Integrated review of the thematic cluster of mining, chemicals, waste management, transport and sustainable consumption and production in small island developing States

Secretary General’s report E/CN.17/2010/14

SIDS Day
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Introduction

- Vulnerabilities of SIDS warrant special attention
- CSD-13 mandated one-day session of CSD to review progress of SIDS in terms of thematic cluster
- This SG report complements the thematic reports and the report on implementation of the MSI
- Sectors especially strongly linked in case of SIDS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Shared with most developing countries</th>
<th>Issues of greater concern to SIDS</th>
<th>Exclusively of concern to SIDS</th>
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Critical levels important!
SG report E/CN.17/2010/14
(complements E/CN.17/2010/9)

I. Introduction
II. Transport
III. Waste management and chemicals
IV. Mining
V. Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns
VI. Continuing challenges

Each thematic section:
• Trends and emerging issues
• Policies and programmes
• Lessons learned
Transport

• “Sea-locked”: large distances and low volumes/frequency imply high costs and limits logistics development. Logistics performance of most SIDS among the lowest in the world

• International “hubs-and-spokes” system of transport and the Internet has further marginalized SIDS at the “spokes”

• Many global, regional and national efforts

• Yet, continuing challenge to provide reliable, affordable, safe and clean air and maritime transport services

• Transport regionalism is essential for SIDS

• International sharing of infrastructure promising
Waste management and chemicals

- Waste issue especially threatening to SIDS because of low carrying capacities
- Current practises resulted in degradation of coral reefs, seagrass beds, mangroves and coastal zones, which threaten fisheries and tourism
- Transboundary movement of waste, chemicals, and plastics in oceans.
- Many global, regional and national efforts
- **But:** Good practises not necessarily transferable. “One size does not fit all”
Mining

- Few SIDS with significant extractive industries, but of national importance where they exist
- Artisanal and small-scale vs. large-scale mining
- Great interest in seabed mining in exclusive economic zones and extended continental shelves of SIDS
- SIDS highly vulnerable and “Dutch disease” phenomenon.
  - Example: 70% of land in Nauru is unsuitable for agriculture due to open cast phosphate mining.
- Many global, regional and national efforts
- Integrated approaches needed for mining governance.
- Regional cooperation and intergovernmental dialogue important
Sustainable consumption and production patterns (SCP)

- Many regional and national SCP initiatives, but very little overall progress in SIDS in terms of eco-efficiency
- Continuing disconnect between policies and projects. Compromise on direct cost issues difficult even for higher-income SIDS due to higher prevailing costs.
- Ecological footprint deficits in most SIDS in contrast to larger developing countries. Ecological footprints typically increased in most SIDS
- CO₂ emissions increased in all SIDS
- “Green growth” approach explored by Pacific SIDS promising to replace “grow first, clean up later”.
Way forward

- Challenges persist in all areas, and some are specific to SIDS.
- Simple transfer of good practices to SIDS does not necessarily work.
- Lessons-learned by local governments in larger developing countries may be useful.

Thank you!
More information: www.sidsnet.org/msi_5/