

**ASTM International    Teresa J. Cendrowska**

Thank you Chair and to the Forum for this opportunity to participate and highlight information about the science-based, technical resources ASTM International shares to enhance and enable Small Island Development States' response to environmental and economic challenges.

Committed to responding to global societal needs, ASTM engages and supports developing countries through a unique and growing outreach program known as the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) program. From two partners in 2001 to 125 today, the beneficiaries of the MoU program are national and regional standardization bodies in Least Developed, Landlocked Developing Countries, and Small Island Developing States in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and the Caribbean and Pacific Islands. These partner standardization bodies, along with their respective public and private sector stakeholders, have embraced the opportunity to influence the content of ASTM standards, gain access to, and apply ASTM's practical, science-based, globally relevant technical documents to address local needs. In aggregate our partners report over 9200 citations of ASTM standards. Standards which support 12 of the 17 UN SDGs including, health and well-being, sustainable cities, clean energy, land and marine environment, climate change, and partnerships.

ASTM's commitment to transitioning economies is dynamic and continues to grow. We actively engage our partners and their stakeholders through on-line tools and in-person capacity building programs. In turn, by participating in the development of and applying ASTM's consensus, technical content our MoU partners, including those in SIDS, economically and efficiently position themselves to access and apply practical, globally relevant, best-in-class, science-based solutions that enable them to prioritize and respond to environmental and technological challenges, and trade opportunities in 90 industry sectors.

We are encouraged by our partners' embrace of this information and the related opportunities and look to do more of the same across the range of developing economies.

Thank you for this opportunity.