



QUESTIONNAIRE

Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the MSI, BPOA for the Sustainable Development of SIDS

Please note that strict word limits have been established for each question. The Secretariat is unable to consider any information beyond these established word limits. In this regard, you are requested to report only on new or updated information. Information conveyed in previous surveys will not be considered. Previous surveys can be accessed at XXXX under reports.

PART A

VULNERABILITY REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE BUILDING IN SIDS

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

Vulnerability reduction and resilience building are critical issues that must be addressed by SIDS. Briefly elaborate on any resilience building interventions or strategies (proactive or preventative) that have been or are being implemented at national or regional levels that aim specifically at improving resilience in SIDS. Please include financial resources expended in this regard, if available **(750 words)**.

Kindly refer to the Questionnaire submitted last year (2022)

The Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) provides support to preventive strategies of SIDS aiming at reducing exposure to external shocks and improving resilience primarily in the framework of its support to the Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centres (GN-SEC) Platform, notably the regional centres in the ECOWAS (ECREEE), CARICOM (CCREEE), SICA (SICREEE) and Pacific (PCREEE) regions. Resilience building

interventions are inherent to the Centres' programmes to promote renewable energy deployment and enhance energy efficiency. To mention a few examples: The CCREEE is working with CARICOM Member States to build resilience in the electricity sector through the development of Integrated Resource and Resilience Plans (IRRPs), being a key component of CCREEE's Climate Resilience Programme. Mainstreaming climate resilience is anchored in PCREEE's capacity building framework, in order to increase the capacity of stakeholders to include climate resilience into renewable energy & energy efficiency policies and projects, and to strengthen climate resilience of energy infrastructure. Both CCREEE and PCREEE are working on establishing project preparation support facilities that aim to support private and public sector project developers in achieving bankability stage. Other activities are designed to improve the energy performance and thereby strengthen the resilience and competitiveness of the private sector. Financial resources expended/planned in this respect: 2022: EUR 900.000, 2023: EUR 1.4 mil.

In addition, ADC is among the first contributors to the Systematic Observation Financing Facility SOFF of WMO in collaboration with UNEP/UNDP. SOFF will strengthen basic weather observations that underpin weather forecasts, early warning systems, and climate information, among others for better disaster risk strategies. SOFF primarily focuses on the great gaps in weather observations in SIDS and LDCs. Financial resources pledged for SOFF for 2021-2025: EUR 4 mil. (289 words)

2. Enhanced and Tailored Development Cooperation for SIDS

Improved, tailored development co-operation approaches, calibrated to the specific needs, capacity constraints, and economic challenges facing SIDS are necessary if SIDS are to effectively recover from the COVID Pandemic. Briefly elaborate on any planned or ongoing strategies/approaches to improve and deliver on more tailored development support to SIDS. What are the expected results from these interventions in the targeted countries. Please include indications of resource allocations if available **(850 words)**

As reported to the questionnaire in 2021, ADC does not have a SIDS Strategy and there are no plans to establish one. However, the strategic framework for Austrian development policy

(Three Year Programme 2022-2024) notes that water supply and sanitation, renewable energy and rural development for increased food security are priority areas for cooperation in LDCs. (56 words)

PART B

IDENTIFYING POLICY PRORITIES IN SIDS FOR THE NEW AGENDA

The SAMOA Pathway contains a number of action areas which require policy formulation, programmes or projects to implemented at national, sub regional and/or regional levels. While SIDS have made a fair amount of progress with actioning these over the last decade, a number of gaps remain. As the international community prepares for the 4th International Conference on SIDS, what are the key priority policies, programes and projects that are needed to further advance the SIDS development agenda and why? (750 words)

1: Climate Change: SIDS are threatened by rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and extreme weather events. Policies are needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resilience through investment in renewable energy, sustainable transport, coastal protection, and early warning systems.

2: Ocean Governance and Conservation: SIDS rely heavily on the ocean, but it is facing threats from overfishing, pollution, and climate change. Policies are needed to establish marine protected areas, reduce plastic waste, and improve ocean monitoring and data sharing.

3: Access to Finance: Policies are needed to increase access to finance and support for SIDS, including innovative financing mechanisms, capacity building for financial institutions, and investment in sustainable infrastructure.

4: Education and Capacity Building: Education and training are essential for sustainable development in SIDS. Policies are needed to promote sustainable development practices, including climate change mitigation and adaptation, sustainable energy, sustainable

tourism, and ocean conservation.

5: Sustainable Tourism: Policies are needed to promote eco-tourism and protect natural resources while benefiting local communities and preserving cultural heritage.

(167 words)