



Concept for SIDS Partnerships Awards

The Third International Conference on SIDS held in September 2014, Apia, Samoa, (“the SIDS Conference”) resulted in the adoption of an intergovernmental agreed outcome document entitled the Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the announcement of 300 multi-stakeholder partnerships devoted to the sustainable development of SIDS. One of the positive outcomes of the SIDS Conference was the subsequent establishment of the SIDS Partnership Framework, designed to monitor progress of existing, and stimulate the launch of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS.

The SAMOA Pathway provided the guidance for the creation of the Partnerships Framework “*to monitor and ensure the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships for small island developing States. The framework should ensure that partnerships focus on the priorities of small island developing States, identify new opportunities to advance their sustainable development of and ensure the full implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action, the Mauritius Strategy and the Samoa Pathway.*” Paragraph 101 of the SAMOA Pathway.

The General Assembly, in creating the Steering Committee for SIDS Partnerships, encouraged *new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of small island developing States* and mandated the Committee to ‘*to support the follow up of existing and promote and advocate the launching of new small island developing States partnerships*’ – Paragraph 11 A/RES/70/202

Considerable progress has been made in the development of the SIDS Partnerships Framework since the adoption of the SAMOA Pathway:

- The SIDS Partnerships Steering Committee was created.
- There have been six Global Multi-stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogues, which provide a global platform for SIDS and partners to review progress of existing partnerships for SIDS, launch new partnerships in line with their priorities, and for all stakeholders to exchange lessons learned, identifying good partnering practices, and engage in dialogue.
- A standardized approach to reporting on partnerships has been developed and the partnerships database has been created.

- Department of Economic and Social Affairs has undertaken a capacity development project to support the work of the SIDS Partnership Framework, resulting in the development of the SIDS Partnership Toolbox and an in-depth analysis of SIDS Partnerships.

PROPOSAL & APPROVAL STEPS

This paper proposes the development of a system of recognition of best practices in partnerships for SIDS through an awards programme, in accordance with paragraph 101 of the Samoa Pathway, and in line with the priorities of small island developing States. This represents a natural progression in line with the objective of the SIDS Partnerships Framework to promote the effective and efficient follow-up to the existing partnerships.

The proposal will be presented to the SIDS Partnerships Steering Committee, sitting in Ambassadorial format, for the endorsement of the Awards Concept, following which:

- The Co-Chairs of the SIDS Partnerships Steering Committee will further develop the concept and advance any necessary preparatory work.
- The Co-Chairs of the SIDS Partnerships Steering Committee will seek the formal authorisation of the 76th General Assembly (Second Committee) to proceed with the SIDS Partnerships Awards programme.

PURPOSE

The objective of this awards programme is to register, recognize and reward the efforts of noteworthy and best genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS consistent with the SAMOA Pathway partnership principles of national ownership, mutual trust, transparency and accountability.

The awards system aims to:

- ❖ increase the visibility of the partnerships framework
- ❖ incentivise the registrations of partnerships
- ❖ reward the most successful partnerships
- ❖ motivate the creation of new partnerships
- ❖ highlight best practices

ORGANISATION

The awards will be given at the annual Global Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on SIDS Partnerships, an event held in accordance with the mandate of the General Assembly for the creation of the Partnerships framework and the Steering Committee. The Dialogue provides a global platform for SIDS and partners to review progress of existing partnerships for SIDS, launch new partnerships in line with their priorities, and for all stakeholders to exchange lessons learned, identifying good partnering practices, and engage in dialogue.

There will be three awards given in any year covering the three areas of sustainable development: Economic, Social and Environmental. The basis for awards will be in accordance with the priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway, each of the priority areas will be categorized into the thematic areas.

A judging panel, appointed by the Co-Chairs, will comprise of eminent persons from the UN system, Member States and Civil Groups to evaluate the nominated projects. It is proposed that this panel could consist of one or more of the following:

- Nominee each from the Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee for Partnerships for SIDS
- Representative each of Caribbean, Pacific and AIS region (including co-chair)
- Representative of UN-DESA
- Representative of UN-OHRLLS
- Eminent persons from relevant Civil Society and academia

All nominated partnerships will be initially vetted and screened for further submission to the judging panel by the UN Secretariat.

Nominations are to be submitted online.

COMMUNICATIONS

The reward itself consists of a Certificate and authorization to use a SIDS Partnerships Awards Logo (to be created) in partnership related material, as well as recognition on the SIDS partnerships website.

The award recipient partnerships shall be considered 'Champion Partnerships' and the partners involved in the partnership will be considered advocates of the SIDS Partnership Framework. The champion partnership is encouraged to highlight the Partnership Framework, encourage new partnerships, and to encourage the registration of partnerships through the website.

Award recipient partnerships will be highlighted through OHRLLS and DESA communications channels, including through the following where appropriate:

- Invitation to speak at SIDS partnership events and/or Webinars
- Showcasing the winners through:
 - Web-articles
 - Press release
 - Interviews
 - Social media

ELIGIBILITY

- ✓The Award is open to all partnerships at the global, regional, national, sub-national and local levels, civil society, private sector, academia etc. in all small island developing States.
- ✓Both self-nomination and nomination by third parties are accepted. Applications should be made by an organization (including private, civil society, academia, government and international organizations).
- ✓The partnership must be consistent with the Bali Guiding Principles for Partnership and consistent with the guidance on SIDS Partnerships (SMART Criteria) and the priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway.
- ✓The initiative must have a demonstrated and documented impact, ongoing partnerships are encouraged to be nominated, recently completed partnerships are also eligible (within the last calendar year before the award-year).
- ✓The application must be duly filled out.
- ✓The submission must include all the required supporting documents.
- ✓The partnership must be registered on the SIDS Partnerships database. This can be done in conjunction with application. (a link to the partnership entry on the database will be sought in the application).
- ✓The partnership must nominate a speaker to the GMSD to receive their award.
- ✓In the case of partnerships involving the United Nations are eligible, judges will take steps to avoid conflict of interest.
- ✓The award recipients must be willing to be advocates of SIDS Partnerships and the SIDS Partnerships Framework.

CATEGORIES

The objective of the Partnerships Awards is to promote the effective and efficient partnerships through the recognition of best practice in partnerships for SIDS pursuant to the achievement of the SAMOA Pathway.

With this in mind, three categories (below) have been selected for the Partnerships Award. These categories are aligned with the 2030 Agenda and the priority action areas of the SAMOA Pathway. Partnerships should demonstrate their relevance to the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and should be based on principles of national ownership, mutual trust, transparency and accountability. Cognizant that some projects may overlap categories, applicants are to nominate which category is best suited to their partnership.

Category 1: Economic

The economic category will focus on partnerships within relevant priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway which fall under this theme, namely promotion of;

- sustained and sustainable, inclusive and equitable growth with decent work for all;
- sustainable tourism;
- sustainable energy;
- sustainable transportation;
- sustainable production and consumption;
- food security and nutrition
- blue economy

Category 2: Social

The social category will focus on partnerships within relevant priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway which fall under this theme, namely;

- promotion of peaceful societies and safe communities;
- education;
- culture and sport;
- social development;
- gender equality and women's empowerment;
- health and non-communicable diseases

Category 3: Environmental

The environmental category will focus on partnerships within relevant priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway which fall under this theme, namely;

- Climate change;
- Disaster risk reduction;
- Oceans and seas;
- Water and sanitation;
- Management of chemicals and waste, including hazardous waste;
- Biodiversity;
- Desertification, land degradation and drought;
- Forests;
- Invasive alien species

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Partnerships will be evaluated by the judging panel against the SMART Criteria evaluation framework as used in the SIDS Partnerships Toolkit:

SIDS-Specific. Partnerships must advance the implementation of priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for SIDS, the Sendai Framework and other SIDS specific mandates, are aligned with national development priorities, brings positive impact and benefits to SIDS while being globally accepted, and recognize the vulnerabilities and opportunities that are unique to SIDS.

Measurable and Monitorable. Partnerships must have clear set of goals, objectives, outputs and outcomes, have a clearly built in and defined monitoring and evaluation framework with the purpose of assessing progress of implementation and its intended impact on beneficiaries, be knowledge and research-based, have clear baselines, targets and indicators of achievement linked to Samoa Pathway priority areas and the SDGs, and generate appropriate data for monitoring and evaluation.

Achievable & Accountable. Partnerships must be realistically designed to fulfil their objectives, include a governance structure that is inclusive and participatory of all partners, relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries, has support, ownership and buy in of all partners, is based on mutual trust from all its stakeholders; and provides to partners and relevant stakeholders, on a regular basis, as appropriate, through the SIDS Action Platform, the SIDS Global Business Network

platform, or other means, effective communication of plans, results from monitoring and evaluation of impact, lessons learned, and provide opportunities to enhance peer learning, sharing of experiences and lessons learned between partners, beneficiaries and other stakeholders, and provide for evaluation to allow for the replication of successful partnerships.

Resource-based & results focused. Partnerships that are based on predictable and sustained resources for their implementation, include the mobilization of new resources and, where relevant, result in the transfer of technology to, and capacity-building in, SIDS, have the appropriate and effective human resources capacity, have demonstrable and, if where relevant, tangible, results that are verified by relevant stakeholders, and identifies the beneficiaries of, and evaluate impact from, the partnership.

Timeline for implementation & transparency by all parties. Partnerships must have clear start and end dates, sets timelines for its deliverables, clearly defined roles for its partners and stakeholders; and have publicly available, such as through a website, information on its governance structure, procedures, partner composition, and results. Partnerships should submit a progress report, using the established partnership reporting template, through the SIDS Action Platform once a year until completion of its activities, to include information on overall status, achievements, challenges, best practices, impact for its beneficiaries.