



4TH INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON
**Small Island
Developing States**
27-30 MAY, 2024
ST. JOHN'S, ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

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131 days to go!*

SIDS4 to address ‘existential’ climate threat facing small islands, says Conference Secretary-General

During the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28) last month in Dubai, Li Junhua, Secretary-General of the [fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States \(SIDS4\)](#), offered a preview of the SIDS-focused forum, which will take place in Antigua and Barbuda from 27 to 30 May 2024. He noted how the people of small islands are suffering the worst effects of climate change—intense storms, droughts and, especially, rising sea levels—despite their relatively small carbon footprint. “This is really an existential threat to the survival of the SIDS members, to their people, to their tradition, to their culture, and to their whole life,” Mr. Li said. The SIDS4 Conference will define an “actionable, doable and ambitious plan of action for the coming decades,” he said.



Photo: Li Junhua speaks about the SIDS4 Conference at the SDG Pavilion at COP28 in Dubai. (UN DESA photo)

Watch the video of SDG Pavilion session “The Road to Antigua and Barbuda: A Preview of the 2024 SIDS Conference” [here](#).

First session of the SIDS4 Preparatory Committee, 22 to 26 January

In its resolution 77/245, the General Assembly had established a Preparatory Committee to make the organizational, procedural and substantive preparations for the SIDS4 Conference. The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee is chaired by the Permanent Representatives of

Maldives and New Zealand to the United Nations. The other members of the Bureau are Barbados, Cabo Verde, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Italy, Latvia (Rapporteur), Romania and Seychelles. Antigua and Barbuda (as host of the Conference) and Samoa (as Chair of AOSIS) serve as ex officio members.

The Preparatory Committee will hold its first session from 22 to 26 January 2024 at UN Headquarters in New York to take action on a number of procedural issues and to consider the zero draft Outcome Document of the Conference. The formal meetings of the Preparatory Committee will be webcast on webtv.un.org. For more details, including the proposed organization of work, documentation and list of side events, please visit [here](#).



2nd Global Online Stakeholder Consultation – Contribute inputs for Interactive Dialogues by 19 January

As part of its formal programme, the SIDS4 Conference will feature [five interactive multi-stakeholder dialogues](#) that will focus on addressing existing and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of SIDS, including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships. To ensure an in-depth discussion, background notes will be prepared by the UN secretariat to inform each theme.

UN DESA is [organizing a global online stakeholder consultation](#) to solicit informal contributions from stakeholders across different sectors related to the themes of the SIDS4 interactive dialogues.

All interested civil society organizations, major groups and other stakeholders are invited to participate in the consultation here:
<https://sdgs.un.org/2ndglobalstakeholderconsultationSIDS4>.

The deadline for submissions is at 5 p.m. EST on 19 January 2024.



Now open! Applications for the UN SIDS Partnership Awards 2024

The UN SIDS Partnership Awards was established by UN Member States in 2021 to recognize and reward the efforts of the best and most noteworthy, genuine and durable partnerships in the implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway). The Awards provide an opportunity to reward the most successful SIDS partnerships, highlight best practices, increase the visibility of the SIDS Partnership Framework, motivate the creation of new SIDS partnerships and incentivize the registrations of new partnerships for SIDS.

We are inviting partnerships for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to apply for the United Nations SIDS Partnerships Awards 2024. **The deadline for the application is Friday, 1 March 2024**. Details [can be found here](#).

The SIDS Partnerships Awards are given in each of the three dimensions of sustainable development: 1) economic, 2) social and 3) environment. Subject to funding, one representative from each of the three winning partnerships may be invited to New York to receive a certificate. The ceremony will take place in the margins of [High-Level Political Forum 2024](#), during the Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue.

For questions regarding the UN SIDS Partnerships Awards, please contact infounpartnershipsawards@un.org.

Coming soon: Call for side event proposals for SIDS4 in May 2024

As an integral component of the SIDS4 Conference, side events are intended to provide additional spaces and opportunities for all registered participants to collaborate and share knowledge and solutions to accelerate the implementation of sustainable development objectives in SIDS. These events will provide a platform to discuss critical issues, share best practices, and foster international cooperation.

The UN Secretariat will be conducting an open call for side event proposals in connection with the SIDS4 Conference from 26 January to 8 March 2024 (exact dates subject to change). Side events for the SIDS4 Conference in Antigua and Barbuda may be organized by Member States, Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), UN Entities and other accredited stakeholders.

Eligible entities who are interested in organizing side events on the margins of the SIDS4 Conference may submit an application during the open call. For more information, please check: <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/sids2024/programme/side-events>

Note on participation at SIDS4

There are different processes and timelines for accreditation and registration for the 2024 SIDS4 Conference for different stakeholder groups. Please check this page regularly for the most up-to-date information for participation under the relevant categories: <https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/sids2024/participate>

For more information

- Visit the official SIDS4 website at www.un.org/smallislands.
- Click [here](#) to sign up to our newsletter and receive the latest updates about the Conference straight to your inbox.



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