

**Review of Implementation of the
Mauritius Strategy**
Secretary General's report
(E/CN.17/2010/9)

SIDS Day at CSD-18
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Background

- Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA, 1994) and Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation... (MSI, 2005)
- GA resolution 62/191: "review progress made in addressing the **vulnerabilities** of Small Island Developing States through the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation at the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly"
- This report: "initial global synthesis of national and regional MSI+5 review reports, in order to inform deliberations of member States at the SIDS Day"

SG report

1. Introduction
2. Overall development progress of SIDS
 - Macroeconomic developments
 - MDG progress
 - Special SIDS vulnerabilities
 - MSI implementation
3. Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy: progress, lessons-learnt and continuing challenges
 - Economy
 - Environment
 - Social and institutions
4. Issues for consideration

Review in terms of *all 19* MSI themes and 7 means of implementation

Analysis based on vulnerability framework

The SIDS Landscape

- **Ecological exposure:** natural disasters, low resource base
- **Economic vulnerability:** Small economic size, narrow export base, dependence on unreliable export sectors (e.g., tourism) and financial inflows (ODA, FDI, R)
- **Economic disadvantages:** Distance/ transport, low scale economies, narrow skill base, high unit cost of public institutions
- **Progress:**
 - variable growth record since 1990,
 - increased CO₂ emissions (in all SIDS) 2000-06,
 - worsened vulnerability since 2000,
 - significant but mixed progress on MSI and MDG since 2005,
 - multiple crises threaten earlier achievements,
 - declining ODA (in some),
 - graduation from LDC category (for some),
 - absence of dedicated support

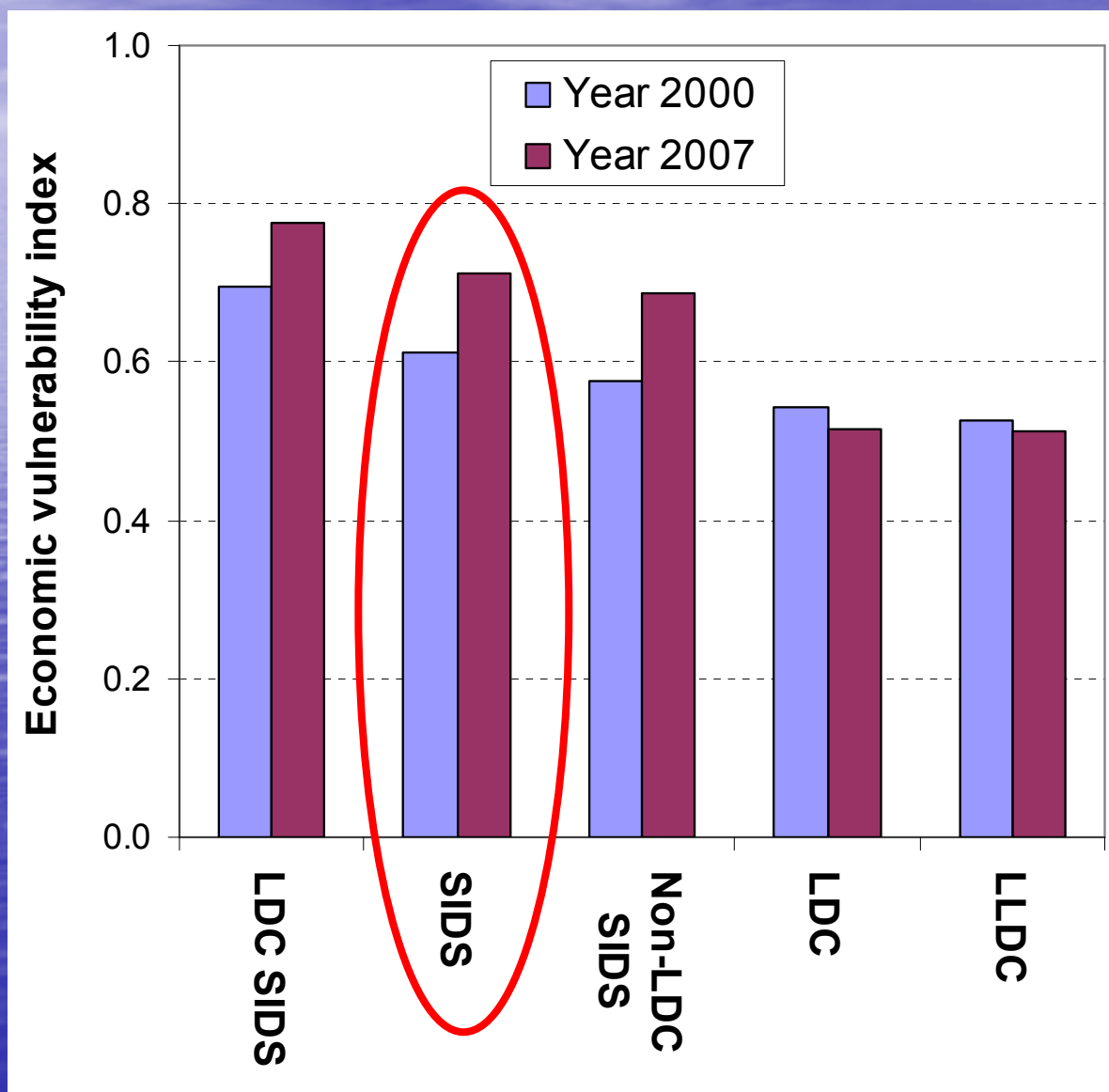
Disadvantages

- International “hubs-and-spokes” system of transport, trade and the Internet has further marginalized SIDS at the “spokes”
- 9 of 11 SIDS among the bottom 50 logistics performers
- IP transit service prices 10 to 100 times larger in SIDS than US/Europe
- Low R&D investment ($\sim 0.1\%$ of GDP)
- Only 20 of 5009 CDM projects validated in SIDS until 2010
- etc.

Sources of Volatility

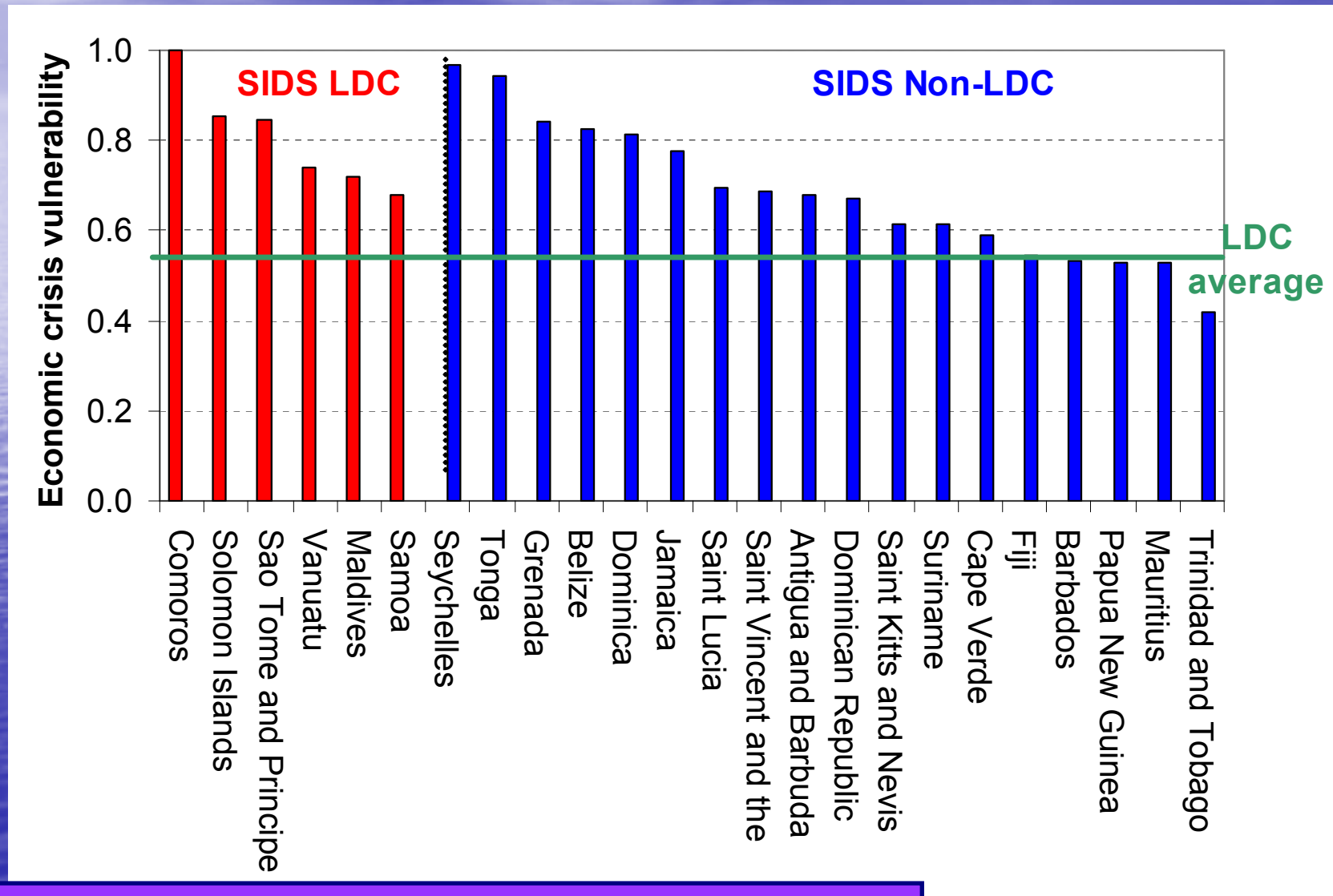
- Energy price shocks (12% of SIDS imports are oil)
- Tourism receipts account for 51% of SIDS export value
- Volatility index of tourism revenue was 1.8 for SIDS compared to 0.7 for LDCs
- 6 SIDS top list of countries with the highest relative economic losses due to natural disasters 1970 to 2006
- Future: Sea-level rise an existential threat to low-lying atoll islands
- Etc.

High vulnerability of SIDS worsened further since 2000



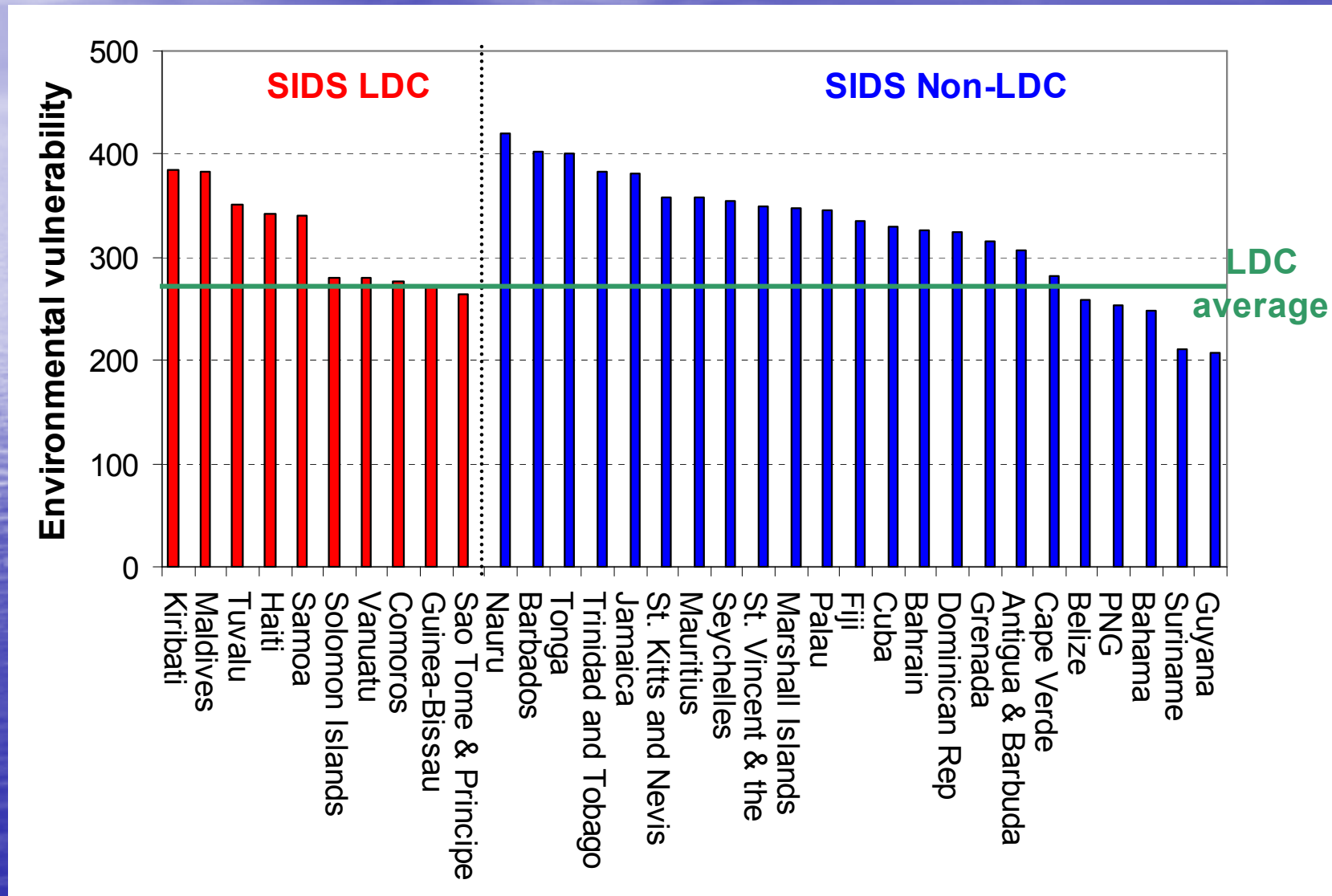
Data source:
ESCAP/UNDP/A
DB (Sept.
2009), based on
data for 24
SIDS world-
wide.

Economic vulnerability of most SIDS higher than LDC average



Source: based on ESCAP/UNDP/ADB 2009.

Environmental vulnerability of most SIDS higher than LDC average



Source: UNEP/SOPAC environmental vulnerability index

The 19 MSI themes address intrinsic vulnerabilities of SIDS

Climate change and sea-level rise	Transport and communications
Natural and environmental disasters	Trade
Management of wastes	Science and technology
Coastal and marine resources	Graduation from LDC status
Freshwater	Tourism
Land resources	Energy
Biodiversity	Health
Sustainable production and consumption	Knowledge and information management
Sustainable capacity development and education	National and regional enabling environments
	Culture

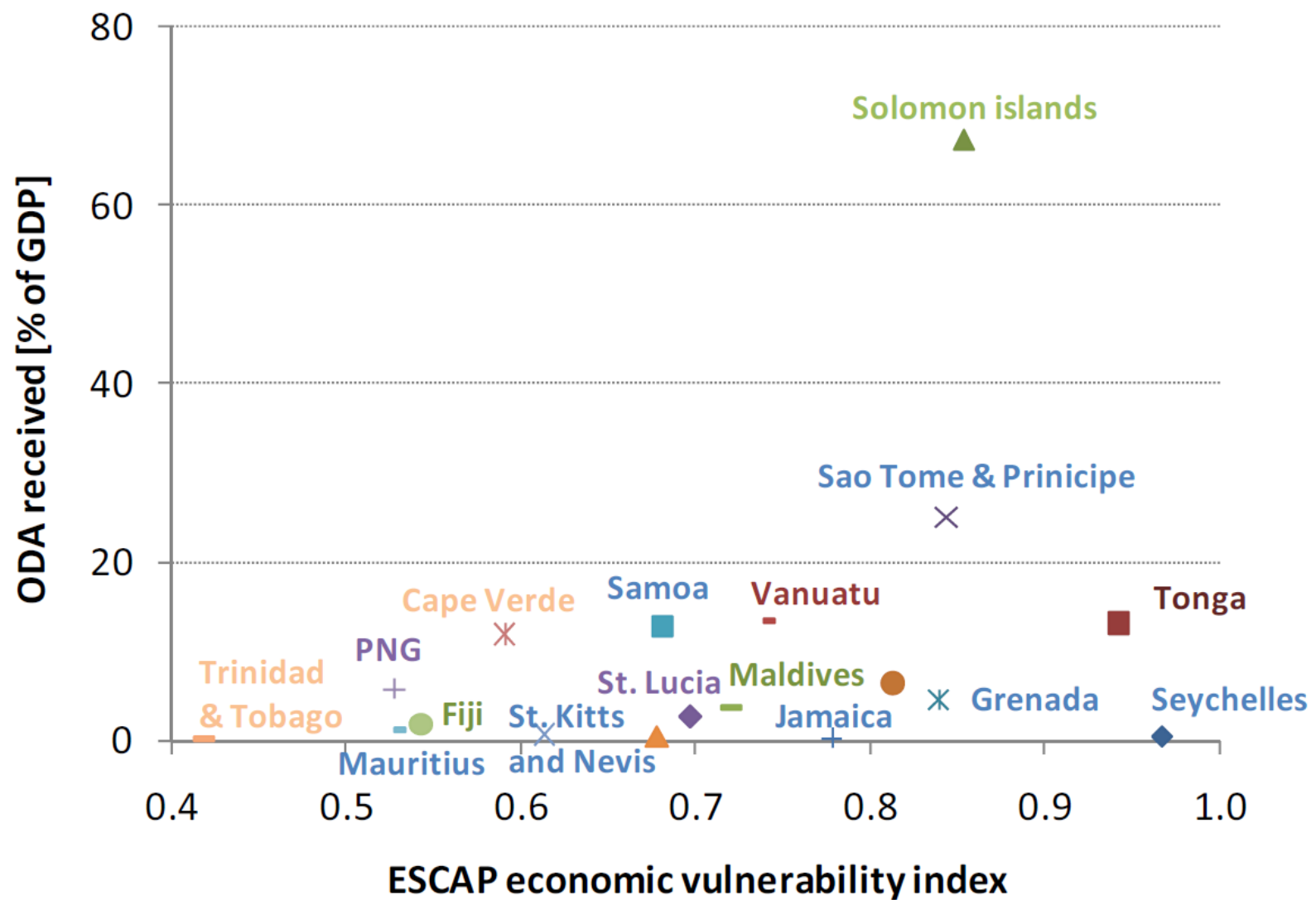
The 7 MSI “means of implementation” address intrinsic vulnerabilities of SIDS

Access to and provision of financial resources	Monitoring and evaluation
Science and technology transfer	National and international governance
Capacity development	Role of SIDS regional institutions
Role of the UN	

Challenges for International Cooperation

- Existing international support not focused on needs
- LDC graduation criteria
- Support or benefits of LDC status not adequate for the challenge.
- Continued calls by SIDS for formal recognition of SIDS by the UN, together with special treatment in terms of trade, finance, and aid

ODA is neither directed at the lowest income SIDS nor to those with the highest vulnerabilities



Mobilization of International Support

- Review effectiveness of support systems, including the LDC category, for poor and vulnerable countries
- Engage with envisaged review by CDP of LDC graduation criteria?
- Propose a special category for SIDS or VCs?

Issues for consideration

- (a) Strengthen support to national sustainable development strategies and national development planning processes
- (b) Support initiatives toward sustainable energy
- (c) Strengthen resilience of fragile ecosystems to the impacts of climate change
- (d) Partnership initiatives for action in further implementation of the Programme of Action.

Thank you!

More information: www.sidsnet.org/msi_5/