

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  
10 May 2010

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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



Shared with most developing countries	Issues of greater concern to SIDS	Exclusively of concern to SIDS
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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
- CO<sub>2</sub> 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 practises 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/](http://www.sidsnet.org/msi_5/)