

## **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.**

Efforts have been devoted to the operationalization of WMO Programme for SIDS and Member island territories (MITs) that was established in 2015 to help address SIDS and MITs specific needs. Activities conducted built on existing projects/programmes and resources including:

- Climate Risk Early Warning System (CREWS) initiative;
- Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Projects;
- Programme for implementing the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) at regional and national scales;
- Programme for building regional climate capacity in the Caribbean; and
- Project on "Climate Services to Reduce Vulnerability in Haiti".

Activities implemented in SIDS and MITs through these initiatives scaled up WMO support to increase their resilience to weather and climate related events. Leveraging these projects allows to ensure coordination of investments and a more integrated planning around early warning systems in SIDS and MITs.

#### Operationalization through the CREWS initiative

The Project “Building Resilience to high-impact hydrometeorological events through strengthening Multi-Hazard Early Warning Systems (MHEWS) in SIDS and Southeast Asia” is funded by the Government of Canada with a total value of CAD 10 million. It aims to strengthen weather, climate and water impact-based decision support services of NMHSs to MHEWS stakeholders.

The SIDS component of the project covers African, Caribbean and Pacific SIDS. It is designed to strengthen (i) governance frameworks for Disaster Risk reduction (DRR) with increased engagement and recognition of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), (ii) development of, and access to hydrometeorological data, products and services, to support the development of impact-based forecasts and risk-informed warnings, (iii) service delivery by NMHSs, and (iv) the ability of the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC/Nadi) within the Fiji Meteorological Service to support the Pacific Island Countries and Territories’ receiving services from RSMC/Nadi.

### Improving operational forecasts and warnings capability for coastal inundation through the Coastal Inundation Forecasting Demonstration Projects (CIFDP)

The CIFDP is being implemented in 4 countries, three of which are SIDS: Fiji and Hispaniola (Haiti and Dominican Republic) with financial support from the Korean Meteorological Administration and USAID respectively. The CIFDP is building a multi-hazard early warning operational forecasting system to provide flood forecasts for low lying coastal areas at risk of inundation from both ocean and river sources. Ultimately, the project aims to strengthen the capacity of the NMHS' to deliver early warning forecasts to vulnerable populations thereby enhancing safety and resilience in coastal communities in SIDS and MITs. The procedures/best practices developed through these national projects can be applied to other countries with common issues and interests.

### Supporting strategic planning, disaster risk management mechanisms and NMHSs engagement in South West Pacific, Caribbean and Indian Ocean SIDS through the Programme for implementing GFCS at regional and national scales

WMO has supported Trinidad and Tobago, Kiribati and Papua New Guinea in developing their national strategies for hydrometeorological services. The process to develop a strategic plan for Fiji is underway.

National consultations for climate services have taken place in Fiji, Belize and Dominica and regional consultations and workshops have taken place for SIDS in the Caribbean and in the Indian Ocean in order to enhance awareness of the importance of climate services and the role of NMHSs. These events have helped the stakeholders identify their priorities and to establish cooperation mechanisms between the NMHS and other relevant state entities.

Furthermore, WMO has supported national and regional climate outlook forum: National and Regional Climate Outlook Forum were held in the Pacific and Caribbean (Belize, Dominica, Sri Lanka, Tonga and Kiribati) to produce consensus-based, user-relevant climate outlook products in real time in order to reduce climate-related risks in sectors of critical socio-economic significance.

### Leveraging regional capacity through the USAID-Programme for building regional climate capacity to support Caribbean SIDS and MITs

The enhancement of operational and technical capacities of the Caribbean Institute of Meteorology & Hydrology (CIMH) enables it to sustain its activities as a Regional Climate Center across the Caribbean. This project is a stepping-stone for WMO Programme for SIDS and MITs in the region to improve climate monitoring, forecasting, feeding into early warning systems, and improvement of data acquisition networks.

Building operational and technical capacities of the “Unité Hydrologique et Météorologique” de Haiti

The Project "Climate Services to Reduce Vulnerability in Haiti" is funded by the Government of Canada and has a total value of CAD 6,5 Million. It is designed to assist the national meteorological and hydrological service in meeting the information requirements and needs of the Haitian users for real-time applications including for disaster risk reduction, civil aviation, agriculture and maritime sectors. The project includes the construction of a building for the NMHS, the installation of the technical equipment and

**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?**

WMO's efforts for SIDS respond mainly to SDG 13 "Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts" and SDG 14 "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development". Also, the chapter on Climate Change in the SAMOA Pathway outcomes are well taken into consideration in the planning and implementation of projects, financed through Environment and Climate Change Canada, Climate Risk and Early Warning Systems (CREWS) initiative and the Green Climate Fund (GCF) mentioned under question 1.

Successful climate change adaptation starts with the ability to forecast and predict the impacts of climate change and extreme weather and water events. Through increasing the capacity to issue these forecasts and warning services, WMO is increasing the ability to plan for events in the near and distant future. WMO projects address challenges related to extreme weather, climate and water events and seek to provide SIDS with the necessary capacity and equipment to successfully forecast the events and issue impact-based warnings that allows the public to act accordingly.

Efforts are made to engage more in existing coordination mechanisms at country level to enable alignment of NMHSs plans with UN and national strategic frameworks with regard to the SDGs and the Samoa Pathway. Challenges exist with regard to the monitoring of WMO contribution to achievement of the SDGs and Samoa Pathway as SDGs indicators do not translate easily into hydro-meteorology services. Discussions are on-going for the development of indicators to reflect and monitor WMO and NMHSs contribution in achieving the global development agenda in SIDS.

**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.**

Resource mobilization processes: WMO Resource Mobilization Strategy places emphasis on securing financial resources to support the implementation of the short to long term priorities of WMO Programme for SIDS and MITs.

Annual review of implementation progress: During its 69 session in May 2017, WMO Executive Council discussed progress made in the implementation of WMO Programme for SIDS and MITs.

SIDS is a main priority for WMO and is integrated into the agenda of conferences when appropriate. Moreover, a large percentage of new projects in WMO are either focused on SIDS or have a SIDS component.

**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.**

WMO is not indicated as a partner for the implementation of the commitments and partnerships announced at the Samoa conference. However, its activities largely contribute to achieve the objectives of many of these partnerships through enhancing adaptive capabilities and Disaster risk reduction in SIDS, including safety of coastal communities.