

# QUESTIONNAIRE

## **Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the MSI, BPOA for the Sustainable Development of SIDS**

Please note that strict word limits have been established for each question. The Secretariat is unable to consider any information beyond these established word limits. In this regard, you are requested to report only on new, updated or on the *most critical/noteworthy* information. Information conveyed in previous surveys will also not be considered. Previous surveys can be accessed at <https://sidsnetwork.org/> under reports.

### **1. Legal/Policy/Institutional Arrangements for SIDS and/or the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway<sup>1</sup>**

*Does your entity/organization/government have a SIDS Strategy? If not, are there any plans to establish one, including with the appropriate resources for implementation. (1000 words)*

UNIDO has received direct requests from several SIDS Member States for technical assistance to address their respective development challenges, including but not limited to: waste management; development and utilization of renewable energy; export promotion through diversification and compliance with international standards and quality infrastructure; building resilience to environmental shocks; mobilizing development finance; agribusiness and fisheries; institution building and industrial policy development.

Against this background and in line with UNIDO's previous cooperation with SIDS, UNIDO formulated "UNIDO's Small Island Developing States Strategy 2019-2025", which was endorsed by Member States during UNIDO's General Conference in November 2019.

The SIDS strategy will serve as a guiding framework to steer results-based interventions and cooperation with SIDS for the achievement of Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (ISID), in line with UNIDO's mandate as SDG 9 custodian agency. The strategy will also support the prioritization of efforts, and support the coordination of these efforts with development partners, in particular within the United Nations Development System.

To effectively address those vulnerabilities and achieve its objectives, UNIDO's approach to SIDS builds upon a number of defining principles. These include an

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<sup>1</sup> This question seeks to examine the extent to which each respondent mainstreamed SIDS and the Samoa Pathway into co-operation frameworks, programmes and activities, national development plans etc, to ensure effective follow-up and implementation at regional and national levels in SIDS.

increased focus on integrated multi-disciplinary interventions, multi-country regional interventions, and multi-stakeholder partnerships. All three principles are aimed at ensuring thematic comprehensiveness, regional convergence and coherence of interventions. To facilitate operationalization, the SIDS strategy identifies the means of, and a roadmap for, implementation.

To operationalize the implementation of the strategy, UNIDO constituted a SIDS task force comprising of members from all relevant UNIDO department. The main objective of the task force is to facilitate information sharing and ensure a coherent and joint approach towards the activities outlined in UNIDO's roadmap for the SIDS strategy. Furthermore, UNIDO has developed a project to support the SIDS strategy and financed it from the organization's Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation. The project will aim to coordinate UNIDO's efforts and actions in SIDS by facilitating regional partnerships, enhanced resource flows and by identifying innovative approaches to SIDS coverage in the context of the UN's move towards multi-country offices (MCOs).

## **2. Financial Arrangements**

*Please give an indication of the budget allocated to SIDS SAMOA Pathway programme areas in your government/organization/entity, if applicable, for the period Jan. 2019 to Jan. 2020 or the fiscal cycle that best fits this period. If the priority areas cannot squarely fit this chart, please report as closely as you can.*

Thirty-four of the United Nations' 38 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are Member States of UNIDO. In 2019, Antigua and Barbuda and the Federated States of Micronesia joined the organization.

The number of projects in SIDS shows a growing trajectory, as currently 42 country and regional-level Technical Cooperation (TC) projects are being implemented by UNIDO in 16 SIDS, up from 36 projects in 14 SIDS listed in the last report.

The overall budget allocation for UNIDO's portfolio in SIDS amounts to \$ 45,374,692 and the total amount of expenditures for 2019 was \$ 4,603,209.

UNIDO's action is focused on four priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway document, namely: (1) *Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth*; (2) *Climate Change*; (3) *Sustainable Energy*; and (4) *Means of Implementation*. Being designed as multidisciplinary interventions, these projects have positive spillovers on other priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway. In particular, many of the projects listed under the priority "*Climate change*" relate to the reduction of POPs, HCFCs and mercury – thus having a clear impact on the priority "*Chemical and Waste management*".

UNIDO is currently implementing 10 projects under the SAMOA Pathway priority "*Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth*", for a total allocation of \$ 9,551,552. Expenditures for 2019 amounted to \$ 1,568,475. Donors for the projects

listed under this priority vary extensively, ranging from the Russian Federation to Italy, from the Republic of Korea to China and to the multilateral funding institutions such as the Montreal Protocol and GEF.

Ongoing activities on “*Climate Change*” include 12 projects, for an overall budget allocation of \$ 11,204,565. During the reporting period (2019), the total expenditure under this priority has been \$ 281,768. “*Climate Change*”-related projects are mostly funded by the Montreal Protocol and the GEF.

14 projects are currently being implemented under the SAMOA Pathway priority “*Sustainable Energy*” for a total budget allocation of \$ 22,507,683, mostly funded by the GEF, the European Union and individual European country, notably Austria, Norway and Spain. Expenditures undertaken during the reporting period amounted to \$ 2,268,976.

Lastly, under the pillar “*Means of implementation*” UNIDO has developed 6 projects, aimed in the greatest majority to support SIDS governments with policy-making; partnerships; monitoring and evaluation. Overall, the budget allocated under this priority is \$ 2,109,899, while the 2019 expenditures amount to \$ 483,990.

An exhaustive list is attached as Annex1.

<b>Priorities</b>	<b>Investment (expenditures) 2019 (USD)</b>	<b>Overall Budget Allocation</b>	<b>FY/ Cycle/ Period</b>
Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth – 10 Projects	\$ 1,568,475	\$ 9,551,552	<b>2019</b>
Climate Change – 12 projects	\$ 281,768	\$ 11,204,565	<b>2019</b>
Sustainable Energy – 14 projects	\$ 2,268,976	\$ 22,507,683	<b>2019</b>
Disaster Risk Reduction			
Oceans and seas			
Food Security and Nutrition			
Water and Sanitation			
Sustainable Transportation			
Sustainable Consumption and Production			
Chemical and Waste management			

Health and NCDs			
Gender equality			
Social development			
Biodiversity			
Means of implementation – 6 projects	\$ 483,990	\$ 2,109,899	<b>2019</b>
Etc.			
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,603,209</b>	<b>\$ 45,374,692</b>	

### 3. Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and Support to SIDS over the remaining life of the SAMOA Pathway

*Based on the call for action and other priority areas contained in on A/Res/73/4, please provide an indication of your entity's/organization's/government's proposed focus in the remaining life of the SAMOA Pathway. What outcomes are you seeking to achieve? (1500 words)*

UNIDO's approach to responding to the challenges and opportunities of SIDS is aligned with the Organization's four overall priorities as set out in the medium term programme framework (MTPF) for the period 2018–2021, which aim to achieve the following development results:

- (i) Creating shared prosperity;
- (ii) Advancing economic competitiveness;
- (iii) Safeguarding the environment;
- (iv) Strengthening knowledge and institutions.

Against this background and in line with the framework of UNIDO's SIDS Strategy 2019-2025, UNIDO will focus on a number of priorities so as to respond to the call for action contained in A/Res/74/3, for the remaining life of the SAMOA Pathway:

- (i) **Creating shared prosperity:** Contributing to poverty eradication and inclusive growth, building productive capacities in an inclusive manner, and providing increased opportunities for all women and men, including youth, as well as across social groups, through partnerships with all relevant stakeholders involved in the industrialization process.  
Under this pillar, UNIDO's action will be focused on:
  - a. Promote technical and vocational training, in particular for women and girls;
  - b. Development of local agro-value chains and of the necessary infrastructure dedicated to the processing of raw materials, livestock and fish, reducing at the same time over-exploitation of marine resources and marine littering;
  - c. Ensure resilience of agriculture and fisheries to natural disasters and

climate change impact;

- d. Protect traditional knowledge and know-how, notably related to manufacture.

(ii) **Advancing economic competitiveness:** Sustaining rapid industrial growth by supporting entrepreneurship; building trade capacities in industries; fostering technology transfer, deployment and innovation; and application of modern industrial policies and compliance with global standards and norms.

Under this pillar, UNIDO's action will be focused on:

- a) Diversify economies and trade patterns (e.g. e-commerce); reducing overreliance on tourism;
- b) Support development of sound industrial and economic policies;
- c) Reduce dependency and expenditures on fossil fuels;
- d) Support conformity to international trade schemes and standards, in order to boost trade and attract FDIs.

(iii) **Safeguarding the environment:** Advancing environmentally responsible growth; building institutional capacities for greening industries through cleaner production technologies and resource efficiency methodologies; creating green industries, including in the field of waste management and recycling; supporting energy transitions; and implementing Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs)

Under this pillar, UNIDO's action will be focused on:

- a) Address climate change by reducing GHG emissions per capita;
- b) Improve access to renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions to reduce fossil fuel import dependency;
- c) Harness sustainable marine energy resources for key industrial island sectors of the blue economy
- d) Promote access to sustainable energy networks, knowledge and solutions;
- e) Support climate-neutral entrepreneurship and innovation;
- f) Enhance sustainable waste treatment and disposal;
- g) Support SIDS' phasing out from HCFC, POPs and mercury, in line with international conventions and standards.

(iv) **Strengthening knowledge and institutions:** This enabling pillar of the MTPF aims at integrating all services delivered by UNIDO across functions and thematic areas for the provision of long-term development results. It focuses on advancing the technical, policy and normative knowledge base for ISID.

Under this pillar, UNIDO's action will be focused on:

- a) Enhancing institutional capacities in SIDS' institutions, notably planning, monitoring and evaluation;
- b) Support the collection of data – including gender-disaggregated ones – to facilitate informed decision-making.

*What specific actions, if any will your entity/organization/government take to address any of the gaps and challenges identified in the political outcome (paras 15 ~29), section on “Call for Action” in the document A/RES/74/3<sup>2</sup>? (1500 words)*

UNIDO’s SIDS Strategy 2019 – 2025 is designed to respond to the challenges identified in A/RES/74/3, as extensively illustrated above.

*Data and statistics remain a significant challenge for SIDS. It hinders the ability of SIDS to report on key international commitments. Most SIDS are currently able to report on less than 50% of the SDG indicators. Please give an indication of any proposed targeted action at national or sub regional levels, to address this area in SIDS (1000 words)*

According to UNIDO’s annual Competitive Industrial Performance (CIP) Index 2018, which benchmarks the ability of countries to produce and export manufactured goods competitively, it is noticeable that there is an untapped potential for inclusive and sustainable industrialization, competitiveness and economic growth in SIDS. The index also highlights that some SIDS, grouped as high-income countries, lack capability and competitiveness in manufacturing, and have low resilience in managing environmental risks and vulnerability.

In line with the SIDS strategy, UNIDO will continue utilizing its indices and statistics to assess progress in the sustainable development of SIDS so as to guide them in adopting informed industrial policies and strategies. In addition, capacity-building support will be provided to national and regional institutions to enhance their capacities in data collection and statistical analysis, including disaggregation by sex.

#### **4. Financing for Sustainable Development in SIDS**

*Access to low cost development financing is a longstanding concern and priority for SIDS. Please indicate any plans or approaches which your entity/organization/government may have to support or enhance SIDS access to concessional finance, including the broadening partnerships, to address capacity constraints and enhance SIDS ability to mobilise, manage and spend financial resources from a wider array of sources (1500 words).*

UNIDO is helping SIDS in identifying and mobilizing funding from non-traditional donors. In particular, there is huge potential to engage emerging donors in bilateral and multilateral programmes and initiatives in SIDS.

In fact, there is clear potential for South-South and triangular cooperation (SSC) between SIDS and emerging donors. UNIDO is already active in the implementation of such kind of projects, for example in the solar power sector in Fiji, where China is providing funding and expertise.

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<sup>2</sup> The document can be accessed at <https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/74/3>

Moreover, another promising trend is to help SIDS to tap into ad-hoc SSC funds and facilities. UNIDO is already working with the recently established India-UN Development Partnership Fund in the Caribbean (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines) and it is exploring new avenues to help SIDS and emerging donors to forge new partnerships to mobilize financial resources.

*Please elaborate on any specific plans or programmes at national and or sub regional levels to support SIDS to explore approaches and financial instruments that can help SIDS maximise resources for sustainable development from a broader array of resources, in particular through innovative financial instruments such as green bonds, blue bonds, and blending arrangements (1500 words).*

NA

## **5. Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience**

*Please elaborate on any specific or planned programmes which your entity/organization/government intends to engage to support SIDS to build climate resilience, including building back better in the aftermath of disasters? (1000 words)*

Access to affordable, reliable and sustainable energy is not only part of SDG 7, but is also essential to achieving other SDGs and is at the centre of efforts to tackle climate change. However, the moderate growth rates of Sustainable Energy and Climate Technology (SECT) markets in many developing countries, particularly SIDS, show that SDGs 7, 9, and 13 cannot be achieved by 2030 under business-as-usual scenarios. In this context, formal, informal, centralized and decentralized multi-stakeholder partnerships can leverage flexible networks and resources among a broad range of like-minded partners in both developing and developed countries. In addition, partnerships can become important accelerators and help achieve economies of scale.

To address this challenge, UNIDO, in partnership with subregional economic communities (RECs) and their Members States, established the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers (GN-SEC), an innovative South-South and triangular multi-stakeholder partnership to accelerate the energy and climate transformation in developing countries. Since 2010, UNIDO has assisted RECs to establish and operate subregional sustainable energy promotion centres.

The gradually expanding partnership comprises a subnetwork of centres for the African and the Arab region in cooperation with the East African Community (EAC), Southern African Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Arab League and a subnetwork for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in

cooperation with SIDS DOCK<sup>3</sup>, Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC). Currently, the network is expanding to include Central America, Central Asia and the Himalaya-Hindukush region.

At the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in September 2014 in Samoa, UNIDO, SIDS DOCK and Government of Austria launched a South-South and triangular partnership which resulted in the creation of regional sustainable energy centres for SIDS in the Pacific, Caribbean, Africa and the Indian Ocean, as part of UNIDO's GN-SEC Programme.

For the first time, SIDS Governments in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific have a dedicated agency that provides advice and technical services on renewable energy and energy efficiency from the region, for the region. In partnership with Member States and other regional players (e.g. utility organisations, regulatory authorities, regional banks), the centres work towards integrated and inclusive regional markets for sustainable energy and climate technology products and services, since many of the market barriers can be addressed more effectively and at lower cost at regional level. The centres play an important role in setting domestic priorities, contribute to donor harmonisation, as well as ensuring the sustainability and availability of results after project closure. The centres create economies of scales, equal progress and spill-over effects between countries and they coordinate and monitor the implementation of regional policies, standards and regulations at national level.

The regional centres received approval by more than 40 SIDS Ministers of Energy and Heads of State and operate under the leadership and ownership of the respective regional organization (e.g. CARICOM, SPC, ECOWAS, SADC, SICA). Thus, the centres are well embedded in the regional decision-making structure and report to the regional organisations and their Member States. The Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) operates in Bridgetown, Barbados, the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, while the hub for African SIDS is hosted by the ECOWAS Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (ECREEE) in Praia, Cabo Verde. The SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE) in Namibia is covering Seychelles, Mauritius and Comoros. The SICA Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SICREE) in El Salvador is covering Dominican Republic and Belize.

The centres have launched various regional programs and projects in areas of policy and regulation, knowledge management, capacity development, as well as the promotion of investment, entrepreneurship and innovation. The centres are demonstrating a solid fund-leverage for their activities (e.g. from Austria, Spain, Norway, New Zealand, South Korea, European Union).

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<sup>3</sup> SIDS DOCK is an initiative among member countries of the Alliance of Small Island States ([AOSIS](#)) to provide SIDS with a collective institutional mechanism to assist them transform their national energy sectors into a catalyst for sustainable economic development and help generate financial resources to address adaptation to climate change.



The GN-SEC is currently becoming a formalized global platform to advocate for SDGs 7, 9 and 13, and joint interests in international policy processes. The platform is hosted by UNIDO in Vienna, Austria. It also provides a virtual market place for South-South cooperation activities and joint project proposals. For example, SIDS share similar challenges and opportunities in electric mobility and storage solutions. Least developed countries (LDCs) in sub-Saharan Africa share a common interest in renewable energy (hybrid) mini-grid development for rural electrification and productive uses. The platform also provides an interesting forum to exchange experiences and lessons learned on methodologies related to subregional cooperation and institution building.

## Focus



On the occasion of the Samoa Pathway Midterm Review, UNIDO, SIDS DOCK and UN-OHRLLS convened the high-level event “Mission Transforming Island Lives! The Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres for Small Island Developing States”.

The event reviewed the progress of the Samoa Pathway Partnership, which UNIDO and SIDS DOCK initiated during the 3<sup>rd</sup> United Nations International Conference on SIDS in 2014 that resulted in the creation of regional sustainable energy centres for SIDS in the Pacific, Caribbean, Africa and the Indian Ocean. During the event, the Directors of the regional centers presented priority programs to the attending high-level officials from SIDS and developing partners. The proposals included an investment program for the African SIDS Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau and Sao Tome and Principe, an e-mobility program for the Pacific islands, as well as an Energy Modelling and Renewable Energy Integration Virtual Laboratory for the Caribbean.

Attended by high-level delegates, including several Heads of Government, the event reiterated the importance of collaboration and cooperation to achieve the SAMOA

Pathway as well as UNIDO's activities for inclusive and sustainable industrial development in SIDS.

The centres are advocates for a “New Deal”, in particular giving LDCs, landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and SIDS a stronger voice in shaping climate and technology transfer processes. The official mandate assigned by Ministers and Head of States, the intergovernmental character (based on international agreements) and the close link to the RECs and national ministries (through national focal points) give the centres legitimacy.

From the very beginning, the respective subregional organization and its Member State exercised ownership and leadership of the centres. The centres are well anchored in the subregional decision-making structure and usually report to the RECs and their Member States. The centres, which employ domestic staff and seconded international experts, are designed as hubs for all kind of domestic and international partnerships.

In partnership with the GN-SEC centres, UNIDO is currently launching various region south-south cooperation activities in high-impact areas. For example, in September 2019, the Pacific Ministers of Energy and Transport gave UNIDO and PCREEE the mandate to develop a regional e-mobility policy and program, which will be coordinated with similar simultaneous efforts of CCREEE. The e-mobility policy is expected to be adopted together with the new Pacific Energy Security Framework at the Pacific Island Forum in Vanuatu in August 2020.

Moreover, UNIDO is partnering with relevant GN-SEC centres, SIDS and marine industrial player to establish a North-South Cleantech Platform for Blue Economies. In the first phase, the platform will focus on the wide spectrum of marine renewable energy and energy efficiency solutions in key blue economy sectors. The platform will build a bridge between the industry and research players, which need to test new solutions in various climates and contexts, and the interest of coastal developing countries to get access to technology and expertise. A special event will be organised at the Vienna Energy Forum in 2020.