into key national policy documents as refereed above and in the development of projects/programmes supportive of the attainment of the Samoa Pathway focal areas keys indicators. In addition, under GEF-UNDP Small Grants Programme the most vulnerable populations in the regions, including Bolama Bijagos Archipelago have been supported with grants to develop projects that contributed for the enhancement of their livelihoods and resilience to climate change effects, alleviate the poverty among the households and protected the environment. In the biodiversity area, the mobilization of synergies with EU, French Fund for Environment and MAVA Foundation was prioritized in the support of IBAP’s capacity to manage the National Protected Area of Cantanhez and the capitalization of Bioguinea Foundation as mean to ensure the sustainable management of the National Protected Area System.

Palau: The main challenges for Palau are:

- Low capacity of grantees, delayed implementation, results-based reporting.
 - Potential solution: SGP strategic grant for RBM to CSOs, government, and State PAN coordinators
- Slow pipeline of proposals.
 - Potential solution: building capacity of proponents
- Need for showcasing and putting out in social media.
 - Solution 1: SGP strategic grant for KM showcasing projects from 2013 to 2016;
 - Solution 2: integrate KM into proposal development
- Need for stronger partnerships and better communication and linkages between non-governments, government, States, communities for overall development of Palau.
 - Solution 1: RBM training to CSO, government and State PAN coordinators to build capacity

Comoros: Some of the major challenges for Comoros is the absence of a SIDS unit or a SIDS legal framework for the implementation of the SAMOA strategy. Also, there is a lack of appropriation and communication on the Samoa Pathway strategy and its implementation. Other challenges fall under the political, legal and socio-economic framework, including the persistence of jurisdictional conflicts between the Union and the islands, and the low capacity of human resources to mobilize resources. Potential solutions could be to establish a legal structure for the management of conventions, agreements and strategies adopted. The establishment of a unit for the Communication and coordination and monitoring of these structures and the availability of the necessary financial resources for the implementation of the national development strategy (SCA2D).

Cape Verde: The first challenge is financing for development. With Cabo Verde graduating to middle income country, there are constraints related to its fiscal space that can be an obstacle to the country to continue delivering on a sustainable development path. The level of debt reached 128% of GDP in 2017 and that renders the access to further credit quite difficult.

Another challenge is the limited national capacity to produce and use accurate statistic data, particularly environmental data. While the National Institute of Statistics has a good performance in collection and treatment of important data to sustain the formulation of policies, the linkages between data production and planning /monitoring processes remains a challenge, impacting also on follow up of SAMOA PATHWAY and SDG implementation. This is also compounded by limited availability of baseline indicators for several of the different Samoa Pathway agenda areas.

Data on employment was produced in 2017. Data continues to show gender disparities in the access to employment and the sub-employment of women. These data will allow the country to better identify the different groups more affected by unemployment as well as the dimension of disparities nationwide. A better understanding of these groups and their needs will help to refine interventions and develop policies based on evidences to especially address gender needs.

Timor-Leste: A major challenge in implementation of the SAMOA Pathway is the lack of a clear commitment on the part of the National Government. The Samoa Pathway was rarely referred to by Timor-Leste Ministers, Senior Government Officials or key development partners in the country. There is little public understanding of the Samoa Pathway.

More needs to be done to assess and strengthen the level of commitment from the national Government to the commitments outlined in the Samoa Pathway document. Without stronger Government (national and local) ownership and leadership of the Samoa Pathway, it will be difficult for the UN or other partners to assist Timor-Leste to make progress against the commitments summarised in the Samoa Pathway document and implementation of the SDGs.

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.

Guinea-Bissau: Within Climate Change focal area:

- (a) the Country Profile of Vulnerability and Resilience has been formulated and more than 20 national cadres trained on the methodology for its formulation¹,
- (b) a potential of 73,631,881.00 USD have been secured from GEF, EU, AfDB and UNDP to strengthen the vulnerable populations resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change, food security and sustainable land management capabilities as well access to renewable energy.

In the Biodiversity focal area:

- (a) 5 terrestrial protected areas (2 national parks and three corridors) have been legally established through a government Decree and promulgated by the Presidency of Republic, resulting in the expansion of the National Protected Area System surface from 15 to 26.3% % of the national territory (surpassed Aichi Target 11 under Strategic Goal C) and
- (b) the country V National Biodiversity Report was produced and validated by key national stakeholders.

In the support of the implementation of the development challenges perceived in the desertification, land degradation and drought, the Government has designed and adopted the:

- (a) National Agricultural Investment Program,
- (b) the National Policy on Neutrality in Land Degradation in Guinea-Bissau (NDT) and;
- (c) Regulation of CITES Convention enforcement as the main instruments to contribute for the attainment of the correspondent SAMOA Pathway focal areas.

Maldives: Most notably, 7 UN agencies, in partnership with local and national authorities and communities, have provided a holistic support to build capacities at national and local levels to encourage low carbon life-styles, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction through the One UN programme, Low Emission Climate Resilient Development (LECReD).

In 2017, the construction/ rehabilitation of waste management centres in 11 islands of Laamu Atoll was commenced. The health care waste management pilot project was completed with autoclaves now being used to disinfect health waste. Capacity on climate friendly sustainable agricultural practices was

¹ Vulnerability-Resilience Country Profile National Workshop Report, February 2017

strengthened in Laamu Atoll through the LECReD programme. The awareness of the 542 farmers (53% women) was increased on climate smart agriculture and practices that would lead improved production and productivity in a context of climate change.

Palau: Palau has improved the sustainability of 120,700 hectares (1,207 km²) of protected areas and improved monitoring of 6 marine protected areas. Also, it has increased awareness and understanding of conservation status of 26 significant migratory shorebird species. Improved maintenance of 28 native plant species; 47 taro varieties; and, 3 tapioca varieties. Faith-based community school installed 138 PV units (12 kw) to reduce GHG emissions.

Two communities applying sustainable agricultural and water management practices in 4.04 hectares of land, led by women's groups. 4.605 hectares of degraded land restored and rehabilitated in 3 communities led by women's groups.

Village spring and water source for taro fields fully restored by youth group removing 30 tonnes of sediment.

Comoros:

- The National Strategic Plan for malaria eradication has been adopted and is being implemented;
- The 2017-2021 Measles elimination plan developed and adopted;
- MDA Filariasis was carried out in the three islands;
- The review of the National Malaria Control Programme was organized.

Cape Verde: In 2017, the Government of Cabo Verde strengthened its preparedness to disaster risk reduction and resilience including to climate change, by preparing a National Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction and Recovery. With support of the UN, Cabo Verde also prepared its third national communication to the UNFCCC and submission is imminent. In addition, Government geared up to strengthen its support to biodiversity by initiating implementation of a UN-supported project on Biodiversity and Tourism, linking protected area management to the tourism sector.

The Country Joint Office of UNDP, UNICEF and UNFPA supports had the following results in 2017. In poverty reduction and job creation, the Joint Office supported the country in the elaboration of poverty profile which enabled definition of poverty and the different layers of poverty at the national level and thus identify the most vulnerable people; the establishing the database for the single social registry for the non-contributory system as a way to increase the access and target the poor's and other at-risk groups not previously covered; the regulatory mechanism for social benefits for people with disabilities and tools to monitor the access of the beneficiaries to the social benefits was developed; the definition of the first Employment Plan enabling environment to generate and strengthen the system.

In October 2017, the country hosted the World Forum on Local Economic Development with 2800 participants from 85 countries, including several SIDS. The Forum had a specific pillar of the programme dedicated to SIDS specific issues. The United Nations Secretary General was represented by the UN Sub secretary and Representative of United Nations for low income countries, landlocked developing countries and Small Island Developing States

Trinidad and Tobago:

Low Emissions Capacity Building Programme:

In the area of climate change an NDC implementation plan was completed. Sectoral policies were reviewed and recommendations made for amendments. NDC implementation plan webinar was developed and launched. An outline of recommended policies and legislation for the power generation, transport and industry sectors was developed. We initiated the Development of a Climate Change Code and legal framework to support the national climate mitigation Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV) System.

Aruba Centre of Excellence:

A Virtual Platform was launched.

- 3 Case studies in the areas of marine protected areas, sustainable tourism, water management were developed and placed on the virtual platform.
- 4 In-Country missions to support national sustainable development strategic initiatives (Antigua, Jamaica, Vanuatu and Seychelles).

Energy Efficiency through the Development of Low- Carbon RAC Technologies in Trinidad and Tobago:

A concept was developed focusing on energy efficiency in the National Air conditioning and refrigeration sectors. Funding of 5.6 USD million was approved for this initiative.

Timor-Leste: In 2017, there has been progress in Timor-Leste on improving basic health care (SDG 3). The aim of the government of Timor-Leste is to ensure the availability, accessibility, and affordability of health services for all Timorese people. It relies on two approaches: a comprehensive package of services through community health centres, health posts, mobile clinics, and SISCa posts as well as hospital service packages through national and referral hospitals in the country. All these services are free for everyone. The government is committed to reducing the high levels of infant, children under 5, maternal and neonatal mortality and morbidity in the country by offering comprehensive and basic emergency management of relevant cares. According to Timor-Leste Demographic Health Survey (DHS) 2016, Infant mortality² has declined over the past 13 years, from 60 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2003 to 30 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2016. Under-5 mortality has also declined from 83 deaths per 1,000 live births to 41 deaths per 1,000 live births over the same, around 84% of women age 15-49 receive antenatal care (ANC) from a skilled provider, nearly half (49%) of children age 12-23 months have received all basic vaccinations. Breastfeeding in Timor-Leste is very common, with 96% of children ever breastfed.

Improving Agriculture and Tourism (SDGs 2 and 8); and work youth and women's empowerment as well as on 'Leaving no-one behind. With the vision of building a stronger, upper middle-income nation by 2030, high on the agenda in Timor-Leste is strengthening the non-oil economy through: economic diversification (agriculture and tourism); creating more and better job opportunities for youth; developing strategic industries; and prioritizing rural development. Currently ranked 175th on the World Bank Ease of Doing Business Ranking, Timor-Leste is putting a special focus on private sector development. This involves enhancing the small and medium enterprises sector, while also removing some of the binding constraints to private sector growth; and improving infrastructure, increasing efficiency in the public sector, also building up skilled labour.

² In 2015, the Ministry of Health implemented a programme called "Saude na Familia" or Health in Your Family with its objective ensuring that each household receives regular visits from dedicated health professional team.

Timor-Leste’s leadership has recognized the importance of empowering women and achieving gender equality. It has committed itself to gender-sensitive budgeting and to establishing a gender monitoring system under the Office of the Prime Minister. Furthermore, the government has prioritized women’s political participation since independence. This resulted in women holding 38 percent of parliamentary seats, the highest percentage in Asia. It is important, that these changes also reach the municipal and suco council levels.

In the area of ‘Women, Peace and Security’, Timor-Leste has developed a National Action Plan for the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 and encouraged women’s participation in the security forces. Now, 16 percent of the police force and 9 percent of the military service are made up of women.

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 | The Ocean Conference | The Conference devoted special attention to the health of our oceans and seas and advance implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 | | <p>The Governments of Fiji and Sweden had co-hosting responsibilities at the Conference.</p> <p>UNDP’s Ocean Action Hub is an open, interactive website providing information and promoting action globally to implement and achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14: Life below Water before 2020. The Hub was initiated to facilitate multistakeholder engagement as part of the Ocean Conference process.</p> <p>Side events organized by UNDP that took place during the Ocean Conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ‘Blue Economy’ and sustainable development in Small Island Development States; and protecting coastal ecosystems. • Ocean and coastal governance to speed up implementation of the SDGs | <p>Outcomes of The Ocean Conference included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Call for Action" - An intergovernmentally agreed declaration to be adopted by consensus • Co-chairs' summaries of seven partnership dialogues • List of voluntary commitments for the implementation of Goal 14 <p>Outcome Document: http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/312&Lang=E</p> |
| 2 | High-level breakfast reception on Small Island Developing | SIDS are actively forming partnerships to maximize their | | UNDP organized the high-level political event during the 72 nd General Assembly together with AOSIS, the EU, and the Government of Fiji. | The event officially launched the report jointly with AOSIS, Rising Tides , Rising Capacity : |

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|--|---|---|--|--|--|
| | States responding to climate impacts and planning for sustainable future. Leadership, Innovation and Partnership. | opportunities, share best practices, and foster ideas and innovative solutions to overcome their particular development challenges. | | The event discussed the global leadership of these nations in reducing carbon emissions, adapting to climate impacts, reducing and recovering from disasters, and accelerating progress on the SDGs. | supporting a sustainable future for Small Island Developing States , providing inspirational results from a UNDP-AOSIS Project and concerted action on climate change. |
|--|---|---|--|--|--|

PART E

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

Guinea-Bissau: Under the Interregional Initiative on SIDS and the Global SAMOA Pathway, FAO supported the government SIDS Focal Point (Secretariat of State for Environment) to access the resources from African Solidarity Trust Fund for SIDS African Countries to implement the Project for the Adoption of Efficient and Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices in African SIDS that includes Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Seychelles. This project aim to build on past, existing, and planned projects on productive and climate smart agriculture (CSA) practices, improve climate change mitigation and adaptation and promote sustainable economic agriculture development knowledge networks across these three African SIDS.

As regards the waste area, partnerships with the following subregional entities were noteworthy: ECOWAS (Subregional Project for the Implementation of the Stockholm Convention); UN Environment (Chemical Legislation) and UNIDO (Biomedical Waste Pilot Project) and CRCBS-AF Waste Center of the Stockholm and Bali Convention for Francophone Africa (Training of Magistrates).

Cape Verde: In June 2017, and with support of FAO and the AfDB, Cabo Verde hosted an African regional Conference Dialogue on Blue Growth and Economy. The conference aimed at enhancing awareness and knowledge on the blue economy and the ocean as a key driver for economic development. UNDP substantively contributed to the Conference, especially on those segments that focused on sharing perspectives and experiences among African SIDS and on the sustainability issues related more broadly to SDG 14.

The World Forum on Local Economic Development organized in Praia in October 2017 was organized with support by Global Network of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), United Nations (ORU FOGAR), International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Former Hosts of the FMDEL were also very active namely Andalusian Fund for International Solidarity (FAMSI), the Brazilian Service for Support to Micro and Small Enterprises (SEBRAE) and the Metropolitan City of Turin. Participants were from Africa, North America, South America Asia, Europe, Middle, ECOWAS and United Nation. SIDS countries were represented by 13 delegations. Participated also other international organizations like the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Global Fund for Cities Development (FMDV), Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Economy of Social Solidarity (RIPESS), Commonwealth Local Government Forum (CLGF). The World Forum was a unique opportunity for Cabo Verde to sign multiples partnerships around local economic development wish some of these entities.

Cape Verde: The additional partnership registered in the platform are:

- Integrated Water and Wastewater Resource Management in Atlantic and Indian Ocean SIDS
- Adoption of Efficient and Climate-Smart Agriculture Practices in African SIDS
- Closing the Distance: Partnerships for Sustainable and Resilient Transport System in SIDS
- En-lighten Initiative

Timor-Leste: In 2017 Timor-Leste participated in and benefitted from the Global Partnership for Oceans, Ocean Watch, Global Partnership for Sustainable Tourism.