

## **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**

1. What specific activities or programmes, if any, has your government, organisation or agency implemented or introduced, specifically targeting the vulnerabilities of SIDS? Please cite examples of solutions seeking vulnerability reduction.

UN-Habitat, along with AOSIS, UN-DESA, and UN-OHRLLS, took advantage of the Habitat-III Conference in Quito in October 2016 to hold a High-level side event on "Urban resilience and Sustainable urban development in Small Island Developing States".

UN-Habitat has implemented a global program funded by the European Commission named **Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP)**. It currently reaches more than twelve (12) countries in SIDS. The Programme aims at strengthening the capacity of urban stakeholders – from national to local government agencies, and civil society organizations to the slum dwellers themselves – to work together towards improving the living conditions of slums and the sustainability of the cities, through urban and slum situation and policy analysis, citywide slum upgrading and resource mobilization strategy development, and participatory project implementation.

In **Haiti**, UN-Habitat has been highly involved in interventions related to urban recovery and reconstruction, especially in the new neighborhoods and slum areas of Port-au-Prince. Key contribution in drafting new human settlements policies and implementation tools have been done, as well as Haitian institutions and municipalities have been empowered.

A Risk Reduction and Strengthening of Urban Resilience Programme has been implemented concomitantly in all Portuguese-speaking African SIDS, namely Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau and Sao Tome & Principe. More than seven cities were habilitated to produce Resilience Action Plans.

In **Comoros**, UN-Habitat, along with the Technical Centre for Disaster Risk Reduction, Sustainability and Urban Resilience have been developing a Resilience Framework for Action and support the elaboration of the preliminary land-use plans. In parallel, the city of Moroni has been supported in defining a City Climate Action Plan.

2. To what extent has your Government mainstreamed the SAMOA Pathway and/or the SDGs into national development plans and/or programmes? Please indicate any challenges and/or opportunities.

The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) adopted in Quito in 2016 a "New Urban Agenda"

acknowledging that particular attention should be given to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing by the SIDS. This last global UN adopted Agenda recognized that urban centres such as the ones in SIDS have characteristics that make them and their inhabitants especially vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and other natural and human-made hazards, including earthquakes, extreme weather events, flooding, subsidence, storms – including dust and sand storms – heat waves, water scarcity, droughts, water and air pollution, vector-borne diseases, and sea-level rise particularly affecting the small island developing States.

The New Urban Agenda brings a new opportunity for the States to develop and implement national urban policies, which should aim to build integrated systems of cities and human settlements, and promote cooperation among all levels of government to enable them to achieve sustainable integrated urban development. Cabo Verde has elaborated its National Urban Policy, and has taken into consideration the Government roadmap for the implementation of the SAMOA pathway.

At country level, the implementation of Risk Reduction Plans as well as Urban Resilience Programmes have fully integrated the SAMOA Pathway with the SDGs at national and local level, especially SDG targets 1.5, 11.b, 11.c and 11.3.

3. To what extent has your Organisation, integrated the Samoa Pathway and or the SDGs into co-operation frameworks, programmes and activities, to ensure effective follow-up and implementation at regional and national level?

UN-Habitat is producing in many countries a reference and programming document called “Habitat Country Programme”. In all SIDS where these documents have been produced or updated, the SAMOA pathway and the SDGs have been fully taken into consideration.

4. Indicate the extent to which the issues and concerns of SIDS are given due consideration in conferences and processes organized or supported by your organization.

The United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) held in Quito in 2016 has acknowledged UN-Habitat as the focal point within the United Nations system for the implementation of the New Urban Agenda. The Outcome Document (i.e. the New Urban Agenda) of this Conference is specifically referring to small island developing States in paragraphs 6, 19, 64, and 114c. Particular attention is given to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges these States are now facing.

5. In relation to the implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Samoa Conference: <http://www.sids2014.org/partnerships/>

- (i) indicate actions undertaken to date and their outcome(s);
- (ii) indicate what partnerships have been contemplated or have been initiated;
  - Financial partnerships established, mainly with European Commission, USAID, American Red Cross, and Cities Alliance.
  - Partnerships at national level established in more than seventeen (17) SIDS; more specifically with ministries and other national institutions in charge of urban/territorial development, as well as Housing.
  - Direct partnerships with more than 50 cities
  - Partnership with other urban relevant organisations: Caribbean Network for Urban and Land Management, Caribbean Planner Association (CPA), Pacific Local Government Association Network, University of West Indies
- (iii) indicate whether additional partnerships have been registered on the SIDS partnership Platform.