

Name of the Partnership/Initiative: "SIDS 2015 - Developing capacities to reduce vulnerability"

Expected date of initiation: January 2003
Expected date of completion: January 2015

Partners Involved:

SIDS governments, academic institutions, private sector, NGO's, multilateral organizations, IFI's, regional development banks, regional organizations, foundations, international NGO's. The leading partners will be SIDS governments supported by the UNDP-Capacity 2015 platform.

Main objectives of the Partnership / Initiative:

To build the capacities of SIDS to reduce and overcome their economic, social and environmental vulnerabilities and enhance their resilience to resist and recover from externally imposed economic, social and environmental shocks.

The partnership will address the special requirements of SIDS, recognized in Agenda 21 and subsequently defined in the Barbados Programme of Action, particularly through capacity development, in line with Agenda 21's Chapter 37.

The partnership will directly contribute to achieving several of the Millennium Development Goals, including eradication of extreme hunger and poverty, ensuring environmental sustainability, and developing a Global Partnership for Development.

Expected results:

Sustainable development strategies - integrating poverty alleviation, trade and investment strategies, measures to reduce vulnerability such as integrated resource management including sustainable marine resource management, emergency preparedness and implementation of MEA's - defined through inclusive participatory processes in all SIDS and in their communities.

Community-level project funds financing priority local sustainable development projects developed and implemented through broad stakeholder participation and contributing to the implementation of national and community sustainable development strategies.

Capacity building focused on key SIDS issues, including: capacity building for public and private sector leaders of SIDS; enhancing knowledge, especially regarding the science and technologies available to overcome the special constraints and capitalise on the opportunities arising from insularity and small size and especially building capacities for transport planning and management; enhancing knowledge on issues associated with economic, social and environmental vulnerability and greater interregional collaboration in education and research in areas of direct shared interest among SIDS.

Enhanced SIDS capacities to negotiate favourable trade arrangements that are effectively integrated within national and local sustainable development strategies and to develop and implement a common SIDS approach to WTO negotiations.

Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:

- Sustainable development strategies – integrating poverty alleviation, trade and investment strategies, integrated resource management, sustainable marine resource management, emergency preparedness and implementation of all relevant MEA's - defined in all SIDS by 2005, being implemented in 50% of SIDS and their communities by 2007 and in all SIDS and their communities by 2012.
- Participatory community-level sustainable development project funds to finance projects implementing national and local s.d. strategies functioning in 50% of SIDS by 2005 and in all SIDS by 2007.
- Integrated, sustainable resource management systems developed and functioning within national and local sd strategies in 50% of SIDS by 2007 and all SIDS by 2012.
- SIDS universities integrated through ICT and sharing new curricula jointly developed with support from this programme by 2006.
- A common SIDS approach to WTO negotiations being followed by 50% of SIDS by 2005 and by all SIDS by 2007.
- Common SIDS trade training curriculum being taught in 50% of SIDS by 2007 and in all SIDS by 2010.

Co-ordination and Implementation mechanism

On a global scale the partnership will be co-ordinated by the UNDP-Capacity 2015 platform and implemented regionally and nationally by national governments and regional organizations of SIDS in collaboration with private sector, academic, civil society and other international partners.

Functional partnerships and networks will be developed, linking SIDS and their communities with national, regional and international partners that can support local capacity development for sustainable development. The approach will ensure strong synergies are achieved among capacity development initiatives, particularly those related to multilateral environmental treaties, poverty reduction strategies and sustainable development strategies.

Arrangements for funding

The budget will come from bilateral and multilateral organizations and foundations at the global level and member governments and private sector partners for specific initiatives at regional, national and community levels.

Arrangements for capacity development and technology transfer

The programme will focus on developing a wide range of individual, institutional and societal capacities within individual SIDS, as well as the capacities of regional and SIDS-wide institutions such as the SIDSnet. Principles shared with the overall Capacity 2015 platform will include:

- Capacity development is an ongoing process of transformation owned by local and national actors who define their own needs and implementing their own solutions.
- Careful integration of urgent short-term poverty concerns and longer-term sustainability issues.
- Sound participatory processes in the design, implementation and monitoring of social, economic, and environmental policies and practices.
- A universal but flexible approach, with different emphases in response to varying sustainable development priorities among different communities, countries and regions.
- Work through partnerships and alliances, emphasizing networking for knowledge acquisition.
- Capacity development includes developing necessary enabling environments at all levels.
- Develop existing capacities instead of replacing them, respecting cultural identities and values.

Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)

The partnership will build on successes and lessons learned in implementation of the Barbados Plan of Action by SIDS since 1994, the Capacity 21 global programme of capacity development for sustainable development since 1993, the Small Grants Programme of the GEF, UNDESA, the Special Unit on TCDC and others.

Monitoring Arrangements:

The overall global partnership and participating states and communities will be expected to take part in designing and implementing a rigorous programme of participatory monitoring and evaluation, following methodologies jointly defined by Capacity 21 and UNDP-GEF, including regular scheduled case studies, surveys / interviews and monitoring of indicators. This will generate information on results and lessons learned that will be shared regularly with the global SIDS community via SIDSnet and other forums.

Other relevant information:

SIDSnet electronic network developed with the support of UNDP and UNDESA already in place.

Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:

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