



Regional Partnership Dialogue for the Pacific

Held in support of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Pacific

Agenda item 3 – Addressing Development Challenges through Partnerships

20-21 June 2018, Tonga

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 Conference¹ was the establishment of the *SIDS Partnership Framework* which is 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 United Nations Headquarters to review progress made in addressing the priorities of SIDS through the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. A robust member States driven preparatory process is currently underway, with three regional meetings of SIDS in their respective regions, as well as one interregional meeting for all SIDS.

Regional Partnership Dialogue

¹ A/RES/70/202

With generous funding support provided by the government of Italy, and 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 to help drive implementation on the ground and strengthen the monitoring and review process of partnerships in SIDS.

The project will include a broad consultative process with relevant stakeholders in SIDS, including a series of partnership dialogues which will be organized in the margins of the regional SAMOA pathway mid-term review preparatory meetings.

These partnership dialogues will provide an opportunity to:

- Assess the status of partnerships for each region, identifying best practices and gaps around which new partnerships for driving implementation of SAMOA Pathway priority areas and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in SIDS can be forged;
- Raise the capacity of stakeholders in developing genuine and durable partnerships for SIDS;
- Strengthen the review and monitoring process of SIDS partnerships;

The regional partnership dialogue for the Pacific will be held 20-21 June 2018 in Tonga, as part of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Pacific.

Structure of partnership dialogue

The partnership dialogue will include three distinct but inter-related sessions:

1. Developing genuine and durable partnerships – good practices and lessons learned
2. Identifying and addressing gaps through partnerships for SIDS
3. Strengthening the review and monitoring process of partnerships for SIDS

Tentative programme of partnership dialogue

DATE/TIME	SESSION
20 JUNE 2018	
02.00 PM – 02.15 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session 3 - Addressing Development Challenges through Partnerships</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Ms. Lois M. Young, Permanent Representative of Belize to the United Nations, co-chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS • Mr. Mícheál Tierney, Counselor, representing H.E. Mrs. Geraldine Patricia Byrne Nason, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, co-chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS
02.15 PM – 02.25 PM	<p>Keynote address – Ms. Peseta Noumea Simi, Chair of the Pacific Islands Forum, Chief Secretary Ministry, of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Samoa</p>
02.25 PM – 02.35 PM	<p>Presentation: <i>Strengthening the capacity of SIDS in developing, monitoring and reviewing durable Partnerships</i> - Mr. Ola Goransson, Partnerships Coordinator, Division for Sustainable Development Goals, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)</p>
02.35 PM – 03.45 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session 3(a): Developing genuine and durable partnerships – good practices and lessons learned</i></p> <p>Moderated by Ms. Anna Naupa, Pacific Office of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)</p> <p>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.</p> <p>This session will look at various partnerships for SIDS in Pacific, examining how they have been developed, how the partnerships are governed, what are the leadership roles and partnership evaluation methods, and any challenges in implementation.</p> <p><u>Guiding questions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How did the partnership start? Where did the idea come from? Who is taking the lead? What process did they go through to

	<p>develop and set up the partnership?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the main stakeholders involved? What are the target beneficiaries? • How are the partnerships structured and managed? How is it governed and funded? What role, if any, does a secretariat play? • What are the biggest challenge to the implementation of the objectives of the partnership? • What are the things that has worked best, what bright spots can be shared, and what are the critical ingredients to an impactful partnership? <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Elisi Tupou, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) • Ms. Kuiniselani Tago-Elisara, Pacific Youth Development Framework Partnership (PYDF Partnership) • Mr. Alifereti Tawake, Locally Managed Marine Areas (LMMA) Network, Fiji • Mr. Edvard Hviding, Professor/Research Director (Pacific Studies), University of Bergen, Norway, Mare Nullius? Sea-level Rise and Maritime Sovereignities in the Pacific - An Expanded Anthropology of Climate Change <p>Interactive dialogue with SIDS</p>
COFFEE BREAK	
04.00 PM – 05.45 PM	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session 3(b): Identifying and addressing the gaps through partnerships for SIDS</i></p> <p>Moderated by: Ms. Peseta Noumea Simi, Chief Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Samoa</p> <p>As part of the support to the SAMOA mid-term review 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.</p> <p>This session will start off with a presentation of the initial analysis on the status of partnerships for SIDS in the Pacific region and provide an opportunity for SIDS to discuss how to address gaps in the SAMOA Pathway priority areas and the SDGs through new genuine and durable partnerships needed for the region.</p> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can partnerships best address the gaps of the SAMOA Pathway priority areas? • In which priority areas do we need more partnerships to be forged, for the sustainable development of SIDS in the Pacific region?

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What type of stakeholders, and sectors, do need to be more involved in partnership arrangements for SIDS in the Pacific region? <p><i>Presentations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Marjo Vierros, In-depth analysis of Partnerships for SIDS in Pacific (UN DESA) • Ms. Charmina Sail, Regional Planning Adviser, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat (PIFS) <p><i>Panelists:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Ofa Ketu'u, Pacific Community (SPC) • Ms. Rachael Nash, Micronesia Challenge • Ms. Alisi Tuqa, Pacific Islands Private Sector Organization (PIPSO) • Mr. Espen Ronneberg, Pacific Adaptation for Climate Change (PACC) Project <p>Interactive dialogue with SIDS</p>
21 JUNE 2018	
08.30 AM – 10.15 AM	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Session 3(c): Strengthening the review and monitoring process of partnerships for SIDS</i></p> <p>Moderated by: Mr. Mícheál Tierney, representing H.E. Mrs. Geraldine Patricia Byrne Nason, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, co-chair of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS</p> <p>On December 2015, the General Assembly decided², in accordance with paragraph 101 of the Samoa Pathway and in line with the priorities of SIDS, to establish the <i>SIDS Partnership Framework</i>, to monitor and ensure the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships for SIDS in order to promote the effective and efficient follow-up to the existing partnerships, in particular new partnerships launched at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, and to encourage new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS.</p> <p>The Framework consist of 1) a member States driven Steering Committee on SIDS Partnerships (currently chaired by Belize and Ireland), 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 partnership</p>

² A/70/472/Add.2

dialogues with support from the United Nations system and the international community.

The session will provide an opportunity to discuss how the processes of the SIDS Partnership Framework 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.

Guiding questions

- How can we ensure an action-oriented and results-focused annual Global Multi stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue, in line with the priorities of SIDS;
- If you are currently coordinating a partnership(s) or involved in any, what lessons could you draw from your experiences to improve review and monitoring?
- How can the current process related to monitoring progress of existing partnerships be improved?
- How do we ensure the full participation of relevant stakeholders in the monitoring of existing partnerships, while ensuring no one is left behind?
- How do we encourage the forging and launching of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS?

Panelists:

- Mr. Alvin Pahlevi, Coral Triangle Initiative
- Mr. Jito Vanualailai, Pacific Islands Universities Research Network
- Ms. Lilian Sauni, Pacific Mangroves Initiative
- Mr. Fiasili Lam, Policy Officer, Subregional Office for the Pacific Islands, FAO

Interactive dialogue with SIDS
