



Intervention by Ms. Peseta Noumea SIMI
Chief Executive Officer of Samoa
as lead Respondent at the
Small Island Developing States Partnership Framework
A dialogue for reviewing SIDS Partnerships
18 July 2016, 3.30 - 5.00 PM
Conference room 1, UNHQ

- Samoa like other SIDS is appreciative of the General Assembly decision to establish the SIDS Partnership Framework, to facilitate monitoring and the full implementation of pledges and commitments through partnerships. As you are aware the SIDS Conference specifically placed emphasis on the importance of partnerships as the MOI of the SAMOA Pathway.
- Agenda 2030 provides the opportunity to boost the implementation of regional frameworks, explain the specific challenges and opportunities for Pacific SIDS community and their multidimensional view of development and partnerships through the establishment of the essential building blocks for partnerships.
- The new Global Goals set the basis for a common thematic framework, which can contribute to strengthening South – South cooperation initiatives, improve regional coordination and establish genuine and durable partnerships. The SISRI partnership focused on the importance of peer learning and how groups of special skilled personnel can be brought together to learn from each other through experience sharing. Some of the challenges faced include the fragmentation of financing mechanisms thus creating the need for additional financing, the absence of good governance institutions that can coordinate practices across sectors. SISRI looks at building resilience for countries in the frontlines of climate change.
- WE know that Achieving sustainable development rests on genuine, effective and inclusive partnerships that operate on mutual trust and accountability and hold each partner as equal. These are key to supporting the implementation of our ambitious sets of goals.
- Clarity, on the contribution partnerships will make to the implementation of the

sustainable development agenda at all levels, is crucial. They must be consistent with national laws and strategies for the implementation of the sustainable development agenda, as well as the priorities of host countries and regions. Governments however, need to ensure that there is no diversion to partnerships of resources allocated for already mandated programs of institutions and organizations that it works with.

- The S.A.M.O.A. Pathway established a large number of partnership platforms, which need to be taken forward. Samoa according to the partnership platform is involved in 69 partnerships, 17 at national level, 40 at regional level and 12 for all SIDS.

Given the diverse challenges we face, be it climate change, economic sustainability, ocean acidification or depletion of fisheries resources, the fact is we have to work with different sets of partners. The importance of multisectoral partnership frameworks brings in a merging of expertise and alternative approaches and this feature was highlighted by all partnership examples. It is incomprehensible to think that any one country can go it alone.

- At country level some of the initiatives already in progress include; the implementation of a Public Private Partnership framework with a pilot for waste management
- Samoa is focused on renewable energy partnerships towards the achievement of its target of 100% renewable energy by 2020. The focus on the energy sector is the bridge linking the climate to the development agenda.
- The decision of the African Caribbean Pacific Council of Ministers to establish a SIDS Forum within its structure is welcomed. We, as a member of the ACP Group are looking forward to dialogue on a new EU-ACP partnership post 2020.
- The joint Pacific SIDS partnership with the Government of Italy, which initially focused on renewable energy, has now extended to cover other priority areas as identified in the SAMOA Pathway. It has been praised and referenced as a model for others to emulate. The close collaboration between Pacific SIDS and Italy, have helped the latter to focus on, and respond positively to the needs of the Pacific region.
- The Governments of Japan and Samoa partnership to set up a regional Centre for Climate Change for the Pacific within South Pacific Regional Environmental Program, provides opportunities for Pacific SIDS. The Pacific Climate Change Centre, will be one of excellence in service and support for Pacific island countries and territories. It

will be the base to host a range of different secondment of experts, researchers and officials for collaborative efforts and applied research, training and policy initiatives. At the EU annual Development forum, the Prime Minister of Samoa invited the membership to consider support for this regional centre.

- Partnerships at country level with all stakeholders including Civil society private sector and parliamentarians are the conduit for and mainstay of advocacy for the implementation of the SAMOA pathway and SDGs as well as the opportunity to mobilise human resources for greater outreach purposes. These inclusive partnerships are key to the success of implementation as demonstrated through the operationalization of the Marine litter partnership in Samoa
- An annual process, to provide opportunities for reviewing progress of existing partnerships must be in place. Such a forum will augur well for the sharing of good practices, lessons learned, challenges and solutions from existing partnerships and encourages the launch of new ones. Examples of good practices demonstrate by the ICT4SIDS partnership whereby the use of cost effective technologies were used to leverage the telecomm/health synergies involved. As well, the key to success was keeping initiatives simple but ensuring they were scalable.

Thank you.