



Multi-stakeholder Partnership Dialogues at the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States

Apia, Samoa | 1-4 September 2014

Session 1: Sustainable Economic Development

Contents

CONCEPT NOTE	1
BACKGROUND	1
TIMING & VENUE	2
PARTICIPANTS	2
Objectives	2
STRUCTURE of the DIALOGUE.....	2
CRITERIA & PARTNERSHIPS PLATFORM.....	3

CONCEPT NOTE

BACKGROUND

1. The overarching theme of the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) is *“The sustainable development of small island developing States through genuine and durable partnerships”*.
2. The Conference will serve as a forum to build on existing successful partnerships as well as to launch innovative and concrete new ones, to advance the sustainable development of small island developing States, and will include six *multi-stakeholder partnership dialogues*, held in parallel with the plenary meetings.
3. The six high-level multi-stakeholder partnership dialogues are expected to provide, inter alia, an opportunity for:
 - (a) **Recognizing** successful partnerships and initiatives in support of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS, the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the SIDS and the outcomes of this Conference;

- (b) **Launching** innovative and concrete partnerships and initiatives between Governments, international and regional organizations, multilateral institutions, major groups, the organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and civil society to support the advancement of the sustainable development of SIDS;
- (c) **Interactive** and focused discussions on key priorities related to SIDS.

TIMING & VENUE

- 4. The multi-stakeholder Partnership Dialogue session on “*Sustainable Economic Development*” will be held on **Monday, 1 September 2014: from 3 to 6 p.m.**, at the Savaii Partnerships Hall, Apia, Samoa.

PARTICIPANTS

- 5. The Partnership Dialogue will be open to all accredited participants to the SIDS Conference.
- 6. The room designated for the Partnership Dialogues, Savaii Partnerships Hall, can accommodate up to 240 participants at table. The Partnership Dialogues will have open seating with areas designated for States, inter-governmental organizations, associate members of the regional commissions, United Nations system and representatives of Major Groups.

OBJECTIVES

- 7. The session will focus on *Sustainable Economic Development* that requires SIDS-specific responses, and that differs from those needed in other developing countries.

STRUCTURE OF THE DIALOGUE

- 8. The dialogue first presents an opportunity to hear from those SIDS who have succeeded in moving beyond talk into delivering results effectively in economic development, whilst also balancing the social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The session then considers lessons learnt from existing partnerships and provides a chance to hear about new partnerships, initiatives and related policies to:
 - creating resilient and sustainable macro-economic environments in SIDS;
 - addressing the challenges of sustainably growing domestic and export markets; and
 - overcoming challenges of virtual and physical connections that are faced by SIDS.
- 9. The dialogue aims to ensure that SIDS’ experience of existing partnerships and responses can inform future partnerships including financing, capacity building, technology transfer, technical cooperation or institutional development. Each partnership selected for presentation will only feature once throughout the dialogue.
- 10. As the dialogue aims to be interactive, there will also be opportunities to hear responses from experts in priority areas, including bilateral and multilateral partners, and representatives from the relevant pre-conference Forums.

11. Those invited to present successful partnerships and initiatives, will be asked to briefly explore how and why the partnership has worked well, in particular, in response to the questions posed in the programme. Presenters will outline how these successful partnerships might be enhanced or scaled up for use in other SIDS or SIDS regions.
12. Those launching new partnerships and initiatives will be expected to briefly, but clearly articulate the problem or opportunity identified, the solution proposed, beneficiaries, and how implementation will occur (in line with the criteria outlined below).
13. A brief report of the outcome of the Partnership Dialogue session will be reported to the next Plenary meeting (Tuesday, 2 September from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.) through the President with a fuller report of the session to be reported with the outcome of the other Partnership Dialogues to the closing plenary meeting of the Conference by the Chairs to be included in the final report of the Conference.

CRITERIA & PARTNERSHIPS PLATFORM

14. Partnerships should take into account the following SMART criteria, as agreed by the Preparatory Committee of the Conference:
 - SIDS-SPECIFIC
 - MEASURABLE & MONITORABLE
 - ACHIEVABLE & ACCOUNTABLE
 - RESOURCES IDENTIFIED & RESULTS FOCUSED, with
 - TIMELINES for implementation & TRANSPARENCY by ALL PARTIES
15. The SIDS 2014 Partnerships Platform has been developed for the Conference and is available at www.sids2014.org/partnerships. It will serve as a broader "SIDS partnerships database" including for those not able to attend the Conference, and should include a wide range of partners, such as other SIDS, bilateral and multilateral development partners, the private sector, NGOs and others.
16. Existing SIDS-specific multi-stakeholder partnerships that have successfully delivered sustainable economic development in SIDS should aim to register on the SIDS 2014 Partnerships Platform. The organising group for this dialogue will use this Platform to identify those partnerships which are most relevant to the questions posed in the Sustainable Economic Development Dialogue Programme. Stakeholders from those partnerships will then be invited to co-present at this Dialogue.
17. Those looking to launch or scale up innovative and concrete partnerships and initiatives and related policies aimed at delivering sustainable economic development in SIDS are also encouraged to register on the Platform as soon as possible or contact the organising group for this dialogue to ensure the announcement can be accommodated within the programme. It should be noted that when registering a partnership, it is possible to request publication of the partnership be embargoed until a specific date. Nothing prevents partnerships being announced during the pre-Conference activities, in the wider Conference or at side or parallel events.

18. All partnerships registered and/or announced will appear in the Partnerships Platform on the Conference website and will be listed in an annex to the report of the Conference.