

Inputs by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to the Secretary-General's report on

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.

A. Technical Cooperation

As of 2016, UNIDO implemented projects in 13 SIDS, namely: **Cabo Verde, Comoros, Guinea Bissau, Saõ Tomé and Príncipe, Vanuatu, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Haiti and Cuba.** Detailed information about the projects can be found on UNIDO's Open Data Platform, which was launched as part of the Organization's transparency initiative in 2016: <https://open.unido.org>.

Technical assistance rendered by UNIDO to SIDS focuses on developing more sustainable and affordable energy source, expanding investment opportunities, developing the MSMEs, strengthening institutional capacity building, as well as boosting industrial competitiveness. UNIDO's technical cooperation activities also give due importance to mainstreaming cross-cutting programmatic issues such as woman empowerment and youth entrepreneurship/employment, by ensuring their participation in various industrial sectors and providing capacity building and training.

Please find below some samples of UNIDO's technical assistance provided to SIDS:

I. ECP - Entrepreneurship Curriculum Programme in general and technical secondary education of Cabo Verde (2014-2016)

The introduction of entrepreneurship in the general and technical secondary education system as part of Cabo Verde's curriculum reform, initiated by UNIDO's interventions,

has helped to create an education system that joins theoretical and practical learning, thus responding to the socio-economic needs of the country.

Several results were achieved as following:

- Entrepreneurship teaching started in September 2014, for 9th, 10th and 12th grades. Pilot phase ended in July 2016.
- The programme covers 12 schools, in six islands.
- In 2016, the Government decided to expand the program to all 43 secondary schools in 9 islands.
- During the pilot phase (2014 to 2016) 4,744 students from 9th, 10th and 12th grades were enrolled.
- 3,700 students graduated (1,845 female), of which 1,525 students presented their business plan, 1,028 presented it to an external jury (banks, private sector, etc.).
- 280 teachers were trained to teach entrepreneurship, 59% of them female. In addition, 73 technicians which include school directors, pedagogical inspectors, technicians from central and regional Ministry of Education, were trained, 47% of them female.
- National and Regional working groups were created to implement and monitor the project.
- Entrepreneurship pedagogy module, modality b-learning for training teacher established.
- 23 teachers of IUE (University of Education Institute - teacher training) trained to train the teachers (new and in exercise).
- Increased the partnership between other stakeholders and ME by involving the private sector in the ECP through resources persons, workshops and also specific initiatives:
- Company offered a prize (personal computer) to the student that won the logo contest launched in April 2015.
- Commercial Bank signed an agreement to support young students in their savings and business projects with access to the services banks at a lower cost.
- Local private companies participated in teaching learning activities: participation in fairs conducted by schools, presentations in classes, providing opportunities for visits and internships, participation in the jury for evaluation plans, among other.

- Impact survey performed – some results: More than 80% tell that the EPC have application in their life; More than 95% teachers observe change of attitude their students; More than 50% of parents identified new attitudes in their children, particularly initiative, creativity, self-confidence resolution problems, family support activities, started saving.

II. Promoting market based development of small to medium scale renewable energy systems in Cabo Verde (2012-on going)

This project explores the potential for the development of small to medium scale renewable energy projects that can play a significant role in achieving the Governments targets (100% RE) and addressing some of the currently existing barriers to market-based development of renewable energy projects in Cabo Verde. Moreover, the project aims to create a potential market in Cabo Verde for small to medium scale renewable energy systems which requires smaller up-front investments, for which money can be raised from international support and locally, and will lead to great local economic savings and shorter periods for investment return. The ultimate goal is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to support sustainable development in Cabo Verde by creating market conditions conducive to the development of small to medium scale renewable energy systems in line with national energy policy objectives of making the country less dependent on imported fossil fuels.

As of 2016, the following has been achieved:

- Twenty-four renewable energy demonstration projects identify to be implemented in six islands: S. Nicolau, Brava, S. Vicente, Sal, Santiago and S. Antão.
- Five demonstration projects implemented:
- Two demonstration projects in implementation: Technical project on solar thermal system for two hospitals (Mindelo and Praia) elaborated and implementation in progress; Technical studies for two PV systems for pumping water elaborated. Contract signed with Ministry of Agriculture and Environment for implementation.
- Feasibility study on PV system for a ice factory in Tarrafal, S. Nicolau;
- Technical and economy feasibility done on two PV parks in a total of 82 kWp;

- Assessment of the sites without access to energy grid and identification of RE solutions, feasibility studies;
- Creation of an online register software for small and medium renewable energies systems ongoing.
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National capacities reinforced:

- 95 technicians trained in RE techniques: HOMER / RETScreen, hybrid systems for rural electrification and Wind Power.
- 3 persons trained as trainers of HOMER / RETScreen.
- Consolidating a comprehensive legal and regulatory framework conducive to the development of SME RE in implementation.
- 6 RE consultants trained on Financial Analysis of Investment Project Scenarios (COMFAR III)
- 26 persons trained in PV and solar thermal (installation and maintenance).

III. Minamata Convention Initial Assessment in the Comoros

The Comoros became a signatory to the Minamata Convention on 10 October 2013. For the country to meet obligations under the Convention, several barriers should be addressed to assist in ratification. UNIDO assists the country to enable policy and strategic decision making and to prioritize areas for future interventions. The Minamata Initial Assessment project is expected to be completed by September 2017.

The following achievements have been made in the project to date:

- National mercury inventory training conducted: the training was delivered by UNITAR in collaboration with the Government of Comoros to train and sensitize different stakeholders on the use of the UNEP mercury inventory toolkit. It was attended by 22 participants from the different ministries and members of the civil society;
- Data collection completed for the national mercury profile report, the key sectors were identified;
- Project coordination meetings were conducted regularly;
- National Steering Committee was established, the members and their respective roles were discussed and confirmed; and,

- An institutional gap analysis report was developed and a list of necessary regulations on mercury was prepared to comply with the requirements of the Minamata Convention.

IV. GEF-3 Project in Cuba (2005-2014)

UNIDO executed the GEF-3 Project in Cuba titled “Generation and Delivery of Renewable Energy Based Modern Energy Services: The Case of Isla de la Juventud” (implemented by UNEP). The main objective of the project was to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) in Cuba by promoting environmentally sound renewable energy technologies for power generation as well as for providing modern energy services on a commercial basis at the Isla de la Juventud, a small island off Cuba’s coast.

By assisting the island to rely on renewable energy technologies instead of fossil fuels, this project introduced measures to reduce their vulnerability to high and unsustainable energy costs to which they are prone due to their geographic remoteness and isolation. It also provided pathways to sustainable development by introducing new and innovative financial and institutional structures to encourage private investments, support economically viable markets, promote environmentally sustainable forestry management, develop mandatory certification standards and enhance local manufacturing capacity for renewable energy technologies in Cuba.

The main long-term result of this project:

- Creation of a robust market and strong institutional and financial capacity at the national level for supporting renewable energy investment projects and markets that would make Cuba’s economy less reliant on imported fossil fuels to meet its growing energy needs,
- Reducing overall GHGs emissions through wide-spread use of renewable energy technologies in the country as well as in the Caribbean region.
- Local/national capacity to utilize the commercial potential of renewable energy technologies was built.
- Various workshops and trainings were organized between international and national experts and the country has been able to integrate renewable energy technologies more actively into its policy-making as well as made use of the commercial potential.

- Within the framework of the project, the country established and adopted a policy for supporting renewable energy, under which several new activities are taking place.
- Models were particularly successful in demonstrating the possibilities of wind energy and biomass.
- A new and innovative financial mechanism for private investments in RETs.
- The Renewable Energy Revolving Fund – was established and is being managed by Compañía Fiduciaria.
- Within the framework of the project, an international workshop titled “Renewable Energy for Sustainable Development: the Case of Biomass Gasification” was held in October 2014

UNIDO is currently designing a new project in Cuba to reduce GHG emissions by enhancing the capacity, skills and knowledge of relevant actors to successfully implement solar photovoltaic (PV) investments. This project will also specifically focus on the needs of SIDS.

V. GEF-5 project in the Dominican Republic

UNIDO is currently implementing the GEF-5 project “Stimulating industrial competitiveness through biomass-based, grid-connected electricity generation” in the Dominican Republic.

The project focuses both on establishing a favourable policy framework for renewable energy (particularly biomass) and to increase investment in renewable energy technologies. The final objective of the project is to promote the implementation of decentralized, biomass-based energy production in industrial free zones in the Dominican Republic with the aim of reducing GHG emissions, while contributing to their competitiveness. This reduction of GHG emissions through the demonstration of technologies for the use of biomass as a renewable energy source targets directly one of the main vulnerabilities of SIDS i.e. sea-level rise due to climate change. In addition, it aims to contribute to more cost-competitive energy; high energy prices being a constraint faced by many SIDS.

Further vulnerabilities of SIDS are addressed in the project in the following manner:

- Waste management, through the promotion of the use of agricultural waste as feedstock for biomass plants.

- Diversification of energy resources through the promotion of renewable energy sources such as biomass.

- Globalization and trade liberalization, through the reduction of operational costs for the industrial sector in the Dominican Republic, particularly the free zones that compete in a globalized market, in order to improve their competitiveness.

- Sustainable capacity development and education for sustainable development, through the education and capacity building on more sustainable practices and cleaner energy sources, promoting the use of renewable energy, such as biomass, to achieve the reduction of GHG emissions.

- Sustainable production and consumption, through the promotion of cleaner production practices in the industrial and agricultural sectors, and cleaner energy sources.

B. Publications

As a follow up to the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS), UNIDO ‘**Making It**’ publication examined the potential of SIDS to pursue sustainable economic development by steadily increasing economic productivity. The publication is fully dedicated to the sustainable development of SIDS focusing on the use of their cultural and physical resources to generate employment and income while sustainability managing their environment and human resources; sustainably manage fishing and tourism resources; and address climate change impacts.

Moreover, in 2016 UNIDO has published its brochure dedicated entirely to UNIDO’s interventions in LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, entitled *supporting vulnerable countries on their path to poverty eradication and prosperity*. This brochure highlights the evolution of the different international mandates supporting the UN’s most vulnerable countries, and UNIDO’s intervention within them, taking into account previous achievements and challenges.

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.

N/A

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?

UNIDO's long-term strategy of **inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID)** was adopted by Member States at the General Conference in December 2013. Through this strategy, the Organization aims to harness the full potential of industry's contribution to the achievement of sustainable development and lasting prosperity for all. Moreover, the concept of ISID has been included in the Sustainable Development Goals, namely **Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**. By advocating for the development goal on industrialization, in the newly adopted development Agenda 2030, UNIDO's mandate has been recognized as essential in eradicating poverty on a global scale.

Moreover, UNIDO is determined to provide its assistance **to SIDS' Governments**, as this category of countries are clearly mentioned in its programme and budget document as well as the Medium Term Programme framework.

Furthermore, **main/key areas of the Samoa Pathway lie at the core of UNIDO's mandate** of inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID):

- Fostering entrepreneurship and innovation, building capacity;
- Creating local decent jobs through private and public projects and encouraging entrepreneurs to start up environmentally sound businesses through adequate and appropriate incentives;
- Promoting and fostering an environment conducive to increased public and private sector investment and the creation of decent jobs and livelihoods.

The SIDS Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers hosted by UNIDO offers manifold south-south knowledge and technology transfer possibilities between SIDS and with the other centers of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers.

The Partnership is coordinated by UNIDO and SIDS DOCK in close cooperation with the regional organizations and their member countries. The centers work according to local rules and procedures. The centers are governed by an Executive Board and operate through a network of national focal institutions among the islands. The centers are well integrated in the existing regional decision-making structure in the Pacific, Caribbean and Africa and that ensures an effective follow-up and implementation both at the regional and national level.

Additionally, 2016 also witnessed the launch of the **Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA3)**, for which a resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 25 July 2016, calls on UNIDO "to develop, operationalize and lead the implementation of the programme for the Third Industrial Development Decade for Africa, in accordance with its mandate and through voluntary contributions". The resolution also invites UNIDO "to scale up its technical assistance to African countries in order to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development", thus benefiting to African SIDS (Cabo Verde, Comoros, Guinea Bissau, Mauritius, Saõ Tomé and Príncipe and the Seychelles).

Finally, following the adoption of the **Istanbul Plan of Action (2011-2020)** in June 2011, UNIDO was one of the first agencies to have mainstreamed the IPoA into its agenda through the development of its own Operational Strategy 2011-2020 for LDCs based on three major pillars: (i) Conversion of commodities into products; (ii) empowerment of communities; and (iii) Regional industrial infrastructure for value chain development across border. With its ISID mandate UNIDO is providing LDCs (out of which 8 belong to SIDS category) with the enabling environment to overcome the specific structural challenges they face, by building up their economic capacities, while lifting vulnerable communities out of their precarious conditions through inclusive industrial development.

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.

UNIDO contributes to and shapes global discussions with regard to SIDS development process through its convening function (global forum etc.), such as UNIDO General Conference, LDC Ministerial Conference, and Vienna Energy Forum (VEF)... in which the participation of SIDS is strongly supported the participation of SIDS.

Moreover, UNIDO often acts as a major contributor to conferences organized by its sister Agencies and development partners. For instance, **UNIDO organized five side-events at the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS)** held in Apia, Samoa, in 2014, on the topics ranging inclusive value chains for livelihoods, trade and food security, industrial competitiveness, youth employment and sustainable regional energy centres.

Furthermore, UNIDO participated in and substantively supported the **Africa Partnership Conference 2016**, organized by Mauritius Board of Investment and WAIPA, held in Mauritius, 20-21 September 2016. The Conference was crucial to identifying concrete investment and business opportunities across the African Continent with the focus on LDCs, networking with international investors looking for investment opportunities and project financing in the region; debating business-critical, African investment and trade issues; and building partnerships with investment promotion agencies.

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; and,**
- (iii) indicate whether additional partnerships have been registered on the SIDS partnership Platform**

UNIDO's new partnership approach attempts to build synergies between the public and the private sector for the purpose of strengthening the cooperation between regions and trading blocs for a more inclusive, harmonized policy direction based on resource endowments and comparative advantages. Thus, in order to enhance its interventions in SIDS, UNIDO has developed strong partnerships with many different organizations and initiatives such as **OHRLLS, SIDS DOCK, Austrian Development Agency (ADA), WTO etc.**, as well as the private sector, civil society and academia. Moreover, the organization is striving at building a robust cooperation with DFIs, IFIs and the private sector companies.

At the margins of the SIDS Conference in Samoa in 2014, UNIDO in cooperation with SIDS DOCK, CARICOM and SPC launched a multi-stakeholder partnership on the establishment of a network of regional sustainable energy centres for SIDS in the Caribbean, Pacific, Africa and Indian Ocean. It is registered as official partnership of the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway. The partnership contributes to the SDGs – particularly SDG 7, SDG9 and SDG13 – and to the Regional Framework for Action on Energy Security in the Pacific. The network is a sub-network of the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC).

In partnership with ADA and SIDS DOCK, UNIDO has established **Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE)** which responds to the urgent need for enhanced South-South cooperation and regional capacities to promote sustainable energy investments, markets and industries in the Caribbean. The centre acts locally and internationally as a regional hub and think-tank for sustainable energy issues and activities.

Another great example of UNIDO-ADA-SIDS DOCK partnership is the establishment of **The Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE)** which was inaugurated in April 2017 in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, at the margins of the Third Pacific Regional Energy and Transport Ministers' Meeting. **The centre is part of a wider SDG-7 Partnership of the SAMOA Pathway** which aims at the establishment of a network of regional sustainable energy centres for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in Africa, Caribbean, Pacific and Indian Ocean.

The ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE), was formally inaugurated at its headquarters in Praia, Cabo Verde, on 6 July 2010. It acts as hub for African SIDS.

Apart from the network of centres, UNIDO is implementing several projects on the promotion of renewable energies in SIDS, such as Cabo Verde, Guinea Bissau and Dominican Republic. Also networks such as CTCN and PFAN are serving SIDS.

Finally, during the latest LDCs Ministerial Conference held in 2015, and at the Midterm review of the Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA) held in May 2016, H.E. Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, former Under Secretary General UN-OHRLS acknowledged the critical role and contribution of UNIDO with regard to assisting countries with specific needs to develop agribusiness, trade capacity, and access to clean energy while promoting inclusive and sustainable industrial development for prosperity.