

## 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)**.

A key instrument to reducing vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and building resilience is the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs). Established in 2010 under the UNFCCC, the process to formulate and implement national adaptation plans (NAPs), enables countries to identify medium- and long-term adaptation needs, and to develop and implement programmes to address those needs. It is the main UNFCCC-led instrument for coordinating and driving actions of all actors and stakeholders in pursuit of adaptation goals and outcomes at the national level.

The formulation and implementation of NAPs is a concrete measure of success in adaptation both at the national and global level. It provides a clear indication of the goals and aspirations of countries making it feasible to assess adaptation outcome.<sup>1</sup> NAP is the central vehicle for adaptation planning and implementation with funding support from GCF and other Operating entities of the Financial Mechanism of the UNFCCC.

The Least Developed Countries Expert Group (LEG) is the mandated constituted body under the UNFCCC that provides support to 46 LDCs. The 46 LDCs are the focus of the technical guidance and support provided by the LEG which includes the direct country support to producing a NAP, developing pipelines for implementing the priorities identified in their NAPs under the NAP Implementation Pipeline Development Initiative<sup>2</sup> and promoting south-south collaboration and exchange of best practices and

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<sup>1</sup> See: <https://unfccc.int/documents/548662>

<sup>2</sup> Compiled project ideas available at <https://napcentral.org/projectcatalogues>.

lessons learned through the NAP Expo.<sup>3</sup>

Of these 46 LDCs, 08 are SIDS (Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Sao Tome and Principe, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste and Tuvalu) in the formulation and implementation of NAPs.<sup>4</sup> Out of the eight SIDS that are LDCs, three have submitted their NAPs (Kiribati, Haiti and Timor-Leste).<sup>5</sup> As of 22 June 2023, 11 out of 39 SIDS had submitted a National Adaptation Plan (NAP) to the UNFCCC, namely Cabo Verde, Fiji, Grenada, Haiti, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Timor-Leste and Tonga. More information on the LEG work programme for supporting the LDCs is available here <https://unfccc.int/leg>.

An analysis of the NAPs developed and submitted by the SIDS, outline the key adaptation actions and financial strategies that SIDS are implementing to build resilience. For example- Grenada's NAP,<sup>6</sup> outlines key resilience actions including improving knowledge of climate change impacts and vulnerabilities through the development of educational programming and enhancing policy, legal, regulatory and institutional framework for the water sector. Grenada is committed to using the national budget to adapt to climate change but welcomes the use of adaptation debt swap mechanisms and external financing.

Kiribati's NAP,<sup>7</sup> notes the importance of strengthening health service delivery to address climate change impacts, promoting the transition toward renewable energy sources and increasing the resilience of fisheries and the marine sector. The implementation of the NAP is to be financed through already existing strategies ranging from national budgets and other internal sources to overseas development assistance, climate finance from major funds and humanitarian aid.

Suriname has identified key resilience strategies in its NAP,<sup>8</sup> involving awareness raising and capacity building programmes on sustainable forest management, developing climate resilient infrastructure in the education sector and financial incentives to influence energy use and decrease emissions. Resources for these actions include government savings and private incomes as well as international funds and foreign direct investment.

## **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

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<sup>3</sup> More details available at <https://napexpo.org/2023>.

<sup>4</sup> See: <https://unfccc.int/LEG>

<sup>5</sup> Available at <https://napcentral.org/submitted-naps>.

<sup>6</sup> See: [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Grenada\\_National\\_Adaptation\\_Plan\\_2017-2021.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Grenada_National_Adaptation_Plan_2017-2021.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> See: <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Kiribati-Joint-Implementation-Plan-for-Climate-Change-and-Disaster-Risk-Management-2019-2028.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> See: [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Suriname%20Final%20NAP\\_apr%202020.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Suriname%20Final%20NAP_apr%202020.pdf)

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)

In response to mandates for engaging international organizations in support of climate change adaptation, the UNFCCC secretariat launched UN4NAPs<sup>9</sup>, an UN-wide rapid technical backstopping initiative for NAPs, in 2021. It offers a platform for countries, initially for Least Development Countries (LDCs) and SIDS, to communicate their needs for technical assistance on an ongoing basis. When receiving the requests for technical assistance from countries, the UNFCCC secretariat immediately communicates with relevant partners from a growing network of currently 46 UN and intergovernmental organizations<sup>10</sup> for a prompt response.

Through the initiative, requests for technical assistance by Belize, Saint Lucia, Vanuatu and Comoros have been received and addressed through facilitations with UN4NAPs partner organizations, and additional engagements and meetings with UN4NAPs and partner organizations have been facilitated with Cabo Verde, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Fiji, Haiti, Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Suriname, Timor-Leste and Tuvalu.

The implementation of NAPs in SIDS can be enabled through key interventions related to institutional arrangements, financing, capacity-building, and data and information collection. For example, Cabo Verde can further the implementation of its NAP,<sup>11</sup> through the establishment of institutional arrangements for multi-sector coordination on climate adaptation. Furthermore, the implementation of a climate education plan, capacity-building plan, communication plan and resource mobilization plan can help improve Cabo Verde's capacity for high quality data and information management and sharing and access to technology and financing for adaptation.

Enabling the implementation of the NAP in Saint Lucia,<sup>12</sup> involves developing improved national, legal and regulatory frameworks to facilitate climate adaptation across sectors. This includes accelerating the formal approval of the Land Use Policy and developing a National Land Use Plan to address watershed degradation and protect critical ecosystems. Additionally, capacity to implement climate adaptation projects can be increased through targeted training workshops and funding for climate adaptation can be increased through the identification of climate and development funding streams.

Suriname can propel the implementation of its NAP,<sup>13</sup> through the creation of suitable governance procedures and providing resources and strengthening knowledge, skills and experience gaps in ministries. Climate change adaptation can be furthered with strategies such as ensuring the equitable participation of vulnerable and underrepresented constituents in climate adaptation implementation and the introduction of market-based incentives for climate financing to encourage the private sector to invest in climate adaptation.

COP 25 established the [Santiago Network](#). The vision of the Santiago Network is to *catalyze the technical assistance* of relevant organizations, bodies, networks and experts, for the implementation of relevant approaches for averting, minimize and addressing loss and damage at the local, national and

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<sup>9</sup> See <http://unfccc.int/UN4NAPs>.

<sup>10</sup> For an overview of UN4NAPs partner organizations, see here: [http://unfccc.int/documents/Profiles\\_UN4NAPs\\_organizations](http://unfccc.int/documents/Profiles_UN4NAPs_organizations).

<sup>11</sup> See: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NAP\\_Cabo%20Verde\\_EN.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NAP_Cabo%20Verde_EN.pdf)

<sup>12</sup> See: <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/SLU-NAP-May-2018.pdf>

<sup>13</sup> See: [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Suriname%20Final%20NAP\\_apr%202020.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Suriname%20Final%20NAP_apr%202020.pdf)

regional level, in developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change ([Decision 2/CMA.2, para 43](#)).

Created in 2010, the Technology Executive Committee (TEC) is the policy arm of the Technology Mechanism.<sup>14</sup> It focuses on identifying policies that can accelerate the development and transfer of low-emission and climate resilient technologies. The TEC plays a key role in supporting countries in identifying climate technology policies that support the achievement of the Paris Agreement objectives. The most significant roadblock preventing widespread implementation and mainstreaming of these technologies, especially in the most vulnerable countries SIDS and LDCs, is financing gaps.<sup>15</sup> SIDS report the majority of challenges in the economic and financial (83%), information and awareness (57%) and technical (56%) categories. For 89% of technologies, SIDS identify a need for enablers to be implemented in the financial and economic category, while enablers in the technical category are listed for 60% of the technologies.<sup>16</sup> For 59% of technologies, required enablers are in the legal and regulatory category, while 55% are in the information and awareness category.

## PART B

### IDENTIFYING POLICY PRIORITIES 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 4<sup>th</sup> 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)**

A UN4NAPs Forum was held during the Chile Global Adaptation Week in March 2023<sup>17</sup>, offering a platform for countries to share their challenges and needs for technical assistance around the formulation and implementation of NAPs, and a regional UN4NAPs Forum for Asia and the Pacific will be held from 28 August to 1 September during the Korea Global Adaptation Week<sup>18</sup>, with regional partner organizations able to offer tailored assistance to the countries, based on their respective priority needs.

In advancing climate-resilient development, SIDS have identified existing national policies in line with their NAPs as well as key opportunities to further the integration of adaptation into policy frameworks. For example- in Cabo Verde, the NAP<sup>19</sup> is aligned with the Sustainable Development Strategic Plan (PEDS 2017-2021). PEDS 2022-2026 is the vehicle to carry out the first stage of the journey towards greater integration of climate resilience into development through the NAP process.

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<sup>14</sup> <https://unfccc.int/ttclear/tec>

<sup>15</sup> [https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc\\_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk\\_static/2020\\_coastalzones/08d67ce24afd44c8b02826c54201be\\_d5/516c3ce4be94470cbd9c28ba44add8ec.pdf](https://unfccc.int/ttclear/misc_/StaticFiles/gnwoerk_static/2020_coastalzones/08d67ce24afd44c8b02826c54201be_d5/516c3ce4be94470cbd9c28ba44add8ec.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> See TEC Paper on enabling environments and challenges to technology development and transfer, available at <https://unfccc.int/ttclear/tec/enablingenvironments.html>.

<sup>17</sup> See: <https://unfccc.int/un4naps-forum-at-the-chile-global-adaptation-week-2023>

<sup>18</sup> See: <https://www.koreaadaptweek.org/>

<sup>19</sup> See: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NAP\\_Cabo%20Verde\\_EN.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/NAP_Cabo%20Verde_EN.pdf)

In Grenada, the National Climate Change Policy (2017-2021) builds on the National Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, 2007-2011 (NCCSAP).<sup>20</sup> Adaptation is planned to be integrated into the National Sustainable Development Plan (NSDP) 2030, Sectoral Corporate Plans, the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) approval process, and Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs).

Established at COP 11 as the first stakeholder engagement mechanism under the Convention, the Nairobi work programme on impacts, vulnerability and adaptation to climate change (NWP) is a demand-driven knowledge-to-action hub on adaptation and resilience in UNFCCC.<sup>21</sup> The aim of Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI)- a joint action pledge under the NWP between the secretariat and the United Nations Environment Programme through its Global Adaptation Network- is to enhance adaptation action in subregions by closing priority knowledge gaps in all countries, in particular developing countries, including the LDCs, SIDS and African States.<sup>22</sup> A workshop in February 2021 led to the identification of priority adaptation knowledge gaps for Pacific SIDS. The knowledge gaps included: lack of knowledge and data on gender, inadequate or lack of access to early warning systems, and lack of knowledge on ocean acidification adaptation solutions.<sup>23</sup>

Launched at the United Nations Climate Dialogues 2020, the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme, is designed to strengthen collaboration between the UNFCCC, UN and academic/research institutions, especially in the global South with the aim of addressing knowledge gaps.<sup>24</sup> In response to the LAKI SIDS regional knowledge gaps, a project was developed under the UN Climate Change and Universities Partnership Programme. Students at the University of Galway in Ireland undertook an initial economic analysis of the limits of ecosystem-based adaptation for addressing coastal flooding risks in the Pacific islands.<sup>25</sup>

COP 27 and CMA 4 established new funding arrangements and a fund for assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in responding to loss and damage. The fund includes a focus on addressing loss and damage.<sup>26</sup> A transitional committee on the operationalization of the new funding arrangements and fund was established, to make recommendations for consideration and adoption by COP 28 and CMA 5 (Decisions [2/CP.27](#) and [2/CMA.4](#)).

The Transitional Committee held its' first mandated workshop in April 2023.<sup>27</sup> The workshop focused on

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<sup>20</sup> See:

[https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Grenada\\_National%20Adaptation%20Plan\\_%202017-2021.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Parties/Grenada_National%20Adaptation%20Plan_%202017-2021.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> See: FCCC/SBSTA/2023/2

<sup>22</sup> See: FCCC/SBSTA/2023/2

<sup>23</sup> [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Priority%20Knowledge%20gaps\\_LAKI%20Pacific%20SIDS%20workshop%20outcomes.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/Priority%20Knowledge%20gaps_LAKI%20Pacific%20SIDS%20workshop%20outcomes.pdf)

<sup>24</sup> <https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NWPStaging/Pages/university-partnerships.aspx>

<sup>25</sup> [https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/nuigalwayie/content/files/courses/uploads/UN-University-of-Galway-Partnership-Student-Report\\_compressed.pdf](https://www.universityofgalway.ie/media/nuigalwayie/content/files/courses/uploads/UN-University-of-Galway-Partnership-Student-Report_compressed.pdf)

<sup>26</sup> <https://unfccc.int/topics/adaptation-and-resilience/groups-committees/transitional-committee>

<sup>27</sup> Decisions 2/CP.27 and 2/CMA.4 requested the secretariat to conduct two workshops in 2023, with the participation of a diversity of institutions, relevant to addressing loss and damage associated with climate change impacts.

actions to address loss and damages as well as gaps and challenges within the institutional landscape<sup>28</sup>. Several case studies detailing how SIDS are already addressing loss and damages emerged during the workshop.

For example- in Samoa, following the tropical cyclone Evan, funding was provided from the bilateral and multilateral donors to address both noneconomic loss and damages.<sup>29</sup> Different modalities, such as budget support and a program approach, were used due to the capacity of the Ministry of Finance to administer the funds, the preferences of the donor, and the needs that were being addressed.

The Government of Vanuatu allocated 15% of its 2023 budget to addressing climate change impacts and building resilience, on par with investments in essential services like health and education.<sup>30</sup> The National Green Energy Fund was established in 2018 as a financing mechanism to support Vanuatu's nationally determined contribution decarbonization targets through investment in technology and infrastructure.

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<sup>28</sup> [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS1\\_Report.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS1_Report.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> See p.24: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS1\\_Report.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS1_Report.pdf)

<sup>30</sup> See p.25: [https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS1\\_Report.pdf](https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/WS1_Report.pdf)