FOSTERING CARIBBEAN SIDS-SIDS PEER-LEARNING & COOPERATION ON DATA SOLUTIONS FOR NATURE

FROM SHARED CHALLENGES TO COMMON OPPORTUNITIES

14 November 2023
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Ocean/Nature & Data through SIDS-SIDS lenses

1/ Unique Common SIDS’ Features and Development Challenges

2/ From Shared Challenges to Shared Opportunities

3/ Seizing Opportunities through SIDS-SIDS Cooperation
1/ Unique **Common** SIDS’ Features and Development **Challenges**

- **Small** sizes, small population (30)
- **Dependence** on trade and travel (30)
- **Narrow** resource-based economies
- geographical and economic **isolation** (29)
- **High cost** of transport, communication and energy
- **Extreme vulnerability** to climate change & natural hazards
- Fragility of island **ecosystems** (endemism)
- **Debt** situation
- lack of access to concessional **financing** (for non LDC SIDS)

S.A.M.O.A Pathway:
“SIDS are as **special case** for Sustainable Development”

Deepening **gaps in means of implementation**, including a.o. data
AOSIS & DESA SIDS Unit carried out SIDS Gap Assessments on Means of Implementing:

**Biodiversity Objectives**
(=> COP15 – landmark 2030 GBF)

**DRR Objectives**
(=> MTR of Sendai Framework in 2023)
IDENTIFICATION OF THOSE SIDS CHALLENGES AND GAPS?

Various International Declarations & Frameworks:
• S.A.M.O.A Pathway,
• 2030 Agenda,
• Sendai Framework for DRR,
• Addis Ababa Action Agenda,
• Rio Conventions
• New Urban Agenda

⇒ The Outcome Document of the high-level Review of the SAMOA Pathway (2019) and the General Assembly resolution 74/3: “The strengthening of national and regional statistical systems and capacity to effectively monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Samoa Pathway and the 2030 Agenda” OP30 (j).

For the past 30 years, SIDS have been advocating for their common vulnerabilities to be recognized
⇒ Development of a Multi-dimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI)
⇒ Data is also a core and limiting factor of the MVI.
2/ From Shared Challenges to **Shared Opportunities**

**Any Theme in the Data cycle**
- Data Governance / Coordination
- Data Collection / Production
- Data Dissemination / Reporting

**Data Problems & Solutions in SIDS**
- Challenges & Opportunities
- Lessons Learned & Good Practices

**Unlocking SIDS-SIDS potential**
- From common challenges to shared solutions
- Potential to learn amid SIDS peers and cooperate
- Conductive platform to replicate, expand from one SIDS to another
- Vehicle to brainstorm, adapt, innovate and improve

**Some Examples:**
- NSO & National Environmental Information System relationship
- Natural capital and Ocean accounting
- Cloud-based env. data sharing methods
- MEAs reporting and monitoring of specific SDG indicators;
- Optimal use of admin data for environmental indicators,
- Use of artificial intelligence, evidenced-based decision-making tools,
  etc.
3/ Seizing Opportunities through SIDS-SIDS Cooperation

SAMOA Pathway Outcome document (A/RES/69/15) calls for “enhanced international cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and ESPECIALLY COOPERATION AMONG SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES.” (Paragraph 99).

Are SIDS leveraging enough their SIDS-SIDS peer-learning and cooperation potential?

Are we effectively going from information sharing to actual tech transfer/exchange contributing to capacity development in/by SIDS?

=> How could we further leverage SIDS-SIDS Peer-Learning, Cooperation to replicate, expand good practices?
PROJECT: CARIBBEAN SIDS-SIDS PEER-LEARNING & COOPERATION ON DATA SOLUTIONS FOR NATURE
Belize Prime Minister announcing the project (at 2023 SDG Summit) on behalf of

In response to Priority 2 of the SIDS Coalition for Nature’s Call for Action is to “Support SIDS’ technical cooperation, technological transfer, data management capacities.”

Spain announcing support to Coalition’s priority #2 in the Caribbean through SIDS-SIDS cooperation (during SIDS Partnership Committee in NYC)

sidscoalitionfornature.org
Partnerships

• Project led by Belize (as Caribbean co-lead of the SIDS Coalition for Nature)

• Covering Caribbean SIDS: NSOs + MoE

• Financial support provided by Spain -as Friend of the Coalition- and the UNDESA Office for Sustainable Development (UNOSD)

• Technical support provided by UNDESA (SIDS Unit, UNSD) in close collaboration with CARICOM Secretariat, ECLAC.
Project Approach
SIDS-SIDS Peer-learning and Cooperation at its Core: 3-Phased Match-Making Process

Phase 1 | SIDS-SIDS Peer-learning Platforms

Phase 2 | SIDS-SIDS Cooperation Roadmap

Phase 3 | SIDS-SIDS Cooperation Roadmap Implementation

=> Increased SIDS capacities through specific SIDS-SIDS know-how transfer implementation

=> Increased understanding about SIDS-SIDS know-how transfer opportunities and potential cooperation schemes

=> Increased knowledge and awareness amid SIDS about best practices, lessons learned

Here we are today—mapping of best practices and planned regional workshop in Q1 2024
Project Potential and Perspectives

- Leveraging SIDS’ commitment to lead by example and unlocking SIDS-SIDS cooperation potential.

- Potential to accelerate transformative Ocean action, achieve the 2030 Agenda in SIDS and support the 3 Rio Conventions.

- The SIDS Coalition for Nature will promote this approach in major regional and global events (2025 UNOC).

- Preliminary results will be presented at the 4th SIDS International Conference* (*data, environment, SIDS-SIDS cooperation at its core)
Thank You

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