

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### Implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the MSI of the BPOA for the Sustainable Development of SIDS

Please note that strict word limits have been established for each question. The Secretariat is unable to consider any information beyond these established word limits. In this regard, you are requested to report only on new or updated information. Information conveyed in previous surveys will not be considered. Previous surveys can be accessed at <https://sidsnetwork.org/> and <https://sdgs.un.org/topics/small-island-developing-states> under reports.

## PART A

### VULNERABILITY REDUCTION IN SIDS

#### 1. Enhanced Support for a Resilient Post-COVID-19 Recovery in SIDS

Vulnerability is one of the most crucial challenges faced by SIDS. Briefly elaborate on any ex-ante **interventions or proactive/preventive strategies** that have been or are being implemented at national and/or sub-regional levels that **aim specifically at reducing exposure to external shocks and improving resilience in SIDS**. Please include information on any financial resources expended in this regard, if available **(750 words)**.

The Government of Jamaica has engaged in a number of initiatives that aims to reduce vulnerabilities and improve resilience as a Small Island Developing State. For example,

**The NDC Implementation Plan** that was produced and launched in 2021 provides information on 16 energy and forestry sector commitments to achieve the targets outlined in the NDC. An investment strategy will be developed to complement the NDC implementation. Jamaica received support under NDC Partnership Climate Action Enhancement Package (CAEP) for activities to complement the NDC. Through a sector-wide consultative process, 11 sub-projects were finalized and all projects successfully completed in 2021. Following the completion of the outcomes from CAEP, there is expected to be advancements in:

- i. The development of Jamaica's Long-term Low Emissions and Climate Resilient Development Strategy (also known as the 2050 Pathway Strategy) and examination of a proposed institutional framework to implement the LTS;
- ii. An adaptation concept emanating out of the finalization of the National Research and Technological Development Agenda will be pursued through the CTCN facility;
- iii. Additional training and sensitization exercises are anticipated following the conclusion of the assessment of climate expenditure analysis and modelling to support the introduction of climate change budgeting;
- iv. The country will explore the potential of tangible participation in the carbon market through voluntary carbon market (VCM) or global trading of emission reduction units (ERUs).

Jamaica's updated NDC also provides adaptation co-benefits. An adaptation stocktake exercise was concluded with the support of the NAP Global Network and the International Institute for Sustainable Development. Over 150 adaptation initiatives were identified at the national and local levels. Gaps and barriers were also identified, as well as opportunities for adaptation planning in Jamaica.

Preparations for the development of **Jamaica's National Adaptation Plan (J-NAP)**. The J-NAP, which targets priority sectors, will develop a monitoring and evaluation system for adaptation; a private sector engagement strategy and a financing and investment strategy.

There is also the **Caribbean Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility (CCRIF)**, a regional multi-country risk pool utilising parametric insurance, giving member governments the unique opportunity to purchase earthquake, hurricane and excess rainfall catastrophe coverage with lowest-possible pricing. CCRIF was developed under the technical leadership of the World Bank and with a grant from the Government of Japan. It was capitalized through contributions to a Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) by governments across the globe. The MDTF currently channels funds from various donors, including: Canada, through Global Affairs Canada; the United States, through the Department of the Treasury; the European Union, through the European Commission, and Germany, through the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. In 2017, the Caribbean Development Bank, with resources provided by Mexico, approved a grant to CCRIF Specialized Portfolio Company to provide enhanced insurance coverage through CCRIF against tropical cyclone, earthquake and excess rainfall risks

As the world faced the mounting challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Jamaica implemented the **COVID Allocation of Resources for Employees (CARE) Programme**, a temporary cash transfer programme, which seeks to cushion the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on individuals and businesses. The CARE Programme was designed to be broad in scope, with benefits for a wide range of individuals and businesses who are likely to be affected, including the poor and vulnerable in our society, the unemployed, the informally employed and the elderly.

The Government of Jamaica has partnered with the private sector to develop **the E-commerce National Delivery Solutions (ENDS)**, an app enabling business continuity during the COVID 19 curfew hours. The ENDS allowed food-service companies, such as restaurants and supermarkets as well as pharmacies and delivery providers.

The National Water Commission (NWC) of Jamaica has commenced a project that will source water from the **Rio Cobre River and rehabilitated wells** to address the water issue faced by residents of the Metropolitan Area. The initiative aims to alleviate the water issue of the select urban area.

There are number of other initiatives/projects that are currently being developed. These include local and regional that relate to disaster assistance, biosafety, desertification, among others, which play an integral role in Jamaica's response to exogenous shocks and resilience building.

## **2. Enhanced and Tailored Development Cooperation for SIDS**

The COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the urgent need to ensure that responses to vulnerability must be at the heart of international policy aimed at supporting SIDS, and that better tailored development co-operation approaches, calibrated to the specific needs, capacity constraints, and economic challenges facing SIDS, are necessary. Briefly elaborate on any planned or ongoing strategies/approaches to improve and deliver on more tailored development support to SIDS. Please include indications of resource allocations, if available **(750 words)**

The following are examples of ongoing/planned Tailored Development Cooperation within the Caribbean region that addresses our particular characteristics and challenges to development as SIDS;

### **1. The UN Multi-country Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UN MSCDF, 2022-2026)**

The UN MSCDF for the English- and Dutch-speaking Caribbean is the foremost important instrument for planning and implementation of the UN development activities towards the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda. The MSCDF provided an opportunity to 'build back better', as the Caribbean and elsewhere in the world faced the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the existing structural vulnerabilities became more visible. To address such vulnerabilities the UN and the governments in the Caribbean region committed to contribute to significant structural changes in the economies and governance systems of the countries.

The framework addresses; Economic resilience and shared prosperity, Equality and well-being, Resilience to climate change and shocks, and sustainable natural resource management, and Peace, safety, justice, and the rule of law. The Vision is for the region to become more resilient, possess greater capacity to achieve all the SDGs, and become a place where people choose to live and can reach their full potential.

### **2. Promoting inclusive, green and resilient COVID-19 recovery in the Caribbean by CANARI**

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and its turbulent impacts, initiatives aimed at supporting the recovery uncovered to be an opportunity to rethink and reform the region's approach to development. The Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI) initiated the "Promoting inclusive, green and resilient COVID-19 recovery in the Caribbean" project in 2021 with support from the MAVA Foundation's Economics for Nature Programme through the Green Economy Coalition, the Open Society Foundations and the European Union (DCI/ENV/2020/417-985).

The project aims to develop a regional approach that it is more environmentally sustainable, inclusive and resilient to the impacts of climate change and other hazards. This includes independent, transparent and open dialogue processes on Caribbean COVID-19 recovery priorities, implementation approaches and partnerships. The CANARI will raise awareness and facilitate dialogue on public sector national and regional initiatives that are planned or in the pipeline, as well as examine to what extent these initiatives either support or hinder a shift to more inclusive, green and resilient development.

The CANARI has developed an analytical framework to assess COVID-19 recovery responses in the Caribbean. The analytical framework is focused around four main principles: (1) Transforming economic governance; (2) Supporting fairness, inclusion and justice in economic development; (3) Supporting environmental sustainability while recognising and managing trade-offs; and (4) Enabling a low-carbon transition and building resilience to address multiple risks. CANARI's analytical framework has been used to assess over 400 COVID-19 recovery responses across the Caribbean. The Institute continues to organize national and regional dialogues and fora to raise awareness of the findings of the research and to analyse recommendations for policy and action.

### **3. Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee – Repositioning Cooperation Mechanism**

During the twenty-eighth session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, held 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020, the committee adopted resolution 104(XXVIII), "Repositioning the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee - Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Sustainable Development (CDCC-RCM) as the Caribbean SIDS Mechanism for Sustainable Development". The revised CDCC-RCM proposes the expansion on the existing structure to embrace a new, integrated, synergised development agenda. This includes consideration for arrangements that

affords the participation across sub regional and intergovernmental organisations as well as agencies with in the UN system responsible for sustainable development.