






SIDS and the five Planet SDGs – examples of challenges, successes and opportunities to build forwards better



 <p>Goal 6 Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.</p>	 <p>Goal 12 Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.</p>	 <p>Goal 13 Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts*.</p>	 <p>Goal 14 Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.</p>	 <p>Goal 15 Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.</p>
<p>In the Pacific SIDS have challenges, yet they can be innovation hubs for water security - creating, testing and refining models that prove resilient and sustainable – and help unlock future water security challenges globally. The World Bank and the Global Water Security & Sanitation Partnership (GWSP) work in a number of Pacific island countries to help achieve this.</p>	<p>SIDS in general This piece from Devex (from Oct 2019 and still valid today) discusses the importance of focusing on food security on SIDS.</p>	<p>SIDS in general In April 2021, invited Leaders of SIDS made a strong call for scaled-up climate financing at the Leaders' Climate Summit hosted by the United States. "The debt of small states has risen to unsustainable levels, because of repeated borrowings to rebuild and recover from natural disasters, arising from climate change" said the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda, Gaston A. Browne.</p>	<p>SIDS in general The Ocean Action Hub provides an overview about SIDS and their marine environments. This piece, published in July 2019 by Devex, discusses how SIDS can harness the Blue Economy.</p>	<p>SIDS in general In April 2020 the Global Mechanism of the UNCCD and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with multiple partners, published a Briefing note and Technical report Land Degradation Neutrality in Small Island Developing States.</p>
<p>In the Caribbean As this article from 2019 in Forbes describes, access to clean drinking water is a threat to many Caribbean people. Water demand is expected to increase by nearly 30% by 2050, mostly due to industrial development, thus creating an urgent need for innovations that can help supplement the dwindling volume of available fresh water in a sustainable and scalable fashion.</p>	<p>SIDS example: Trinidad and Tobago (the Caribbean) Single-use plastics are a problem globally. This case study published in November 2020 by UN ECLAC describes the economic implications of a single-use plastics ban on Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>SIDS in general On 31 May 2021, HE Ambassador Diann-Black Layne, AOSIS Lead Negotiator on Climate Change delivered a statement at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) on what needs to be done to tackle climate change.</p>	<p>In the Pacific This article published in June 2021 in The Guardian is a poignant example of the value of cooperation across SIDS. It describes how eight Pacific countries (all SIDS) collaborated to create an innovative system, The Vessel Day Scheme, that has helped them achieve shared, equitable and sustainable economic gains from commercial fishing in the region, and prevent overfishing in their Economic Exclusive Zones.</p>	<p>SIDS in general As this piece on Medium from Aug 2020 describes, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and cities are similar in that land-use availability is limited as is the availability of natural resources. While cities can expand, and SIDS cannot do so easily unless they undertake costly land reclamation activities, both face competition for land from many users.</p>
<p>SIDS example: Cuba (the Caribbean) This piece from Feb 2021 in the New York Times (access restrictions may apply) describes how, in Cuba, battling water scarcity requires a vast array of workers, from inspectors and fumigators to truck drivers and pipe layers.</p>	<p>SIDS example: Guyana (South America) As this article from May 2021 in Stabroek News describes, Guyana may be in line for a new city. The Minister of Housing has described how the proposed Silica City offers a sustainable and viable solution for the country's housing needs.</p>	<p>SIDS example: Fiji (the Pacific) This piece from NAP Global Network describes how Fiji is implementing adaptation measures prioritised through its National Adaptation Plan (NAP) process, notably scaling up Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) efforts, which is a type of Nature-based Solution (NbS).</p>	<p>In the Pacific This piece in The Conversation published in August 2021 describes how climate change could dramatically alter tuna stocks in the tropical Pacific, which are critical to their economies and could have major consequences for the people who depend on the income received.</p>	<p>In the Pacific This piece in The Conversation published in June 2021 describes how waves in the Pacific are becoming more powerful, which has various impacts on low-lying land, including a process called "coastal squeeze".</p>
<p>SIDS example: Vanuatu (the Pacific) This blog describes how Engineers Without Borders Australia (EWB) is partnering with Arup to support the development of emergency sanitation and hygiene guidelines, led by Vanuatu's Ministry of Health (MoH).</p>	<p>SIDS example: Singapore This Singapore government webpage provides progress statistics of their efforts towards achieving SDG 12. As this piece from Feb 2021 by CNN describes, Singapore is creating a new 42,000-home eco-town in the island's western region. Conservationists hope offers a roadmap for slashing carbon emissions in the city-state.</p>	<p>SIDS example: the Seychelles (AIS) As described by Dutch business Deltares in June 2021, the World Bank commissioned them to help the Seychelles during the drafting of their national determined contribution to the Paris Climate Agreement. In addition to the chapter on climate adaptation, they helped with a chapter on the sectors of the blue economy looking at the support they need in their efforts to adapt to the effects of climate change.</p>	<p>SIDS example: the Seychelles (AIS) This link goes to the Seychelles Ocean National Consultation page, which provides resources related to the National Consultation and implementation of SDG 14: Life below Water in Seychelles.</p> <p>SIDS example: the Maldives (AIS) This short video clip describes how the Maldives is responding to climate change.</p>	<p>SIDS example: St Kitts and Nevis (the Caribbean) This piece by UNEP describes how St Kitts and Nevis is tackling soil erosion.</p>