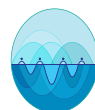


# Partnerships Briefs for Small Island Developing States



## Sustainable Energy



ISLAND  
VOICES  
GLOBAL  
CHOICES

UN Conference on  
Small Island Developing States

Division for Sustainable Development  
UNDESA  
2014

# Introduction

**THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES** (SIDS Conference) will be held from 1 to 4 September 2014 in Apia, Samoa, with the overarching theme as “The sustainable development of small island developing States through genuine and durable partnerships”.

The SIDS Conference will include six multi-stakeholder partnership dialogues (Partnership Dialogues) that will serve as a forum to build on existing successful partnerships as well as to launch innovative and concrete new ones, to advance the sustainable development of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Member States have identified six clusters of priority areas that the Partnership Dialogues will address respectively. These are: Sustainable Economic Development; Climate change & Disaster Risk management; Social development in SIDS, Health and Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), youth and women; Sustainable energy; Oceans, Seas and Biodiversity; Water and Sanitation, Food Security and Waste Management.

The SIDS 2014 Partnerships Briefs have been prepared by the Division for Sustainable Development (UN-DESA) in consultation with the UN System through the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs (ECESA Plus), with the intent to contribute to the preparations leading up to the Partnership Dialogues by:

- Reviewing key priorities related to SIDS in the selected priority area,
- Reviewing existing north-south, south-south, and triangular partnerships in the selected priority area, and
- Identifying gaps in the priority area, which could inspire renewal, build-up and scale-up of existing partnerships, and the launching of new innovative partnerships, focusing on public-private partnerships.

The current Partnership Brief will look at the priority area of “Sustainable Energy”, and highlights illustrative examples of existing partnerships based on information available in the SIDS 2014 Partnerships Platform ([www.sids2014.org/partnerships](http://www.sids2014.org/partnerships)) and as indicated through consultations with the Secretariat of the SIDS Conference.

# Challenges related to Sustainable Energy in SIDS



**ENERGY PLAYS A CRITICAL ROLE IN THE SUSTAINABLE** development of Small Island Developing States. Access to sustainable and renewable modern energy services contributes to poverty eradication, saves lives, improves health and helps provide for basic human needs. There are about 2.8 billion people (close to 40% of the world population) who use unsustainable solid fuels (including wood, agricultural waste and animal waste) for cooking and heating. 1.2 billion people live without access to electricity, including people from SIDS<sup>1</sup>.

Many SIDS face critical challenges related to high

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<sup>1</sup> UN-Energy (2014), Background Note, p.1. accessed via [http://www.se4all.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/UN-Energy\\_Background\\_Note-ENERGY.pdf](http://www.se4all.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/UN-Energy_Background_Note-ENERGY.pdf)

dependency on imported fossil fuels, global volatile oil prices and high use of foreign exchange on energy resources, which place stress on the economy. This situation affects, in particular, the poor who cannot afford sustainable energy.

Women make up the biggest bracket of the poor in the SIDS, who bear the burden of providing and using biomass energy for cooking. A situation made worse by fuel scarcity – which also negatively impacts health and safety.

Access to affordable energy is also a key requirement for the development, productivity and competitiveness of local industry and private sector in SIDS, such as agriculture, fishery, tourism, water and sanitation.

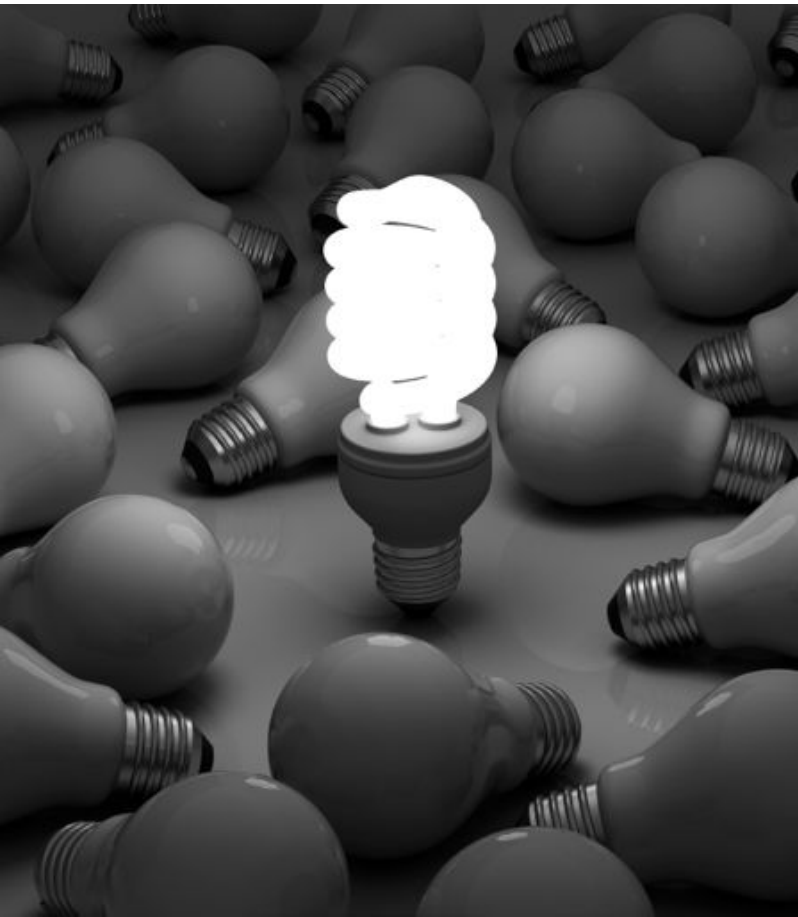




**3. Pacific Islands Greenhouse Gas Abatement through Renewable Energy Project (PIAGGREP):** a regional programme coordinated by SPREP, complementing the efforts of bilateral, regional and multilateral partners of the Pacific SIDS to raise the profile of renewable energy in the region. PIAGGREP supports member countries in implementing appropriate mitigation measures through renewable energy activities. The programme has extended to include clean development mechanism (CDM) initiatives and energy efficiency. <http://www.sids2014.org/index.php?page=view&type=1006&nr=2321&menu=1507>.

**4. Carbon War Room:** in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Institute are leading a joint effort to unlock opportunities to scale renewable energy projects across the Caribbean. Commitments exist from the British Virgin Islands, Colombia, Dominica, Saint Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, and Tucks & Caicos to join the Ten Island Renewable Challenge. These islands have also committed to swap diesel power for renewable sources. <http://www.sids2014.org/index.php?page=view&type=1006&nr=2435&menu=1507>.





**6. WIPO GREEN:** is an interactive marketplace administered by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) that promotes innovation and diffusion of green technologies by connecting technology and service providers with those seeking innovative solutions. The WIPO GREEN marketplace accelerates green technology innovation and transfer by promoting skill and technology sharing. WIPO GREEN consists of an online database and network that brings together a wide range of players in the green technology innovation value chain, and connects owners of new technologies with individuals or companies looking to commercialize, license or otherwise access or distribute a green technology <http://www.wipo.int/green>.

#### **5. The Global Network of Regional Sustainable Energy Centers:**


is an innovative south-south and north-south partnership managed by UNIDO in close cooperation with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The network comprises of a number regional centers which provide technical key support for the creation of an enabling environment for regional renewable energy and energy efficiency markets and industries. Under the network the regional organizations, UNIDO, SIDS DOCK and the Government of Austria are partnering in the establishment of similar sustainable energy centers for SIDS in the Caribbean, Pacific, Africa and the Indian Ocean. Preparatory processes are underway or have been finalized successfully.

<http://sidsdock.org/austria-unido-and-the-small-island-developing-states-sustainable-energy-initiative-sids-dock-establish-sustainable-energy-partnership>



# Suggested opportunities for Partnerships

Opportunities for partnerships in this priority area may include, but are not limited to:

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- Addressing the integrated challenges of energy security, energy access and climate change mitigation and adaptation through renewable energy and energy efficiency simultaneously;
  - Supporting national and regional efforts to create and enabling environment for sustainable energy markets by promoting policy and capacity development, knowledge management, as well as investment and business promotion;
  - Facilitating access to modern, affordable and reliable energy services for rural households, local industry and businesses, including climate observation networks in support of evaluation of renewable energy potential,
  - Increasing the general urban energy security situation and decreasing the reliance of island economies on fossil fuel imports,
  - Conducting assessment and identifying renewable energy technologies, including better and quicker means of implementation through technical cooperation, capacity building and tailored climate services;
  - Facilitating women's access to renewable and cost-effective energy services and the participation of women in the development of sustainable energy sources.

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[www.sids2014.org](http://www.sids2014.org)

For questions: [sustainabledevelopment.un.org/contact](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/contact)



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