

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)**.

WIPO input: (Reporting period 2021-2022)

In July 2021, WIPO launched a package of support measures to assist Member States in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic and build back better towards sustainable post-COVID economic recovery and future pandemic preparedness.

“WIPO’s COVID-19 Response Package¹” aims to help Member States, including SIDS, respond to the pandemic, as well as leverage Intellectual Property (IP) to support creativity, innovation and the entrepreneurship needed for job creation, investment, enterprise growth and socio-economic development.

The package is structured around five main areas: policy and legislative assistance; technical assistance and capacity building; innovation support and technology transfer; IP dispute resolution; and knowledge resources. The package will be tailored to meet the individual needs of Member States and activities will be delivered upon Member States’ requests. The activities under the package will therefore be adapted as the pandemic evolves, with a specific focus on supporting youth, local communities, women entrepreneurs, as well as small and medium sized enterprises.

Recently WIPO launched, on March 10, 2022, its latest patent landscape report on COVID-19 related vaccines and therapeutics. The report provides initial insights on the use and response of the patent system during the pandemic, while it also links patents

¹ WIPO COVID-19 response package. More information is available at <https://www.wipo.int/covid-19/en/>

to clinical trial data.

Given that the pandemic-related challenge ahead is complex and multi-faceted, and requires concerted action across agencies, the trilateral cooperation of WIPO with the WHO and WTO has been stepped up in global policy areas at the intersection of health, trade and IP. The WHO-WIPO-WTO COVID-19 Technical Assistance Platform² was established within the existing Trilateral cooperation framework in order to (i) provide a one-stop shop that will make available the full range of expertise of the three organizations; (ii) to support members seeking to address their needs for COVID-19 vaccines, medicines and related technologies; and (3) to facilitate and provide timely and tailored technical assistance, upon request, in making full use of all available options to access vaccines, medicines and technologies.

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**).

WIPO input: (Reporting period 2021-2022)

WIPO works with a number of its SIDS Member States in different regions to build capacity in the use of creativity and innovation for economic growth and development.

In the development area, the cooperation of WIPO with SIDS has been mainly focused on promoting the innovation eco-system, technological capacity building and access to scientific and technical information.

WIPO has continued to provide support to SIDS on developing National Intellectual Property Strategies (NIPS) to facilitate the effective creation, development, management and protection of IP at the national level, as well as to support the ecosystem for innovation. For instance, in 2021, it has provided technical assistance to Cabo Verde for the formulation of a national intellectual property policy and strategy. Currently, 17 SIDS have adopted and are in the process of implementing NIPS.

WIPO continued facilitating access to critical scientific and technological information resources through its programs on Access to Research and Development Information (ARDI) and Access to Specialized Patent Information (ASPI). The use of these resources is facilitated by the networks of Technology and Innovation Support Centres (TISCs) established in numerous countries around the world. By 2022, the number of

² WHO-WIPO-WTO COVID-19 Technical Assistance Platform. More information available at <https://www.who-wipo-wto-trilateral.org/>

SIDS that received access to ARDI has reached 24, whereas one SIDS Member State benefited from ASPI Programs. Currently, four SIDS have TISCs networks established by WIPO, whereas in four of them the process of establishing such centres is underway.

During the reporting period, WIPO has been undertaking various capacity-building and skills-development activities in SIDS on intellectual property, technology transfer and licensing³, the operation of Technology and Innovation Support Centres (TISCs), patent information search⁴, and IP commercialization⁵.

These also include specific project-based activities, such as the “Project on a Forum on Intellectual Property (IP), Innovation and Sustainable Development for Small Island Developing States (SIDS): A Look at Leveraging IP in the Blue Economy Sector”, which amongst others provides trainings for private sector actors on leveraging IP and innovation tools in the SIDS of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). In addition, WIPO continued implementing the “Project on the Strategic Use of IP by Producer Groups and Exporters of the Agro-business Sectors in Countries of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)”, such as Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

The needs of SIDS to access environmentally-sound technologies is recognised by the WIPO GREEN project - an interactive marketplace that promotes innovation and the diffusion of green technologies by connecting technology service providers with those seeking innovative solutions. WIPO is actively encouraging SIDS-based experts to register their services.

PART B

QUANTIFYING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAMOA PATHWAY: TRENDS ANALYSIS OF ISSUE AREAS

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 74/217, a monitoring and evaluation framework has been developed for the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. The framework is fully aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Sendai Framework, the Paris Agreement, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. The Framework is available at **Attachment A** to this questionnaire.

The objective of the Framework is to quantify the progress made in each of the SIDS regions on implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, in the lead up to the preparations for the 4th international conference on SIDS, scheduled for 2024.

Using the data available in the Global SDG Data Portal (<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/dataportal>) and, where appropriate, from the UN

³ WIPO advanced training course on intellectual property (IP), technology transfer and licensing for Caribbean countries, including Bahrain, Barbados, Jamaica, as well as Trinidad and Tobago.

⁴ Training on patent information search - specialized search: translation tools related to the Codiv-19 in 2021 for Antigua and Barbuda, Mauritius, and Trinidad and Tobago.

⁵ Virtual training course on technology transfer and IP commercialization for Latin America and the Caribbean countries, Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, comprising 3 main campuses of the University of West Indies - regional University for 14 Caribbean countries in 2020-2021.

regional commissions, Member States, custodian agencies and other relevant stakeholders are kindly requested to provide a Thematic Area by Thematic Area status update on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, following the monitoring and evaluation Framework referenced above (Attachment A).

PART C
ASSESSING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SAMOA PATHWAY: ASSESSMENT OF POLICY PROGRESS

The SAMOA Pathway contains a number of action areas that require policy formulation, programmes or projects to be implemented at national, subregional and/or regional levels. These have been identified as part of the monitoring Framework and are available at **Attachment B** to this questionnaire. By highlighting the changes in the national policies, their results and impact, the proposed analysis could further spotlight any progress in key priority areas of the SAMOA Pathway.

Using the framework referenced at Attachment B, Member States, relevant custodian agencies together with the Resident Coordinators/Offices in SIDS, are kindly requested to provide a brief status update for your country/region, under the overall coordination of the UN regional commissions, where appropriate.