Roundtable Discussion for VNR3

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Part 1: New policy and enabling environment

Part 2: Five SDGs for 2024 HLPF: Pacific progress assessment and policy accelerations

Way forward
Part 1: New policy and enabling environment: Climate change, COVID-19 and Polyciris...Solidarity
Climate change: an existential threat to humanity
Common Pacific regional challenges

Oceans

- Observed warming attributed to human influence
- Ocean acidification has increased
- Frequency of marine heatwaves increased
- Decreased in salinity

Sea levels rise will be coupled with storm surges and waves, impacts:

- exacerbate coastal inundation
- shorelines to retreat along sandy coasts
- frequency of tropical cyclones will increase.

Source: UN IPCC (link)
COVID-19: a defining moment of our time
The Pacific status

Source: Pacific Perspectives 2023
Polycrisis: Food, Energy and Finance—A Perfect Storm
The Pacific Socio-economic Impacts

**Pulse of the Global Crisis**

- **Food Prices**: +50% since January 2020
- **Crude Oil Prices**: +33% since January 2022
- **Shipping Prices**: +23% since January 2022


Note: Food prices are based on the FAO food price index and shipping prices are based on the Clarksons Research sea index.
Global development partnership: SIDS4 (zero draft), UN Pacific/Samoa Cooperation Framework and 2050 Strategy
**Key issues**

What do SIDS want?

Resilient economies: economic diversification, trade and investment, tourism and ocean-based economy

Safe and prosperous societies: Strengthen health systems, Strong institutions, Achieve gender equality, empower youth and leave no one behind

A secure future: Renewable energy, Water-food-energy, Resilient infrastructure, Transportation and connectivity

Environmental Protection and Planetary sustainability: Urgent action on climate change, Conservation and sustainable use of the ocean and its resources, Restore biodiversity, Mainstream Disaster Risk Reduction

How Do SIDS Get There?

Access to finance, Scaling-up climate finance, Strengthening data collection, Science, technology, innovation and digitalization, Productive populations & Partnerships
UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework [2023-2027] - Samoa

Key issues
1: Planet
2: People
3. Prosperity
4. Peace
2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent & Implementation Plan

Figure 1: 2050 IP and Regional and National Level Linkage

Figure 4: Means of Implementation Tools
Means of implementation:

Finance, Technology, Trade,
Capacity building and systemic issues
Finance
Addis Ababa Action Agenda [2015]

Key issues

I1c: International development cooperation

56. South-South cooperation should be seen as an expression of solidarity among peoples and countries of the South

E: Debt and debt sustainability

94. We will support the maintenance of debt sustainability in those countries that have received debt relief and achieved sustainable debt levels.

F. Addressing systemic issues

105. Pursuing sound macroeconomic policies that contribute to global stability, equitable and sustainable growth and sustainable development...economic institutions

G. Science, technology, innovation and capacity-building

114. the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms
115. establishment of multistakeholder partnerships ... small island developing States
**Technology UN Secretary-General’s Roadmap for Digital Cooperation [2020]**

**Key issues**

1. Global **connectivity**: safe and affordable access to the Internet
2. Digital **public goods**: help attain the SDGs
3. Digital **inclusion**: close these gaps through better metrics, data collection, and coordination of initiatives
4. Digital **capacity building**: must be more needs-driven and tailored to individual and national circumstances, and better coordinated globally
5. Digital **human rights**: Data protection, digital ID, the use of surveillance technologies
6. **Artificial intelligence**: build global capacity for the development and use of AI
7. Digital **trust and security**: help to shape a shared vision for digital cooperation based on global values
8. Global digital **cooperation**: more responsive and relevant to current digital issues
Trade
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development [2015-2030]

Key issues

17.10 Promote a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system

17.11 Significantly increase the exports of developing countries

17.12 Realize timely implementation of duty-free and quota-free market access on a lasting basis for all least developed countries
Capacity building and systemic issues

Key issues

Capacity building

17.9: Enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all the sustainable development goals, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.

Systemic issues

- Policy (and institutional) coherence: 14 March 2024 – Pacific Dialogue
- Multi-stakeholder partnerships
- Data, monitoring and accountability: 11-13 March 2024-SIDS technical workshop

17.19. By 2030, build on existing initiatives to develop measurements of progress on sustainable development that complement gross domestic product, and support statistical capacity-building in developing countries.
Solidarity

A new global deal to deliver global public goods and address major risks

Source: UN SG Report 2021 (link)
Part 2: Five SDGs for 2024 HLPF: Pacific progress assessment and policy accelerations
### SDG Progress 2024 in Asia-Pacific

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**The Pacific - Snapshot**

Click on the bars to discover the progress of each indicator.

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**Link** to Report
Goal 1: Pacific priorities

Increase job opportunities, social protection systems and basic public services

Progress assessment:
Extreme and absolute poverty by international standards is relatively low in the Pacific, an estimated one in four Pacific islanders are likely to be living below their respective national poverty Line

Policy accelerations: Governments need to focus on a number of issues
• improving quality education;
• increasing minimum wages;
• improving health services;
• investing in social protection systems and affordable housing;
• scaling up access to sustainable transport; and
• investing in climate adaptation.
Goal 2: Pacific priorities

Improve agricultural development and technological support for a resilient supply chain

Progress assessment:
Food insecurity and lack of nutrition requires attention

Policy accelerations: Governments need to focus on a number of issues
- to incentivize farmers to increase the efficiency and profitability of local food production;
- the provision of seeds and advice on climate-resilient crops;
- the provision of support for hydroponic gardens in household and schoolyard gardens; and
- efforts aimed at raising consumer awareness of healthy food.
Support ambitious climate action to keep the 1.5ºC goal alive

**Progress assessment:**
Climate change remains an existential threat in the Pacific

**Policy accelerations:** Governments need to focus on a number of issues
- Accessing development finance and leveraging technologies is critical to accelerate decarbonization and adopt just transition frameworks through technical studies and capacity-building support.

- Port Vila Call for a Just Transition to a Fossil Fuel-Free Pacific
- Third Asian and Pacific Energy Forum
Goal 16: Pacific priorities

Strengthen good governance, accountability and collaborative leadership and engagement

Progress assessment:
Peace is central to the implementation of the Goals, and climate change was identified at the forum as a security issue.

Policy accelerations: Governments need to focus on a number of issues
• to strengthen institutional capacity and improve monitoring and evaluation to deliver the Goals
• To promote national consultations on budget preparations, public service delivery mechanisms and society-wide policy decisions within national institutional and governance structures.

• All stakeholders urged that collaborative leadership be promoted
• Fostering good governance requires political will and civil society engagement
• The importance of strong and accountable leadership was recognized
Goal 17: Pacific priorities

Build effective and sustainable partnerships for advancing regional sustainable development opportunities

Progress assessment:
Partnerships and Investment in a number of transition areas, including food systems; energy access and affordability; digital connectivity; education; jobs and social protection; and climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution.

Policy accelerations: Governments need to focus on a number of issues
• to reform of the international financing architecture
• to strengthen regional partnerships and solidarity for transformational change around the means of implementation
Way forward

National context and championing stories
National, regional and global: SDGs follow-up processes

1. **High-level Political Forum**, 8-17 July 2024, New York
   - The HLPF is the central UN platform for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for at the global level. It is the apex of the architecture for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda (UNGA resolution 70/299).

2. **Asia-Pacific SDG Forum**, 20-23 February 2024, Bangkok
   - Annual, inclusive intergovernmental forum to support follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the regional level.

   - Annual Pacific regional flagship platform, provides an important opportunity to facilitate the exchange of ideas, share experiences, identify policy actions for SDG implementation in the Pacific.
Key considerations

Go beyond standard framework of analysis in this new normal.

Identify the implications of Climate change, COVID-19 and Polycrisis, and explore new ways of formulating and articulating national policies to advance SDGs...Solidarity

Strengthen linkages across global and regional development frameworks, including SAMOA Pathway/SIDS4- successor SIDS global Programme of Action in 2024), UN Pacific Strategy and 2050 Strategy/Implementation Plan around SDGs

Integrate Finance, Technology, Trade, Capacity building and Systemic issues across SDGs within national context
Thank you!

Fa’afetia

Tankiu tumas

Ko bati n rabwa

Mālō’āupito

Fakafetia

Fakaaue lahi

Kommool

Vinaka

Tenk yu tru

Tubwa kor
Pacific Perspectives 2023: Advocating the aspirations of Small Island Developing States

Pacific Perspectives is a publication of ESCAP’s Subregional Office for the Pacific that every year focuses on issues of particular importance to PsIDS. Last year’s issue of the publication dealt with climate action. This year, it deals with the discussions around the SAMOA Pathway and what will follow for SIDS (and PsIDS in particular) in the next iteration. It discusses the opportunities and challenges for PsIDS, and potential scenarios for development focusing on three major themes: inclusive and equitable economic and social development; resilience to climate change and other crises; and partnerships for development.
DRAFT PAPER
Subregional Office for the Pacific

PROMOTING SIDS PRIORITIES
A selection of ESCAP Expert
Qianwen Wang, 2018-2022

POLICY BRIEF
Review of the Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway in the Pacific Region:
Economic growth, social development and Partnerships

POLICY BRIEF
Review of the Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway in the Pacific Region:
Climate change, biodiversity and Oceans

Annex 4: Partnerships for Building Knowledge
THANK YOU!

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