



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

SIDS4 Conference Side Event

The Joint SDG Fund's Work across Portfolios Revitalizing SIDS Economies for Accelerated and Sustainable Growth

Date: 28 May 2024 - Tuesday | Time: 14:00 - 15:30 – Room 7

Organized by: UN Joint SDG Fund

Background on the event (one paragraph)

The session aimed to showcase the tangible impact and lessons learned from the Joint SDG Fund's interventions in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). By highlighting successful initiatives and best practices, the session demonstrated how targeted interventions can effectively address the unique challenges faced by SIDS in achieving sustainable development.

Key Issues discussed (5-8 bullet points)

1. Highlighted the priorities and approaches adopted by the Joint SDG Fund in supporting Small Island Developing States (SIDS) amidst the interconnected challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution. This included showcasing the Fund's efforts in building integrated policy and financing solutions tailored to the specific needs of SIDS communities.
2. The session provided a platform for sharing experiences, insights, and innovative solutions for accelerating sustainable growth in four SIDS: i) Suriname: Showcased the catalytic case of the Sustainable Pineapple Value Chain Development; ii) Trinidad and Tobago: spotlight the programme on use of Data, Statistics and AI for Decision Making and Sustainable Development; iii) Dominican Republic: Discussed the National Care System, emphasizing its strong focus on creating decent employment for

- women and their overall economic empowerment; iv) Bahamas and Bermuda: Highlighted the program "Building Back Equal through Innovative Financing for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment."
3. The session showcased the work of the Resident Coordinator system in tandem with the government in each of the SIDS, as well as showcasing an example of agency that implements the programs.
 4. Member states commitment with the SIDS3 Outcome: The Samoa Pathway was adopted, providing a renewed political commitment to address the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDs. Key Focus Areas: Climate change, sustainable development goals (SDGs), oceans and seas, biodiversity, and partnerships for development.
 5. ABAS Outcome Document and the need for replenishing funds such as the Joint SDG Fund that: i) has a Bottom-up approach with flexible scope; ii) Specific target on LNOB and vulnerable groups, mainstreaming gender equality in all joint programmes; and iii) most programmes focused on addressing food security and improved nutrition and reducing poverty through the extension of social protection services.

Key recommendations for action (5-6 bullet points)

1. Address Challenges in Capital Markets: Develop strategies to help SIDS overcome prohibitive transaction costs and access capital market solutions effectively.
2. Increase Funding for SIDS Proposals: Boost funding for SIDS Resident Coordinator Offices to ensure timely and competitive program proposal submissions.
3. Rally Member States for Fund Replenishment: Mobilize member states to contribute to the Fund replenishment.
4. Organize a Stakeholders Rally: The US Joint SDG Fund will organize a Stakeholders Rally to explore next steps following SIDS4 and leverage the momentum generated by the conference before the end of June.
5. Enhance Collaboration with DFIs: Strengthen partnerships with Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) to provide technical assistance and support for SIDS in the preparation and execution of capital market transactions.