

CONCEPT NOTE

Solomon Islands and Maldives Collaborative Side Event for 7th Asia Pacific Population Conference, 16th November 2023, Bangkok, Thailand

Title

Solomon Islands and Maldives at the crossroads to achieving sustainable socioeconomic development as Small Islands Developing States (SIDS)

Themes

The event will focus on the following themes:

1. Poverty eradication and employment
2. Population and Sustainable development
3. Adolescents and Young People

Purpose

Utilizing the 7APPC platform and space, the Solomon Islands and Maldives seek an additional voice at the conference mainly to share both countries' progress in the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration towards a successful 30th anniversary review of the ICPD Programme of Action (ICPD+30) in 2024.

Solomon Islands and Maldives participation is also an opportunity to pitch both countries' unique challenges and issues as Small Islands Developing States and how to address remaining issues in the face of emerging challenges.

Further on, to use the opportunity to advocate for further enhancement, strengthening, and harnessing of regional efforts through the identification of new innovations with renewed and increased support towards addressing remaining population and development issues and in the face of emerging challenges experienced by Small Islands State countries in the Asia Pacific Region.

Background

The Solomon Islands and Maldives have submitted proposals for organizing side events at the 7APPC subsequent to the UN ESCAP's request for proposals from Asia and the Pacific. Upon review of all submissions in line with the UNESCAP criteria for holding side events, UNESCAP found a significant thematic overlap between both countries' proposals and requested both countries to integrate into the side event.

The Solomon Islands and Maldives have reached a consensus on the UN ESCAP proposal for collaboration after making considerations of similarities in their population dynamics and, more specifically, as Small Islands Developing States.

Both countries share the common perspective that both countries have reached the crossroad in the APPC journey over the past 60 years, the 30 years in the implementation of the ICPD Program of Action and 10 years of implementation of the Asia Pacific Ministerial Declaration. Both agree that the road ahead can only be realized through mapping current progresses, lessons learned and the opportunities

that have emerged to navigate into the future in the drive to address remaining issues in the face of emerging challenges.

Objectives

1. Share common perspectives, interests, and solidarity on the road to achieving socio-economic development for our population.
2. Share both countries' perspectives and priorities, good practices and lessons learned, and emerging trends
3. Share country stories to inform ICPD+30 Review

Meeting Modality

- In-person only