



Regional Partnership Dialogue for AIMS

22-23 May 2018, Maritim Resort and Spa, Balaclava, Mauritius

Guidance note for speakers

Thank you for taking part in the first regional partnership dialogue for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), held in support of the Regional Preparatory Meeting for the Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AIMS).

The partnership dialogues are part of a capacity development project by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), designed to support the work of the *SIDS Partnership Framework* and the preparatory process related to the SAMOA Pathway mid-term review.

More information at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sids/partnerships2018>

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

Please refer to the concept note for the full programme and list of speakers. Speakers and participants are encouraged to attend all three sessions.

Format

- The partnership dialogue sessions will be presided over by the co-chairs (Belize and Ireland) of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS, and facilitated by a moderator.
- The moderator will start off the session by asking each panelists to introduce themselves and their partnership (5-7 minutes), and then facilitate an **interactive dialogue** with panelists, representatives from **Small Island Developing States**, and other members of the audience, using the **guiding questions as a basis for dialogue**.
- To ensure maximum dialogue and exchange, **no PowerPoint material** will be used.
- Interpretation will be provided in English and French.

SIDS Partnerships

- A detailed list of SIDS partnerships, their reporting and implementation status, as well an advance copy of a *SIDS Partnership Analysis*, is available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/partnerships/sids/analysis>
- Panelists and stakeholders are asked to provide an update of their (if already registered) partnership through the **reporting template online** at: <http://www.sids2014.org/partnerships/progress/>
- **New announced partnerships for SIDS** may be registered in the SIDS Action Platform, open to all stakeholders, at: <http://www.sids2014.org/partnership/register/>

Outcome

- The partnership dialogues are held to support SIDS in their deliberations around partnerships in the context of the preparatory process of the SAMOA Pathway midterm review.
- The discussions from the partnership dialogues will guide the development of a *SIDS Partnership Toolbox*, which will be developed as a concrete outcome of the project.



Figure 1. SIDS Partnership Toolbox.

Structure of partnership dialogue

Session 1: Developing genuine and durable 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 they have been developed, how the partnerships are governed, what are the leadership roles and partnership evaluation methods, and any challenges in implementation.

Guiding questions

- How did the partnership start? Where did the idea come from? Who is taking the lead? What process did they go through to develop and set up the partnership?
- 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 is the thing that has worked best, what bright spots can be shared and what are the critical ingredients to an impactful partnership?

Session 2: Identifying and addressing gaps through partnerships for SIDS

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.

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 the SAMOA Pathway priority areas and the SDGs through new genuine and durable partnerships needed for the region.

Guiding questions:

- 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 AIMS region?
- What type of stakeholders, and sectors, do need to be more involved in partnership arrangements for SIDS in the AIMS region?

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

On December 2015, the General Assembly decided¹, in accordance with paragraph 101 of the Samoa Pathway and in line with the priorities of SIDS, to establish the *SIDS Partnership Framework*, 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.

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 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 to ensure an action-oriented and results-focused annual Global Multi stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue, in line with the priorities of SIDS;
- 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?
- How can the regional/international community best support SIDS partnership approaches?

¹ A/70/472/Add.2