

Genuine and Durable Partnerships on Ocean¹

1. Key points

- PICTs together with partners have submitted abundant partnerships on ocean (via SDG14, Samoa Partnership and Voluntary Commitments of the UN Ocean Conference in 2017).
- Reporting on the implementation of these partnership to track their implementation is weak.
- Achieving and sustaining Pacific Ocean governance is limited by the amount, duration, diversity and equity of ocean finance and genuine ocean partnerships.
- Domestic resources, overseas development assistance, and multilateral institution funds remain essential but are not enough to match the scale and urgency of ocean priorities.
- Strategic and ongoing financial planning for ocean priorities are required to ensure compatible and sustainable ocean uses.
- Effective and transparent decision-making to respond to ocean issues.

2. Challenges and opportunities (*appetite for integrated ocean governance*)

Challenges

- There were 151 ocean related partnerships for PICTs recorded on SDG14 through the Samoa Pathways and Voluntary Commitments at the UN Ocean Conference in 2017.
- Limited progress report submitted on the 151 recorded ocean related partnerships.
- There was an increase number of partnerships due to high traction of ocean finance funds and pledges. This pose an added layer of burden for PICTs to access and coordinate ocean partnerships and initiatives.
- Abundant sectoral ocean depository but limited availability of meta-data or overarching mapping on ocean initiatives and partnerships (example knowing who is doing what?).
- Limited locally or regionally driven and funded ocean partnerships often influenced by availability of funding.

Opportunities

- Engaging proactively with POA stakeholders and development partners to allocate sustainable resources to enable greater south - south cooperation and peer-to-peer learning across the Pacific.
- Institutionalising dialogue and engagement with private sector and civil society stakeholders including involvement in the implementation and monitoring of ocean initiatives.
- Driving multi-stakeholder partnerships for development, to combine resources and expertise to deliver on a joint development goals.

- The ocean is getting a lot of traction from several multi-lateral organisations (UN, World Bank, ADB, etc.) and the global community which results in the increasing ocean financing and initiatives.
- There is impetus and opportunity to focus attention on accelerating actions on enabling systems for ocean financing that allow a more genuine and durable ocean partnerships.

3. How issues link to key policies (SDG14, FPO, Samoa Pathway, 2050 Regional Strategy, etc.)

In line with the commitments of development partners under the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, SDGs, S.A.M.O.A Pathway and Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), Leaders called for their support in the areas such as financing, statistics, partnerships, SDGs integration, follow up and review, as well as acknowledging the special case of Small Island Developing States (SIDS).

Our Pacific leaders in 2015 made 4 key decisions; i) committed fully to implementing the SDGs; ii.) called for contextualisation, simplification to Pacific realities; iii.) Called for inclusivity; iv.) Consider integration so we can reduce the reporting burden.

In line with Leaders directives, the Pacific Steering Committee for Sustainable Development Was developed to provide strategic oversight, guidance, and effective regional coordination for the integrated planning, implementation and monitoring of the Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development (PRSD), endorsed by Pacific Islands Forum Leaders in 2017.

4. Background and other reference materials

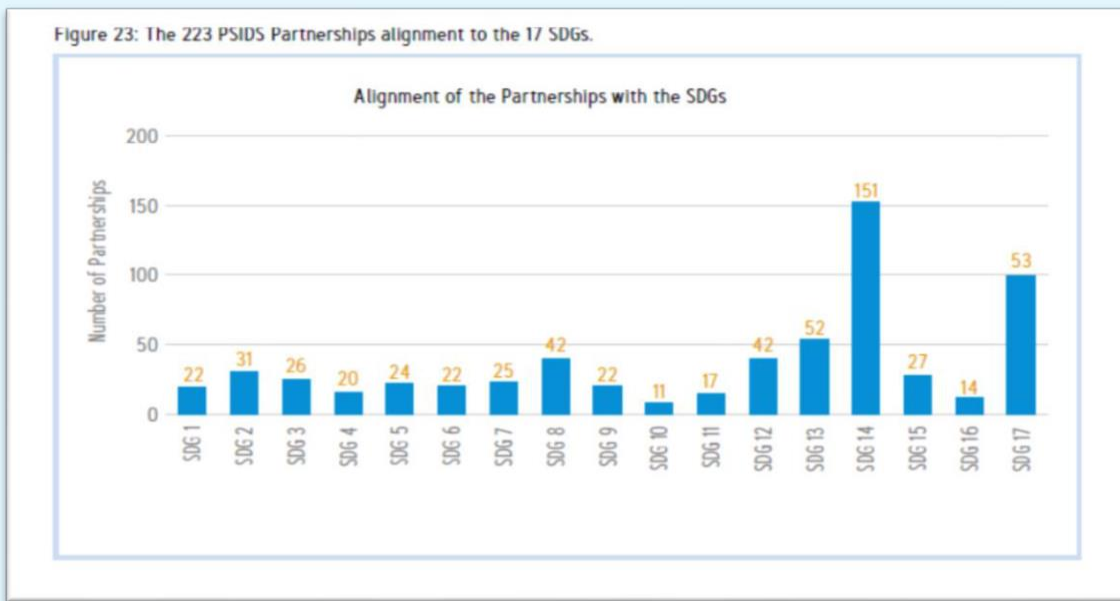
Partnerships are the defining characteristic of the S.A.M.O.A Pathway, and the SIDS Partnership Framework serves two purposes: i) to ensure that SIDS development work remains at the forefront of the international agenda; and, ii) to monitor progress of existing, and stimulate the launch of new, genuine and durable partnerships for the sustainable development of SIDS.

There are three SDG targets and eight S.A.M.O.A Pathway paragraphs dedicated specifically to genuine and durable multi-stakeholder partnerships. The theme of the 3rd SIDS Conference held in Samoa in 2014 “The sustainable development of SIDS ‘through’ genuine, durable partnerships” recognised that international cooperation and partnerships of various kinds and across a wide variety of stakeholders are critical for the implementation of the sustainable development of SIDS, and, that such partnerships should be based on the principles of national ownership, mutual trust, transparency and accountability. Furthermore, one of the six values of the FPR (Framework for the Pacific Regionalism) strives for effective, open and honest relationships, and inclusive and enduring partnerships, based on mutual accountability and respect – with each other, within our sub-regions, region and beyond.

Of the 527 registered S.A.M.O.A Pathway and UN Oceans partnerships, 223 currently involve Pacific SIDS. More than 50 percent of these partnerships are aligned to SDG14 on Oceans.

OPOC Regional Ocean Initiative Register - <https://regional.opocbluepacific.net/>

Pacific Ocean Finance - <https://www.pacificoceanfinance.org/>






Links to Pacific SDGs Documents

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<https://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/The-Pacific-Roadmap-for-Sustainable-Development.pdf>
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https://specfststore1.blob.core.windows.net/digitallibrary-docs/files/b6/b659a222ff6c5d2637c69302e3120040.pdf?sv=2015-12-11&sr=b&sig=K1roNc%2Fw%2BYaj5RG8puAqh2JCo3vAtr7SUVVCu76Pv1s%3D&se=2020-02-10T00%3A46%3A09Z&sp=r&rsc=public%2C%20max-age%3D864000%2C%20max-stale%3D86400&rsc=application%2Fpdf&rscd=inline%3B%20filename%3D%22SDGs_in_the_Pacific_Booklet_2018.pdf%22
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<http://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/First-Quadrennial-Pacific-Sustainable-Development-Report.pdf>
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<http://www.forumsec.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/First-Quadrennial-Pacific-Sustainable-Development-Report.pdf>
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<https://www.undp.org/content/dam/fiji/docs/UNDP-PO-2018-Pacific-SDG-Progress-Wheels.pdf>

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