QUESTIONNAIRE

Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway for the Sustainable Development of SIDS

Please note that <u>strict word limits</u> have been established for each question. In this regard, you are requested to report only on new or updated information. Previous surveys can be accessed at https://sidsnetwork.org/ under reports.

1. Legal/Policy/Institutional Arrangements for SIDS and/or the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway¹

Does your entity/organization/government have a SIDS Strategy? If not, are there any plans to establish one, including with the appropriate resources for implementation. (500 words)

The Argentine Republic has carried out cooperation actions at the bilateral and regional level in many of the Caribbean island countries since 1997. As a result of the experience acquired and of projects formulated from participatory processes with the countries involved, the implementation of specifics actions has been made possible taking into account the particularities of SIDS.

2. Financial Arrangements

Please give an indication of the budget allocated to the SAMOA Pathway programme areas in your government/organization/entity, if applicable, for the period Jan. - Dec. 2021 or the fiscal cycle that best fits this period. If the priority areas cannot squarely fit this chart, please report as closely as you can.

| Priorities | Investment (USD) | Budget Allocation | FY/ Cycle/ Period |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic | | | |
| growth Climate Change | | | |
| Sustainable Energy | | | |
| Disaster Risk Reduction | | | |

¹ This question seeks to examine the extent to which each respondent mainstreamed SIDS and the Samoa Pathway into co-operation frameworks, programmes and activities, national development plans etc, to ensure effective follow-up and implementation at regional and national levels in SIDS.

| Oceans and Seas | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Food Security and | | |
| Nutrition | | |
| Water and Sanitation | | |
| Sustainable | | |
| Transportation | | |
| Sustainable Consumption | | |
| and Production | | |
| Chemical and Waste | | |
| management | | |
| Health and NCDs | | |
| Gender Equality | | |
| Social Development | | |
| Biodiversity | | |
| Means of Implementation | | |
| Other | | |
| Total | | |

3. Enhanced Support for a resilient Post COVID 19 Recovery in SIDS

Overcoming the economic fallout of the pandemic and regaining growth momentum in SIDS will require a **robust, practical, tailored** and **impactful** solutions not only to keep SIDS afloat but also for the successful implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the Paris Agreement and the 2030 Agenda. Please elaborate on any proposed resilience building interventions/programmes for implementation in SIDS that are to be pursued over the remaining period of the SAMOA Pathway. (**500 words**)

Due to the exposure of SIDS to climatic phenomena (storms, cyclones, hurricanes, etc.), and that their impact has been exacerbated since 2020 by the crisis derived from COVID-19, Argentina through the White Helmets Commission (COMCA has developed different actions in the field of prevention, care and response to the socio-sanitary situation, coordinating humanitarian assistance in various SIDS, particularly in the Caribbean region. This assistance is framed in some of the following program areas: Disaster Risk Reduction, Water and Sanitation, and Health and NCDs.

In this sense, the humanitarian actions and shipments carried out since June 2019 to date, in the Caribbean region are made known:

January 2021, a humanitarian shipment was made to Haiti: water purification and disinfectant tablets with the capacity to disinfect 240,000 liters of water, 30,000 nitrile gloves and 5 boxes of rehydration salts were sent;

- September 2020 in the framework of the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, rapid coronavirus test kits were sent to the following countries and regional body: Grenada, Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, which has distributed these kits among its Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

The aforementioned Kits were developed by Argentine scientists within the framework of the Coronavirus Unit (MINCyT, CONICET and the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation (Agency I plus D plus i).

- Between the months of September and October 2019, volunteers from the health field of COMCA participated in the mission of the Naval Hospital Ship USNS COMFORT of the United States Navy, providing health care in the main ports of the following countries: Republic Dominican Republic, Grenada, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago.

4. Financing for Sustainable Development in SIDS

The road to recovery post-COVID-19 will be challenging for SIDS. They will need new strategies and financial instruments to mobilize adequate resources for recovery and reconstruction. Please elaborate on any proposed/planned programmes that will be delivered to reduce risks and build resilience in SIDS, and/or that alleviate the liquidity and debt vulnerability challenges facing SIDS (**500 words**)

During 2020, Argentina continued to carry out South-South cooperation actions in the Caribbean region through triangular cooperation schemes with a regional scope. In this way, projects were carried out in several countries that share common characteristics, associated with other cooperation agencies and international organizations that operate in the region. The prevailing conditions caused by the COVID19 pandemic prevented the dispatch of technicians and the realization of face-to-face activities during 2020. However, this was not an impediment to the organization of virtual dissemination and training activities that continued with aspects foreseen in the planning of projects in execution. Among the activities carried out that take into account the provisions set forth in the Samoa Pathway, Argentina develops cooperation actions in the Caribbean in the following areas:

- Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth: Triangular project with IICA to strengthen beekeeping techniques in the API-CARIBBEAN Caribbean, developed in Barbados, Dominica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Lucia. Its execution continues during 2021 through virtual trainings, planning to extend the activities to Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Grenada and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

- Food Security and Nutrition: At the end of 2020 a new triangular project was approved with the German Cooperation Agency (GIZ) called <i> Strengthening the management of water and soil resources for the sustainability of the agri-food systems of the countries of the Caribbean in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic </i> . This project will address specific aspects to contribute to a more productive and resilient agriculture. In October 2020, a training seminar was held to share successful experiences in the fight against the locust plague that attacks the entire continent. Numerous technicians from the Caribbean countries participated in training in pest management and control techniques.
- Health and NCDs: Triangular project with PAHO and CARICOM for the detection and surveillance of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in the Caribbean countries. This project saw its importance redoubled for the Caribbean region, since trained laboratory and hospital personnel are also on the front line of battle in the COVID19 emergency. The positive results achieved by the project and the importance acquired by it mean that its activities continue during 2021.
- Gender equality: All technical cooperation initiatives that Argentina carries out in all its modalities include specific aspects that incorporate the gender perspective from the moment they are formulated.