

Recommendations for Strengthening the
SIDS Partnership Framework & the **SIDS**
Global Business Network and Forum

Consultation process

Survey to Member States (December 2024 – March 2025): A survey sent to all member States by the co-chairs

- **9 submissions**, representing **21 countries** (Australia, PSIDS – Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu Vanuatu – Portugal, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Malta, Mauritius, Seychelles).

Expert meeting of the Steering Committee on Partnerships for SIDS (6 March 2025)

- Presentation by the Secretariat on the initial finding of the survey on strengthening of SIDS Partnership Framework and the SIDS Global Business Network.
- Interventions and comments by Member States by **Ireland, UK**.

Survey to UN Entities and Stakeholders (7 March – 15 April 2025):

- **21 responses** (2 from UN, 19 from Stakeholders) – from Papua New Guinea, Comoros, Samoa, Fiji, Tuvalu, Marshall Islands, Barbados, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Philippines, India, Guyana, Saint Lucia.

Dedicated Survey to SIDS Civil Society to prepare for webinars and SIDS CSO Engagement Forum

- **41 responses** (33 representing SIDS – from Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cabo Verde, Comoros, Fiji, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Kiribati, Mauritius, Papua New Guinea, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome e Principe, Trinidad and Tobago)

Three virtual SIDS Regional Civil Society Consultations

- **65 participants** across the **3 SIDS regions**.

SIDS Civil Society Engagement Forum (12–13 May 2025): A dedicated forum brought together civil society organizations from across the three SIDS regions—Caribbean, Pacific, and Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea (AIS)—to co-develop recommendations from a stakeholder perspective.

- **27 civil society in-person participants** from SIDS
- Interventions by **Member States** from **Antigua and Barbuda, Portugal, Ireland, Australia, Palau, Germany**.
- Interventions from **UN Resident Coordinators**, representing Mauritius, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, Barbados and Eastern Caribbean.

Organization of the **SIDS Partnership Symposium**, held in Bangkok in 2024, with participants from 9 SIDS governments, 4 regional organizations, 7 UN entities, and 8 representatives from NGOs, academia and private sector.

Assessment of **insights from the Steering Committee meetings** the past 10 years.

Recommendations for Strengthening the SIDS Partnership Framework

1. Strengthen the Steering Committee

Ensure meaningful and strategic role of the Committee and its meetings, ensuring it functions as a platform to discuss implementation of ABAS and emerging SIDS issues, reinforce linkages with global and regional UN processes, and establish consultative mechanisms with key stakeholder groups, including civil society, as needed.

2. Increase Stakeholder Access and Clarify the Value of Engagement

Develop a multilingual, communications strategy that raise awareness of the Framework, outlines how stakeholders can engage with the SIDS Partnership Framework, highlights the benefits of participation, and establishes a network of SIDS Partnership Champions to promote action on ABAS, the SIDS Civil Society Action Plan and Roadmap, and SIDS partnerships.

3. Strengthen National and Regional Coordination

Encourage national partnership dialogues and conduct assessments to identify gaps, opportunities, strengths, and challenges in building partnership across sectors. Establish regional hubs, in collaboration with stakeholders, to improve coordination, scale up civil society-led initiatives, foster cross-regional collaboration and knowledge exchange among CSOs, and convene annual or biennial in-person regional civil society fora in support of the SIDS Civil Society Action Plan and Roadmap (2024-2034).

4. Expand the Global Multi-Stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue

Broaden its scope to include stakeholder- and civil society-led events, sector-specific breakout sessions, align with ABAS priorities, and the option of hosting it as a standalone event.

Recommendations for Strengthening the SIDS Partnership Framework

5. Developing Guidance on Best Practices for Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships

Create inclusive, principle-based guidelines to promote effective and accountable partnerships among governments, civil society, and other sectors—emphasizing early engagement and co-creation mechanisms.

6. Strengthen UN Secretariat Support for SIDS Partnerships

Allocate sufficient resources and staffing to implementation of the SIDS Partnership Framework, with a clear division of labor within the Secretariat—UN DESA coordinating implementation of the SIDS Partnership Framework and UN-OHRLS coordinating implementation of the SIDS Global Business Network and its Forum—in collaboration with relevant UN entities and stakeholders. Enhance support to UN Resident Coordinator Offices in SIDS through training and tools for national-level partnership building and dialogue.

Recommendations for Strengthening the SIDS Partnership Framework

7. Explore the feasibility to establish a SIDS Partnership Incubator and Investment Platform

Assess the potential, including source of funding, to establish a SIDS Partnership Incubator and Investment Platform within the Framework to support emerging multi-stakeholder and civil society-led partnerships by facilitating matchmaking between donors and SIDS partnerships. providing capacity-building and technical assistance (including training of trainers), investing in youth skills and leadership, supporting community-led data and evidence collection to inform policy across for ABAS priority areas, and improving access to partnership financing—such as through the SIDS Partnership Awards and a dedicated SIDS Civil Society Development Fund that offers inclusive, easily accessible support tailored to the needs of grassroots, informal, and underrepresented groups, and is informed by an analysis of existing funding flows and disbursement practices.

8. Map Stakeholders and Establish an Online SIDS CSO Registry

Conduct regional stakeholder mapping to identify existing actors, resources, and priority thematic areas; use findings to inform the implementation of the SIDS Civil Society Action Plan and Roadmap (2024-2034). Establish an interactive online platform to showcase civil society initiatives, promote knowledge exchange, track impact, and strengthen SIDS-SIDS cooperation. Include a review mechanism, including through the Global Multi-stakeholder SIDS Partnership Dialogue and the annual report by the Secretary-General on ABAS implementation, to ensure the registry remains up to date and relevant, through regular information updates, stakeholder feedback, and periodic assessments of the platform's use and effectiveness.

Next Steps

Recommendations for Strengthening the SIDS Partnership Framework

- Inclusion in **SG report on ABAS**, June
- **2nd Committee SIDS resolution**, October

Recommendations - SIDS Global Business Network and its Forum

Recommendations from Member States

1. Raise Awareness and Clarify Value

- Run targeted awareness campaigns so ministries, investment agencies and academia “know what the SIDS GBN is.”
- Spell out a clear value proposition for companies – articulate concrete benefits and explain ways to join.
- Keep members engaged through newsletters, events and success-story showcases that demonstrate real-world impact.

2. Build Capacity for MSMEs

- Offer capacity-building sessions for MSMEs delivered through the Network to equip smaller enterprises with the skills and know-how to participate effectively.

3. Mobilise Finance and Lead Thematic Workstreams

- Use financial-hub expertise to steer GBN workstreams on Innovative Blue & Green Economies and Enabling Business Environment.
- Mobilise green/blue bonds and ESG finance through the Network to channel investment toward sustainable projects in SIDS.

4. Deepen Strategic Partnerships and Coordination

- Further involve civil society, academia, the private sector, IFIs and MDBs.
- Coordinate the GBN’s biennial Forum with the forthcoming Island Investment Forum under the SIDS Centre of Excellence and, if resources allow, consider more frequent meetings to sustain momentum.

Recommendations - SIDS Global Business Network and its Forum

Recommendations from the UN system

1. Grow and Diversify Membership

- Adopt a robust membership strategy that engages diverse private-sector entities, including SMEs and local businesses.
- Provide step-by-step guidance that explains how companies can participate.
- Broaden outreach through chambers of commerce, industry associations and targeted communication campaigns that showcase success stories.

2. Mobilise Finance and Investment

- Launch a SIDS Green Investment Platform, a SIDS Investment Fund and other innovative finance options—green bonds, climate funds, blended-finance and diaspora capital—to back bankable projects.
- Offer an online digital investment marketplace that connects investors with opportunities.

3. Create Regional Hubs and Thematic Alliances

- Expand regional business hubs and form sector-specific alliances for the blue economy, renewable energy and digital transformation.
- Support inter-island partnerships and joint ventures that foster regional trade and technology exchange.

4. Strengthen Knowledge, Capacity and Partnerships

- Provide training programmes, capacity-building workshops and knowledge-sharing platforms on sustainable practices, corporate social responsibility and climate resilience.
- Facilitate B2B matchmaking and regular networking events, forums and round-tables that bring together businesses, governments and civil society.
- Encourage public-private partnerships and use public-private dialogue platforms—both national and regional—to ensure business perspectives inform policy.
- Coordinate with the UN Global Compact and work with chambers of commerce to deepen local business engagement.

5. Enhance Visibility, Monitoring and Recognition

- Hold an Annual SIDS-GBN Forum to showcase deals, share best practices and celebrate outstanding partnerships through awards.
- Link SIDS-GBN activities to the SIDS Partnership Framework's reporting and recognition systems, including the Partnerships Awards, to ensure transparency and accountability.

Recommendations - SIDS Global Business Network and its Forum

Recommendations from Civil Society

1. Launch a CSO-Private Sector Innovation Lab and Funding Platform to develop sustainable solutions in ocean-based sectors, with built-in transparency and accountability mechanisms.

2. Establish Independent Governance—free from political interference—with equal CSO and private sector representation and regular oversight.

3. Activate the SIDS Partnership Framework and the SIDS Global Business Network to support this initiative through capacity building, business mentoring, and funding for social innovation.

Next Steps

SIDS Global Business Network

- Side Event – UN Ocean Conference, Nice, France

Innovate, Invest, Inspire: Driving Private Sector Partnerships for Ocean Action in Small Island Developing States

Date: 12 June

Time: 8:45–10:00

Venue: Room 2 (Blue Zone)

- Side Event: UNFCCC COP30, Belen, Brazil | 10–21 November
- 2026 SIDS-GBN Forum – Maldives