

4th ROUND TABLE MEETING OF SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES
2021 United Nations Statistics Commission
16 February 2021
15:00 – 16:45 (Eastern Time)

This annual round table meeting of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in the margins of the 52nd session of the United Nations Statistics Commission aims to convene representatives of national statistical offices from developing countries and regional and multilateral organizations to exchange on current developments and initiatives on statistics in SIDS, update participants on the pressing statistical challenges confronting SIDS and to formulate recommendations to address these key challenges. Issues relating to the Sustainable Development Goals and the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway (SAMOA) will be explored as a possible common and/or harmonized approach for statistical development of SIDS.

The meeting will be held in round table format and is intended to deliver the following outcomes:

- Better understanding of and transparency around different initiatives in SIDS and their region;
- Stock-take of ongoing statistical efforts in various countries in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Concrete next steps and proposals to move ahead with key topics for SIDS.

The session will build on the previous successful editions of the round table, in particular the 3rd round table in March 2020, which included several updates on the review of the SAMOA Pathway and the monitoring and accountability framework under development; SIDS National Focal Points network; SIDS Statistics Exchange Platform; Caribbean regional strategy for the development of statistics (RSDS); Pacific Sustainable Development Report; and country sharing of current initiatives and developments.

Convenors: Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Caribbean Development Bank, Pacific Community (SPC), PARIS21, UN DESA, and UN-OHRLS.

Provisional Agenda

Enhancing effective support for development data and statistics in SIDS in times of Covid-19 and beyond

15:00 – 15:20	<p>Welcome messages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sainivalati S. Navoti, Chief of SIDS Unit, UNDESA (5 min) • François Fonteneau, Deputy Head, PARIS21 (5 min)
	<p>Opening remarks:</p> <p>Sustainable support for development data and statistics in SIDS – the challenges of domestic resource mobilisation and external support coordination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS) (10 min)

	Session 1: Challenges, needs and opportunities of SIDS national statistical systems in responding to data demands in the current and post COVID-19 pandemic
15:20 – 15:40	<p>Presentations by representatives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cap Verde (5 min) tbc • Grenada (5 min) tbc • Saint Lucia (5 min) tbc • Vanuatu (5 min) tbc
15:50 – 16:20	<p>Session 2: Updates of partners initiatives to support capacity development of SIDS national statistical systems</p> <p><i>Contributions to statistical development in SIDS within the context of the current and post-COVID-19 pandemic</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pacific Community's (SPC) (5 min) tbc • CARICOM (5 min) tbc • Caribbean Development Bank (5 min) tbc • UNDESA / SIDS Unit (5 min) tbc • World Bank (5 min) tbc • PARIS21 (5 min)
16:20 – 16:40	Discussion and recommendations
16:40 – 16:45	<p>Closing remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Johannes Jütting, Executive Head, PARIS21