



SIDS4 side event: Unlocking NDC Finance in SIDS through Integrated National Financing Frameworks

Date and time	Wednesday 29 th May, 08.00 – 09.30
Location	Room 5, SIDS4 Conference Venue, St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda
Organiser	Government of Seychelles and INFF Facility (UNDP, UNDESA, OECD, UNICEF)

Background

The world's 39 SIDS are confronted with unique challenges, including substantial barriers in accessing adequate financial support. This situation is exacerbated by high levels of debt, a sharp decrease in Official Development Assistance (ODA), and limited access to international financing mechanisms. Most SIDS suffer from ongoing trade deficits, fueled by high trade-to-GDP ratios and a reliance on commodity exports. The combination of reduced income, shrinking fiscal space, heavy debt servicing, and diminished financing options hinders their ability to enhance productivity, invest in sustainable development, and bolster resilience.

To address these financing needs, a financing strategy that responds to national priorities, fiscal constraints and opportunities, the engagement of development banks the private sector and international aid is essential. An integrated approach that coordinates effort from public, private, domestic, and international stakeholders is crucial for the effective and timely realization of the ambitious objectives set forth in the SDGs, Paris Agreement and the new Programme of Action (PoA).

[Integrated national financing frameworks \(INFFs\)](#) were introduced in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and are highlighted in the UN Secretary-General's SDG Stimulus as "an ideal tool for countries to set out their priorities and key financing policies".

Half of SIDS are using the INFF approach to shape a more inclusive, sustainable and resilient financing ecosystem. Through country-led INFFs, governments develop a strategy to mobilise and align financing with national plans and climate priorities, considering all dimensions of sustainability and risk management, and broadening participation in the design, delivery and monitoring of financing policies.

The INFF Facility was launched in 2022 to support countries as they develop INFFs and to provide a platform for countries to share with and learn from one another. A specific SIDS Window is designed to provide technical assistance and capacity building to enhance institutional strength and tailored support for SDG financing. Seven SIDS – Belize, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Samoa and Seychelles - are being supported by the tailored Facility projects.

This side event will provide a platform for SIDS to showcase how they are using the INFF approach to strengthen financing for national objectives and implementation of the NDC and new PoA. High-level

government representatives and international partners will share in-depth knowledge and practical experiences of using the INFF approach to scale public and private support for SIDS financing needs and the technical assistance required to support SIDS in developing inclusive, sustainable and resilient pathways. It will highlight how the INFF Facility is scaling up support for SIDS developing INFFs.

Objectives

The main objectives of this side event are to:

- discuss the financing challenges that SIDS face, including the bottleneck to NDC finance and blue economy, and the role of the INFF approach in helping them overcome those challenges
- provide a platform for SIDS to share their experiences, challenges, solutions and best practices in developing and implementing INFFs that unlock NDC finance and contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement and new Programme of Action
- highlight opportunities for partnership and collaboration to support SIDS moving forward, including through the SIDS window of the INFF Facility

Target participants

- Government leaders from SIDS (Ministry of Planning / Finance)
- Private sector representatives from SIDS
- International organisations, IFIs and development partners
- Civil society organisations and NGOs working in financing for the development of SIDS

Expected Outcomes

- SIDS will have the opportunity to exchange knowledge of their experiences and best practices in developing and implementing INFFs
- Participants will gain a better understanding of the key elements of INFFs and how they can help to mobilize and channel finance in line with SIDS' national sustainable development priorities and the new PoA implementation
- Participants will have the opportunity to discuss partnerships to support NDC financing and INFFs in SIDS

Format

The side event will include presentations from SIDS leaders to share their INFF experiences, reflections from the international organizations on their work and lessons learnt, and an interactive panel discussion. The side event will connect various INFF stakeholders including representatives from SIDS, international organizations, development partners, and the private sector. The session will open for participants' questions and knowledge sharing.

Agenda

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
(3 mins)	Introduce the event agenda	Moderator: Ms. Amanda Serumaga Resident Representative Seychelles and Mauritius, UNDP
(10 mins)	Opening & presentation: Seychelles' INFF experience	H.E. Mr. Naadir Hassan Minister for Finance, Economic Planning and Trade, Seychelles
(10 mins)	Opening remarks: State of integrated national financing frameworks in SIDS and INFF Facility offer	Mr. George Gray Molina Head of Inclusive Growth and Chief Economist, UNDP
(5 mins)	Introduce the panelists	Moderator: Ms. Amanda Serumaga Resident Representative Seychelles and Mauritius, UNDP
(8 mins)	Country presentation: Cabo Verde	H.E. Mr. Alcindo Mota Secretary of State for Finance, Cabo Verde
(5 mins)	International partner reflection: OECD	Ms. Pilar Garrido Director for Development Co- operation, OECD
(8 mins)	Country presentation: Belize	H.E. Mr. Orlando Habet Minister of Sustainable Development and Climate Change, Belize
(5 mins)	International partner reflection: UNDRR	Mr Marco Toscano-Rivalto Chief, Regional Office for Asia- Pacific, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
(20 mins)	Q&A	Open discussion
(5 mins)	Concluding remarks and close	Moderator: Ms. Amanda Serumaga Resident Representative Seychelles and Mauritius, UNDP

** buffer time has been added to the above timetable to allow the transition between panelists*