



**Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Small Island Developing States Sustainable Energy And Climate Resilience
Organisation (SIDS DOCK)
and
The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)**

WHEREAS, the Small Island Developing States (“SIDS”) Sustainable Energy and Climate Resilience Organisation (hereinafter “SIDS DOCK”) was established on 25 September 2015, by the Heads of Government and State of small islands and low-lying developing states as their intergovernmental, United Nations (“UN”) -recognized international platform. Such a platform has all the rights and privileges for addressing climate change, resilience and energy security in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). It acts as their collective mechanism to transform their energy sectors and economies to low carbon in order to achieve significant reduction in energy expenditures, to help generate significant financial savings for countries, and for investing in climate change adaptation;

WHEREAS, the SIDS DOCK Work Programme was approved on 29 September 2018, at the Fourth Assembly of SIDS DOCK, held at the UN Headquarters in, New York;

WHEREAS, the International Renewable Energy Agency (hereinafter “IRENA”) is mandated to promote the widespread and increased adoption and the sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy;

WHEREAS, on 2 September 2014, SIDS DOCK and IRENA, referred to collectively as “the Parties” and individually as “the Party”, concluded a Memorandum of Understanding whose term ended on 31 August 2019, and;

WHEREAS, the Parties wish to continue their collaboration to promote accelerated deployment of sustainable renewable energy systems in SIDS in the context of the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative (hereinafter “the Initiative”), coordinated by IRENA and which aims to support SIDS in their energy transformation, and in harmonisation with the SIDS DOCK Work Programme, approved on 29 September 2018 and any applicable successor Work Programme approved by the SIDS DOCK Assembly;

NOW, THEREFORE, SIDS DOCK and IRENA have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

Areas of Cooperation

1. The Parties agree that, with a view to facilitating the effective attainment of the objectives set forth in their respective constituent instruments, they will act in close cooperation with each other and will consult regularly on matters of common interest.
2. The possible areas of cooperation identified by the Parties are listed below. Additional areas may be subsequently agreed upon by the Parties.
 - 2.1 **Energy Policies, Roadmaps and Renewable Readiness Assessments.** The Parties will cooperate closely on the provision of support in the development, review and implementation of national and regional energy policies, roadmaps and renewable readiness assessments with least cost options for achieving national and regional renewable energy targets and support the development and uptake of renewables and energy efficiency in SIDS.
 - 2.2 **Databases and Knowledge Sharing Platforms.** IRENA and SIDS DOCK will support each other in the establishment and development of databases and knowledge-sharing platforms, and will provide mutual access to already existing platforms, subject to the Parties' compliance with these platforms' respective terms of use:
 - a. SIDS DOCK will provide IRENA with access to the SIDS Island Life Information Network ("ILIN") and facilitate access to potential data providers for SIDS.
 - b. IRENA will provide SIDS DOCK with access to the Global Atlas, Resource, Climate Investment Platform and the SIDS Lighthouses knowledge sharing platforms and facilitate access to potential data providers for SIDS.
 - c. IRENA and SIDS DOCK will cooperate to further develop the SIDS ILIN, launched in September 2014, in Apia, Samoa, at the Third UN Conference on SIDS.
 - d. IRENA and SIDS DOCK will also cooperate to equip the regional energy centres located in the three regions of SIDS covered by SIDS DOCK, with Geographic Information Systems ("GIS") for renewable energy applications in SIDS, in order to build upon information collected through IRENA's Global Atlas For Renewable Energy, to enable the SIDS ILIN with geospatial capacity to facilitate resource assessments, to map disaster-prone areas, and to track applications, transmission system design and project implementation.

2.3 Global and Regional Initiatives.

- 2.3.1 SIDS DOCK will support the SIDS Lighthouses Initiative (hereinafter “the Initiative”), for which IRENA acts as a coordinating hub. Parties will seek to collaborate to achieve the Initiative’s priority areas, as follows:
- 2.3.1.1 Support SIDS in reviewing and implementing their Nationally Determined Contributions, extending technical assistance and capacity building where needed.
 - 2.3.1.2 Extend focus beyond power generation to include transportation and other end-use sectors.
 - 2.3.1.3 Reinforce and expand engagement of partners, and leverage synergies with other relevant initiatives.
 - 2.3.1.4 Strengthen institutional and human capacity development in all segments of the renewable energy value chain.
 - 2.3.1.5 Link renewable energy uptake to climate resilience and more effective disaster recovery.
 - 2.3.1.6 Support development of bankable projects, fostering access to finance and closer co-operation with the private sector.
 - 2.3.1.7 Expand from assessment and planning to implementing effective, innovative solutions, with continued technical and regulatory advisory services to help SIDS overcome their unique challenges.
 - 2.3.1.8 Promote all renewable sources, including geothermal and ocean energy, along with stepping up work to integrate solar photovoltaic and wind power.
 - 2.3.1.9 Leverage synergies between renewables and energy efficiency.
 - 2.3.1.10 Reinforce links between renewables and non-energy sectors, including agriculture, food, health and water, to foster broad socio-economic development as well as raising awareness about job creation, gender equality and women’s empowerment through renewable energy development.

2.3.1.11 Enhance collection and dissemination of data and statistics, supporting informed decision-making and effective monitoring.

2.3.2 IRENA will collaborate with SIDS DOCK in the framework of the Global Geothermal Alliance (hereinafter “GGA”) to facilitate the exchange of insights with key stakeholders worldwide and foster the creation of an enabling environment for the increased development of geothermal energy.

2.3.3 The Parties will cooperate on carrying out specific joint activities, including joint side events and, as appropriate, joint monitoring, evaluation and reporting in the context of the Initiative and/or the GGA, as applicable.

2.4 Capacity Building

2.4.1 SIDS DOCK and IRENA will support the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREEE) and the Pacific Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (PCREEE) in developing a sustainable renewable energy market in the Caribbean and Pacific regions through coordinated capacity development, knowledge management and awareness and investment promotion activities that will support and strengthen governments, utilities, regulators and entrepreneurs to create an enabling environment for renewable energy markets and investments that will support SIDS transition from high dependence on imported fuels to highly efficient, low carbon Blue Economies.

2.4.2 The Parties will work together to facilitate and support, as applicable, the development, review and implementation of power purchase agreements between utilities and independent power producers as well as facilitating and supporting the development, review and establishment of public-private partnerships.

2.4.3 The Parties will work together in undertaking analyses on energy data, statistics, and regional energy targets, as appropriate.

2.4.4 The Parties will work together in supporting SIDS in the uptake of renewable energy in the tourism, education, and other sectors in addition to those outlined in Article 2.3.1.10. above.

2.4.5 The Parties will, as appropriate, invite each other to meetings and workshops, and will cooperate to conduct joint capacity building activities.

2.5 Project Development and Financing.

- 2.5.1 The Parties will work together to facilitate and support the establishment of the SIDS DOCK Island Women Open Network (IWON) Sustainable Energy Financing Facility, that will finance the activities required prior to seeking financing for the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives, programmes and projects, which is inclusive but not limited to preparation of project documentation, analysis of funding sources, technical assistance, empowerments of women entrepreneurs and provision of recoverable or direct grant funding of activities prior to project financing and implementation;
- 2.5.2 The Parties will work together to provide actionable capacity building to project developers and key stakeholders by sharing technical guidelines and provision of technical trainings which comprise best practices and details on how to structure climate-resilient-bankable renewable energy initiatives.
- 2.5.3 The Parties will work together to support SIDS in the assessment of opportunities which attract financing for renewable technologies for waste to energy and desalination.
- 2.5.4 The Parties will work together to strengthen professional capacities of the SIDS regional energy centres to conduct on an ongoing basis assessment of the share of renewable energy that may be attained on island power grids through static or dynamic analysis of the grids under different scenarios of renewable penetration, through internships, undertaking joint research and analysis, staff loans and exchange;
- 2.5.5 The Parties will cooperate in the framework of the Climate Investment Platform (CIP) global initiative to accelerate investments in renewable energy and enable the realisation of more ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and collaborate towards IRENA's regional Investment Forums.

ARTICLE II

Exchange of Information and Documents

1. The Parties agree to facilitate an exchange of knowledge and information on renewable energy deployment in SIDS, as well as to provide, as appropriate, guidance and training materials and share methodologies and case studies.
2. The Parties will keep each other fully informed concerning all relevant activities and events of interest by either Party.

3. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding is construed as requiring either Party to furnish the other Party with confidential information. If Parties will exchange information of a confidential nature under this MoU, they will consult with a view to put in place safeguards for the protection and the use of such information.

ARTICLE III

Modalities of cooperation between the Parties

1. This Memorandum of Understanding does not in any way commit either Party to financial or human resource obligations. All activities in pursuance of the areas of cooperation established herein are subject to the availability of funding and human resources.
2. Implementation of specific activities, projects and programmes pursuant to this Memorandum of Understanding, including those involving the transfer of funds between the Parties or giving rise to legal or financial obligations, will necessitate the execution of appropriate legal instruments between the Parties. Such instruments will, where applicable, specify the objectives, timelines, deliverables, funding arrangements, and responsibilities of the Parties.
3. The primary contact person for each Party will be:
 - 3.1 For SIDS DOCK: Secretary-General, SIDS DOCK Secretariat.
 - 3.2 For IRENA: Director, Country Engagement and Partnerships (CEP) Division.
 - 3.3 Or such other person that either Party may, by notice in writing to the other Party, designate.

ARTICLE IV

Notices

1. Any notices required by this MoU on matters relating to the interpretation, amendment or termination of this MoU shall be given in writing and delivered by hand, certified mail or overnight courier to the following addresses:
 - 1.1 **When addressed to SIDS DOCK:**
SIDS DOCK Secretariat
Attention: Secretary-General
C/O Ministry of Energy, Public Utilities, Public Service
Government of Belize
North Wing, Ground Floor
Sir Edney Cain Building
Belmopan, Cayo District

Belize
Tel: 1-301-873-4522
Fax: +(501)-822-2206
E-mail: secretariat@sidsdock.org

1.2 **When addressed to IRENA:**

Director General
IRENA Headquarters, Masdar City
P.O. Box 236
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates
Tel: +971 2 417 9000; Fax: +971 2 658 1726
E-mail: administration@irena.org

- 1.3 or such other address that either Party may specify in writing to the other Party in accordance with the terms of this notice provision.

ARTICLE V
Intellectual Property Rights

1. Nothing in the Memorandum of Understanding will be construed as granting or implying rights to, or interest in, intellectual property of the Parties, except as otherwise provided in paragraph 2 below.
2. In the event that the Parties foresee that intellectual property that can be protected will be created in relation to a particular activity, project or programme to be carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties will negotiate and agree on terms of its ownership and use in the relevant legal instrument concluded pursuant to Article III, paragraph 2 above.

ARTICLE VI
Privileges and Immunities

1. Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding will be deemed to be a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of SIDS DOCK or IRENA.

ARTICLE VII
Use of Name and Emblem

1. Unless expressly authorised by each Party in writing, the Parties will not, in any manner whatsoever, use the name or any abbreviation thereof, emblem or official seal of the other Party, in connection with their business or otherwise.
2. All press releases or public statements relative to this Memorandum of Understanding or its implementation must be approved by both Parties, in writing, prior to their release or disclosure.

ARTICLE VIII
Legal Status of the Parties

1. Each Party is recognised to be a separate and independent organisation and neither Party has the authority to bid or act on behalf of the other. As such, each Party retains its own identity and each Party is responsible for establishing its own regulations, rules and policies.

ARTICLE IX
Settlement of Disputes

1. The Parties shall endeavour to settle amicably any dispute between them concerning the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding.

ARTICLE X
Liability

1. Each Party shall be responsible for its acts and omissions in connection with this Memorandum of Understanding and its implementation unless agreed otherwise by either Party under a separate agreement concluded pursuant to Article III, paragraph 2 hereof.

ARTICLE XI
Amendment

1. This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended only by written agreement of the Parties.

ARTICLE XII
Entry Into Force, Duration and Termination

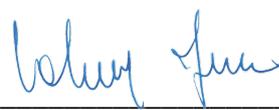
1. This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force upon signature by the duly authorized representatives of both Parties and will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years.
2. This Memorandum of Understanding may be renewed by mutual agreement of the Parties in writing.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding may be terminated by mutual agreement of the Parties or by either Party by providing sixty (60) days' written notice to the other. In any such event, the Parties will take all necessary actions as required to promptly and orderly terminate any on-going activity or project carried out under this Memorandum of Understanding, in a cost-effective manner.
4. This Memorandum of Understanding represents the complete understanding between the Parties and supersedes all prior Memoranda of Understanding, communications and representations, whether oral or written, concerning the subject matter of this Memorandum of Understanding.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Chair of the Executive Council of SIDS DOCK and the Director-General of the International Renewable Energy Agency have affixed their signatures to two (2) original copies in the English language on the date(s) set forth below.

For SIDS DOCK:

For International Renewable Energy Agency

H.E. Mr. Ronald J. Jumeau
Ambassador Extraordinary and
Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Seychelles to the United
Nations
Chair, Executive Council of SIDS DOCK



Mr Francesco La Camera
Director-General

Date:

Date:

