



My World, My SIDS

SIDS Youth Networking 2013



The Third International Conference for Small Island Developing States (SIDS) is scheduled to convene during September 2014 in Apia, Samoa. This conference will include a high-level segment to build upon the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation (MSI), and will identify new challenges for the sustainable development of SIDS.

In 1994 Member States of the United Nations came together in Barbados to discuss the special challenges and needs of SIDS. The meeting endorsed the BPOA as the blueprint for addressing these special challenges. Fourteen key areas were identified covering sustainable environments, energy and communication, tourism and human resource development.

Twenty years later, the United Nations will convene a review and recommitment to development in small islands when the Member States come together in Apia, Samoa. The original Programme of Action and the Implementation Strategy developed in Mauritius during the 10 year review will be examined to determine what progress has been made in 20 years, what challenges still exist and key priorities for internationally agreed development goals in the post 2015 era (linking with the outcomes of the Rio +20 Conference held in 2012 'the Future We Want').

Young People's Roles in the SIDS process

So that young people's voices may be part of this process, UNESCO and UNICEF with support from the regional organisations in SIDS areas (SPC, CARICOM and IOC) are supporting a process for young people to share their issues, envision the future young people want, and participate in the process of developing the outcomes of the Apia 2014 Global Conference.

To enable young people from the Caribbean, Pacific and AIMS¹ regional youth fora will be held in Kingston (Jamaica), Nadi (Fiji) and Victoria (Seychelles) during July 2013. Some youth representatives elected by these young people will have an opportunity to present the voices of SIDS youth during regional and inter-regional preparatory meetings in July and September. These meetings are the starting point for the drafting of an outcomes document that will be the new plan of action for SIDS over the coming decade.

Young people from SIDS¹ are invited to apply to participate in the following regional meetings (dates may vary slightly and will be confirmed with successful applicants in early May):

Kingston 26 June-1 July 2013

Nadi 4-9 July 2013

Victoria 11-16 July 2013

Fully sponsored places are expected to be available for approx 60 delegates. Self-funded applicants will also be welcome. If you are a young person from a SIDS who is passionate about the future of your island and your world, please let us know by putting in your application.

For further information please contact:

email: sidsyouth@gmail.com

web: www.unesco.org/apia and www.unicefpacific.org

snailmail: PO Box 615 Apia SAMOA **OR** The Towers, 25 Dominica Drive, Kingston JAMAICA

¹ See list of countries on application form

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

Selection of Applicants:

Applicants will be selected to achieve a balance of nationality, sex and age, as well as interests in different aspects of the development of SIDS (social, economic, environmental). Your involvement in local/national/regional/international youth networks, youth activism or related activities will be a key criteria for selection. You are asked to make a submission on your vision for the future of your community/country/region/SIDS. This can be in any format – use your imagination! It will be used as one of the factors in selecting applicants.

Full funding support will be made available for up to 20 youth participants (and chaperones if they are under 18) in each SIDS region. Funded applicants must be from the SIDS countries identified by the UN General Assembly. Applicants may be accepted from non-SIDS for self-funded participants. Self funded applicants from SIDS and non-SIDS are expected to provide travel and accommodation, though meals and local transport will be provided.

Youth Networks:

We think it's important to include young people who are actively involved in working for and with youth, so we've asked you to list all the youth activities/networks that you are connected with. This could be a youth group, a youth conference or workshop you attended, a club, a project or something else. List the name of the group and how you are involved, for example: member, President, participant.

Referees:

You are asked to provide the name and contact details for three referees:

- Youth Networks – For example: President of your Youth Group, Government youth worker
- Professional/Academic – For example: employer, teacher, student counsellor (depending on whether you are working or studying)
- Personal – For example: a pastor, colleague or friend who is not related to you

Language:

The workshops will be conducted only in English and applicants must have reasonable English speaking abilities. It will be an advantage for us to be able to present the outcomes in English, French and Spanish.

Under 18s:

For applicants who are under 18 years of age on 1 June 2013, you will need to gain the consent of your parent or legal guardian, as well as nominating a chaperone to accompany you if you attend one of the regional events. The chaperone may be any person older than 18 that is nominated by your parent/guardian. For example: your parent/guardian, an older brother or sister, a school teacher, an uncle or aunt, a family friend.

Checklist:

	Completed application
	Scan copy of passport
	Your submission on your vision for SIDS
	For under 18s: Guardian's consent and details of chaperone