

# **QUESTIONNAIRE**

## **Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway for the Sustainable Development of SIDS**

Please note that **strict word limits** 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 Pathway<sup>1</sup>**

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)**

*IOM does not have a dedicated institutional SIDS strategy but provides significant policy and technical level support to SIDS countries through its programmes and activities. IOM is currently reviewing internally the most appropriate institutional approach considering that the specificity of each of the SIDS, sub-regions, and regions, requires dedicated approaches and tailored support. In the Pacific, IOM has allocated resources and initiatives at regional/multi-country level to enhance policy and technical support to the following SAMOA Pathway priority areas, namely: sustainable tourism; climate change and disaster risk reduction; ocean and seas – eradicate risks for human trafficking and forced labour in fishery sector; as well as gender equality and women’s empowerment.*

*Through programmatic resources, IOM is supporting regional initiatives such as the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP) which is the overarching regional framework for climate change and disaster risk management. IOM continues to provide human and technical resources by co-chairing the Pacific Resilience Partnership’s Technical Working Group on Human Mobility.*

*In its capacity as lead/co-lead agency for several joint UN multi-country projects, IOM supports SIDS countries through technical and policy advice. For example, in the Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands and Palau, IOM is contributing towards increased local understanding and demand on removing barriers to gender equality through diplomacy and galvanizing coordinated actions, under a multi-country project on “Inspiring Women’s*

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

*Advancement through Collective Action.”*

*IOM’s Regional Strategy for the Caribbean centres around three lenses – resilience, mobility and governance – which set out a series of strategic priorities until 2024. IOM in the Caribbean will: (i) address the adverse drivers of migration, (ii) facilitate safe, regular and orderly forms of migration (iii) serve as a trusted and effective leader and partner in relevant bilateral, regional and global initiatives and processes.<sup>2</sup>*

*In the Caribbean, IOM works across different key areas of engagement: Emergency Response and Assistance to Displaced Populations; Migration, Environment and Climate Change; Community Stabilization; Protection and Assistance to Vulnerable Migrants; Migrant Training and Integration; Immigration and Border Management; Reducing the costs of remittances, enhancing the impact of remittances and facilitating direct diaspora engagement in development. Providing accessible and equitable quality health, including mental health services. IOM is also supporting the establishment of the Caribbean Migration Consultations as a regional forum for enhanced coordination on migration governance issues across the region.*

*IOM is an active member of the Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework for the English and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, participating actively in the Regional Steering Committee and the Virtual Policy Networks. IOM is currently supporting the formulation of the next phase of this cooperation framework for the period 2022-2026.*

*Notable target areas in Caribbean SIDS:*

- *Counter-trafficking – IOM will continue to implement counter-trafficking initiatives in 6 of the 16 UN-Member Caribbean SIDS in recent years – Haiti, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and St. Lucia.*
- *Venezuelan response in the Caribbean – IOM has committed approximately USD 3 million in funding to the Venezuelan response in Caribbean SIDS (Aruba, Curacao, The Dominican Republic, Guyana, and Trinidad and Tobago).*
- *Diaspora mapping and engagement – IOM has implemented initiatives targeted toward diaspora mapping and engagement in 7 of 16 UN-Member Caribbean SIDS in Haiti, Guyana, Grenada, Suriname, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Jamaica, Belize.*
- *Emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction – 16 initiatives implemented in Caribbean SIDS (excluding the COVID-19 response) have been centered on or contained elements of emergency preparedness and disaster risk reduction in the past 5 years.*
- *COVID-19 response – IOM has targeted USD 9.3 million in funding for the response in the Caribbean SIDS in 2020, in Belize, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, The Bahamas, the Commonwealth of Dominica, and Trinidad and Tobago.*

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<sup>2</sup> IOM Regional Strategy for Central America, North America and the Caribbean 2020–2024. Available at <https://rosanjose.iom.int/SITE/en/regional-strategy>

- *Migration, Environment and Climate Change: Development of a Caribbean Plan of Action, support to capacity building of Caribbean officials, improvement of data collection and management processes, assistance to the improvement of existing frameworks.*

## 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			
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			
<b>Total</b>	\$17,000,000 (Pacific);		

	\$15,590,000 (Caribbean)		
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*IOM's indicative funding amount for 2021 in the Pacific SIDS (PSIDS) is USD 17m and 15.6m for the Caribbean. Since several programmes addresses several of the SAMOA Pathway priorities IOM is not in a position to provide specific breakdown per SAMOA Pathway priority areas. However, the main areas involve: climate change; disaster risk reduction and response; oceans and seas; water and sanitation; health; food security and nutrition; gender equality, human trafficking, labour migration, diaspora engagement, and response to migration flows from Venezuela. (The figure for the Caribbean is a preliminary estimate as of April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021.)*

### **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)**

*IOM is providing tangible support to a number of SIDS through its field presence in both the Pacific as well as in the Caribbean. The main areas of IOM's support include, climate-induced mobility and disaster risk reduction, data and statistics as well as border management, combatting human trafficking, the provision of life-saving humanitarian assistance and gender equality and economic empowerment. In the North Pacific (FSM, RMI and Palau), gender economic empowerment and equality is a key approach of various projects aiming at supporting recovery from the socio-economic impact of the pandemic and building resilience against adverse drivers for migration.*

*IOM recognizes the need to scale-up support in much needed data collection and management capacity. This is crucial for evidence-based policy development on climate change, displacement and disaster risk reduction and labor migration, which are key areas for the SAMOA Pathway.*

*IOM's newly established (2020) Regional Data Hub for Asia-Pacific will promote coherence across multitude of programs and initiatives involving data collection and information management for the SIDS in the Pacific.*

*The COVID-19 pandemic has had, and will continue to have, a tremendous impact on mobility*

*in Caribbean SIDS for some time, reducing regional cross-border movement and international tourist arrivals and jeopardizing tourist revenues and economic livelihoods. The pandemic has also highlighted the ongoing and growing importance of harnessing migrant remittances as a crucial source of external financing and income in the region.*

*Nearly all of the SIDS in the Caribbean have seen a precipitous drop in their GDPs over the last 13 months of COVID-19. This represents a grave threat to the countries of the Caribbean given that the tourism sector, including such industries as hotels and restaurants, is the engine of most of their economies and has collapsed.*

*In response to the impact of COVID-19 in the Caribbean, IOM's approach in 2021 uses a robust Strategic Response and Recovery Plan (SRRP) which encompasses life-saving assistance and response to humanitarian needs, initiatives to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on migrants and societies, as well as support to recovery and resilience integrating longer-term sustainable development planning.*

*IOM is working with a number of regional partners to identify mechanisms and opportunities to jump start the renovation of the sector. IOM is supporting Chief Immigration Officers in the development of an assessment on Points of Entry with recommendations on screening, identifying and isolating cases of COVID so that tourism can take place more safely and with increased security standards and protocols in place.*

*IOM is working across the Caribbean to ensure the provision of essential services and life-saving assistance to displaced populations, migrants, including stranded migrants and people in mixed flows, and other vulnerable populations, such as crisis affected populations and victims of human rights violations, in locations with compounding pre-COVID-19 humanitarian needs. In Guyana and in Trinidad and Tobago, IOM has provided food, non-food items to migrants from Venezuela, Haiti, and Cuba who have been stranded by the pandemic or lost their access to livelihood activities.*

### **3. 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**)

*Following the COVID-19 pandemic, many governments imposed border closures and travel*

*restrictions of an unprecedented scale. Tourism is a key driver to Pacific economic growth and a major source of employment and government revenue. IOM leads the ad hoc UNCT MCO Fiji/Samoa Task Force on Re-opening Borders, established at COVID-19's outbreak. Activities involved two high-level joint UN – ADB “Discussion of multisectoral support to safely reopen points of entry into Pacific Island Countries”, held in July 2020. This aimed to facilitate governance and management structures for tourism by bringing together agencies with expertise in tourism, health, immigration/border management, customs, maritime and air transportation to support governments, to provide coordinated technical advice to governments.*

*Another recent example is that several Pacific countries have reached out for information on how other countries are adopting different procedures for travellers who have received COVID-19 vaccines. In coordination with UN RC a summary outlining a range of approaches being taken to document and verify travellers' health status was developed.*

*In the North Pacific, a large DRR programming focuses entirely on building capacities of governments and communities to minimize the impact of natural disasters and reduce the associated costs. Coordination, planning and prepositioning support, as well as establishment of evacuation centres, and interventions tailored to specific community needs, are some of the key interventions. In addition, comprehensive support for COVID-19 preparedness has been delivered in key areas like coordination, risk communication and community engagement, port of entries, infection prevention and control in health and other public facilities, and protection.*

*Emigration and large diaspora communities are predominant characteristics of the Caribbean. Ten of the top 20 countries of emigration in the world in 2019 (as a proportion of the total population) were in the Caribbean. Between 1990 and 2019, the stock of Caribbean nationals living outside of their country / territory / area of origin increased by 5.51 million (or 118%). Hence, reducing the costs of remittances, enhancing the impact of remittances and facilitating direct diaspora engagement in development is top priority and enormous opportunity for Caribbean SIDS.*

*This issue of sustainable financing for the middle and upper-middle incomes is also an urgent priority for the Caribbean Member States, due to their high debt-to-income ratios as well as their susceptibility of climate-induced external shocks. Through the Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (MSDF) in the English-and Dutch-speaking Caribbean, IOM continues to work with partners to lobby for an expansion in international financing as well as initiatives for debt relief and innovative financing mechanisms such as the Debt Relief/Swap for Climate Adaptation in the Caribbean.*