



# 2024 SIDS Partnerships Awards

## Concept Note

### Background

The United Nations (UN) Small Island Developing States (SIDS) Partnerships Awards was established by the Member States of the United Nations in 2021 to recognize and reward the efforts of the best and most noteworthy, genuine and durable partnerships in the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway)<sup>1</sup>. The Awards provide an opportunity to reward the most successful SIDS partnerships, highlight best practices, increase the visibility of the SIDS Partnership Framework, motivate the creation of new SIDS partnerships and incentivize the registrations of new partnerships for SIDS.

This initiative stems from the Third Conference on SIDS held in 2014 that resulted in announcement of more than 300 multi-stakeholder partnerships. As a follow up mechanism to the partnerships, Member States established the SIDS Partnership Framework and its Steering Committee by the General Assembly resolution<sup>2</sup>. The co-chairs of the Steering Committee on partnerships for SIDS in 2024 are Permanent Representative of Ireland and the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Palau to the United Nations. The Awards are supported and managed collaboratively, by the SIDS Unit of the UN DESA and SIDS Sub-Programme of the UN OHRLLS within their respective mandates.

The UN SIDS Partnerships Awards were held in July 2022 and 2023 during the Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnerships Dialogues. Nominations for the awards were submitted through the online application form on UNDESA's website. The judging panel, appointed by the President of the General Assembly, is composed of: one representative from the Co-Chairpersons of the Steering Committee; one representative from each of the three regions of SIDS; two representatives from the major groups and other stakeholders; and one each from UNDESA and OHRLLS as ex officio

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<sup>1</sup> A/RES/76/203, 20(a) "Decides to establish an awards programme, to be named the United Nations Small Island Developing States Partnerships Awards, to recognize and reward the efforts of the best and most noteworthy, genuine and durable partnerships in the implementation of the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States, consistent with the Samoa Pathway..."

<sup>2</sup> A/RES/70/202, paragraph 11 "...to establish the Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework, to monitor and ensure the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships for small island developing States 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 small island developing States"

members.<sup>3</sup> The judging panel selected the laureates in line with the criteria and norms<sup>4</sup>. The members of the judging panels from 2024 to 2025 will be appointed by the President of the General Assembly in due course.

The SIDS Partnerships Awards are given in each of the three dimensions of sustainable development: 1) economic, 2) social and 3) environment as stipulated in the Article 2 subparagraph 1 of the Annex of the resolution 76/203.<sup>5</sup>

## 2024 Award

The third UN SIDS Partnerships Awards will be held during the Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue in 2024, tentatively scheduled in the margins of the 2024 High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development.<sup>6</sup>

## Application

To be considered for the SIDS Partnerships Awards, partnerships must be registered on the [SIDS Partnership Database](#). In addition, all applicants are required to submit their nomination through an online form (<https://forms.office.com/e/cZ2cB0kLtq>). **The deadline for the application is Friday 1 Mar 2024.**

## Outreach

- UN DESA's Partnership Platform for SIDS (circulate messages to all partnerships)
- Permanent missions / Steering Committee members
- SIDS Global Business Network
- Social media channels of DESA and OHRLLS; Hashtags #Partnerships2030, #SamoaPathway, #SDGs #PartnerSIDS
- UN inter-agency channels - IACG members

## Evaluation

The evaluation will be based on the SIDS Partnership's SMART criteria – i.e. SIDS specific; m measurable and monitorable, achievable and accountable; resource-based and results-focused;

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<sup>3</sup> pursuant to Article 4 sub-paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Annex to resolution 76/203

<sup>4</sup> <https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/SMART%20criteria.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> General Assembly resolution 76/203 Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, available from [undocs.org/en/A/RES/76/203](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/76/203)

<sup>6</sup> For detail on HLPF 2024, see <https://hlpf.un.org/>

timeline for implementation and transparency by all parties.<sup>7</sup> It will be categorized into three areas: economic, social and environmental, and in line with the priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway.

The evaluation process consists of the following steps.

1. Once the applications have been vetted for minimum requirements, the UN Secretariat (DESA and OHRLLS) will review nominations based on the SMART criteria and recommend nine finalists (three partnerships per category) to the judging panel.
2. An interactive discussion between the judging panel members and the finalists will be held. The discussion will include a 3 min presentation by each finalist, followed by an interactive discussion/Q&A with the judging panel members.
3. The judging panel will evaluate the nine finalists based on applications and the interactive discussion based on SMART criteria. The judges will then use a score sheet to evaluate the partnerships. The score sheets will be sent to the UN Secretariat team who will sum up scores. The ranking (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place) will be publicly announced at the Awards ceremony. The results will, however, be communicated to the finalists before the ceremony.

## Award Ceremony

Subject to funding, the three winners (one per category) will be invited to the Award ceremony to receive a certificate, to make a brief statement and to take pictures with the co-chairs of the Steering Committee on partnerships for SIDS. The ceremony will take place in the margins of HLPF 2024, during the Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue.

## The Awards recipients

The recipients of the Awards will:

- receive a certificate and authorization to use a SIDS Partnerships Awards Logo in partnership related material;
- be recognized on the SIDS partnerships website;
- be considered as 'Champion Partnerships' and the partners involved in the partnership will be considered advocates of the SIDS Partnership Framework;
- be highlighted through OHRLLS and DESA communications channels;
- be invited to speak at SIDS partnership events and/or Webinars as successful partnerships.

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<sup>7</sup> See SMART criteria: <https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2023-10/SMART%20criteria.pdf>