

QUESTIONNAIRE

Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the MSI, BPOA for the Sustainable Development of SIDS

Please note that strict word limits have been established for each question. The Secretariat is unable to consider any information beyond these established word limits. In this regard, you are requested to report only on new or updated information. Information conveyed in previous surveys will not be considered. Previous surveys can be accessed at https://sdgs.n.org/topics/small-island-developing-states#sg_reports_2023 under reports.

PART A

VULNERABILITY REDUCTION AND RESILIENCE BUILDING IN SIDS

1. Enhanced Support for achieving Resilient Prosperity in SIDS

The theme for the SIDS4 Conference is “*Charting a Course toward Resilient Prosperity*” as such resilience building will be at the core of the new Programme of Action for SIDS. Briefly elaborate on any resilience building interventions or strategies (proactive or preventative) that will be implemented at national or regional levels aimed specifically at improving resilience in SIDS. Please include indications of resource allocations, if available (**750 words**).

2. Enhanced and Tailored Development Cooperation for SIDS

The New SIDS Programme of Action will require improved, tailored development cooperation approaches, calibrated to the specific needs, capacity constraints, and economic challenges facing SIDS. Briefly elaborate on any planned or ongoing strategies/approaches to improve and deliver on more tailored development support to SIDS. What are the expected results from these interventions in the targeted countries. Please include indications of resource allocations if available (**750 words**)

(Input by WIPO)

Assisting SIDS build and enhance their innovation and creativity ecosystems will be important for the realization of the New SIDS Programme of Action (PoA). In fact, innovation and creativity are enablers that cut across the PoA. Intellectual property (IP) has an important role to play in incentivizing the innovation and creativity which are a foundation of these ecosystems.

WIPO is committed to continuing and enhancing its support for SIDS by empowering local innovators, creators, and entrepreneurs to effectively utilize the full range of IP rights, including patents, designs, trademarks, copyright, and geographical indications. In doing so, WIPO bases its support on close partnership with SIDS and focuses on their needs.

At the policy level, WIPO provides targeted and needs-based advice on development of national IP strategies - instrumental for a country's ability to create, protect and disseminate economically valuable IP assets and for fostering an enabling environment to harness a country's innovative and creative potential. During the last two years, support for developing and implementing national IP strategies has been provided to 5 SIDS Member States - Antigua and Barbuda, Cabo Verde, Maldives, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Tonga.

WIPO provides advice to SIDS on their legislation on request so that they can meet national commitments and build their ecosystems to harness IP, both within their national economies and within the global trading system. Since 2023, legislative assistance has been provided to 17 SIDS countries.

WIPO also supports national IP offices in SIDS to build the capacity, systems, processes and databases required to participate effectively in the global IP system.

WIPO provides capacity building for SIDS to help them use the Global IP Systems administered by WIPO - in patents, trademarks, designs, arbitration and mediation, and appellations of origin and geographical indications - which help protect IP and access markets around the world.

In addition to the support on IP policy and infrastructure, WIPO's support for SIDS is focused on enhancing capacity and skills of stakeholders to leverage IP successfully for economic growth, business competitiveness and sustainable development.

These include impact-oriented projects to empower innovators, creators, women entrepreneurs, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in using IP for their businesses and activities, to enhance brand identity, competitiveness and create value addition.

For example, in the Pacific region, WIPO projects are focusing on helping Tonga and Vanuatu establish and safeguard geographical indications for their unique "Kava" products. A project in Antigua and Barbuda focuses on creating a collective mark for Barbuda logwood honey and Antigua multi-floral honey.

WIPO's support for SIDS targets strategic sectors which SIDS identify as important. In the Dominican Republic, the ongoing WIPO project on gastronomic tourism helps stakeholders use IP tools for branding culinary traditions. A recently completed project on managing IP assets for Trinidad and Tobago's Carnival Museum helped preserve cultural heritage and harness it for culture-based tourism.

WIPO also provides support for technological capacity building, mainly through 20 Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) established by WIPO in 5 SIDS countries (Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, São Tomé and Príncipe, and Trinidad and Tobago), offering locally based technology information and services to innovators.

The WIPO GREEN technology platform connects providers and seekers of green technologies, fostering collaboration and accelerating green technology diffusion. This is one of the largest global green tech platforms, which now features nearly 130,000 green technologies from 140 countries.

WIPO also facilitates the linkage between academia and industry, crucial for technology transfer and diffusion. For example, our recent project with countries in the Caribbean on IP for technology transfer and commercialization has provided a regional platform for identifying critical need areas for plastic waste management, for sharing research findings from Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, and bridging the gap between academia and the private sector.

Through various training programs, WIPO is helping the broader range of stakeholders learn how to use IP to grow their businesses. In the last two years, we provided trainings to 1,688 participants from SIDS through hybrid/distance learning courses provided by the WIPO Academy.

To contribute to the relevant goals and actions of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS), WIPO is planning to develop a reinvigorated program to provide more tailored and needs-based support to SIDS. In this context, the main areas of focus of its support would be (i) developing and enhancing inclusive, balanced and effective IP ecosystems for promoting innovation and creativity; (ii) enhancing support services or mechanisms to enable stakeholders in SIDS leverage IP successfully for economic growth, business competitiveness and sustainable development; and (iii) increasing IP knowledge and skills for the broader range of stakeholders.

PART B

MULTIDIMENSIONAL VULNERABILITY IN THE WORK OF THE UN SYSTEM

Paragraph 13 of Resolution 78/232 Requests the Secretary-General to assess how multidimensional vulnerability is currently considered by the United Nations system. Please indicate how your entity considers multidimensional vulnerability in your policies, practices and Programmes (1000 words)