

2014 Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States



The process for the SIDS Conference

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The Earth Summit

- The United Nations Conference for Environment and Development, also known as the “Earth Summit” or Rio Summit met in Rio in June 1992.
- Set a global agenda for environmental sustainability for the first time.
- The Earth Summit also was the first recognition of the ‘special case’ of SIDS.
 - Small size, geographic dispersion, isolation, narrow resource base, difficulty with economies of scale, etc.
 - This recognition also resulted in a UN resolution to have a International SIDS Conference in 1994.

The Earth Summit

- The Earth Summit also recognised the need for integrated information on the economy and the environment.
- Other major outcomes of the meeting:
 - The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development
 - Agenda 21
 - The Convention on Biological Diversity was opened for signatures at the Earth Summit
 - The Framework for the Convention on Climate change was opened for signatures at the Earth Summit

Who are the SIDS

- The SIDS includes 52 small island developing states from three regions: (1) the Caribbean; (2) the Pacific; and (3) Africa, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea (AIMS).
 - Almost all SIDS are members of the inter-governmental organization Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS). Nauru is the Chair of AOSIS.
- The Pacific SIDS (PSIDS) has formed a caucus organization for representing the Pacific small island developing States in New York (at the UN).

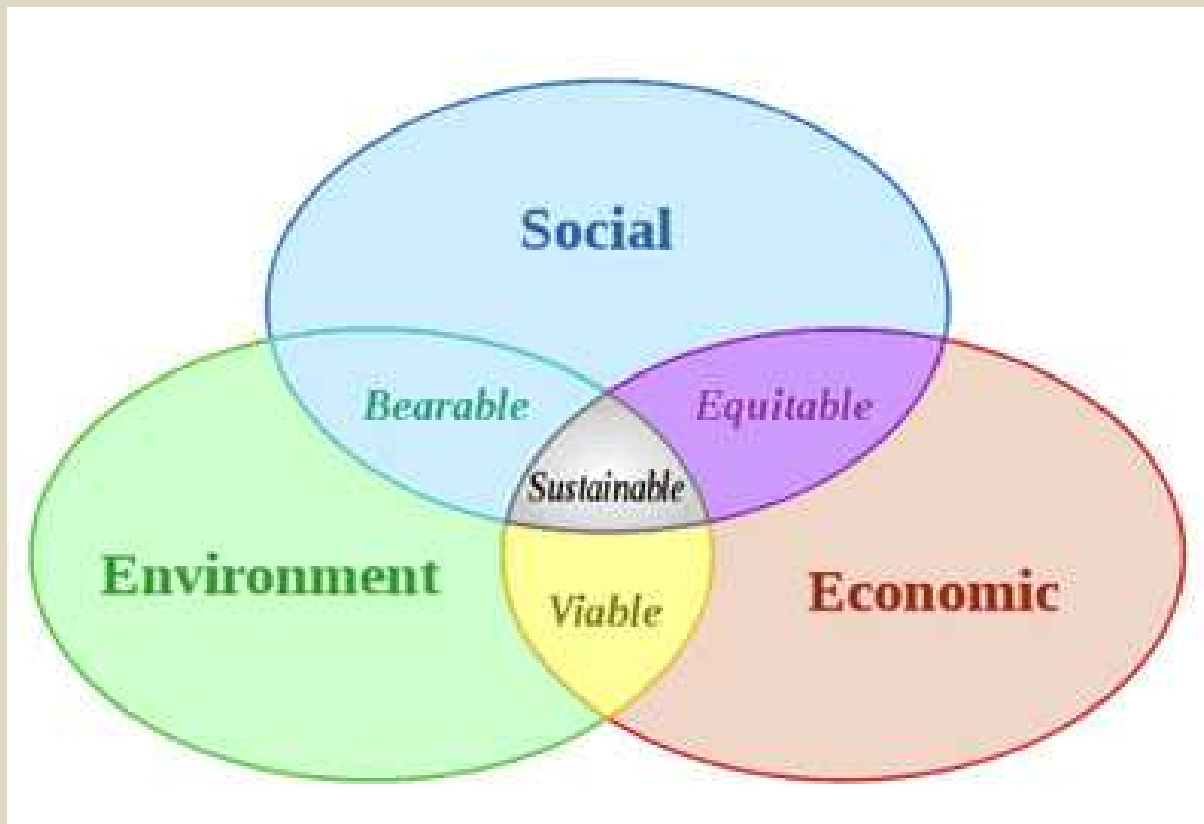
Pacific SIDS



- Size of region: roughly 180 million sq km
 - Land mass: 0.6 million sq km
- Population: 10.1 million
 - Most in PNG
 - Urbanized proportion: 21%
- GDP: 25 billion USD (2005 constant prices)
 - which makes up 0.05% of the global GDP

Three Pillars of Sustainable Development

- The concept of 3 pillars arose out of the Earth Summit.



Note: The above graphical representation of the three pillars was developed well after the Earth Summit in 2006 by an independent researcher.

Barbados Plan of Action

- The First International SIDS Conference in Barbados in 1994.
- The Conference adopted the Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of SIDS (BPOA)
- BPOA identified 5 cross-sectoral areas:
 - capacity building; institutional development at the national, regional and international levels; cooperation in the transfer of environmentally sound technologies; trade and economic diversification; and finance.
- BPOA identified 14 thematic areas.

Barbados Plan of Action – 14 areas

(1) Climate change and sea-level rise



(2) Natural and environmental disasters



(3) Management of wastes



Barbados Plan of Action – 14 areas

(4) Coastal and marine resources



(5) Freshwater resources



(6) Land resources



(7) Energy resources



Barbados Plan of Action – 14 areas

(8) Tourism resources and (9) Biodiversity resources



Barbados Plan of Action – 14 areas

- (10) National institutions and administrative capacity
- (11) Regional institutions and technical cooperation
- (12) Transport and communication
- (13) Science and technology
- (14) Human resource development

A few key events before Mauritius

- In 2000, the Millennium Declaration outlined global development goals (the MDGs).



- In 2002, the World Summit on Sustainable Development reinforced the commitments at the Earth Summit.

Mauritius Strategy of Implementation (MSI)

- The Second International SIDS Conference – 10 years after Barbados – occurred in Mauritius.
- Set actions and strategies in 19 priority areas, building on the original 14 thematic areas of BPOA.
- New additional thematic areas:
 - (1) graduation from least developed country status
 - (2) trade
 - (3) sustainable production and consumption
 - (4) health
 - (5) knowledge management
 - (6) culture

MSI+5

- MSI+5 identified a number of key issues related to implementation:
 - **Monitoring and evaluation**
 - Strategic partnerships
 - UN system support to SIDS
 - Results-oriented approach and improved measures to effectively address SIDS' vulnerabilities

Rio+20 (or UNCSD)



The 20-year review of the Earth Summit reaffirmed that SIDS remain a special case.

Recognised that climate change poses specific threats for SIDS.

Proposed the development of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the framework for the post-2015 development agenda.

The 2014 SIDS

The 67th session of the General Assembly, in paragraph 5, *decided* that the Conference should:

a) **assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps** in the implementation of the BPOA and the MSI building on, *inter alia*, existing reports and relevant processes;

b) **seek a renewed political commitment** by all countries to effectively address the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS by **focusing on practical and pragmatic actions** for the further implementation of the BPOA and MSI, *inter alia*, through mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States;

c) identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of SIDS and ways and means to address them including through the **strengthening of collaborative partnerships between small island developing States and the international community**;

d) **identify priorities for the sustainable development of SIDS** for consideration, as appropriate, in the elaboration of the **post-2015 UN development agenda**.

2012-2014 Road map to the International meeting

National Preparatory meetings April – May 2013

Pacific Regional
Preparatory meeting 10-
12 July 2013 Nadi, Fiji

AIMS Preparatory meeting
17-19 July 2013 Seychelles

Caribbean Regional
Preparatory meeting 2-4
July 2013 Jamaica

Inter-Regional Meeting of the Small Island Developing States
(SIDS) September 2013 Barbados

Preparatory Committee during the 68th UNGA session January 2014
New York

Third SIDS Conference August- September 2014 Apia, Samoa

National level consultations

- The purpose of the national consultation was to identify the key national priorities for sustainable development for taking forward to the international SIDS Conference and the regional and interregional preparatory meeting.
- Samoa's national consultation was completed in June 2012 and used the SDS as the foundation for the consultations.
- In addition to the sectoral goals Samoa recognised the importance of partnerships and means of implementation.

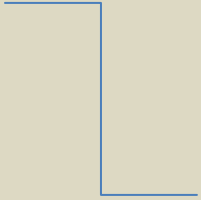
Pacific Preparatory meeting

- The Pacific preparatory meeting recognised the key sectors:
 - Climate change and disasters
 - Oceans
 - Social inclusiveness
 - Health
 - Sustainable land management
 - Energy
- Plus the meeting included strong recognition of the need for integrated data related that can provide a better picture of sustainable development.

“Data revolution” in the SIDS meeting

- The SIDS Conference provides an opportunity to
 - highlight the special case of SIDS.
 - demonstrate achievements of countries at an international forum
 - discuss issues of importance for the sustainable development of SIDS

- ... All these issues link to the importance of high quality, relevant statistics.



Thank you