

## **QUESTIONNAIRE**

(UN System and Other Relevant Entities)

### **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.

*In all responses, and as far as is possible/practical, UN system and other relevant entities should refer to the [UN System Implementation Matrix](#)<sup>1</sup> prepared following the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Small Island Developing States.*

*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 SIDS programme areas, for the period January 2015 to December 2018 or the most relevant period following the onset of the SAMOA Pathway. Please provide your responses in the Table in **Annex 1, no. 1**.
- 2. Measuring the Progress/Implementation Status of SAMOA Pathway thematic areas:**
  - a. With reference to the assigned areas contained within the UN Implementation Matrix, where relevant or possible, please indicate the percentage achievement of the thematic areas contained within the SAMOA Pathway. Please support your answers with quantitative evidence (progress indicators, delivery rate of programme/project funds, etc.) as appropriate.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs), implemented many programmes/projects from 2015 to 2018 in SIDS to increase connectivity, access and use of ICTs, infrastructure development, mitigate climate change and disasters, set up early-warning systems and develop national emergency telecommunication plans, provide capacity building, develop ICT policies, and regulations to fast forward their sustainable development. By helping to bridge the digital divide that separates many SIDS from other developing and developed countries, ITU is facilitating the ongoing efforts towards achieving the 2030 agenda for sustainable development across all the development pillars identified in the Samoa Pathway.

Within the UN Implementation Matrix, ITU has mainstreamed the needs of SIDS in its different activities, initiatives, programmes and projects to achieve its commitments under the Samoa Pathway. The Samoa

---

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.sids2014.org/content/documents/612SAMOA%20Pathway%20implementation%20matrix\\_UN%20system.pdf](http://www.sids2014.org/content/documents/612SAMOA%20Pathway%20implementation%20matrix_UN%20system.pdf)

Pathway set out new modalities to address the challenges and vulnerabilities of SIDS. Within the Samoa Pathways the following specific paragraphs call upon the contribution of the ITU.

- 27. (b) Enhancing the enabling environment at the national and regional levels to attract more public and private investment in building and maintaining appropriate infrastructure, including ports, roads, transportation, electricity and power generation and information and communications technology infrastructure, and enhancing the development impact of the private sector and the financial services industry;
- 27. (g) Promoting and enhancing the use of information and communications technologies for, inter alia, education, the creation of employment, youth employment, and economic sustainability purposes in small island developing States;
- 110. We recognize that access by small island developing States to appropriate reliable, affordable, modern and environmentally sound technologies is critical to achieving their sustainable development objectives and in fostering an environment that provides incentives for innovation and entrepreneurship and that science, technology and innovation are essential enablers and drivers for sustainable development.
- 111. In this regard, we reaffirm our commitment to support the efforts of small island developing States to gain access, on mutually agreed terms, to appropriate, reliable, affordable, modern and environmentally sound technologies and know-how and to increase connectivity and the use of information and communications technology through improved infrastructure, training and national legislation, as well as public and private sector involvement.

In line with the above paragraphs, the ITU helps the SIDS through the provision of concentrated assistance. For instance, Comoros, Dominica, Fiji, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe, Seychelles, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga and Tuvalu received concentrated assistance between the period of 2015-2018.

Moreover, the ITU's Asia-Pacific regional office works on the ground to address specific priority areas of importance to the region, and create effective partnerships to implement range of small, medium and large-scale projects. Also, ITU improved the capacity of SIDS through the implementation of relevant plenipotentiary and World Telecommunication Conference resolutions. These resolutions include WTDC Res. 16 (Rev. Buenos Aires, 2017) and Plenipotentiary resolutions such as Resolution 30 (Rev. Dubai 2018) on special measures for the least developed countries, small island developing states, landlocked developing countries and countries with economies in transition that highlight the role of ICTs as enablers of national socio-economic development.

- One of the successful projects being implemented by the ITU is the Cooperation Agreement with the International Telecommunication Satellite Organization (ITSO), Intelsat, Inmarsat and Kacific “Project Document - Development of Satellite Communications Capacity and Emergency Communications Solutions for the Pacific Islands” with a budget of USD 600,000. ITU’s contribution in cash was USD 500,000. ITU also provided expertise on human resources and skills knowledge resources (e.g. experts, publications, papers) due care and diligence to ensure the success of the project. These partnership projects are being implemented to improve connectivity in the SIDS, in the case of disasters.

The project aims to develop low cost, reliable, diverse satellite communication capacity for the development of the Pacific Islands region.

- Furthermore, ITU has granted 80 fellowships in 2017 and 76 in 2018 from SIDS to participate in ITU activities.
- b. Please report on any other targets/indicators used by your organization to assess progress on implementation of the SAMOA Pathway? If the SDG goals and targets are used please explain how current progress measures against these indicators/targets?

ITU monitors the development of ICTs in each one of the SIDS and to measure progress. All key ICT indicators in the SIDS, including on mobile-cellular subscriptions, broadband subscriptions, Internet use and household ICT access, are made available on the ITU statistics website and updated twice a year. For comparison purpose and to show progress, please see in the table below key ICT data/indicators for all SIDS region with aggregates- 2014 & 2017

<b>2014</b>	<b>2017</b>
Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (11.78)	Fixed-telephone subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (11.57)
Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (74.38)	Mobile-cellular subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (79.34)
Active mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (26.19)	Active mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (41.21)
Fixed-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (5.93)	Fixed-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants (6.79)
Internet users 35.08 (%)	Internet users 44.20 (%)

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

ITU also uses the post-implementation assessments reports for several implemented projects to assess progress. These assessments aim to review the relevance of the projects, effectiveness of the implementation of the projects, and the achieved results. The outcome of each review is based on an objective analysis that reflects the results achieved and decisions taken, to be able to draw lessons learned that may help improve the design and implementation of future ITU projects.

**3. 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 organization over the reporting period, please elaborate on a few of the most successful. Please provide your responses in the Table in **Annex 1, no. 3**.
- i. Why are these considered a success?

These are considered a success because 11 Islands countries benefited from the project, namely Kiribati, Micronesia, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, Papua New Guinea, Nauru and Tonga.

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

Based on these interventions, the results benefitted the remote islands and rural areas identified above and improved their capacities for connectivity, and which will pave greater ways for the socio-economic development of SIDS. Up to 55 rural/remote community e-centres established; about 100 rural/remote communities served; up to 100 persons (operators of community e-centres) trained; Network Management System and ICT services and applications were developed; and up to three services and applications provided in the health, education and agriculture sectors.

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

Telecommunication infrastructure is a lifeline for the scattered Pacific Island nations. Thus, effective partnerships among ITU, its partners and SIDS themselves, as well the commitments made by stakeholders under the Samoa Pathway have contributed to the intervention's success of these projects.

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

- Communities living on remote islands and rural areas, and who are also ordinary people and farmers benefitted both from access to ICTs and emergency services. The impact allows them to fast forward their socio-economic sustainable development. Connectivity in SIDS has been recognized by the international community as being of high importance for supporting the ongoing efforts by SIDS to fully integrate into the global information and knowledge society.

**4. Addressing Gaps and Challenges:**

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

From the among the programmes and projects being implemented by the ITU during the reporting period, the challenges include the need for SIDS to create an enabling environment and be an early adopter of

ICT in order to deliver effectively; financial constraints; risk management, greater information sharing and data collection, data security, access to ICTs, effective use of emergency telecommunications in the immediate aftermath of disasters in rescue operations in a coordinated manner, infrastructure development, just to name few

- 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)?

Transfer of knowledge of what has been learned in implementing projects is paramount for better implementation of other activities for the remaining period of the SAMOA Pathway (2019-2024). These lessons learned include the need for continued efforts in narrowing the digital divide in SIDS through clear objectives and achieve them.

## 5. Outreach/Publications

- a. Please include a link to the annual progress report(s) of your organization, or any other relevant progress report(s). If present, please identify the sections relevant to SIDS/SAMOA Pathway implementation. Please also add any other publication issued by your organization that covers SIDS.
  - ITU publishes different reports that address progress to SIDS and SAMOA Pathway and their specific needs, as highlighted below.
  - Among the 47 LDCs, nine are small island developing states (SIDS), namely, Guinea-Bissau, São Tomé and Príncipe, Haiti, Comoros, Kiribati, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu and Vanuatu. Therefore, it is worth mentioning that ITU, in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS (UNOHRLLS) published the report on ICTs in January 2018, *LDCs and the SDGs: Achieving universal and affordable Internet in the least developed countries*. [This report](#) highlights the opportunities that ICTs deliver to tackle development challenges in the most vulnerable countries in the world.
  - ITU has published reports that cover SIDS such as *Regulatory and Market Environment Maximising Availability of International Connectivity in Developing Countries: strategies to ensure global digital inclusion*. Please see [this link](#).
  - World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-2017). [Final Report](#).
  - [Measuring the Information Society Report](#) 2018 presents a quantitative analysis of the information society and highlights new and emerging trends and measurement issues. It contains the latest ICT statistics, trends and developments.
  - [ITU Yearbook of Statistics](#) provides the most authoritative source of data about the evolution of the telecommunication sector, the availability of ICTs in households and the usage of ICTs by individuals.
  - [ICT Development Fund \(ICT-DF\)](#) which is mainly targeted at assisting the LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, countries with economies in transition and/or countries in special need (countries emerging out of the war situations and/or natural disasters).

- b. Does your organization manage any website dedicated exclusively to SIDS?

Yes, ITU has a website dedicated to SIDS, linked [here](#).

**6. 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 organization 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 provide.

Yes, a report on the progress that SIDS have been making in terms of ICT access and use will be published for the mid-term review

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

Decisions on other activities will be made before the High-Level Review.

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

Additionally, ITU has developed many [case studies](#) based on implemented ITU projects which include the SIDS. Each case study aims at sharing information related to different ITU projects, their implemented activities, achieved results, lessons learned, conclusions and recommendations. ITU project case studies can serve as examples for different stakeholders to address similar challenges and opportunities and replicate good practices.

For instance, Fiji and Samoa benefited from the Master Plans for Spectrum Management to help developing countries in the Asia-Pacific to establish national spectrum management master plans. See [here](#).

**Thank you for completing the Survey!**

1. Please report using the table below for successful examples. If the work has already been reported last year using the table please only add updates if any, otherwise skip filling out the table and elaborate on the rest of the question (I, II, III)

<https://sidsnetwork.org/secretary-general-report-samoa-pathway/>

Name of Project/ Programme/ Activity	Main Themes/ Goals addressed		Target Countries, Regions, Sectors	Goals	Intervention Type  (Tech transfer, Capacity development etc.)	Total Budget (US\$)	Implementation  Period
	Samoa Pathway	SDGs					
Capacity building, Regional initiatives		SDG goals 9 & 11	Cape Verde and Sao Tome & Principe	Train experts in Digital Broadcasting technologies, and in Spectrum monitoring	Capacity Development	20.000 (CHF)	2018
Building confidence and security in the use of the ICTs, Program		SDG goals 9 & 16	Comoros	Provide platform to address cyber threats targeting the critical infrastructure for banking industry	Capacity building	20.000 (CHF)	2018
Telecommunications/ICT networks including conformance and interoperability and BSG, Program			Cape Verde, Comoros, Sao Tome & Principe Seychelles	To help Member States have superior quality of services with conformable and interoperable networks Enhance ICTs for SDGs implementation	Capacity building	25.000 (CHF)	2018
ITU Asia-Pacific Regulators Roundtable and International Training Program		SDGs	Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Marshall Islands Micronesia Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu	Improve regulatory knowledge and skills of participating countries	Capacity development	18.000 (CHF)	2018
Regional Workshop on Emerging Technologies				Strengthen knowledge and skills on adoption and use of new technologies	Capacity development	17.000 (CHF)	2018
Connect a School, connect a community		SDGs	Comoros	Promote broadband connectivity in schools in remote, rural or underserved areas	Connectivity & infrastructure development and training		2015-2016
Support for Capacity Building and ICT Policies, Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks in the Pacific Island Countries		SDGs	Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu	Serve national priorities for socio-economic development	ICT Policies, Regulatory and Legislative Frameworks	100.000- 500.000 (CHF)	2015-2017

Implementing the Climate Change Adaptation Component of the Satellite Communications Capacity, and Emergency Communications Solutions Project for the Small Island Developing States of the Pacific	Samoa Pathway		Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Support the ongoing “Development of Satellite Communications Capacity and Emergency Communications Solutions” project for 11 Pacific Island countries	Climate Change Adaptation Component of the Satellite Communications, Capacity, and Emergency Communications Solutions	100.000-500.000 (CHF)	2014-2018
Youth Innovation Event (Towards Marketing) & Understanding the Importance of C&I			Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Dominican Rep., Guyana, Haiti, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,	Assist youth to improve their access, use and knowledge of information and communication technologies	Digital Inclusion for Youth	20.000 (CHF)	2018
Development of Satellite Communications Capacity and Emergency Communications Solutions for the Pacific Islands	Samoa Pathway	SDGs	Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Develop low cost, reliable, diverse satellite communications capacity for the socio-economic development of the Pacific Islands region utilizing unused satellite capacity.		500'000 - 1'000'000 (CHF)	2014-2020
ITU NBTC Training Programme 2016			Cook Islands, Fiji, Marshall Islands, Maldives, Micronesia, Nauru, Niue, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu	Enhance the skills of its staff and the telecommunication/ICT stakeholders in the areas of Internet of Things and Quad play costing and pricing.	Capacity development	Less than 100'000	2016
Project for the use of ICTs in emergency and disaster situations in the Caribbean region-Phase 1			Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis	Assist and support the beneficiary countries in improving their emergency telecommunication capacities and their emergency and disaster response.	Emergency Telecommunications	100'000 - 500'000(C HF)	2018-2020