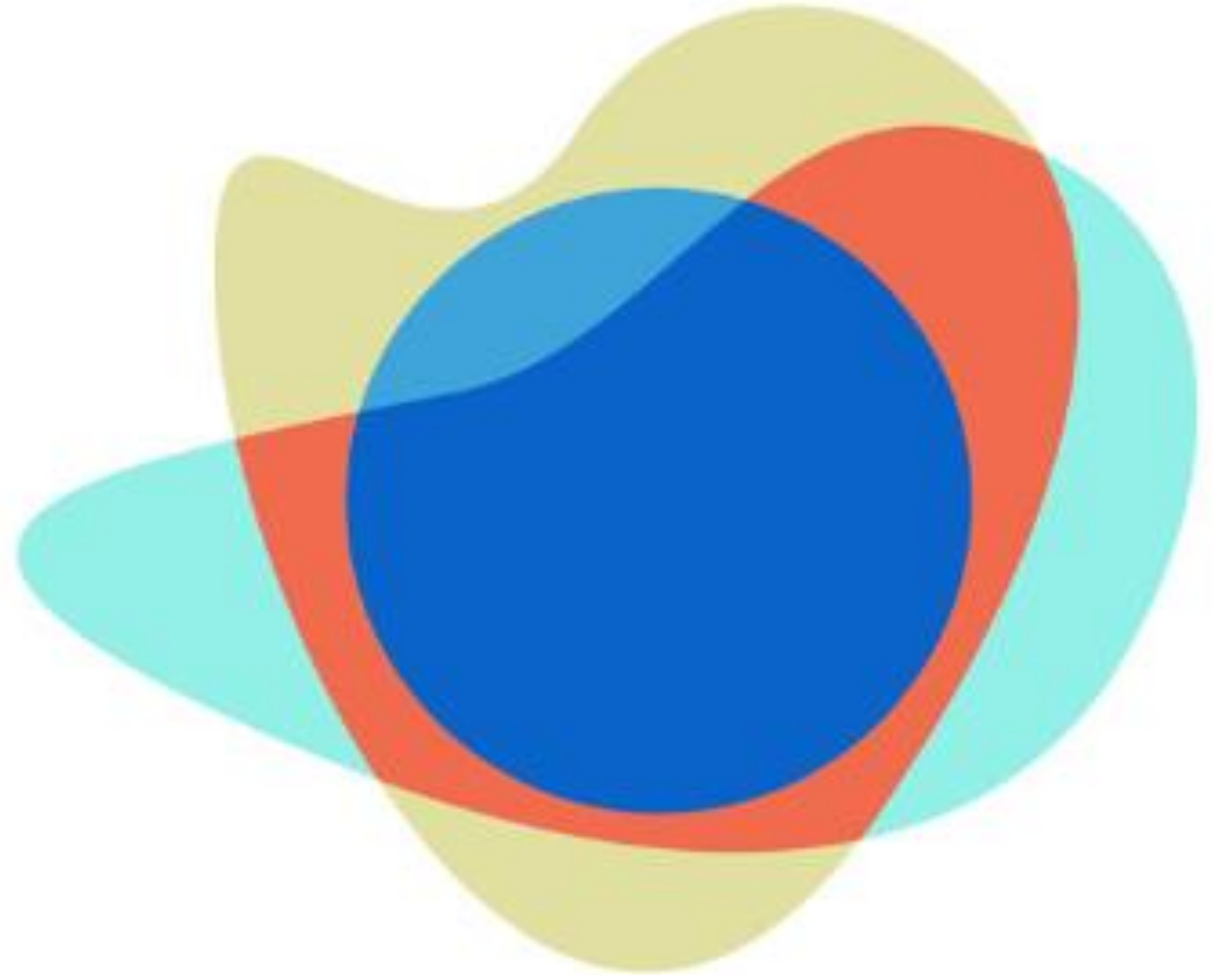


THE SIDS STORY

Anya Thomas

Economic Affairs Officer, UNDESA

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Presentation will address:

- The Data demands on SIDS: History Repeats itself
- Notable Latest International Developments for SIDS
- Strategic Considerations for the Caribbean



The International Agenda for SIDS

Barbados Programme of Action (1994-2004)

Mauritius International Strategy (2005- 2014)

Samoa Pathway (2014-2024)

Antigua & Barbuda Action Agenda for SIDS (2024 -2034)

Operating in the Background:

MDGs, SDGs and 6 transitions, Pact of the Future, Post 2030 Agenda



Key Data Demands on SIDS: History Repeats Itself

Sustainable Development Goals

“The assessment was affected by ongoing challenges pertaining to the availability and timeliness of data on the Goals. The variance in country data coverage plays out differently across the Goals, with significant data gaps in priority development areas, such as climate action (Goal 13) and peace, justice and strong institutions (Goal 16). with approximately one third of the indicators lacking data for the past three years.” SG Report on the SDGs 2024

Access to Climate Finance

“Lack of sectoral and costing data as well as project preparation capacity (e.g., feasibility assessments) have also hindered [SIDS] access to climate finance.

To take full advantage of these changes [in the GCF] SIDS will need to strengthen their capacity to ensure appropriate technical rigor in the project design and implementation phases.

SIDS face challenges with inter alia lack of adequate data, ability to develop appropriate project rationales that are distinct from general development challenges and to demonstrate bankability of their projects.



Key Data Demands on SIDS: What do assessments say

The SIDS Agenda (Samoa Pathway):

“Insufficient data for several key indicators makes assessing trends difficult in most thematic areas.”

“New investments in data and information infrastructure and human capacity are needed to trigger earlier responses, anticipate future needs and design the urgent actions needed to realize the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” SG Report on the Samoa Pathway 2022



National Planning Processes

“Suboptimal data and information management practices across sectors further impede evidence-based policymaking influenced by challenges such as geographical dispersion, small populations, ongoing migration of skilled individuals, limited infrastructure resources, weak institutional capacity, and lack of economies of scale. These factors contribute to inadequate data and information collection, storage, and analysis, and poor monitoring, dissemination, management, and data utilization across the data lifecycle.” SIDS4 Interactive Dialogue

Key Data Demands on SIDS: What do assessments say

Assessing Debt Vulnerabilities

“The past decade has seen a marked improvement in the coverage, completeness and accuracy of DRS (World Bank Debt Reporting System) reporting. Reporting on private, non-guaranteed debt is also rising. In contrast, there are significant data gaps on borrowing by state-owned enterprises (SOEs), particularly SOE borrowing without a government guarantee. This is usually due to discrepancies between the country’s definition of public debt and DRS reporting standards, the absence of systems to collect data at the national level, and the limited authority of the national debt office” IATF-FFD 2023



Latest International Developments for SIDS

The Antigua & Barbuda Action Agenda for SIDS (ABAS):

Para-38. We commit to engaging in systematic monitoring and evaluation of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States over the next 10 years. We request the Secretary-General to convene an inter-agency task force to develop a monitoring and evaluation framework, with clear targets and indicators, to be completed by no later than the second quarter of 2025. The framework should build on the monitoring and evaluation framework for the Samoa Pathway, in line with the targets and indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals and use data from existing reporting mechanisms where possible and should not be overly burdensome or create new processes or requirements for small island developing States



Latest International Developments for SIDS

The Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (Res 78/322)

International quantitative benchmark to measure structural vulnerability and (lack of) structural resilience

Ultimate Goal is for its inclusion in policies and approaches determining access to and allocation of concessional finance by IFIs and MDBs

BUT SIDS are among the weakest links

Measures of Sustainable Development Beyond GDP

Increasing concern over the limitations and inadequacy of GDP, particularly as it does not encompass dimensions of well-being, distribution, economic sustainability (such as increasing indebtedness) and environmental sustainability. The High-level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) Core Group on Beyond GDP, has proposed a framework for beyond GDP metrics as well as a political and technical process to move it forward



Strategic Considerations:

“Despite growing demand for data and statistics funding remains inadequate Financing for data and statistics, has not kept pace with demand. Funding for statistical systems and data ecosystems has also remained flat since 2015 and has fallen since the COVID-19 pandemic”. IATF-FFD 2023

- The international community needs to scale up funding for data and statistics.
- Countries need to prioritize resources towards the development of their national statistical and data systems
- Development of effective Partnerships particularly with Private sector, philanthropic Organizations



Strategic Considerations:

Limited adoption of digital technologies and digital skills in SIDS impacts the availability of quality, timely, and current data and information and the interoperability among government agencies and systems.

- Investments in creating a talent pool of skilled individuals are necessary
- Use of Big data for indicator monitoring and evaluation, promote the use of indicator calculation tools and platforms
- Geospatial platforms



Strategic Considerations:

Data and information systems are often fragmented, not sufficiently localized, digitized, and standardized. As data originates from diverse stakeholders, challenges arise with data consistency, coherence, ownership, and intellectual property.

- robust data governance including appropriate legislative overhauling to address these challenges
- As many national statistical systems inadequately cover private sector data and knowledge contributions, more inclusive statistical processes for policy-relevant indicators are needed



What's Needed to deliver on Resilient Prosperity:

- policies and programmes that will take SIDS towards self-sustaining investments, high profit sectors and growth models that can actually deliver on resilient prosperity.
- Access to Development Finance
- Debt Sustainability Support
- Interventions that are sensitive to SIDS Vulnerabilities



UN System Support

- The UN System is a key partner in supporting SIDS to achieve their ambitions. The Resident Coordinators will be key in bringing together the breadth of UN entities' expertise and policy resources and working with UN country teams to better tailor responses to country contexts.
- The UN system can provide support as required to the newly launched SIDS Centre of Excellence with is Global Data Hub. The CoE could be a key platform of support in the region together with the infrastructure already in place within the region
- Access to pooled funding and financing will be key for the development of appropriate solutions. The Joint SDG Fund has been a key source of financing for SIDS in recent years.
- Capacity Building, Legislative and Institutional Support, some budget support



DESA Support to SIDS:

DESA will continue to deliver for SIDS in the areas of governance, data and statistics, financing and partnerships, consistent with our global offer on the SDGs.

In working with the Resident Coordinators and the UNCTs DESA will make its strengths available at country level, in line with national priorities and agreed support frameworks.





Thank you