

ASTM International written statement  
First Preparatory Committee Meeting for the Fourth International  
Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS4)  
January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024

One of the world's largest international standards development organizations, ASTM is committed to improving the overall quality of life. This is accomplished through science-based, practical, consensus solutions which address business and regulatory needs. ASTM

- provides technical content through up-to-date standards, developed in an inclusive manner,
- works alongside developing nation partners, offering scientific data and global expertise to enhance institutional technological capabilities.

Through an open, transparent forum where more than 30,000 volunteer scientific and business professionals from 150 nations develop and maintain 12,900 data-driven, consensus standards, ASTM provides globally accepted best practice solutions for over 90 industry sectors. Committed to engaging and supporting developing countries, ASTM has established 125 MoU partnerships with national and regional

standardization bodies, most in developing countries, including 21 Small Island Developing States in Africa, the Caribbean and Oceania.

ASTM standards relate to 12 of the 17 UN SDGs. In particular, forty of ASTM's 145 technical committees enable resilient construction and facilitate environmental sustainability. One example is Committee E50 on Environmental Assessment, Risk Management and Corrective Action. E50 is drafting a proposed standard guide for climate and community mapping which aims to provide a standardized approach for data-driven climate and economic justice screening tools to identify communities threatened by the cumulative impacts of climate change, racial inequality, and multi-source environmental pollution.

In addition, the committee is developing a standard on environmental, social, and governance disclosure related to climate and community which seeks to provide a comprehensive framework for consistent, comparable, and reliable climate-related disclosures leading to more sustainable institutions and communities.

ASTM invites all interested stakeholders to engage in our committees and influence the content of its standards. We remain open to new dialogues and partnership opportunities.