

# **Regional Partnership Dialogue for AIMS**

## **Held in support of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AIMS)**

22-23 May 2018, Port Louis, Mauritius

### **Concept note**

#### **Background**

The Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS Conference) was held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa under the overarching theme of “*The sustainable development of small island developing States through genuine and durable partnerships*”. The Conference resulted in an intergovernmental agreed outcome document – the SAMOA Pathway - and the announcement of 300 multi-stakeholder partnerships devoted to the sustainable development of SIDS.

A key outcome of the SIDS Conference was the establishment of the *SIDS Partnership Framework* (General Assembly resolution 70/202), designed to monitor progress of existing, and stimulate the launch of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS.

The Framework consist of 1) a member States driven Steering Committee on SIDS Partnerships 2) the organization of an annual action-oriented and results-focused Global Multi stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue, 3) a standardized partnership reporting process of all stakeholders, and 3) the organization of regional and 4) national SIDS multi-stakeholder partnership dialogues with support from the United Nations system and the international community.

In September 2019, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 72/217, Member States will convene a one-day high-level meeting at the United Nations Headquarters in New York to review progress made in addressing the priorities of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway – the outcome of the 2014 SIDS Conference. A robust Member States driven preparatory process is currently underway, which will feature three regional meetings of SIDS, as well as one interregional meeting for all SIDS.

#### **Regional Partnership Dialogue**

With generous funding support provided by the government of Italy, Under the overall guidance of the Steering Committee on SIDS Partnerships, currently chaired by Belize and Ireland, UN DESA is undertaking a capacity development project to support the work of the SIDS Partnership Framework and the preparatory process related to the SAMOA Pathway mid-term review.

The overarching goal of the project is to contribute to advancing the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda in SIDS by increasing the capacity of all stakeholders in forging new, genuine and durable multi-stakeholder partnerships that advance implementation on the ground and strengthen the monitoring and review process of partnerships in SIDS.

The project will include a series of capacity development partnership dialogues, to be organized in the margins of the preparatory meetings as part of the SAMOA Pathway mid-term review. The partnership dialogues will provide an opportunity to bring together relevant stakeholders from the different SIDS regions to:

- Assess the status of partnerships for each SIDS region, identifying best practices and gaps around which new partnerships could be forged to further drive implementation of SAMOA Pathway priority areas and SDGs in SIDS ;
- Raise the capacity of diverse stakeholders to develop genuine and durable partnerships for SIDS;
- Strengthen the review and monitoring process of SIDS partnerships.

The first partnership dialogue will be held 22-23 May 2018 in Port Louis, Mauritius, as part of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AIMS).

### **How to get involved?**

- All relevant stakeholders and focal points of SIDS partnerships are encouraged to engage in the process and to **participate in the partnership dialogues as appropriate**. Please contact the UN Secretariat (Mr. Ola Goransson, Partnerships Coordinator, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, UN DESA, [goranssono@un.org](mailto:goranssono@un.org)) if you wish to participate in the dialogues.
- Kindly also make sure you have **submitted a progress update** of your partnership(s) online at: <http://www.sids2014.org/partnerships/progress/>
- Register a **new partnership** for SIDS at: <http://www.sids2014.org/partnership/register/>

## **Structure of partnership dialogue**

### **Session 1: Developing genuine partnerships – good practices and lessons learned**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides an immense opportunity for all stakeholders to work collaboratively across sectors and thematic areas, forging genuine partnerships for supporting implementation of the SDGs and the SAMOA Pathway. It is therefore imperative to examine what it is that makes a partnership genuine, durable, and most impactful for SIDS.

This session will look at various partnerships for SIDS in AIMS, examining how it was developed, how the partnership is governed, leadership roles, partnership evaluation methods, and any challenges in implementation, in order to raise the capacity of stakeholders in developing genuine and durable partnerships for SIDS;

### **Session 2: Identifying and filling the gaps through partnerships for SIDS**

As part of the support to the preparatory process, UN DESA has conducted an initial in-depth analysis, including assessment of gaps, of partnerships that were announced in the context of the SIDS Conference in 2014, as well SIDS relevant voluntary commitments from the 2017 Ocean Conference.

This session will start off with a presentation of the initial analysis on the status of partnerships for SIDS in the AIMS region and provide an opportunity for SIDS to discuss how to address gaps in SAMOA Pathway priority areas and the SDGs through new genuine and durable partnerships needed for the region.

### **Session 3: Strengthening the review and monitoring process of partnerships for SIDS**

The SIDS Partnership Framework was formally established in December 2015 by General Assembly resolution 70/202, with the objective to monitor progress of existing, and stimulate the launch of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS.

Since its establishment, the Secretariat has organized, in close collaboration with the Steering Committee, several Global Multi-stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogues; two in 2016 during the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and in the margins of the General Assembly, and one in 2017 during The Ocean Conference. These dialogues have ensured that the priorities of SIDS have remained high on the UN's agenda, provided a broad platform for reviewing progress made by SIDS partnerships, and for sharing of good practices and lessons learned among all stakeholders.

Since the launch of the partnership reporting template and process in May 2016, sixty-six (66) progress reports have been submitted through its established procedure, about 20% of all partnerships registered.

The session will provide an opportunity to discuss how the process related to monitoring progress of existing, and stimulate the launch of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS, could be strengthened.

## Tentative programme of partnership dialogue

TIME	SESSION
<b>Day 1 - 22 May 2018</b>	
04.15 PM – 04.30 PM	<b>Opening remarks and outline of meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Co-chairs of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States</li> <li>• UN DESA</li> </ul>
04.30 PM – 06.00 PM	<i><b>Session 1: Developing genuine partnerships – good practices and lessons learned</b></i>
<b>Day 2 - 23 May 2018</b>	
02.30 PM – 04.00 PM	<i><b>Session 2: Identifying and filling the gaps through partnerships for SIDS</b></i> <i><b>Presentation: In-depth analysis of Partnerships for SIDS in AIMS (Mr. Sylvester Clauzel, Consultant for UN DESA)</b></i>
04:00 PM – 04:15 PM	<b>COFFEE BREAK</b>
04.15 PM – 05.45 PM	<i><b>Session 3: Strengthening the review and monitoring process of partnerships for SIDS</b></i> <i><b>Presentation: SIDS Partnership Framework (by DESA/OHRLLS)</b></i>
05.45 PM – 06.00 PM	<b>Wrap Up &amp; The way Forward</b>

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