

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 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 UNOPS strategic plan, 2018-2021 ([DP/OPS/2017/5](#)) recognizes that the midterm review highlighted a strong correlation between UNOPS in-country activities and the challenges people face in different countries and contexts. The assessment confirms that UNOPS services are in demand for expanding partners' implementation capacity to address challenges and build better lives in many contexts, including small island developing states, and that the majority of its activities are concentrated in countries ranking lowest on the sustainable development goals index.

UNOPS is a demand-driven, self-financed organization that works jointly with or on behalf of partners to implement projects, based on their needs and priorities. As such, UNOPS does not set programmatic goals and targets for its activities.

Notwithstanding, UNOPS is mandated to expand the implementation capacity of its partners across all SDGs. Its services are, amongst others, particularly in demand in contexts of least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing states. Through its specialized technical and context-specific solutions in the

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.

areas of infrastructure and procurement, UNOPS is well-positioned to support the SAMOA Pathway ambition of enabling Small Island Developing States to establish resilient, sustainable infrastructure.

In order to enhance coordination and improve coherence of its delivery in Small Island Developing States, in 2018, UNOPS tasked the New York Liaison Office (NYLO) to serve as an Info Bank for the organization when it comes to SIDS. NYLO's mandate is to collect data on ongoing UNOPS projects in SIDS, communicate with SIDS permanent representatives in New York, identify needs and opportunities for improved UNOPS support to this group of countries.

As part of commitments made under the MCO review, UNOPS pledged to establish a global SIDS strategy, which will be developed over the course of 2021 in consultation with UNOPS regional offices. The UNOPS SIDS Strategy will seek to identify thematic focus areas to strengthen UNOPS support to SIDS and will be aligned with the UNOPS business model and expertise.

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	N/A	N/A	N/A
Climate Change	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sustainable Energy	N/A	N/A	N/A
Disaster Risk Reduction	N/A	N/A	N/A
Oceans and Seas	N/A	N/A	N/A
Food Security and Nutrition	N/A	N/A	N/A

Water and Sanitation	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sustainable Transportation	N/A	N/A	N/A
Sustainable Consumption and Production	N/A	N/A	N/A
Chemical and Waste management	N/A	N/A	N/A
Health and NCDs	N/A	N/A	N/A
Gender Equality	N/A	N/A	N/A
Social Development	N/A	N/A	N/A
Biodiversity	N/A	N/A	N/A
Means of Implementation	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A
Total	N/A	N/A	N/A

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)**

UNOPS is implementing several projects to help build the resilience of SIDS as they recover from the COVID 19 pandemic:

- UNOPS is partnering with the government of Antigua and Barbuda and the private sector to launch an innovative affordable housing programme that will create jobs and opportunities for local communities. Over ten years, UNOPS – through its Sustainable Infrastructure Impact Investment (S3I) initiative – and Sustainable Housing Solutions (SHS) will utilize construction technology that promotes sustainability, resilience, disease control and use of renewable energy to develop 3,000 homes in Antigua and Barbuda and 7,000 homes in other Caribbean islands.
- In Palau, with funding from the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, UNOPS

is currently implementing a project to rehabilitate three Community Health Centers in Ngarchelong, Ngeremlengui and Peleliu. The project will help strengthen local health services and enable greater accessibility to basic healthcare to the people of Palau.

- In the Maldives, through a COVID-19 emergency procurement of critical care equipment project in partnership with the Islamic Development Bank, UNOPS is procuring more than \$17 million worth of essential medical supplies and laboratory equipment as well as working closely with the Ministry of Health to help strengthen the country's health procurement capacity in the long term.
- As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, medical waste has increased in Maldives. To help the Maldives' healthcare sector manage this added burden, UNOPS is procuring equipment designed to help safely dispose of medical waste as well as sanitation supplies, with \$860,000 in funding from the World Bank. This project will help enhance the Maldives capacity to respond to health emergencies.
- In Haiti, with \$6 million in funding from the Inter-American Development Bank, UNOPS is supporting the Ministry of Public Health and Population's COVID-19 immediate public health response to contain and control the coronavirus and mitigate its impact. Across the country, UNOPS is improving health facilities by completing technical assessments on health infrastructure and providing human resource support services to ensure the continuity of essential healthcare services. UNOPS is also procuring ambulances and vehicles to support the national epidemiological surveillance programme.
- In Haiti, with funding from a range of partners, including the World Bank, UNOPS has distributed personal protective equipment and procured mobile oxygen concentrators and pulse oximeters as well as the related accessories and maintenance kits. The equipment will be used for the treatment of patients across the country. UNOPS has also delivered and installed hospital furniture in the Olympic Park of Canaan, a large facility that has been transformed for the treatment of people infected with the virus. The organization delivered N95 masks to the Ministry of Public Health and Population. Further, over 50 technicians have been trained on the operation, maintenance and use of essential equipment to help strengthen the COVID-19 response in health centres in Port-au-Prince and across the country.
- With USD 4.8 million of funding from the Government of Japan, UNOPS will be implementing a project to enhance the healthcare system of Belize, Guyana, Suriname and Trinidad & Tobago through the provision of essential medical

equipment, supplies and PPE in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The goods will benefit around 57,420 people and help ameliorate healthcare services.

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**)

Innovative financing (A/RES/74/3 - op: 19-20): The achievement of global goals and local objectives will require significant investment. As framed by its third contribution goal, UNOPS aims to support countries in expanding the pool and effect of resources available to achieve the 2030 Agenda. In line with Executive Board decisions 2016/12, 2017/16 and 2017/26, UNOPS continues to develop its social impact investing initiative and explore opportunities for collaborative partnerships to mobilize alternative funding sources for the 2030 Agenda, particularly in the areas of affordable housing, renewable energy, and water and sanitation.

2019 saw a breakthrough in this regard, transforming the pilot of the Sustainable Impact Investment Initiative into the formally established UNOPS Sustainable Infrastructure Impact Investment (S3i) initiative with headquarters in Helsinki under leadership at the level of Assistant Secretary-General. The S3i model for channelling private sector investment towards meeting critical national needs within affordable housing and renewable energy and was featured prominently in the United Nations Secretary-General's Financing for Development Strategy.

As of 2020, S3i is committed to support the construction of over 860,000 affordable housing units over the coming decade, across Kenya, Ghana, India and the Caribbean.

Science, technology and innovation (A/RES/74/3 - op: 29): The organization continued its engagement in collaborations with governments, and academia and research institutions, to encourage start-up, small- and medium-sized enterprises, and youth in innovation for a more sustainable society. Recent examples include the launch of a Global Innovation Centre in Lund, Sweden, in 2019 jointly with Sweden's innovation agency Vinnova; and the continuation of a science and innovation centre in Antigua and Barbuda, in collaboration with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to develop new ways of addressing climate change. With support from the City of Kobe and the Hyogo Prefecture in Japan, UNOPS launched a new Global

Innovation Centre in Kobe, providing valuable opportunities for public-private sector collaboration to address global challenges. Establishment of a collaboration between GICs in developed and GICs in developing countries, including SIDS is one of UNOPS main goals.