

# SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES IN NUMBERS



Office of the High Representative for the Least  
Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing  
Countries and Small Island Developing States  
(UN-OHRLLS)



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## WHAT ARE SIDS?

Small Island Developing States, (SIDS) are a distinct group of developing countries facing specific social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities. SIDS were recognized as a special case both for their environment and development at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. This recognition was made specifically in the context of Agenda 21 (Chapter 17 G). In 1994, the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) prescribed specific actions enabling SIDS to achieve sustainable development and in 2005, the Mauritius Strategy for further Implementation of the BPOA was adopted to address remaining gaps in implementation. In September of 2014, The Independent State of Samoa will host the Third International Conference on SIDS. The United Nations General Assembly has also designated 2014 as the International Year of SIDS. While many SIDS have progressed in achieving sustainable development, their inherent vulnerabilities including small size, remoteness, climate change, biodiversity loss and narrow resource base means that progress for many continues to be hampered, and their special case status remains.

## OHRLLS Mandate

The mandate of the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) as it relates to SIDS focuses on outreach, advocacy and the mobilizing of resources and international support towards achieving the sustainable development aspirations of SIDS. The Office works closely with the United Nations system, development partners, and others, in helping to raise awareness of the special challenges facing small island developing states. UN-OHRLLS works to ensure that greater recognition is afforded to the sustainable development of SIDS, and that international support measures are geared towards effective and strengthened implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action and its Mauritius Strategy for Implementation.

## About SIDS In Numbers

The High Representative, Mr. Gyan Chandra Acharya, emphasizes the importance of collating facts and figures on SIDS that would contribute toward better understanding the various issues and challenges these countries face. Furthermore, the High Representative is actively involved and works closely with UN-OHRLLS interns to provide them with guidance on their work, especially recognizing the importance of mentoring young future professionals to gain exposure to the multitude of real world issues and challenges being tackled by the United Nations on a daily basis.

This publication has been made possible through the essential work of Ms. Zuzana Holubova and Ms. Bsrat Measho who interned with the SIDS Unit in UN-OHRLLS in 2013 and who took a leading role in compiling the statistics presented herein. The interns worked under the supervision of Mr. Peter Kenilorea and Mr. Damien Sass; both officers of the UN-OHRLLS SIDS sub-programme.

*SIDS In Numbers* provides, at a glance, a snapshot of some select key SIDS indicators grouped under the three dimensions of sustainable development; Environment, Economic and Social that highlight the special case of SIDS. Specifically, it includes indicators such as population, official development assistance, economy and business, remittances, greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity and many more.

The presentation of the data and statistics contained in this publication should not be taken as authoritative. They are being presented in a manner that attempts to highlight the special case of SIDS and as such should be used accordingly. Data was sourced largely from the World Bank's Little Data Book on Climate Change 2011 — published in 2012 — with regards to Demography, Social Development, Economy and Business,



Boys in wooden goggles catch fish off Atauro Island, Timor-Leste.

External Debt, Climate and Environmental Vulnerability, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Use. Data on Ease of Doing Business are from the World Bank 2013. Data on Important Industries was sourced from the World Bank 2012 while data on Overseas Development Assistance was sourced from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) 2011. Data on Biodiversity was sourced from The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Conservation International. The data used in this publication are obtained from publicly available sources. Some specific data on a given issue for a number of SIDS were not able to be obtained through publicly available sources. This publication refers to such situations when they occur as 'data unavailable'.



## Biodiversity

SIDS are extremely important for global biodiversity as islands harbour 20% of all plant, bird, and reptile species in only about 3% of the Earth's land surface.

The isolation of islands accounts for extraordinarily high levels of endemism and provide important natural laboratories that contribute to a better understanding of the origins of biodiversity. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity considers the species in SIDS to be at the most risk of extinction: 95% of bird, 90% of reptile, 69% of mammal, and 68% of plant extinctions worldwide have occurred on islands. Common threats include: natural disasters, diseases, overexploitation, clearing of forests and grasslands, draining wetlands for agriculture and cities, fragmentation of habitat with roads, introduction of harmful species into foreign ecosystems, poaching, unsustainable hunting, illegal wildlife trade, pollution and climate change.

Conservation International (CI) identified 34 biodiversity hotspots worldwide; ten of these hotspots are located in regions predominated by SIDS. The following tables compiled with data from CI indicates the importance of islands in the harbouring of species; especially endemic species.

Biodiversity is vital for the SIDS.



### Caribbean Islands

TAXONOMIC GROUP	SPECIES	ENDEMIC SPECIES	PERCENT ENDEMICISM
Plants	13,000	6,550	50.4
Mammals	89	41	46.1
Birds	604	163	27.0
Reptiles	502	469	93.4
Amphibians	170	170	100.0
Freshwater Fish	161	65	40.4

### Polynesia and Micronesia

TAXONOMIC GROUP	SPECIES	ENDEMIC SPECIES	PERCENT ENDEMICISM
Plants	5,330	3,074	57.7
Mammals	16	12	75.0
Birds	292	163	55.8
Reptiles	64	31	48.4
Amphibians	3	3	100.0
Freshwater Fish	96	20	20.8

### Eastern Melanesian Islands

TAXONOMIC GROUP	SPECIES	ENDEMIC SPECIES	PERCENT ENDEMICISM
Plants	8,000	3,000	37.5
Mammals	86	39	45.3
Birds	360	149	41.4
Reptiles	117	54	46.2
Amphibians	42	38	90.5
Freshwater Fish	52	3	5.8

Source: Conservation International 2013

## Land area below 5 meters above sea level<sup>1</sup>

On average, SIDS have 26 percent of their land area 5 meters or less above sea level. The Maldives and Tuvalu have 100 percent of their total land area below 5 meters above sea level, while other larger SIDS such as Papua New Guinea have 1.8 percent of its terrestrial area below 5 meters above sea level. Two thirds of SIDS have less than one quarter of their total land area below this level.

THE HIGHEST AND THE LOWEST SHARE OF LAND BELOW 5M	
Maldives, Tuvalu*	100%
Marshall Islands	99%
Kiribati*	96,70%
Cook Islands	87,90%
Bahamas	72%
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>26,20%</b>
Haiti*	3,90%
Suriname	3,40%
Timor-Leste*	2,90%
Guyana	2,70%
Papua New Guinea	1,80%

Source: *The World Bank 2011*

<sup>1</sup> Data on 4 SIDS unavailable.

## Population living below 5 meters above sea level<sup>2</sup>

On average, almost 30 percent of SIDS population live in the zone less than 5 meters above sea level. In many SIDS with higher share of land area below 5m above sea level, there is a higher percentage of population living within 5 meters above sea level. The populations of both the Maldives and Tuvalu live entirely within 5 meters above sea level while larger SIDS such as Papua New Guinea has only 2 percent of its population living within 5 metres above sea level.

THE HIGHEST AND THE LOWEST SHARE OF POPULATION BELOW 5M	
Maldives, Tuvalu*	100%
Marshall Islands	99,40%
Kiribati*	95,20%
Suriname	68,20%
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>29,30%</b>
Mauritius	5,60%
Haiti*	5,40%
Timor-Leste*	4,40%
Dominican Republic	3%
Papua New Guinea	2%

Source: *The World Bank 2011*

<sup>2</sup>Data source: World Bank 2011.

## Length of coastlines

The length of coastlines varies vastly among SIDS and is often dictated by the size of the islands, their archipelagic make-up and also the region in which countries are located. Tuvalu's coastline for instance is only 24 km, the shortest coastline of all SIDS while in contrast; the Federated States of Micronesia has the longest coastline at over 6,000 km. The average length of coastlines in SIDS is slightly more than 1,000 km, but in reality half of the SIDS have coastlines that extend between 100 km and 500 km.

SIDS WITH THE LONGEST AND THE SHORTEST COASTLINES	
FSM	6,112 km
Cuba	5,746 km
Solomon Islands*	5,313 km
Papua New Guinea	5,152 km
Bahamas	3,542 km
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>1,002 km</b>
Niue	64 km
Anguilla	61 km
Montserrat	40 km
Nauru	30 km
Tuvalu*	24 km

Source: CIA World Factbook 2013



## Land Area and Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs)

With regard to the size of their land areas, most SIDS are relatively small countries. For instance, New Caledonia consists of slightly less than 20,000 square kilometres (km<sup>2</sup>), the tenth largest among SIDS and roughly the size of the state of New Jersey in the USA.

SIDS WITH THE LARGEST AND THE SMALLEST LAND AREA	
Papua New Guinea	462,840 km <sup>2</sup>
Guyana	214,970 km <sup>2</sup>
Suriname	163,270 km <sup>2</sup>
Cuba	110,860 km <sup>2</sup>
Dominican Republic	48,380 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>24,111 km<sup>2</sup></b>
British Virgin Islands	153 km <sup>2</sup>
Anguilla, Montserrat	102 km <sup>2</sup>
Tuvalu*	26 km <sup>2</sup>
Nauru	21 km <sup>2</sup>

Source: *CIA World Factbook*

Yet, if we take into account the size of SIDS' EEZs, SIDS have significantly large territories. SIDS' EEZs in comparison to their terrestrial areas are often vast and thus the total territorial areas for many SIDS are significantly large. This however, is largely dependent on regional differences with SIDS in the Pacific region possessing the largest EEZs. Indeed, with the exception of two Caribbean countries — Suriname and Guyana — the EEZ of each small island developing state is larger than its terrestrial area. Tuvalu's EEZ which has slightly more than 750,000 km<sup>2</sup> is almost 30,000 times larger than its land area. Whereas SIDS' average land area is about 24 thousand km<sup>2</sup>, their average EEZ size is about 666 thousand km<sup>2</sup>.

## SIDS WITH THE LARGEST AND THE SMALLEST EEZ AREA

French Polynesia	4,767,242 km <sup>2</sup>
Kiribati*	3,437,345 km <sup>2</sup>
FSM	2,992,597 km <sup>2</sup>
Papua New Guinea	2,396,214 km <sup>2</sup>
Marshall Islands	1,992,232 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>666,110 km<sup>2</sup></b>
St. Lucia	15,484 km <sup>2</sup>
St. Kitts and Nevis	10,201 km <sup>2</sup>
Bahrain	8,884 km <sup>2</sup>
Montserrat	7,582 km <sup>2</sup>
Singapore	823 km <sup>2</sup>

Source: Sea Around Us Project

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon visited Tebikenikora, a village in the Pacific island nation of Kiribati to discuss villagers' concerns about the effects of climate change on their low-lying land.

## Disaster risk reduction

SIDS' small and open economies leave them especially exposed and highly vulnerable to external shocks. Given their small size, the expected annual average losses from earthquakes and tropical cyclone wind damage in SIDS represent respectively only 2 percent and 1.4 percent of the global total. However, precisely because they are small, 8 of the 10 countries that would lose the largest proportion of the value of their produced capital stock in a one-in-250 year earthquake are SIDS. In the case of a one-in-250 year cyclone, SIDS comprise 6 of the 10 countries most at risk.<sup>3</sup>

SIDS, with low levels of investment and high average annual losses, are less likely to be able to absorb losses, even from more frequent, less severe events. Jamaica observed annual average losses between 1991 and 2011 equivalent to 2.6 percent of its average annual investment. This contributed to its sluggish growth over this period.<sup>4</sup> Similarly, Vanuatu and Tonga are estimated to sustain average annualised losses at 6.6 and 4.4 a respectively.<sup>5</sup> If resilience building is to be successful in the years to come, it will require active and concerted partnerships between various actors including governments, private sector and local communities.

The disaster risk reduction progress score is an average of self-assessment scores, ranging from 1 to 5, submitted by countries under Priority 1 of the Hyogo Framework National Progress Reports. In 2005, the Hyogo Framework was adopted by 168 countries as a global blueprint for disaster risk reduction efforts. Assessments of "Priority 1" include four indicators that reflect the degree to which countries have prioritized disaster risk reduction and the strengthening of relevant institutions.

Disaster risk reduction progress scores are available only for 17 out of 52 SIDS (as of 2011 World Bank data). Barbados leads with the highest progress score of 4 closely followed by Jamaica (3.8) and Cape Verde, Cook Islands, Mauritius, Samoa and St. Kitts and Nevis (3.5). SIDS with lower progress profiles include Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Comoros, Marshall Islands and Guinea-Bissau.

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<sup>3</sup> UNISDR (2013) From Shared Risk to Shared Value – The Business Case for Disaster Risk Reduction.

<sup>4</sup> UNISDR (2013) From Shared Risk to Shared Value – The Business Case for Disaster Risk Reduction.

<sup>5</sup> Jha, Abhas K.; Stanton-Geddes, Zuzana. 2013. Strong, safe, and resilient: strategic policy guide for disaster risk management in East Asia and the Pacific. Directions in development; environment and sustainable development. Washington D.C., The World Bank.

## DISASTER RISK REDUCTION PROGRESS SCORE (1-5 SCALE, 5=BEST)

Barbados	4
Jamaica	3.8
Cape Verde, Cook Islands, Mauritius, Samoa*, St. Kitts and Nevis	3.5
St. Lucia	3.3
Dominican Republic	3
Antigua and Barbuda, Fiji	2.8
Maldives	2.3
Solomon Islands*, Vanuatu*	2
Comoros*, Marshall Islands	1.8
Guinea-Bissau*	1

Source: *The World Bank 2011*



Tropical storm devastated communities in Haiti: aerial view of the flooded houses in the aftermath of the tropical storm "Hanna."



## Energy use per capita<sup>6</sup>

The average energy use per capita for SIDS is 1,520 kg, but only 7 countries surpass this value. Most SIDS do not come close to this value. Also, SIDS' average energy use per capita is markedly lower than the average for middle-income and high-income countries which is 1,848 kg and 4,944 kg, respectively. However, SIDS are a very heterogeneous group with regard to energy use per capita. Trinidad and Tobago with over 15 tons of oil equivalent is the highest rate of all SIDS and equally one of the highest rates worldwide. By contrast, the energy use per capita in Timor-Leste, which is one of the least developed SIDS, is only 58 kg of oil equivalent.

Overall, SIDS are highly dependent on imported fossil fuels for transportation and electricity. Therefore, they are constantly exposed to oil-price fluctuations, leaving their economies vulnerable. In order to increase access to renewable energy, several SIDS adopted the "Barbados Declaration on Achieving Sustainable Energy for All," 2012. With the adoption of the declaration, SIDS have made voluntarily commitments to achieve certain energy targets with the support of development partners and the UN system. For instance, Cape Verde committed itself to decrease fossil fuel imports for the production of energy by 30 percent by 2020. The Cook Islands' aim is to increase renewable energy consumption to 100 percent for its inhabited islands by 2020.

An initiative called "SIDS DOCK" also aims to connect the energy sectors of SIDS with the global finance market, sustainable energy technologies and carbon markets in the EU and US to enable emissions trading.

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<sup>6</sup> Data on 18 SIDS unavailable.

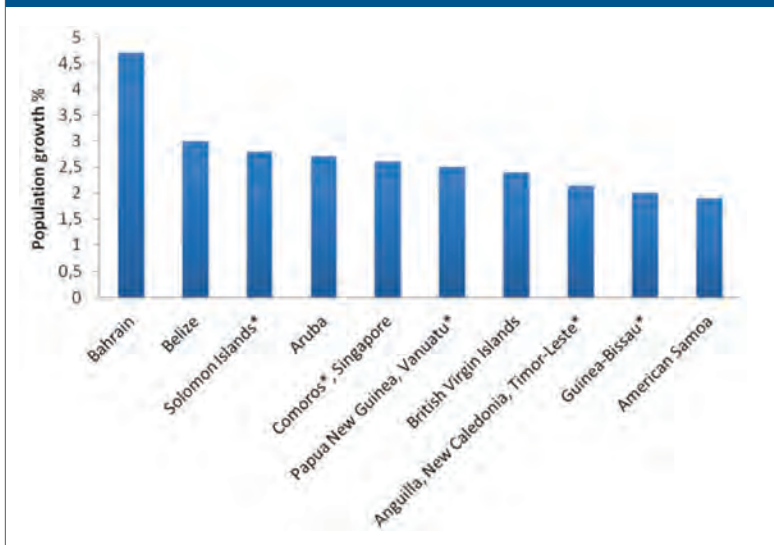


Fossil based energy dependence is a major source of economic vulnerability for many SIDS.

## Population

With regard to population size, SIDS exhibit vast differences. In 2011, SIDS had a combined population of approximately 65 million, slightly less than one percent of the world's population. Cuba is the most populated with just above 11 million inhabitants while the least populated is Niue with just 1,500 inhabitants. The average annual population growth rate is 1.3 percent. Most SIDS experience less than one percent or one to two percent population growth per annum. However, there are significant differences among the individual countries. For example, whereas Bahrain has a growth rate of almost 5 percent annually, Niue experiences negative growth (-2.3 percent) due to a high level of emigration to New Zealand.

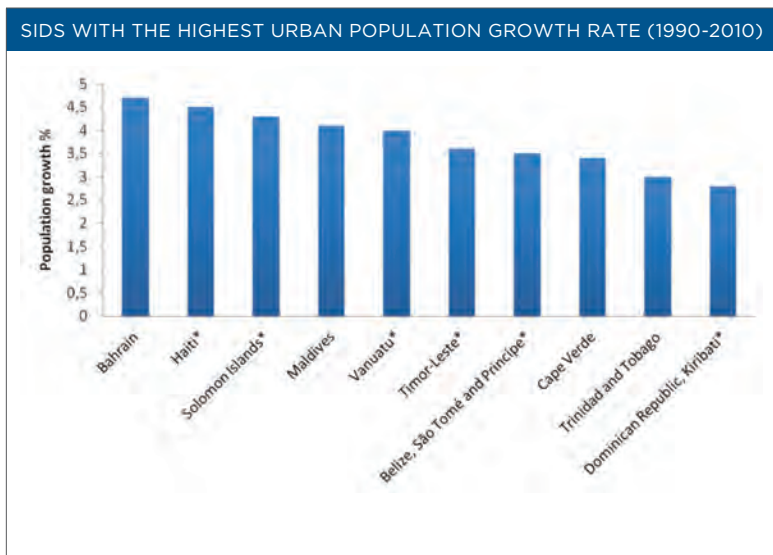
SIDS WITH THE HIGHEST ANNUAL POPULATION GROWTH (1990-2010)



Source: *The World Bank 2011*

## Urban population growth rate<sup>7</sup>

Urban population growth rates vary significantly across SIDS. Similarly as in the case of general population growth, Bahrain dominates the urban population growth with almost 5 percent average annual growth. The rest of the group includes SIDS that are categorised as least developed countries (LDCs), namely Solomon Islands, Comoros, Vanuatu, Timor-Leste and Guinea-Bissau.

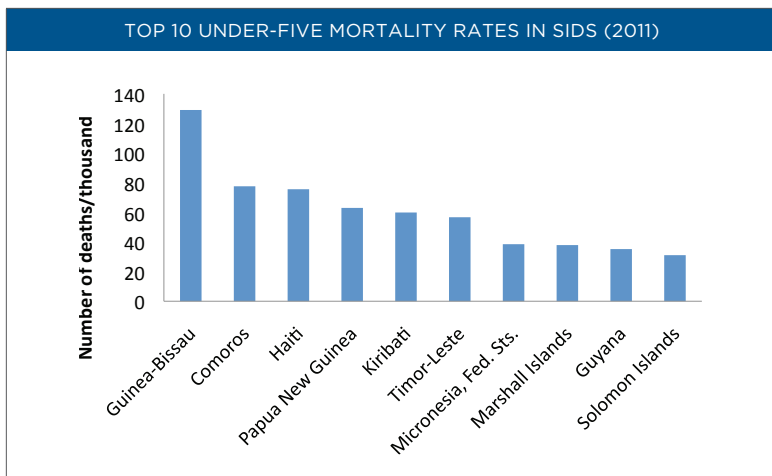


Source: *The World Bank 2011*

<sup>7</sup> Data on 8 SIDS unavailable. Statistics source: World Bank 2011

## Under-five mortality rate<sup>8</sup>

The average under-five mortality rate for SIDS remains high at 32.5 deaths per 1,000 births when compared to middle-income and high-income countries. It is the least developed countries among SIDS that have the highest under-five mortality rates and this considerably increases the average for the whole group. In particular, Guinea-Bissau, Comoros and Haiti have the highest under-five mortality rates. By contrast, Singapore registered only 3 deaths per 1,000 births in 2011. In comparison with middle and high-income countries, the under-five mortality rates in SIDS are significantly high.



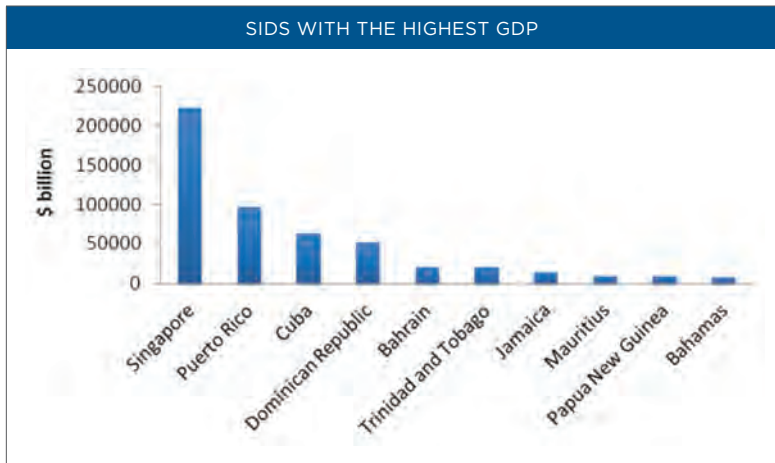
Source: *The World Bank 2011*

<sup>8</sup>Data on 12 SIDS unavailable.



## Gross Domestic Product (GDP)<sup>9</sup>

GDP varies significantly among SIDS. The average GDP for SIDS was US\$13.7 billion, however only 7 countries have a GDP higher than this amount. 81 percent of SIDS have GDPs lower than \$13.7 billion, 54 percent have GDPs less than \$1 billion. Caribbean SIDS predominate the top 10 list of SIDS with the highest GDPs. In 2011, Singapore had the highest (US\$222.7 billion) while Tuvalu had the lowest at US\$31.4 million.



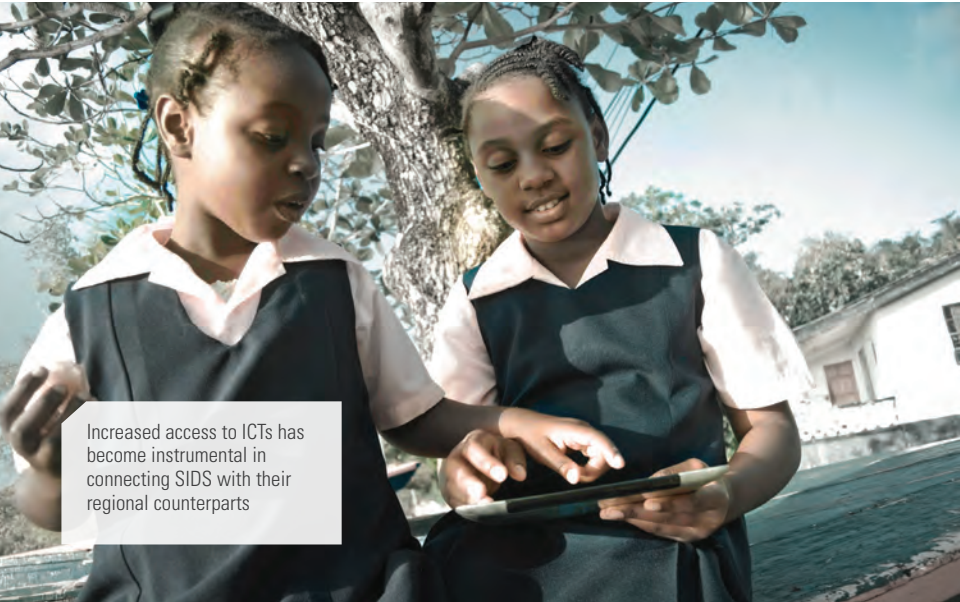
Source: *The World Bank 2011*

<sup>9</sup>Data on 12 SIDS unavailable.

## SIDS WITH THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST GDP

Singapore	222.7 billion
Puerto Rico	96.3 billion
Cuba	62.7 billion
Dominican Republic	51.6 billion
Bahrain	20.6 billion
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>13.7 billion</b>
Anguilla	175.4 million
Palau	169.7 million
Marshall Islands	155 million
Kiribati*	151.2 million
Tuvalu*	31.4 million

Source: *The World Bank 2011*



Increased access to ICTs has become instrumental in connecting SIDS with their regional counterparts

## Official Development Assistance (ODA)<sup>10</sup>

In 2011, SIDS received US\$160 million in ODA on average, but in reality, most SIDS were far from receiving such an amount. The largest recipient of aid was Haiti, one of the LDCs among SIDS. It received almost US\$1.7 billion, which constitutes 30 percent of what all SIDS receive. Without Haiti, the country average would drop to about US\$110 million. The differences in ODA received by individual SIDS are vastly diverse. In general, more than half (US\$3.1 billion) of the overall amount of ODA that was directed at SIDS in 2011 (US\$5.75 billion) went to the ten LDCs among SIDS. Altogether, SIDS received only four percent of the overall ODA directed at developing countries in 2011.

SIDS RECEIVING THE HIGHEST AND THE LOWEST ODA	
Haiti*	1.698 million
Papua New Guinea	658 million
Solomon Islands*	338 million
Dominican Republic	288 million
Timor-Leste*	279 million
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>140 million</b>
Niue	21 million
St. Kitts & Nevis	20 million
Antigua & Barbuda	16 million
Grenada	15 million
Anguilla	0.42 million

Source: OECD 2011

<sup>10</sup>Data on 15 SIDS unavailable. ODA Data source: OECD 2011

\*Least Developed Countries (LDCs) among SIDS are: Comoros, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Samoa, São Tomé and Príncipe, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu.

## Income group

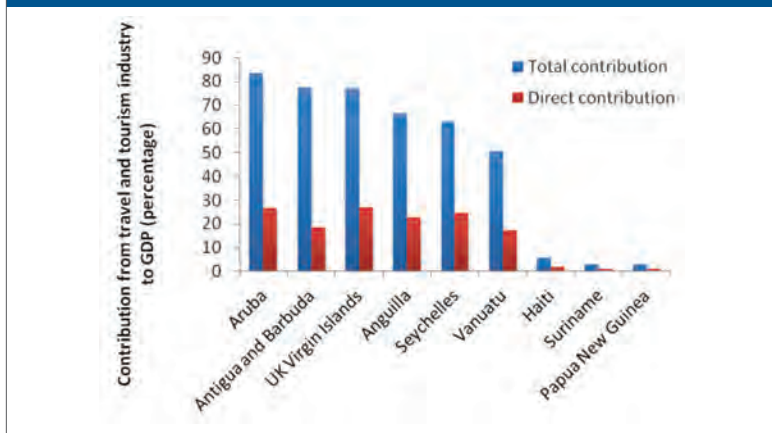
SIDS are a highly diverse group. For analytical purposes it is useful to divide them into categories based on gross national income (GNI). They can then be classified into low-income, middle-income and high-income economies. The middle-income category may be subdivided into upper-middle-income and lower-middle-income. Most SIDS, 64 percent, fall into the category of middle income countries. 31 percent of SIDS are lower-middle-income and 33 percent as upper-middle-income economies. 29 percent of SIDS are high-income economies and 7 percent are classified as low-income countries.

UPPER-MIDDLE INCOME	LOWER-MIDDLE INCOME	HIGH-INCOME	LOW-INCOME
American Samoa	Belize	Aruba	Comoros
Antigua & Barbuda	Cape Verde	Bahamas	Guinea-Bissau
Cuba	Fiji	Bahrain	Haiti
Dominica	Guyana	Barbados	
Dominican Republic	Kiribati	French Polynesia	
Grenada	Marshall Islands	Guam	
Jamaica	FSM	New Caledonia	
Maldives	Papua New Guinea	Puerto Rico	
Mauritius	Samoa	Singapore	
Palau	São Tomé & Príncipe	St. Kitts & Nevis	
Seychelles	Solomon Islands	Trinidad & Tobago	
St. Lucia	Timor-Leste	U.S. Virgin Islands	
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	Tonga		
Suriname	Vanuatu		
Tuvalu			

## Key industries

**Tourism:** The contribution of the travel and tourism industry to GDP and employment in SIDS is indicative of the industry's importance. In 2012 Aruba's travel and tourism industry made a total contribution of 26.5 percent to GDP and if the total contribution (direct and induced)<sup>11</sup> is taken into account, the contribution amounts to 83.8 percent. Similarly, Antigua and Barbuda, the UK Virgin Islands, Anguilla, Seychelles and Vanuatu are heavily dependent on the travel and tourism industry (total contribution higher than 50%). Regarding employment, in 2012 the UK Virgin Islands topped the list with a direct contribution to employment of 32.8 percent and a total contribution (direct and induced)<sup>12</sup> of 89.3 percent. In contrast, the travel and tourism industry in Haiti, Suriname and Papua New Guinea makes relatively small contributions to GDP and employment.

TRAVEL AND TOURISM: TOTAL AND DIRECT CONTRIBUTION TO GDP (2012)

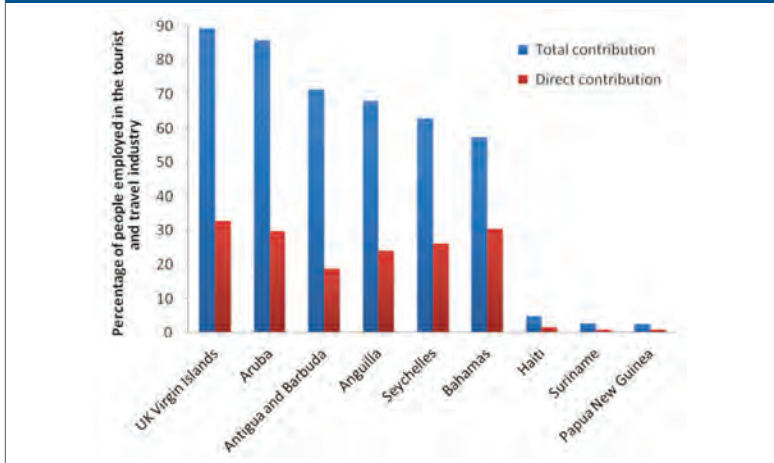


Source: World Travel & Tourism Council 2013

<sup>11</sup> Total contribution: GDP generated directly by the Travel & Tourism industry plus its indirect and induced impacts. Indirect contribution: Capital investment, government collective spending and supply chain effects. Induced contribution: The broader contribution to GDP and employment of spending by those who are directly or indirectly employed by Travel & Tourism.

<sup>12</sup> The number of jobs generated directly in the Travel & Tourism industry plus the indirect and induced contributions.

## TRAVEL AND TOURISM: DIRECT AND TOTAL CONTRIBUTION TO EMPLOYMENT (2012)



Source: World Travel & Tourism Council 2013

**Fisheries:** Fisheries contributed only 0.07 percent to the GDP of Trinidad and Tobago in 2006, 2007 and 2008. On the other hand, for Tuvalu the contribution amounted to 7.2 percent in 2011 and for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) it was 10.1 percent in 2010.

**Extractive industries:** Trinidad and Tobago's mining industry contributed 45.8 percent to the island's GDP in 2008. Many other islands have less significant mining industries, with contributions below 1 percent (e.g. Barbados, Belize, Dominica; according to data from 2007 by ECLAC).

**Agriculture:** Papua New Guinea had a contribution of 36 percent to GDP in 2012, whereas the Bahamas and Puerto Rico had a dependence of 2 percent and 1 percent, respectively. Agriculture includes forestry, hunting and fishing, cultivation of crops and livestock production.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Agriculture, Value added (% of GDP)

## External debt<sup>14</sup>

The overall external debt stock that 23 Small Island Developing States accumulated in 2011 was 55.8 billion US\$. However, there are significant differences in indebtedness across SIDS. The Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Papua New Guinea, whose debts are higher than US\$10 billion are amongst the higher values for external debt. The external debt of almost half of all SIDS for which data is available does not exceed half a billion US\$. The least indebted country is Tonga with an external debt of US\$190 million.

SIDS WITH THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST EXTERNAL DEBT	
Dominican Republic	15.4 billion
Jamaica	14.3 billion
Papua New Guinea	12.6 billion
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>2.4 billion</b>
Guyana	1.8 billion
Seychelles	1.8 billion
Solomon Islands*	255.5 million
São Tomé and Príncipe*	231.0 million
St. Kitts and Nevis	202.7 million
Vanuatu*	201.8 million
Tonga	190.6 million

Source: *The World Bank 2011*

<sup>14</sup>Data on 29 SIDS unavailable.



## Major Trading Partners<sup>15</sup>

In general, SIDS trade with a wide variety of countries. When considering the top five trading partners for individual SIDS, it is found that SIDS as a group exchange goods and services with at least 40 different partners. Among the most important trading partners for more than half of all SIDS are the EU, the United States and People's Republic of China.

At the regional level, the most common trading partner of the Caribbean SIDS is the United States. For nine out of seventeen Caribbean SIDS, the United States is the largest trading partner. Also, the EU is one of the major trading partners for the AIMS<sup>†</sup> SIDS. For five of them, it is even the largest trading partner. Further, People's Republic of China and the United States are often the most important trading partners for the AIMS SIDS. The most important trading partners for Pacific SIDS are Singapore, Australia, Japan and New Zealand.

THE MOST COMMON TOP 5 TRADING PARTNERS	
33 SIDS	EU (27x), US (23x), China (21x), Singapore (12x)
17 Caribbean SIDS	US (16x), EU (15x), Trinidad and Tobago (8x), Venezuela (4x), Canada (3x)
9 AIMS SIDS	EU (9x), China (5x), US (5x), India (4x)
7 Pacific SIDS	Australia (6x), Singapore (6x), Japan (4x), New Zealand (3x)

Source: OECD 2011

<sup>15</sup> Data on 19 SIDS unavailable; 6 on Caribbean SIDS, 13 on Pacific SIDS.

<sup>†</sup> AIMS: Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea.

## Remittances<sup>16</sup>

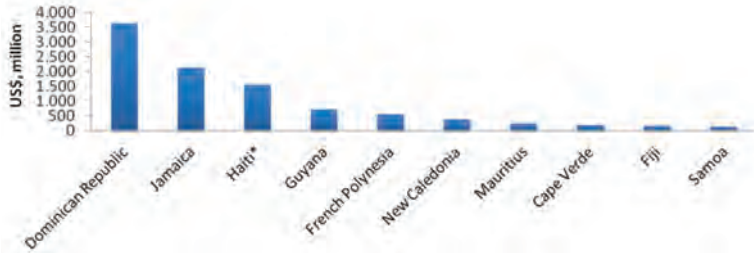
The amount of money sent home by migrants varies strongly across SIDS as according to 2011 estimated figures by the World Bank. 45 percent of SIDS for instance, do not receive more than 50 million US\$, while 21 percent cannot expect more than US\$100 million. In 2011, most remittances went to three Caribbean states — the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Haiti. It is these three SIDS that contribute to the high average for SIDS. Without them, it would be about US\$117 million. The Dominican Republic as the largest recipient of remittances among SIDS received over US\$3.6 billion. By contrast, the Solomon Islands received only US\$2 million.

SIDS RECEIVING THE MOST AND THE LEAST REMITTANCES	
Dominican Republic	3,628 million
Jamaica	2,123 million
Haiti*	1,551 million
French Polynesia	700 million
New Caledonia	552 million
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>356 million</b>
Papua New Guinea	11 million
São Tomé and Príncipe*	7 million
Suriname	4 million
Maldives	3 million
Solomon Islands*	2 million

Source: World Bank 2011

<sup>16</sup>Data on 23 SIDS unavailable.

## SIDS RECEIVING THE HIGHEST REMITTANCES



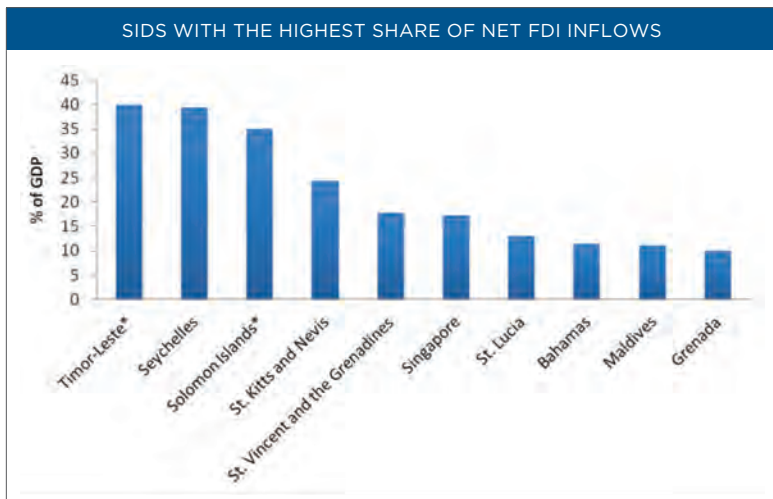
Source: World Bank 2011



FDI inflows vary across SIDS.

## Foreign direct investment (FDI)<sup>17</sup>

Net FDI inflows vary across SIDS. According to 2011 World Bank figures, FDI contributes almost 40 percent to the GDPs of Timor-Leste and Seychelles, however Cuba's net inflows equal zero while that of Suriname are in negative numbers. The average net FDI inflow for SIDS is 8.4 percent. While 70 percent of SIDS receive small amounts of FDI, the vast majority of SIDS still have higher net FDI inflows than the average middle-income or high-income countries that receive only 2.7 percent and 1.8 percent, respectively.



Source: World Bank 2011

<sup>17</sup>Data on 15 SIDS unavailable.



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