



UN SIDS Partnerships Award

United Nations SIDS Partnerships Awards Rules and Guidelines 2022

1. Launched in 2022 the **United Nations Small Island Developing States Partnerships Awards** (hereinafter “the Award”) was an initiative proposed by Antigua and Barbuda and the Republic of Malta, during their two-year tenure (2020-2021) as the Co-Chairs of the Steering Committee for SIDS Partnerships (‘the Committee’). The United Nations SIDS Partnership Awards recognises the efforts of the most genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in line with of the SIDS Accelerated Modality of Action [\(SAMOA\) Pathway](#).

2. The Awards are supported and managed collaboratively, by the SIDS Unit of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and SIDS Sub-Programme of the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN OHRLLS), within their respective mandates.

PURPOSE

3. The aim of the Award is 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 SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and in line with the Small Island Developing States Partnerships criteria and norms.

The Awards system aims to:

- (a) reward the most successful SIDS partnerships;
- (b) highlight best practices;
- (c) increase the visibility of the SIDS Partnership’s Framework;
- (d) motivate the creation of new SIDS partnerships; and
- (e) incentivise the registrations of new, genuine, and durable partnerships for SIDS.

MANDATE & BACKGROUND

4. The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/76/203 of 17 December 2021, established the United Nations SIDS Partnerships Award.

5. **Paragraph 20 (b) of resolution 76/203** states as follows: *“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 and in line with the Small Island Developing States Partnerships criteria and norms, adopts the regulations that will govern the awards, as annexed to the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements, under the regulations, for the launch of the awards in 2022 and their operation, in consultation with the Co-Chairpersons of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for Small Island Developing States; “*

6. The United Nations SIDS Partnerships Award is created in line with the objectives of the SAMOA Pathway, which also provided the guidance for the establishment of the SIDS Partnership Framework, designed to monitor progress of existing, and stimulate the launch of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS. The SAMOA Pathway is the internationally agreed outcome document of the Third International Conference on SIDS held in September 2014, Apia, Samoa which also saw the announcement of 300 multi-stakeholder partnerships devoted to the sustainable development of SIDS.

7. Subsequent to the Third International Conference for SIDS, The General Assembly, in creating the Steering Committee for SIDS Partnerships, encouraged *new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of small island developing States* and mandated the Committee *‘to support the follow up of existing and promote and advocate the launching of new small island developing States partnerships*. The United Nations SIDS Partnerships Award is created in line with this mandate and objectives of the Steering Committee for SIDS Partnerships.

THE AWARD

8. The Award consists of i) a Certificate, to be awarded during the Awards Ceremony, and ii) the title “Small Island Developing States Partnerships’ Most Distinguished Laureate” iii) authorization to use a SIDS Partnerships Awards Logo in any partnership related material, and iv) recognition on the SIDS partnerships website.

9. Laureates will be recognised as “Partnerships’ Champions” and the partners involved will be considered “Advocates” of the SIDS Partnership Framework. The Champions are also encouraged to advocate and highlight the Partnership Framework, encourage new partnerships, and the registration of partnerships through the SIDS partnerships website.

10. The Awards will be given at the annual Global Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on SIDS Partnerships, an event held in accordance with the mandate of the General Assembly for the creation of the Partnerships framework and the Steering Committee. The Dialogue provides a global platform for SIDS and partners to review progress of existing partnerships for SIDS, launch new partnerships in line with their priorities, and for all stakeholders to exchange lessons learned, identifying good partnering practices, and engage in dialogue.

11. There will be three awards given each year covering the three dimensions of sustainable development, i.e. Economic, Social and Environmental. The basis for awards will be in accordance with the priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway. Each of the priority areas will be categorized into the thematic areas.

Nomination

12. Self-nominations and nominations by third parties are both acceptable. Nominations can also be submitted by the following:

- (a) Governments of Member States;
- (b) Intergovernmental organizations;
- (c) United Nations system organizations;
- (d) Major groups and other relevant stakeholders.

13. Nominations must be submitted online. To be considered for the Awards, the Partnership must be registered on the SIDS Partnerships Database in advance of nomination.

Adjudication

14. The Laureates shall be selected by a judging panel. The President of the General Assembly shall select the members of the Judging Panel, pursuant to nominations received from the Co-Chairpersons of the Steering Committee. The period of operations for the Judging Panel shall be for two years. The panel shall comprise the following:

- (a) One representative from the Co-Chairpersons of the Steering Committee, who shall chair;
- (b) One representative from each of the three regions of small island developing States;
- (c) Two representatives from the major groups and other relevant stakeholders.

15. The United Nations Secretariat shall have two *ex officio* members on the panel. In incidences of conflict of interest between members of the judging panel and the nominated partnership, e.g. in the case of a nominated partnership involving the United Nations, the members of the judging panel subject to the conflict of interest shall recuse themselves from participation in judging the partnership in question.

16. Canvassing of the judging panel shall not be tolerated.

17. UN DESA and UN OHRLLS shall serve as the secretariat of the judging panel.

18. Partnerships will be evaluated by the Judging Panel against the SIDS Partnership's SMART Criteria evaluation framework as used in the SIDS Partnerships Toolkit (see criteria section below).

ELIGIBILITY

19. The Award shall be open to all small island developing States partnerships at the local, national, subregional, regional and global levels. All partnerships that strive to follow and are in line with the small island developing States partnerships criteria and norms and whose goals, objectives, outputs and outcomes are clearly linked to the achievement of the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States under the Samoa Pathway and/or the Sustainable Development Goals, are eligible to be nominated.

20. The partnership must be registered on the SIDS Partnerships database as the Partnership will be assessed on the information provided to the SIDS Partnerships database and in the Online Application Form. Registration can be done in conjunction with application.

21. The partnership must be consistent with the [Bali Guiding Principles for Partnership](#), the guidance on SIDS Partnerships (SMART Criteria) and the priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway. The initiative must also have a demonstrated and documented impact. Ongoing and recently completed (within the last calendar year before the award-year). partnerships are also eligible for nomination

CATEGORIES

22. The objective of the Awards is to promote effective and efficient partnerships through recognition of best practice in partnerships for SIDS pursuant to the achievement of the SAMOA Pathway.

23. With this in mind, three categories (below) have been selected for the Partnerships Award. These categories are aligned with the 2030 Agenda and the priority action areas of the SAMOA Pathway. Partnerships should demonstrate their relevance to the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and should be based on principles of national ownership, mutual trust, transparency and accountability. Cognizant that some projects may overlap categories, applicants are to nominate which category is best suited to their partnership.

Category 1: Economic

24. The economic category will focus on partnerships within relevant priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway which fall under this theme, namely promotion of;

- ❖ sustained and sustainable, inclusive and equitable growth with decent work for all;
- ❖ sustainable tourism;
- ❖ sustainable energy;
- ❖ sustainable transportation;
- ❖ sustainable production and consumption;
- ❖ food security and nutrition

- ❖ blue economy

Category 2: Social

25. The social category will focus on partnerships within relevant priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway which fall under this theme, namely;

- ❖ promotion of peaceful societies and safe communities;
- ❖ education;
- ❖ culture and sport;
- ❖ social development;
- ❖ gender equality and women's empowerment;
- ❖ health and non-communicable diseases

Category 3: Environmental

26. The environmental category will focus on partnerships within relevant priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway which fall under this theme, namely;

- ❖ Climate change;
- ❖ Disaster risk reduction;
- ❖ Oceans and seas;
- ❖ Water and sanitation;
- ❖ Management of chemicals and waste, including hazardous waste;
- ❖ Biodiversity;
- ❖ Desertification, land degradation and drought;
- ❖ Forests;
- ❖ Invasive alien species

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Partnerships will be evaluated by the judging panel against the SMART Criteria evaluation framework as used in the SIDS Partnerships Toolkit:

27. **SIDS-Specific.** Partnerships must advance the implementation of priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for SIDS, the Sendai Framework and other SIDS specific mandates, are aligned with national development priorities, brings positive impact and benefits to SIDS while being globally accepted, and recognize the vulnerabilities and opportunities that are unique to SIDS.

28. **Measurable and Monitorable.** Partnerships must have clear set of goals, objectives, outputs and outcomes, have a clearly built in and defined monitoring and evaluation framework with the purpose of assessing progress of implementation and its intended impact on beneficiaries, be knowledge and research-based, have clear baselines, targets and indicators of achievement linked to Samoa Pathway priority areas and the SDGs, and generate appropriate data for monitoring and evaluation.

29. **Achievable & Accountable.** Partnerships must be realistically designed to fulfil their objectives, include a governance structure that is inclusive and participatory of all partners, relevant stakeholders and beneficiaries, has support, ownership and buy in of all partners, is

based on mutual trust from all its stakeholders; and provides to partners and relevant stakeholders, on a regular basis, as appropriate, through the SIDS Action Platform, the SIDS Global Business Network platform, or other means, effective communication of plans, results from monitoring and evaluation of impact, lessons learned, and provide opportunities to enhance peer learning, sharing of experiences and lessons learned between partners, beneficiaries and other stakeholders, and provide for evaluation to allow for the replication of successful partnerships.

30. Resource-based & results focused. Partnerships that are based on predictable and sustained resources for their implementation, include the mobilization of new resources and, where relevant, result in the transfer of technology to, and capacity-building in, SIDS, have the appropriate and effective human resources capacity, have demonstrable and, if where relevant, tangible, results that are verified by relevant stakeholders, and identifies the beneficiaries of, and evaluate impact from, the partnership.

31. Timeline for implementation & transparency by all parties. Partnerships must have clear start and end dates, sets timelines for its deliverables, clearly defined roles for its partners and stakeholders; and have publicly available, such as through a website, information on its governance structure, procedures, partner composition, and results. Partnerships should submit a progress report, using the established partnership reporting template, through the SIDS Action Platform once a year until completion of its activities, to include information on overall status, achievements, challenges, best practices, impact for its beneficiaries.

HOW TO APPLY & OTHER MATTERS

32. Applications submitted in accordance with the nomination, organization and eligibility criteria explained in the corresponding sections of this guidance note shall be considered. Applications can only be submitted through the Online Application Form found at: <https://sdgs.un.org/topics/small-island-developing-states/united-nations-sids-partnerships-awards-2022>

33. Only partnerships registered on the SIDS Partnerships Database shall be considered, any parties interested in nominating a partnership must complete the registration process in advance of submitting their application for the UN SIDS Partnerships Awards. Information on registering your partnership can be found here: <https://sdgs.un.org/partnerships/small-island-developing-states/register>

34. The Online Application Form must be fully completed. All required fields must contain the request information. In the event that any required field is left blank, or if the answer does not directly correspond to the question asked, the partnership will not be evaluated. For technical assistance, please contact: david.johnson@un.org

35. Applications can only be made in one of the six UN Official Languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish). It would be preferable that applications be submitted in one of the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat, which are English and French. Applications and/or supporting documents in a language other than one of the six UN official language shall not be considered.