

## 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 Secretary-General report in 2019.**

This report is being prepared in accordance with paras 5 and 6 of A/RES/72/307. The report will (i) serve to support the intergovernmental consultations on the Outcome Document of the Mid Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway and (ii) be considered by the UNGA 74. The report will review progress on SAMOA Pathway implementation for the period January 2015 to present.

*The Attached Annex provides examples of the preferred level of detail for responses.*

- 1. Financial Support:** Please provide information on annual financial allocation(s)/investment(s) (i) in absolute values and (ii) as a percentage of the total annual budgets for SAMOA Pathway specific SIDS programme areas, for the period January 2015 to December 2018 or most relevant period. Please provide your responses in the Table in **Annex 1, no1.**

The way to advance the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway post SIDS conference, was to mainstream and integrate the Framework into the national sustainable development strategy. We also as members of the Pacific Island Forum ensured SAMOA Pathway was integrated into our regional agenda. Therefore the [2018 PACIFIC SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT complements this report and has some of the key data and information requested in terms of progress, not only for Samoa but for the region.](#)

The implementation of the SAMOA Pathway was integrated into the Samoa Development Strategy (SDS) 2016-2020, with the theme of ‘Accelerating sustainable development and broadening opportunities for all’. The first few years was focused on the SDS development and mapping exercises and are now linked to the sector plans and the SDGs. We have tried to align the tracking of SAMOA Pathway to our SDS and also SDGs where the baseline year is (2016)

Given the new SDS incorporated and linked the SAMOA Pathway priorities, and with the SDGs also mapped against the SDS and the supporting sector plans, in terms of financial support for the first few years we will look at the Government Budget year 2016-2017; 2017 – 2018 and approved estimates for 2018 – 2019. The budget allocations by Sector and also general government spending on development can be used as an indication of our investment into our SDS and thus linked to delivering on the SAMOA Pathway priorities.

Samoa is continuing with ongoing work with the SDG taskforce and key line ministries in order to improve the system of tracking progress of SAMOA Pathway and SDGs using SDG indicators that are localized as well as sector plan indicators if there are different ones. Indicators for the SDGs have had to be localized for relevance and contextualisation.

TOTAL FY 2016 – 2017 (InUS\$)	Government Appropriated expenditures	Foreign Capital Projects grants	Foreign Soft Term loans	In Kind Donor assets
354,923,710	196,922,466	96,803,718	39,355,944	21,415,583
<b>Total FY 2017 - 2018</b>				
452,807,848	203,958,508	92,361,320	42,467,983	115,220,035
<b>Total FY 2018 - 2019</b>				
381,945,776	219,045,796	89,262,131	28,226,457	46,139,480

**2. Financing by sector: See Annex 1.**

Of the priorities of the SAMOA Pathway addressed in the budget (inclusive of ODA financing), the bulk of the support through the Budget is allocated to Health, Social development including Education and gender equality, sustainable transport & infrastructure and sustainable including equitable economic growth for FY 17/18 and 2018/19. Similarly the largest investments through grants and concessional loan support are addressing Water and sanitation sector, sustainable transport and other infrastructure as well as sustainable and equitable economic growth. Financial support from development partners contribute significantly to addressing climate change, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity and enhanced resilience.

**3. Measuring the Progress/Implementation Status of SAMOA Pathway thematic areas:**

- a. With reference to the SAMOA Pathway thematic areas listed in Annex 1, No 1 (where relevant or possible), please indicate the percentage achievement at the national level. Regional institutions should report against ongoing or completed programmes. Please support your answers with quantitative evidence (progress indicators, delivery rate of programme/project funds, etc.) as appropriate. Indicators tied to existing National Development/Sustainable Development Plans may also be used where relevant/appropriate.

We do not have specific indicators for Samoa pathway however we have mapped the key priority areas to those of our SDS and also SDGs. Thus where relevant, a mix of the SDG and SDS or sector plan indicators provides indication of progress for SAMOA Pathway.

- b. Are there any other indicators used by your government to assess progress on implementation of the SAMOA Pathway thematic areas? If the SDG goals and targets are used, please explain how current progress measures against these indicators/targets?

Refer to response in 3. a

- c. If no specific indicators/targets are used, please indicate how your country measures progress in lieu of targets and indicators?

Refer to response in 3. a

**4. Successful Examples** –This section examines best practices and successful interventions that have made significant impact on the ground. **(Word Limit for responses:2500).**

- a. From among the programmes/projects that have been implemented by your country over the reporting period, please elaborate on a few of the most successful. Please refer to **Annex 1, No. 3 in responding**

The sector wide approach to implementing the Samoa Pathway is one of the key successful examples we wish to use. The integration of the SAMOA pathway priorities with the SDS and sector plans are key to implementation because the only resources available to us are through the national budget including all aid which are on budget. This also allows for linking the SAMOA pathway priorities to the Government Budget and other financial support. The linking also helps us align the collection of data to the implementation of our sector plans and SDS with the indicators for SDGs and SAMOA pathway with the hope of reducing the reporting burden.

Samoa, according to the SIDS partnership platform, was involved in 92 partnerships registered on the SIDS platform. Of the 92 partnerships linked to Samoa currently registered on the SIDS platform, 23 partnerships are at national level, 69 are regional. Of the 23 national partnerships all have been completed except for 6. Further to the partnerships Samoa is involved with, Samoa made 13 Voluntary Commitments during the 2017 Oceans Conference in New York.

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				
<b>Linking implementation to SDS and sector plans</b>  15 Sector plans - Agriculture and Fisheries	All	All	All sectors for Samoa	Each Sector plan has specifically identified outcomes to help achieve the strategic SDS outcomes which are linked to all the	TA, Capacity Building, Cash grants for construction	Approx. US\$453 for FY17/18 and US\$383m for FY18/19

<p>Trade; Commerce &amp; Manufacturing;  Community Development;  Construction;  Communication;  Education;  Energy;  Finance;  Health;  Law &amp; Justice;  Public Administration;  Transport;  Tourism;  Water;  CROSS-CUTTING – Environment</p>				<p>priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway as well as the relevant SDGs</p> <p>The sector approach also ensures inclusiveness of all stakeholders as all agencies outside the government have representation on sector governing bodies</p> <p>The sector approach also ensures the identification of shared resources through inter-sectoral linkages – encourages nexuses</p>		
<p><b>Economy-wide integration of climate change adaptation and disaster risk management to reduce climate vulnerability of communities in Samoa ( GEF project)</b></p>	<p>All but specifically Climate Change</p> <p>Sustainable Energy</p> <p>Disaster Risk Reduction</p> <p>Oceans and seas, water and sanitation, biodiversity</p> <p>Gender equality</p> <p>Social development</p>	<p>All but particularly SDG 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13,14,15,17</p>	<p>All sectors for Samoa</p>	<p>Strengthened national capacity to develop and upgrade the national environmental policy and the implementation of relevant gender and climate change policy responses.</p> <p>Strengthened capacity support for community disaster risk</p>		<p>Approx.. 102 million</p>

				<p>reduction and school-basedDRM.</p> <p>Strengthened government and UN planning and coordination of humanitarian responses,</p> <p>Including post disaster employment and livelihood options for youth, men and women</p> <p>Improved monitoring of climate change through centralised collection of data.</p> <p>Encouraged a focus on both adaptation and mitigation as well</p>		
<b>Peer review and Peer Learning</b>	ALL	ALL	All sectors for the Pacific region	<p>A key PIF initiative to improve Forum island countries' systems and processes for planning, budgeting, and public financial and aid management.</p> <p>The peer review process offers PIF members the opportunity to learn and share experiences</p>	Capacity development and South Southcooperation or SIDS -SIDS cooperation	

				<p>with their peers. The inclusion of development partners in the peer helped them see things from a SIDS lens – following the participation of Samoa at the DAC review of NZ a decision was made by OECD to always include developing countries in the OECD/DAC</p> <p>Process yet to be taken up by regional organisations</p>		

i. Why are these considered a success?

These examples highlight the importance of a whole of government/country sector approach which allows a SIDS like Samoa to implement its international obligations using existing frameworks and country systems and more importantly taking into account its limited capacity and financial resources. Sector wide approach to these projects allows for better coordination, pooling of resources and inclusiveness.

The peer review mechanism is an important example of genuine and durable partnerships as it also allows a SIDS like Samoa to review mechanisms of their more developed partners as well as their peers and through the exercise there is better understanding of both parties on their priorities and approaches, and elevates the usual donor recipient relationship to that of equal partners. For the preparation of VNR, Samoan officials supported Kiribati with their preparation as a peer learning exercise. Samoa also hosted attachments from Tuvalu during our hosting of PIF in 2017 for their preparations to host the PIF in that year. We also approved Police from Nauru to be attached to our police as part of the peer learning for hosting of regional meetings. In the last 5 years we have hosted 40 officials from different Pacific countries to learn about the Public finance management reforms of Samoa and to determine whether these can be applied in their country contexts.

NZ has invited Samoa to do a peer learning exchange on implementation of the SDGs and this was executed this year in February

- ii. What were the results? Please support with qualitative/quantitative evidence if possible/relevant

There is better alignment of resources and priorities and with the ongoing exercise by our SBS we hope to have more concrete qualitative data to show how we are improving or otherwise in terms of the SAMOA pathway priorities and SDS. A review of the Financing matrix shows that investments through ODA are targeting the same focal areas as the domestic resources through the budget. The use of the sector wide approach ensures that there are no 'orphan sectors' without requisite support.

Enhanced awareness of the importance of inclusive policies/strategies as that triggers mobilisation of people and skills to support development initiatives for their benefit. Along with that is the importance of the recognition of safeguard policies that are important to the conservation and effective management of natural resources as seen in the increased compliance in applications for development consent.

- iii. Please elaborate on the critical factors that contributed to the intervention's success and any key lessons learned?

Key factors considered is how to build on existing mechanisms to deliver priorities better, using the limited resources and capacity available in our country. Even if initial projects are provided funding support from partners, the national mechanisms and robust country systems should be in place to ensure the sustainability of any projects once these outside funding support is no longer available.

- b. Were there any other key results/outputs achieved and describe its impacts, if any.

**Impact of integrating SAMOA pathway to the sector plans is that it allowed whole of government and stakeholders involved in the sectors to have a better understanding of the priorities of SAMOA pathway. It is always important to localise global/regional priorities for relevance to national contexts because the response mechanisms can never be the same.**

**Peer learning has become a hallmark in the Pacific so that the first choice for technical assistance is always from Pacific SIDs rather than from developed countries**

## **5. Addressing Gaps and Challenges:**

- a. From among the programmes/projects that have been implemented by your government over the reporting period, please elaborate on any implementation challenges that have been encountered (**Word Limit for responses: 2500**).

The challenge to some of the programmes and projects vary. But in terms of some of the partnerships pledged during SIDS Conference, we see low reporting and update rate and a number of cases is that the focal points for these partnerships have changed. We are trying to ensure that we send updated focal points especially for the Government Ministries involved.

One of the key challenges which remains is the availability of data and measurement challenges especially for key priorities such as oceans and sdc14.

As well we are inundated with offers of assistance from the many development partners in the region yet it is difficult to pin them down to what actual commitments they are able to offer. There is a tendency to use 'more successful countries' to 'pilot' ideas rather than focusing on the real needs.

- b. What have been the lessons learned and how will these be taken into account for the remaining implementation period of the SAMOA Pathway (2019-2024)
  - For Samoa, we have learnt to execute the program of work tailored to the capacities that we have and to have a thorough understanding of what is involved rather than being pushed along by deadlines and funding conditionality
  - The option to have the SAMOA pathway integrated into the national development strategy has been a good choice for us – avoids duplication and wasted resources
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## 6. Outreach/Publications

- a. Please include a link to the annual progress reports prepared on development/sustainable development. If present, please identify the sections relevant to SIDS/SAMOA Pathway implementation. Please also add any other relevant publication issued by your government that covers SIDS issues.

Our main outreach is through our engagement and interventions on different national regional and international agenda to push for SIDS priorities and concerns as highlighted in the SAMOA Pathway. For example:

Integrating the SAMOA pathway and SDGs into the Pacific Roadmap for sustainable development and building them into the different sector plans ensured prominent place for SAMOA pathway in the regional initiatives and prioritisation.

At the Ocean Conference 2017, Samoa pledged 13 Voluntary commitments towards the sustainable management conservation and use of the Ocean and its resources.

In an initiative spearheaded by Samoa and other key partners in partnership with UN WTO, saw the international year of sustainable tourism celebrated in 2017. This was crucial to



the sustainable tourism priority of SIDS and the global effort and recognition of importance of tourism particularly for SIDS, had a very positive impact.

Samoa introduced and was approved by Pacific leaders the Blue Pacific Identity with a focus on importance of the Ocean and its resources to us as Pacific SIDS for our livelihoods and existence. This narrative and approach is also crucial to highlighting key oceans and SIDS issues as identified in the SAMOA Pathway. The Blue Pacific Identity also emphasizes the importance of a strengthened voice and position of the collective to advocate for regional priorities.

In 2018 we hosted the SIDS Inter regional meeting for the SAMOA Pathway Mid Term Review to discuss and review progress on SAMOA pathway and prepare for the 2019 review.

The Apia meeting approved a climate change declaration which Samoa supported with other SIDS and took to Poland for COP24.

We also continue to use all preparatory regional and international meetings on the BBNJ process to continue to do outreach and highlighting of SAMOA pathway and SIDS priorities through ocean related issues.

In the review of the Multi Country Offices and the UN Development System reform Samoa uses this opportunity to link implementation of the SAMOA pathway to the work of the UN system and to the other international agreements. We have also used these reforms to voice our preference for a more balanced structure of the UN presence in the Pacific

We will host the EU-Pacific ACP leaders consultations to consider the arrangements to be in place post Cotonou and to discuss and to consider what the Regional Platform would be under the post Cotonou arrangements

We will host the Commonwealth small states meeting which we will continue to champion the SAMOA pathway and its SIDS priorities.

**7. Preparations for the Mid-Term Review** – A High-Level review of the Samoa Pathway will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 2019 in UNHQ, as mandated by [A/RES/72/307](#).

- a. Is your government conducting or planning to conduct any internal review of SIDS programmes in preparation for the Mid-term review of the Samoa Pathway? If so, please elaborate.

Please refer to the Pacific 2018 report which was prepared for the Mid Term Review of SAMOA Pathway meeting held in Apia. This report and the outcome of the Apia outcome of the SIDS interregional meeting are the key documents for our preparations for the HL Review Conference.

- b. Please elaborate on any other activities being undertaken in preparation for the High-Level Review in 2019 if any.

We hope to review partnerships and showcase some of the successful examples at the HLPF and also the review. As part of our annual sectoral reviews we will factor those results into the review

- 8. Other Matters** – Please include any other information as relevant.

**Thank you for completing the Survey!**

## ANNEX 1

### 1. Financing

<b>TOTAL FY 2016 – 2017 (In US\$)</b>	<b>Government Appropriated expenditures</b>	<b>Foreign Capital Projects grants</b>	<b>Foreign Soft Term loans</b>	<b>In Kind Donor assets</b>
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<b>Priorities identified in the Samoa Pathway</b>	<b>Investments (USD)</b>	<b>Budget Allocation</b>	<b>FY/ Cycle/ Period</b>	<b>(Optional)specify SAMOA Pathway Paragraph</b>
Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth Key Outcome 1 of SDS(national development strategy) Macroeconomic resilience increased and sustained	38,733,144(15%) 23,327,686(14%)	44,948,956(22%) 49,369,584(23%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Climate Change, DRR, Biodiversity SDS Key Outcomes 2, 6,7,8,10,11,12 13 SDS KO 14: climate and disaster resilience integrated into all sector plans)	17,305,326(7%) 14,472,834(9%)	10,666,575(5%) 10,237,429(4.5%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Sustainable Energy SDS KO 12 – sustainable energy achieved and energy efficiency	5,000,000(2%) 5,239,063(3.2%)	1,721,600(<1%) 1,000,000 (<1%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Oceans and seas SDS 2,13,14 & SDG 14 Environmental resilience	4,792,189 (1.9%) 2,524,170(1.5%)	8,168,476(4%) 6,936,662(3%)	2017/18- 2018/19	

Resilience to natural disasters Agriculture, food security, food security etc Agriculture and fisheries productivity increased				
Water and Sanitation SDS Outcome 9 SDG 6 Improved access to safe drinking water and sanitation	92,688,121(37) 6,619,715 (4.1%)	5,187,132(2.5%) 4,537,617(2.1%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Sustainable Transportation & other infrastructure and chemical and waste management SDS Outcome 10 SDG 12 Implement the (10YFP), 12.2 By 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources 12.3 By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer 12.4 By 2020, achieve environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes 12.5 By 2030, substantially reduce waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling, reuse	60,128,314(24%) 69,369,081(42%)	20,864,964(10%) 19,666,988(9%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Sustainable Consumption and Production				
Health and NCDs SDG 3, SDS 6	3,392,368 (1.3%) 3,521,860(1.4%)	45,257,600(22%) 38,957,300(18%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Social development, education and gender equality SDS 7, 8 SDG 4, 5	12,566,895 (5.1%) 16,396,644 (10%)	46,710,082(22%) 50,147,018(22%)	2017/18- 2018/19	
Means of implementation	380,457,408	465,594,584	2017/18- 2018/19	
<b>Total</b>	248,848,340 162,899,980	203,958,508 219,045,796	2017/18 2018/19	