

CONTRIBUTING TO SIDS DEVELOPMENT

Linking ACP MEAs 3 Programme
with SAMOA Pathway

SAMOA Pathway and the ACP MEAs Programme

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1. INTRODUCTION

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) occupy a special place in this Planet with unique landscape, ecology and culture. They possess unique natural resources in terrestrial areas and in the deep sea. Among these are minerals, unique biodiversity including potential bioresources for pharmaceutical products, hydrocarbons, renewable energy resources and fish stocks. They also have unique indigenous knowledge that can help them to develop sustainably and manage their natural environment productively and equitably.

With bountiful supplies of renewable energy sources such as biomass, wind, sun, ocean, wave, and hydro and geothermal, accelerated deployment of renewable energy, SIDS provide a range of options for development as well as vulnerabilities due to anthropogenic pressures such as climate change, sea-level rise, biodiversity loss, pollution and economic dependencies.

In order to address the special needs of SIDS, a number of initiatives have been devised, adopted and implemented. One such initiative is the Small Island Developing States accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway (SAMOA Pathway) that was adopted in 2014.

This note provides elaborations about the evolution of the SAMOA Pathway, its priorities, implementation issues, besides suggesting a select number of interventions in support of sustainable development of SIDS until 2024 when SIDS are expected to assess the status of implementing the priorities addressed under the SAMOA Pathway (SAMOA Pathway+10).

All of these are provided to strengthen the implementation and impact of the ongoing multi-country, multi-year programme of work under the European Union funded Africa, Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP) multilateral environmental agreements (MEAs) (ACP MEAs) programme, that is under implementation since 2009 and currently is in its third phase (ACP MEAs 3).

2. FOCUS ON SIDS DEVELOPMENT

The SAMOA pathway was adopted during the third Summit of the United Nations Small Islands Developing States in 2014¹. The Samoa Pathway framework sets out the sustainable development priorities of small island developing States that builds on the Barbados Program of Action (BPOA) or the United Nations Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (1994)² and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (2005)³.

During the Rio Earth Summit in 1992, states committed themselves to address the problems of sustainable development of SIDS⁴. In 1994, the first SIDS summit was held in Barbados, following up on the Rio Earth Summit. In 1999, there was a review of the implementation of the Barbados programme of action, followed by the adoption of the Mauritius strategy for the further implementation of the programme of action for the SIDS in 2005. The Mauritius Strategy was further reviewed in 2010 where it was noted that SIDS were not on track to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) due to the specific challenges facing SIDS.

¹ https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/69/15&Lang=E

² https://www.un.org/esa/dsd/dsd_aofw_sids/sids_pdfs/BPOA.pdf

³ https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/61/277&Lang=E

⁴ [https://undocs.org/en/A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1\(vol.I\)](https://undocs.org/en/A/CONF.151/26/Rev.1(vol.I))

In 2012, The United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) highlighted that SIDS are a special case for sustainable development needing special attention due to their unique nature and vulnerabilities, that include their small size, remoteness, narrow resources, and exposure to global environmental and economic challenges such as climate change, frequent and intense natural disasters⁵.

The third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was held in Apia, Samoa in September 2014 which adopted the Samoa Pathway, a 10-year programme of action with a goal on sustainable development and poverty eradication, articulating the aspirations and priorities for period 2015 – 2025 for SIDS. The third SIDS summit in 2014 resulted in 300 multi-stakeholder partnerships in support of SIDS and it established an intergovernmental SIDS Partnership Framework, to monitor progress of existing partnerships and stimulate new durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS⁶. The framework entails the utilization of SIDS partnership framework to monitor and ensure the implementation of environment-related pledges and commitments through partnerships for SIDS.

In September 2019, the 74th session of the United Nations General Assembly reviewed progress made in addressing the priorities of the SIDS through the SAMOA pathway implementation⁷. During this high-level meeting on monitoring the implementation of Samoa Pathway, UN DESA undertook a capacity development project to support the work of the SIDS Partnership Framework and to prepare for the SAMOA Pathway mid-term review. The project aimed at assessing the status of partnerships for SIDS countries, identifying best practices and gaps so as to foster partnerships for the implementation of SAMOA Pathway; to raise the capacity of diverse stakeholders to develop durable partnerships for SIDS and to strengthen the review and monitoring process of SIDS partnerships.

3. THE SAMOA PATHWAY

The Samoa Pathway highlights key issues faced by SIDS as follows:

- **Degradation and Scarcity of Freshwater Resources**
SIDS experience increasing shortages of freshwater as a result of multiple pressures and climate change impacts on their vulnerable freshwater resources.
- **Limited Resources and Land Capacity**
Most SIDS have limited land resources, which are under increasing demand and intense pressures from multiple and competing uses as well as from climate change and extreme events. These cumulative pressures are leading to the land carrying capacity being exceeded.
- **Loss of Biodiversity and Associated Ecosystem Services**
The accelerating loss of ecosystems and biodiversity in SIDS can be attributed to growing human pressures on land coupled with sea level rise and associated impacts, which are pressure on the coast lines/ coastal shores. Many SIDS are already experiencing widespread degradation of coastal ecosystems and approaching the limit of their carrying capacity to provide goods and services.

⁵ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/futurewewant.html>

⁶ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sids/partnerships2018>

⁷ <https://undocs.org/en/A/74/381/Add.2>

- **Inhibited Renewable Energy Opportunities**
SIDS are well endowed with renewable energy potential but face a number of barriers to renewable energy development which include, lack of availability of appropriate technologies and limited finances.
- **High Costs and the Adverse Effects of Climate Change and Natural Disasters**
Climate change and sea level rise have a greater impact on the environment and socio-economic development in SIDS. Climate change and sea level rise impacts are expected to persist longer, even if greenhouse gas emissions are stabilized.
- **Threatened Food and Livelihood Security**
The breakdown of traditional agroecosystems and loss of biodiversity and ecosystem functions from a combination of natural and man-made pressures is one of the most rapidly emerging threats to food and livelihood security in SIDS.
- **Ocean Pollution**
Dumping of chemicals and toxic items as well as plastic pollution in the Ocean/ seas has adverse environmental implications for the marine and coastal ecosystems of SIDS. These affect not just the livelihoods of people but also their health and nutritional securities.
- **Water and Sanitation**
SIDS face numerous challenges with respect to freshwater resources. This includes pollution, the overexploitation of surface, ground and coastal waters, saline intrusion, drought and water scarcity, soil erosion, inadequate water and wastewater treatment and the lack of access to sanitation and hygiene services.
- **Remoteness of the Small Islands and Small-Scale Economies**
Several SIDS have challenges arising from the remoteness of the small islands, while SIDS with their small scale economies are particular vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change which results to disasters, loss of life and infrastructure which also causes adverse effects on the social, economic, let alone the environmental aspects.
- **High debt levels**
The adverse impacts of climate change in SIDS have placed additional burdens on their national budgets and have resulted in increasing economic hardships.
- **Limited Funding**
Lack of access to sufficient, affordable development financing, including concessional financing are a major challenge for several SIDS.

3.1 OPPORTUNITIES FOR SIDS

The SAMOA Pathway identifies a number of opportunities for SIDS, including:

1. Options for better natural resources management for sustainable development
2. Enhancing conservation
3. Better managing threats from chemicals and wastes

4. Strategic partnerships
5. Strengthening resilience
6. Strengthening knowledge, innovation, science and technology.

4. THE ACP MEAs 3 PROGRAMME



Photo by Ramadian Bachtiar / CIFOR

The ACP MEAs (African, Caribbean and the Pacific Multilateral Environmental Agreements) programme is an EC-UNEP partnership programme that is being implemented since March 2009, aiming to address challenging environmental governance issues through implementation of MEAs in the ACP regions.

The third phase of the programme (ACP MEA 3) (2020-2024) focuses on assisting ACP-countries to enforce, comply and strengthen implementation of MEAs related to biodiversity, chemicals and wastes, strengthening ocean/seas governance challenges and supporting mainstreaming agriculture and biodiversity as well as dealing with reducing impacts of chemicals and pollution in agriculture.

This multi-country, multi-year programme is being coordinated by UNEP through implementing partners such as the African Union Commission (Africa), CARICOM Secretariat (Caribbean) and SPREP (the Pacific) as regional hubs as well as a number of MEAs belonging to biodiversity and chemicals. Activities related to ocean governance and marine issues are implemented through four regional seas programmes,

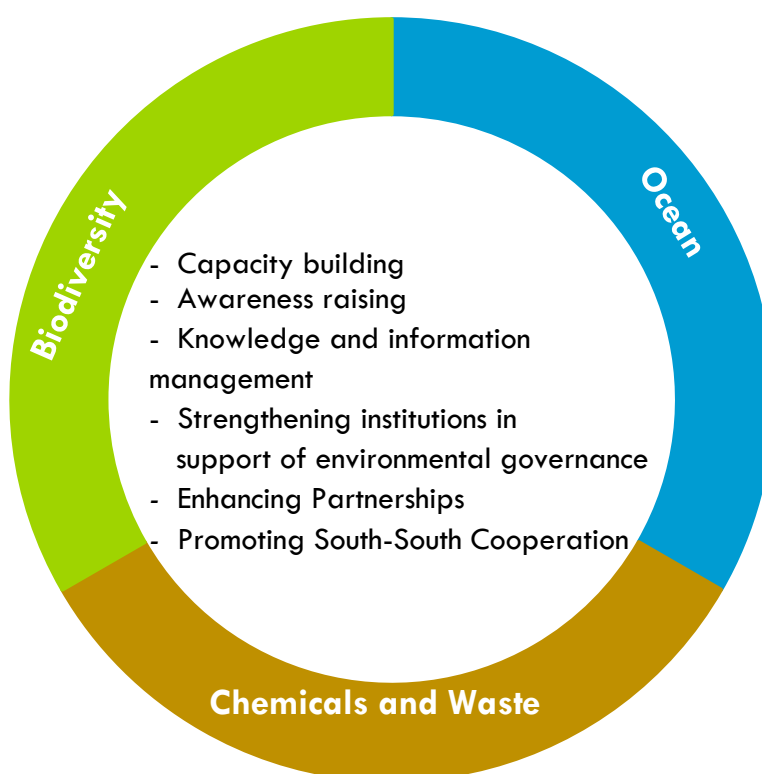
namely, Cartagena Convention, Nairobi Convention, Abidjan Convention and Noumea Convention. The Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) implements activities related to agriculture.

The ACP Group of States (ACP) is composed of African, Caribbean and Pacific states. There are 48 countries from Africa, 15 from the Pacific and 16 from the Caribbean. Thirty-nine of these countries belong to SIDS (List provided in the Annex).

4.1 LINKING ACP MEAs 3 PROGRAMME WITH SAMOA PATHWAY

Linking ACP MEAs 3 Programme and SAMOA Pathway

ACP MEAs objectives on biodiversity and management of threats from chemicals and waste as well as ocean governance are crosscutting to the SAMOA pathway priorities, namely managing threats from chemicals and waste; natural resources management for sustainable development; partnerships; resilience building; knowledge, innovation, science and technology.



The following matrix exemplifies some actions identified under the ACP MEAs 3 Programme in support of realizing the SAMOA Pathway.

Table: ACP MEAS 3 programme and its contributions to SAMOA Pathway⁸

Key Issues	Elements from SAMOA Pathway	ACP MEA 3 Activities and Contributions	Examples of Actions
Conservation	Accelerating biodiversity conservation and securing ecosystems	<p>Support to finalizing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework and its implementation; supporting synergies among relevant MEAs.</p> <p>Participate and provide support for UNDESA's SIDS Biodiversity Coalition – Global Launch Concept during the World Ocean Day ⁹</p>	Support to building capacity of negotiators and preparation of agenda/policy briefs in support of finalizing the post 2020 global biodiversity framework; support to seeking regional priorities while making decisions during CBD COP 15; development of regional and national implementation plans for post 2020 global biodiversity framework; strengthening institutional and individual capacities of all relevant stakeholders, including women and youth, in implementing the framework and enhancing partnerships with institutions and agencies in support of accelerating conservation action.

⁸ Sources of information

- ACP MEAs Programme Log frame
- <https://caricom.org/projects/>
- <https://www.sprep.org/>
- <https://futurium.ec.europa.eu/en/connect-university/post/connect-university-summer-school-2021-digital-our-planet>
- <http://www.sustainablesids.org/kb/samoa-pathway-priority>
- <https://undocs.org/en/A/74/381/Add.2>

⁹ Annex 1: UNDESA - Draft Concept Note on SIDS Biodiversity Coalition

	Implementation of initiatives on frameworks for sustainable consumption and production patterns, blue economy and ocean-based green economy.	Implementation of relevant MEAs, Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans and Agreements and the law of the sea (UNCLOS).	Development of regionally representative networks of marine protected areas; Strengthen governance frameworks for Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans; Support to development and implementation of Blue Economy frameworks that considers interests of all relevant groups, especially the local communities.
	Engaging in Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans for better management of coasts and oceans, including adhering Protocols.	Assisting ACP-countries to enforce, comply strengthen and implement MEAs, Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans on ocean/seas governance.	Providing tools, guidance and capacities for ACP member states in optimizing the implementation of global MEAs and regional environmental frameworks.
Partnerships	Strengthen cooperation at the sub-national, national, sub-regional, regional and international levels as focus also remains on countries' national actions.	Support to South-South and triangular cooperation; strengthening partnerships at regional, national and local levels.	Support to inter-regional dialogues on priority setting between and within ACP countries; Support to regional entities and multilateral agencies in prioritizing action for SIDS such as supporting a Ministerial Declaration for SIDS and biodiversity through the OACPS secretariat and others. Supporting establishment of Centers of Excellence in the region to deal with issues of technology transfer, cooperation and knowledge management, sharing.
	SIDS partnerships under development, based on the principles of sustainable development priorities, national ownership, mutual trust, alignment, harmonization, results orientation, transparency, accountability and legislation.	The ACP MEA programme to engage in building national capacity for informed policymaking in the area of sustainable development and on environmental aspects related to the accession, ratification and implementation of multilateral environmental agreements, including Protocols under the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans.	

Managing Threats from Chemicals and Waste	Development of long-term policies and strategies on reducing the use of chemicals and plastics such as plastic bags and single-used plastics.		Support to AU / UNEP campaign on banning plastic in Africa (Basel Convention, Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions) to promote best practices. Support the efficient implementation of the marine litter Protocols in Nairobi and Abidjan Conventions.
	Centre of Excellence Training Initiatives to enhance knowledge transfer on waste treatment technologies, ban of plastic and Styrofoam with the aim of enhancing SDGs on good health and wellbeing, climate action, life below water and life on land.	Support to the managing chemicals, waste and reducing pollution through national and local interventions to implement MEAs such as BRS conventions, Minamata convention, Bamako convention and others.	Technical support for coordination of network of practitioners to promote regional best practices in the management of plastic waste and cooperation among relevant actors for the marine litter plastics and microplastic, chemicals and related issues. In addition, support activities related to nutrients reduction, pollution reduction and wastewater strategies and action plans, improving discharge regulations and implementing community-based activities to reduce pollution from plastics and domestic wastewater including use of nature-based solutions and waste as a resource.
	Support to regenerative use of materials (transforming waste to wealth), which would offer significant opportunities to boost economic growth, job creation, and innovation. It aims at creating economic value by 2030 by encouraging corporate leaders to recycle so as eliminate waste.	Development of framework for the conservation and sustainable management of African marine ecosystems to combat maritime pollution	Reduction in the influx of waste entering the marine environment; Documenting best practices and lessons learnt in marine litter management.
		Carry out educational and awareness campaigns, to encourage increased involvement of CSOs and the private sector on waste management.	Leading the regional coordination and delivery of waste management and pollution control action and uses the strategic management framework, Cleaner Pacific 2025, in guiding regional cooperation and collaboration; Assisting SIDS to build capacity to implement waste, chemicals, and pollutants programmes, and also focuses on in-country human resource support, technical cooperation, as a longer-term self-sufficiency approach.

Resilience Building	SIDS possess unique indigenous knowledge and traditional technologies that helps them to manage their natural environment. They aim at incorporating their technologies into the educational syllabus at national levels.	Create opportunities for capacity building of SIDS on appropriate use of traditional knowledge, practices; documenting the lessons and challenges, scaling up actions	Development of guidance for SIDS on issues of conservation and development, including through establishment of regional networks of actions.
	Social inclusion activities targeting to strengthen the youth, marginalized groups and focusing on gender perspectives, to change vulnerable groups to empowered communities.	Strengthen the engagement and participation by youth and women in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.	Creating of women and youth centric action clusters for enhancing participation and decision making, including at global levels.
Knowledge, Innovation, Science and Technology	Establish platforms, networks and opportunities for SIDS.	ACP-MEA programme to develop a Knowledge Management Platform for sharing knowledge and enhance learning with ACP MEAs programme partners and SIDS within the ACP MEAs region.	Technical assistance for the creation and maintenance of an MEAs Knowledge Sharing Platform; Support for establishing regional center of excellence under the CBD for technology transfer, cooperation and knowledge management.

5. SETTING THE TARGETS FOR SAMOA + 10 (2024)



Photo by Peter Prokosch

Given that the implementation of the ACP MEAs programme is expected to continue until 2024, when the SAMOA Pathway will complete ten years of actions on the ground, this section of the document focuses on how the ACP MEAs 3 programme will be preparing itself to support not only commemorating the 10th anniversary but also beyond, considering the linkages with MEA processes and the SDGs.

This section therefore focuses on key recommendations/outcomes of the review of SAMOA Pathway (2019) and preparing the SIDS, covered under the ACP MEAs 3 programme, for the SAMOA Pathway +10 in 2024.

In line with this, the following proposals are being made under the ACP MEAs 3 programme for the period 2021-2024.

5.1 NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Supporting SIDS to Achieve SDGs

The ACP MEAs can form linkages between the SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by advancing the implementation of priority areas of the for SIDS. In doing so, the Programme will consider the outcomes of the 2019 review of SAMOA Pathway and align the priorities and actions related to issues of achieving SDGs through effective implementation of MEAs, ocean governance and strengthening environmental governance.

Ocean Governance

Following the *UN Ocean Conference (2017)* that adopted “*Our ocean, our future: call for action*”¹⁰, there is need to call on states, the United Nations entities, bilateral, multilateral, international finance institutions, private sector, civil society organizations and the academia to contribute or pledge their commitments towards achieving the SDGs 14.

The ACP MEAs 3 programme will review mechanisms for coordinated actions in consultation and partnership with relevant institutions and agencies, such as Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS), Organization of ACP States (OACPS) Secretariat, to realize the SDG 14 and the related cross-cutting issues.

The OACPS¹¹ call for responsible and effective management of 100% of the coastal and marine ecosystems and its biodiversity.

The resolution aims at achieving SDG 14 on Life Below Water, as well as to manage marine protected areas (MPAs). As a result, the ACP MEAs programme will continue to implement the multilateral environmental agreements globally with the aim of protecting at least 30% of the ocean by 2030 and responsible management of 100% of Ocean.

Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2022-2025

The Regional Seas Programme has developed a new strategic directions for the period 2022- 2025 which aims to enhance cooperation between UNEP and Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans (RSCAPs) including, the ACP participating Regional Seas Conventions, to more effectively mainstream oceans into policies and programmes, harmonize methodologies for tracking progress, and foster an

¹⁰ https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/71/312&Lang=E

¹¹ Ministerial Resolution on Biodiversity for the 15th Session of the UN Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15) by the OACPS Ministerial Segment (7-8 July 2021)

integrated response to combat the ecological, climate, pollution, and health crisis for achieving long-term health of the ocean, as well as the people who rely on the ocean for subsistence or otherwise.

The objective of the Regional Seas Strategic Directions 2022-2025 is to achieve a diverse, resilient and pollution-free ocean that supports equitable sustainable livelihoods. This includes climate stability, living in harmony with nature, ocean sustainability and operating within planetary boundaries. The implementation of the RSSD 2022-2025 will contribute to the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, specifically on Goal 14. Through the implementation of the RSSP 2022-2025, the Regional Seas Programme including, the ACP participating Regional Seas Conventions, would contribute to achieving the objectives of the MEA- ACP 3 project and the SAMOA Pathway priorities. And the ACP MEAs programme could support the ACP countries on issues of implementing the Regional Seas Strategy with focus on its three main objectives;

- 1) Secure diverse, resilient, and productive marine and coastal ecosystems.
- 2) Support assessment, information and knowledge management at all levels to strengthen science-policy dialogue on marine and coastal issues and their interactions.
- 3) Increase reach and mainstreaming of the Regional Seas Programme, including advocacy, political support and dialogue for furthering action.

Implementation of International Law as Reflected in United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

International law provides the strongest basis for cooperation, and its implementation is critical to the sustainable development of oceans and their resources. The law addresses marine pollution, overexploitation of marine living resources, coastal degradation, climate change and ocean acidification, and their impacts.

The ACP MEAs programme will support the ACP countries on issues of implementing the UN Convention on Law of the Seas (UNCLOS) with focus on strengthening ocean governance, including through contributions to the ongoing negotiations for a legally binding Treaty on Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ) and finding synergies with MEAs relevant to the issues such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). The work in support of Regional Seas Conventions are also critically important

To be involved in UNDESA and UNESCO's UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development 2021 – 2030¹² in supporting a science-policy framework aimed to ensure that ocean science can result to countries' ability to sustainably manage the ocean and coasts so as to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development ¹³. UNDESA and UNESCO's UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development will be key partners in implementing the RSSD as well.

¹² <https://www.un.org/en/conferences/ocean2022/about>

¹³ <https://www.oceandecade.org/news/152/The-UN-Decade-of-Ocean-Science-for-Sustainable-Development-2021-2030-Tropical-Americas-Safe-Ocean-Co-Design-Workshop->

5.2 CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF BIODIVERSITY

The OACPS resolution¹⁴ highlights the importance of SIDS biodiversity whereby people's cultural connections, wellbeing and SIDS economies are dependent to build resilience. As a result, the ACP MEAs plans to engage as follows:

Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF)

The ACP MEAs will support the Samoa pathway in contributions to conservation and development and the post-2020 GBF as follows;

- Linkages with existing national and regional frameworks on biodiversity conservation, including through mainstream biodiversity into other sectors;
- Effective support to ACP countries to finalize the global biodiversity framework that is currently being negotiated under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its implementation after adoption at CBD Conference of Parties meeting (CBD COP 15)
- Advocate for the post-2020 GBF focuses on safeguarding biodiversity throughout the COVID-19 recovery as well as to adopt a global agreement with legally binding targets, so that countries are accountable in preventing biodiversity loss.¹⁵
- Follow up and collaborate with UNDESA initiatives in "Requesting the Executive Secretary to develop a 10-year capacity development roadmap for SIDS to support the implementation of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework¹⁶Promoting social inclusion of indigenous peoples, governments, the private sector, women and youth amongst others in realizing the conservation and development goals, including SDG 15, and
- Linking with issues of realizing the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, working in close cooperation with member states, the UN and other stakeholders.

5.3 MANAGING THREATS FROM CHEMICALS AND WASTES

The ACP MEAs 3 programme will focus on integrated implementation of actions aimed to reduce the threats and eliminate the use of chemicals and wastes in both terrestrial and marine ecosystems by Initiatives as follows;

- Support promotion of actions to strengthen and develop Land-Based Sources and Activities (LBS) protocols, under the Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans. For example, the LBS Protocol, was adopted in 1999 and enforced in 2010, as one of three Protocols of the Cartagena Convention aimed at reducing the negative environmental and human health impacts of land-based pollution in the Wider Caribbean Region (WCR).

¹⁴ Ibid 11

¹⁵ <https://friendsoftheearth.eu/press-release/eu-member-states-endorse-comprehensive-new-plan-to-address-biodiversity-crisis/>

^e UNDESA - Draft Concept Note on SIDS Biodiversity Coalition

- Support to accelerate the actions of the Regional Action Plan on Marine Litter Management (RAPMaLi) to reduce marine litter in the coastal and marine regions.
- Developing joint-coordination mechanism to monitor the recycling programmes, in order to keep track and record effectiveness in minimizing waste.
- Supporting effective adoption and implementation of legal, regulatory frameworks and their adoption on issues of chemicals, pollution and waste.

Promoting Integrated Environmental Health

- Provide support for SIDS to effectively implement Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans, such as the Abidjan Convention, Nairobi Convention, Cartagena Convention, COBSEA Action Plan and Noumea Convention on management and governance of coasts and oceans.
- Utilizing the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal (1989)¹⁷ to enhance regional and technical cooperation between several states.
- Provide support for SIDS to become members of MEAs such as the Rotterdam Convention, Stockholm Convention and Minamata Convention on chemicals and waste management and to ratify and effectively implement legally binding regional seas Conventions, and other international initiative as appropriate e.g. the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management (SAICM).
- Develop long-term policies and strategies on reducing and eliminating marine litter and plastic pollution.

6. CONCLUSIONS

The 2019 Midterm Review of the SAMOA pathway created an opportunity to review, renew and further strengthen the international community's commitments to SIDS. One can propose that the SAMOA pathway, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, Agenda 2030, and the Paris Agreement are some of the key steps towards a right to development. Global cooperation coupled with advancing of the ACP MEAs during the SAMOA +10, is very key to supporting the SIDS to tackle their key challenges and for their sustainable development.

The ACP MEAs 3 programme will now work on developing appropriate linkages between the outcomes of 2019 Midterm review of SAMOA Pathway to use the ongoing implementation plans and develop an actions matrix to potentially contribute to SAMOA +10 in 2024.

¹⁷ <http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Overview/tabid/1271/Default.aspx>

ANNEX 1

A) List of Small Island Developing States (SIDS)¹⁸

<p><u>Africa</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cape Verde 2. Comoros 3. Guinea-Bissau 4. Madagascar 5. Mauritius 6. Seychelles 7. Sao Tome and Principe <p><u>Pacific</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cook Islands 2. Fiji 3. Kiribati 4. Marshall Islands 5. Micronesia 6. Nauru 7. Niue 8. Palau 9. Papua New Guinea 10. Samoa 11. Solomon Islands 12. Tonga 13. Tuvalu 14. Vanuatu 15. Timor Leste 	<p><u>Caribbean</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Antigua and Barbuda 2. Belize 3. Bahamas 4. Barbados 5. Cuba 6. Dominica 7. Dominican Republic 8. Grenada 9. Guyana 10. Haiti 11. Jamaica 12. St. Kitts and Nevis 13. St. Lucia 14. St. Vincent and the Grenadines 15. Suriname 16. Trinidad and Tobago
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¹⁸ <http://www.unesco.org/new/en/natural-sciences/priority-areas/sids/resources/sids-list/>

B) List of OACPS SIDS Covered under the ACP MEAs 3 Programme

<u>Caribbean</u>	<u>Pacific</u>	<u>Africa</u>
Antigua and Barbuda	Cook Islands	Cape Verde
Bahamas	Federated States of Micronesia	Comoros
Barbados	Fiji	Guinea-Bissau
Belize	Kiribati	Madagascar
Cuba	Marshall Islands	Mauritius
Dominica	Nauru	Sao Tome and Principe
Dominican Republic	Niue	Seychelles
Grenada	Palau	
Guyana	Papua New Guinea	
Haiti	Samoa	
Jamaica	Solomon Islands	
Saint Kitts and Nevis	Timor-Leste	
Saint Lucia	Tonga	
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Tuvalu	
Suriname	Vanuatu	
Trinidad and Tobago		

The logo for ACP MEAs 3, featuring the text 'ACP MEAs 3' in a stylized font. 'ACP' is in green, 'MEAs' is in blue, and '3' is in green.

ACP MEAs Programme

The ACP MEAs is a joint UNEP- EU-FAO-OACPS partnership programme. It aims to build the capacity of 79 countries in Africa, Caribbean, and the Pacific to fulfil their obligations to multilateral environmental agreements. Phase III (ACP MEAs 3) of this programme is being implemented in Africa by the African Union Commission (AUC), Abidjan Convention and Nairobi Convention, in the Caribbean by the Secretariat of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Cartagena Convention, in the Pacific by the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP). The European Environmental Bureau (EEB) is the civil society partner.