

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 SAMOMA 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.**

2. 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.
- 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?

At the time of writing, work is ongoing to define Ireland's overall strategic approach to Partnerships with SIDS. Once this is concluded (expected in 2019), it will form the formal framework underpinning engagement and investments from the Official Development Assistance programme.

- c. If no specific indicators/targets are used, please indicate how your country measures progress in lieu of targets and indicators?
Over time, once this framework is agreed, Ireland will develop milestones against which progress will be measured.

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 country over the reporting period, please elaborate on a few of the most successful. Please refer to **Annex 1, No. 3 in responding**

- i. Why are these considered a success?
 - ii. What were the results? Please support with qualitative/quantitative evidence if possible/relevant
 - iii. Please elaborate on the critical factors that contributed to the intervention's success and any key lessons learned?
- b. Were there any other key results/outputs achieved and describe its impacts, if any.

Support to UN Trust Fund for participation in UN Processes

In 2018, Ireland made a contribution of €100,000 through UNDESA to the Trust Fund to support the Work of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. This should enable SIDS to overcome the significant financial burden of meaningfully participating in UN Processes, particularly the SAMOA Pathway review, and build alliances between Ireland and many specific SIDS.

Ireland has also provided support for SIDS participation in other UN processes. A Trust Fund to support the participation of the LDCs and SIDS in the Human Rights Council was established in 2012 and Ireland was the first donor to the Trust Fund. Since 2012 Ireland has made an annual donation of €50,000 to the Trust Fund. Ireland has provided support to participating SIDS delegations in other forms too, for example through networking with and delivery of training to the delegates funded via the Trust Fund during their time in Geneva. Ireland has made contributions to similar Trust Funds to facilitate SIDS engagement at the UN, for instance during our facilitation of both the 2030 Agenda and New York Declaration on Refugees and Migrants negotiations in 2015 and 2016.

The Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF)

Ireland is providing €1 million to the CCRIF in 2018-2019. The CCRIF has proven its worth as a risk pooling facility in the Caribbean Region since its establishment in the aftermath of 2004's Hurricane Ivan. CCRIF is the world's first multi-country risk pool based on parametric insurance. Since the inception of the facility in 2007, CCRIF has made payouts totalling US\$130.5m to 13 member countries, all within 14 days of the event itself occurring. This rapid payout is a vital lifeline to post-disaster small island economies- helping them to maintain continuity of governance and basic services, reduction in budget volatility after the devastation, and financing immediate recovery/relief efforts.

The support Ireland has provided is in the form of crucial core funding to the CCRIF secretariat- enabling them to improve the quality of the instrument, rather than just funding the instrument itself. Irish support will support the following:

- outreach and technical support to members to ensure coverage levels are appropriate for their exposure levels, and to help them with disaster risk management, especially exposure of their economies.
- provide support to product development in agricultural drought coverage.
- enable CCRIF to develop a new public utilities product, and support its initial rollout.

The Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

In the Pacific, there is a need for innovative approaches to be quickly applied, and lessons learned. This is driven by a real sense of urgency, borne out of the reality faced. The Pacific faces a unique set of practical obstacles; a large number of islands, spread over a vast geographic area, means that finding a critical mass of expertise is a challenge. Some regional responses have been successful. Other actions which rely on national capacity, such as identifying national plans and priorities, and securing funding from the Climate Finance Instruments, prove more difficult. SPREP has established a regional draw-down facility to help plug these technical and capacity gaps, supporting Pacific islands to identify climate action priorities and apply for multilateral funding to implement them. The expertise is mostly regional, but owing to resource constraints, SPREP sees demand for support consistently outstripping supply. Ireland is exploring how future partnership can help SPREP ramp up this technical support capacity, and unlock wider funding more effectively for climate action in the region. In 2018, Ireland provided €200,000 in core funding to help bolster the technical delegations of 14 Pacific SIDS at COP24, and additional support with preparation, messaging, and a final report on PSIDS' impact on the Katowice outcome.

4. 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)**.
- 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)?

5. 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.

Irish Aid 2017 Annual Report (previous reports also available for download at this link)

<https://www.irishaid.ie/news-publications/publications/publicationsarchive/2018/october/irish-aid-2017-annual-report.html>

Global Ireland – Ireland's Global Footprint to 2025

https://merrionstreet.ie/MerrionStreet/en/ImageLibrary/20180622_Global_Ireland.pdf

Women as Agents of Change: Towards a Climate and Gender Justice Approach

<https://www.irishaid.ie/news-publications/publications/publicationsarchive/2018/december/women-as-agents-of-change-towards-a-climate-and-gender-justice-approach.html>

6. Preparations for the Mid-Term Review – A High-Level review of the Samoa Pathway will take place on 27th 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.

Ireland is currently undertaking a scoping study to appraise our medium-to-long term policy engagement with and funding options to SIDS. This will include a mapping of existing Irish support through all channels, propose possible criteria for action, identify how to best leverage Irish expertise, and propose options for further engagement.

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

The Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations in New York has been appointed by the PGA to co-facilitate negotiations to agree a Declaration to be adopted at the High-Level review in September 2019.

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

Thank you for completing the Survey!

ANNEX 1

1. Financing

Priorities identified in the Samoa Pathway	Investments (USD)	Budget Allocation	FY/ Cycle/ Period	(Optional) specify SAMOA Pathway Paragraph
Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth				
Climate Change	Least Developed Countries Group of UNFCCC (of which 2 are SIDS) \$19.5m	Consistently c15% of climate policy budget	Funding for FYs 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018	
Disaster Risk Reduction	Support to CCRIF \$1.145m	22% of climate change policy budget	2018	

Oceans and seas	Support to SIDS and LDCs participation in BBNJ process and oceans governance work (through International Institute for Environment and Development) Approx. \$200,000	Approximately 10% of annual core contribution to IIED's work	FY2017 and 2018	
Gender equality				
Social development				
Biodiversity				
Means of implementation	\$132,000 to support Pacific SIDS participation at COP24			
Etc.				
Total				