NATIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS’ CONSULTATION ON SMALL ISLAND DEVELOPING STATES AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA PROCESSES REPORT

AUGUST 8, 2014

Caribbean Youth Environment Network - Barbados
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The consultation could not have been completed without the assistance of several entities. First of all, we would like to acknowledge the hospitality and assistance of the UNDP-GEF/SGP. Special note must be given to Mr. David Bynoe and his team.

We also recognise the invaluable guidance and help from Mr. Reginald Burke, the Executive Coordinator of the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) which we owe a huge debt and gratitude not only over the last month but over the years.

Finally, we are grateful to Ms. Waynelle Collymore-Taylor, National Coordinator CYEN-Barbados, Mr. Stefan Knights and Ms. Jamilla Sealy for their steadfastness in relation to leading and organising the development of all activities relating to this event.
BACKGROUND

Barbados is a Small Island Developing State (SIDS) that has played a significant role in the development of the understanding of the ecological, economic and socio-cultural vulnerabilities faced by islands, within the context of the United Nations (UN) global platform. The island nation hosted the First International SIDS Conference in 1994 and contributed significantly in the Second International Conference in Mauritius in 2005. The Third International SIDS Conference is scheduled to take place in Apia, Samoa from the 1st to 4th of September, 2014.

Central to the success of these global activities, is the implementation of activities by all sectors of society that additively combine efforts to forge the results that should lead towards the attainment of sustainable development. It is clear however, that for such a process to be successful, both governmental and non-governmental actors (civil society organisations (CSO)) must dialogue to not only clearly understand their respective roles but as importantly, assist governmental agencies in shaping policy which redounds to the benefit of the local community but which also brings value to the international process.

The UN has designated 2014 as the International Year of SIDS and to date; while there have been UN-related obligations and activities being undertaken by the Government of Barbados over the past twelve months, there has been very little discussion about the issues within the Barbadian CSO sector. Consequently, the island runs the risk of:

a) Developing policy statements or negotiating text, through government alone, within the international process that does not truly reflect the realities faced by the CSO sector.

b) Alienating the CSO sector from buying into the process and possibly from encouraging a meaningful nexus of cooperation between governmental and civil society activities.

In this regard, every attempt should be made to engage the CSO sector in the SIDS process to ensure that:

a) Their voices are heard and they are provided the opportunity to highlight the relevant work that they have done.

b) They have a role is assisting in the crafting the key statements and agreements that will be made in the SIDS and

c) The working relationships between government and the CSO sector is nurtured and strengthened as this will be critical for the effective governance and implementation of activities following the SIDS conference.

The grounds of the consultation identifies with the proposal to have a National Major Groups Forum established as a means to ensure inputs from all relevant stakeholders into the national planning processes. These grounds are reflected in Paragraph 6 of Chapter 3 of the Barbados National Assessment Report: for The Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States.
MAIN REPORT

Welcome, Opening Session and Introductions:

Welcome Remarks by David Bynoe - National Coordinator, UNDP-GEF/SGP

Mr. Bynoe commented on the stellar efforts of CYEN-Barbados who facilitated the consultation. He also encouraged the participants to grasp the opportunity presented to them as they sought to harness coherent positions to be presented to the Government of Barbados. He asked that the consultation be seen not as an end in itself but as an opportunity for CSOs to be more involved in the SIDS process and the Post-2015 UN Development Agenda.

Brief Remarks by Waynelle Collymore-Taylor - National Coordinator, CYEN-Barbados

Ms. Collymore-Taylor noted that the consultation presented the civil society with an opportunity to have its voice heard and counted. She stated that the consultation should be seen as a watershed to strengthen the working relationships between the civil society sector and the Government of Barbados. She maintained that CYEN-Barbados will continue to facilitate the education of youth in all matters relating to sustainable development and the environment. She thanked the participants on the behalf of the members of the CYEN-Barbados for attending this all but necessary event.

Feature Address by Mr. Stephen O'Malley, United Nations Resident Representative, UNDP-Barbados and the OECS

Mr. O'Malley commented on the rationale behind the Major Group concept and challenged the participants to familiarise themselves with the nine (9) Major Groups. He noted that the participants should utilise the Major Group framework as their point of entry when delivering inputs to the Government of Barbados or within intergovernmental processes. Mr. O'Malley believed that the consultation should be seen as a capacity building tool to facilitate the education of participants on engaging and participation. He noted that people-centred development was key to any sustainable development process and should be encouraged in its greatest capacity.
Presentations

Overview of SIDS and Post-2015 Processes: Travis Sinckler, Senior Environmental Officer, Ministry of Environment and Drainage

Mr. Travis Sinckler provided an overview of the Government of Barbados's participation within the SIDS and Post-2015 UN development processes (See Annex 3). He placed particular emphasis on the SIDS process and noted that it fed into the Post-2015 Development Agenda process. He noted the objectives of the Third International SIDS Conference reflected this, which are:

a. Assess the progress to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation;
b. Seek a renewed political commitment by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for further implementation;
c. Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for the sustainable development of SIDS and means of addressing them;
d. Identify priorities for the sustainable development of SIDS to be considered in the elaboration of the Post-2015 Development Agenda.

Mr. Sinckler believed that at the national level, the participation of the civil society has been less than satisfactory within development processes. Exceptions were made to the work of CYEN-Barbados and the Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC) which he commended. In like of this, Mr. Sinckler noted that the civil society sector should use the consultation to establish a mechanism to better facilitate its involvement within national development processes. He commented on the importance of the UN Resolution which called for the Third International Conference on SIDS. According to him, the Resolution also mandated the undertaking of well-structured broad-based participatory process at the national level. He noted that while the Outcome Document for the SIDS Conference has already been drafted, the Government of Barbados still welcomes entry points that would enhance the delivery of its national position. He urged the use of the Major Group platform and noted that this was an identified point of entry for UN processes.

Discussion and Interactive Session

One participant asked whether civil society and youth were separate. Mr. Sinckler responded by saying that there was overlap within the nine Major Group. He commented on the youth sector and made reference to CYEN-Barbados. According to him, CYEN-Barbados could fit under two Major Groups which were non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and Children and Youth. Another participant asked how the priorities for the Caribbean in the context of SIDS were determined. Mr. Sinckler responded by saying that each member state had the responsibility of producing national assessment reports. He noted that these reports were reviewed at the Caribbean regional preparatory meeting for the Third International Conference for SIDS which was held in Jamaica last year. The priorities came out as an outcome of this meeting. Questions also emerged over the re-inclusion of indigenous people within the sustainable development dialogue. Mr. Sinckler responded by saying that the indigenous community has been represented and reflected in the various outcome documents.
Findings from National Youth Consultation on SIDS and Post-2015 Development Processes and Research - Jamilla Sealy, Project Coordinator, CYEN-Barbados

Ms. Jamilla Sealy presented on the findings from the National Youth Consultation on SIDS and Post-2015 UN development agenda and the Knowledge, Attitude and Practice (KAP) Study on the Awareness of Sustainable Development in SIDS among Barbadian Youth respectively (See Annex 4).

National Youth Consultation

Ms. Sealy noted that the national youth consultation sought to capture the perspectives of young citizens on SIDS and the Post-2015 Development Agenda and to sensitise youth on issues relating to sustainable development. The consultation had thirty-nine (39) participants. Ms. Sealy said that participants were randomly divided into three groups, each representing a pillar of sustainable development.

The following were the major challenges noted by the participants within the pillars:

1. Environment Pillar: climate change and the effects on food production; improper disposal of electronic waste; unsustainable land management
2. Social Pillar: changing family structure; sexual and reproductive rights; drug abuse and addiction and peer influence
3. Economic Pillar: unemployment; tourism; and food cost and consumption patterns.

Ms. Sealy also noted some of the major solutions that cut across the pillars. They were noted to be:

- Creation of appropriate and effective legislation and enforcement (education, recycling, sustainable land management)
- Increased youth participation on issues related to sustainable development
- Change in attitudes and behaviour (entrepreneurship, sustainable consumption and production and solid waste management)

KAP Study

Ms. Sealy believed that the KAP study conducted by CYEN-Barbados was of great importance. This study used a sample of 361 persons between the ages of 15 and 30 years. She revealed the trends and thoughts of young people with regards to sustainable development and SIDS and noted that 64% of the young Barbadian citizens surveyed have never heard about the term ‘SIDS’ while 56% have never heard about the term ‘sustainable development’. She expressed great concern over the collected data and called for the swift addressing of what she considered to be a worrying case for the country's future. She went further to reveal other elements of the study. She noted that these focused on ranking the priorities of numerous issues of concern for Barbados as a SIDS among the sample. The following were noted:

- High Priority Issues: youth participation, science technology and innovation, conservation of plants and animals, poverty and tourism
- Low Priority Issues: prevalence of non-communicable, high dependence on fossil fuel, climate change and weather
• Not Important Issues: high food import bill and sustainable land and water management where 63% of the participants noted that it was important for farmers.

Ms. Sealy noted that the case of unemployment sat on the fence and that it came as a shock due to the number of unemployed youth in the country.

Discussion and Interactive Session

Five participants commented on the presentation. The first inquired about the context of tourism as a priority area within the study and Ms. Sealy informed her that it was noted that there is a need to have a shift in policy that focuses on education related to employment. This participant believed that focus should be on promoting areas that are deemed necessary for the further advancement of Barbados. The following participant noted that a special emphasis should be placed on reducing the cost of doing business by addressing issues of extensive bureaucracy and also by creating an economic climate that would be receptive to encouraging entrepreneurship. According to participant, much talk focused on entrepreneurship for development but the enabling factors have been absent. Another participant questioned the make-up of the youth involved with regards to the percentage of disabled and indigenous persons. Ms. Sealy noted that there was no way to make that disclosure because the study did not require interviewees to state whether they were disabled or were from indigenous groups. The final participant asked about the publishing of the report and the next steps CYEN-Barbados plans to take after the study. Ms. Sealy responded by noting that CYEN-Barbados has engaged the Division of Youth, Ministry Culture Sports and Youth on the findings and have been actively promoting the all matters in sustainable development with an increased purpose. She noted that the study itself represented the organisation's desire to spread awareness and education across the youth sector.
CPDC's Overview of Civil Society Involvement in SIDS and Post-2015 Development Agenda: Ms. Shantal Munro-Knight, Executive Coordinator, CPDC

Ms. Shantal Munro-Knight noted that while civil society has often been referred to as the ‘Third Sector’, joining government and the private sector as a critical arm in the development process, its engagement has been sporadic in nature (See Annex 5). Making special note to the SIDS process, she commented on the intent for ‘effective’ inclusion of civil society in the preparatory process and conference. She noted that Paragraph 21 of the UN Resolution, which called for the Conference stressed;

“the need for the effective participation of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and other major groups, and invites voluntary contributions to support the participation of major groups of developing countries, in particular small island developing States, in the regional and international preparatory processes and the Conference itself;”.

She noted that the Caribbean Policy Development Centre (CPDC) convened a Civil Society Consultative Working Group (CSCWG) to mobilise Caribbean civil society participation in the preparatory meetings in 2013 and for the Conference in 2014. It was noted that CSCWG was also convened for the Post-2015 process. Despite this, Ms. Munro-Knight was critical of the enabling environment for civil society participation. She stated that in spite of the recognition of the need for involvement of the civil society sector in national and regional development processes, there were constraints to the full and effective participation of civil society in development initiatives in the Caribbean. According to her, while governments have embraced, and applied, the idea of public-private partnerships, they have been reluctant to embrace the idea of public-civil society partnerships at the national level. She noted that the maintenance of the constraints to participation in appropriate dialogue was contrary to globally accepted norms.

She presented the recommendations put forward for consideration by the CSCWG. They were as follows:

- Establishing an institutionalised Major Group Forum which would be given official status to make interventions and inputs into the SIDS 2014 and Post-2015 processes and follow actions for implementation.
- Strengthening international development partnerships not only to support direct government interventions but also to support civil society actions at various levels, including partnerships among CSOs across all SIDS.
- Developing an institutional framework (policies, laws, structures, processes) that enables civil society participation in development at the regional, national and local levels.
- Strengthening the capacity of CSOs to directly support delivery of services, including through provision of resources, training and exchanges.

In addition to the above, Ms. Munro-Knight stressed that the civil society sector should seek better buy-ins into the various development processes that go beyond SIDS and Post-2015 processes by building linkages. She placed particular emphasis on knowledge of the UN
language and avenues for participation. According to her, these were all necessary in creating a more enabling environment for voicing civil society concerns.

**Discussion and Interactive Session**

One participant noted that CSOs lacked a shared philosophy and this has resulted in conflict in the past. This participant went further to say that rules of game are not conducive for engagement as each CSO will seek to firstly position itself before coming together. Ms. Munro-Knight acknowledged this reality and responded by noting that one of main challenges facing the civil society sector has been will of CSOs to participate and participate collectively. She stressed that the door has been pried open for participation and that the onus was on the participants to seize the opportunity. Another participant asked how CSOs could get more involved in the SIDS process and Ms. Munro-Knight responded that while there were many ways to participate, a firm understanding of the UN process will facilitate that participation. According her, CSOs have the opportunity to influence the various processes through advocacy, education, awareness and in implementation and monitoring.
### Working Groups to Identify Key Civil Society SIDS Issues

The participants were divided into five (5) working groups with an assigned facilitator in each group. The groups were asked to identify key areas of concern for the civil society within the three pillars of sustainable development (social-cultural, economic and environmental). It was noted that these key areas would form the basis of the priorities which will be presented to the Government of Barbados. Below are the key issues emerging from each group under each pillar of sustainable development.

#### Group 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pillar</th>
<th>Priority Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Socio-cultural| • Sustaining cultural industries should be seen as being essential for tourism and maintaining a national identity  
               | • Changing attitudes to encourage development  
               | • Cultural penetration from extra-regional sources  
               | • Cooperation between NGOs |
| Economic      | • Education to drive development where a special emphasis should be placed on needs of Barbados  
               | • Access to funding to facilitate entrepreneurship |
| Environmental | • Public awareness on waste management strategies such as recycling  
               | • Sustainable land usage |

#### Group 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pillar</th>
<th>Priority Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Socio-cultural| • Gender-based violence  
               | • Citizen security and drug related crime  
               | • Health and wellness with a special emphasis on consumption patterns and NCDs  
               | • Enabling youth empowerment through innovative strategies (mentorship, internships, participation in extra-curricular activities)  
               | • Poverty |
| Economic      | • Rising unemployment  
               | • Addressing the national debt through innovative means  
               | • Encouraging the development of innovative micro-enterprise through access to granting or funding agencies |
| Environmental | • Climate change and disaster management within the context that SIDS are vulnerable to sea level rise and that the Caribbean region is vulnerable to hydro-meteorological hazards respectively.  
               | • Enforcement of policies to ensure that land management is seen as priority (sustainable land management)  
               | • Explore avenues for research and implement renewable energy as means to address the high fuel import bill  
               | • Solid waste management within the context of cleanliness and health  
               | • Sustaining oceans and reefs as they are essential element for tourism and fisheries |
### Group 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pillar</th>
<th>Priority Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Socio-cultural      | - Obesity and the prevalence of NCDs  
- Cultural penetration, resulting a lack of national identity  
- Narcotics/drug related crime and substance abuse  
- Gender mainstreaming into policies  
- Inclusion of persons with special needs  
- Good governance, with an emphasis on better engagement with the civil society sector |
| Economic            | - Alternate income generators to tourism  
- Use of ICTs to drive the economy  
- Import substitution with a special emphasis on revitalising the agricultural sector to lower the high food import bill  
- Enabling entrepreneurship so as to drive innovate |
| Environmental       | -                                                                                                                                              |

### Group 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pillar</th>
<th>Priority Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Socio-cultural      | - Rising unemployment  
- Increased crime and violence which are based on proliferation of drugs and guns within the Barbadian society  
- Gender equality in education as means to ensure that males (boys) and females gain equal access to opportunities at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels  
- NCDs and health |
| Economic            | - High level of imports (fuel and food)  
- High cost of living and high cost to operate business  
- High fiscal deficit resulting in little or no growth in the economy |
| Environmental       | - Water conservation within the context that Barbados is a water scarce nation  
- Education on waste management (recycling) to minimise the amount of garbage heading to the landfills  
- Facilitate the increasing use of renewable energy to lower the fuel import bill |

### Group 5

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pillar</th>
<th>Priority Areas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Socio-cultural      | - Incorporating indigenous rights into national dialogue  
- Social exclusion of civil society and other disadvantage groupings  
- Enabling and prioritising education on social responsibility  
- Equal access to livelihood opportunities for all  
- Greater policy coherence and communication between Ministries |
| Economic            | - Reduction of bureaucracy to expedite economic activity |


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Environmental</th>
<th>Improving entrepreneurship skills through mentorship, capacity building workshops and funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Building and strengthening the capacity of NGOs to deliver programming on matters relating to sustainable development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Providing more awareness on environmental issues.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Priority Areas Arising From the Working Groups for Inputs into the Samoa Pathway**

**Socio-cultural**

1. More inclusive governance is needed to effectively engage civil society. Local governance also needs to be strengthened to enable effective delivery of actions at the community level.
2. Reducing the prevalence of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) requires education and sharing information to achieve change in behaviour patterns. Emphasis should be placed on utilising CSOs to facilitate capacity building activities so as to alleviate the health challenges posed by personal lifestyles - diet culture among others.
3. It is a necessary imperative that an adequate and inclusive mechanism for addressing the rising levels of crime, inclusive of substance abuse and gender-based violence form an integral component of any development model. In like of this, CSOs believe that they have an important role to play in ensuring that essential tools for livelihood development are disseminated.
4. There is a need to address the willingness to accept foreign cultures and behaviours within the Barbadian society. CSOs believe that they could be utilised to enhance evolution of Barbados' cultural product.

**Economic**

1. There is a need to diversify the economy beyond tourism to build its resilience in order to survive external shocks. This can be done through the development of policies and implementation of strategies to encourage domestic economic reform such as investigating the use of ICTs and entrepreneurship.
2. Reducing the cost of doing business by addressing issues of extensive bureaucracy and also by creating an economic climate that would be receptive to encouraging entrepreneurship. Emphasis should be placed on investigating how the use of ICTs can lead to higher levels of efficiency and productivity as well as providing opportunities for entrepreneurial income generation.
3. Undertaking a lobbying thrust to have a re-examination of the graduation criteria from international financial institutions, as this is significantly impacting the ability of SIDS to access monetary loans at manageable interest rates.
4. Reducing the high national debt and cost of living to minimise the impacts on the poor, disadvantaged and unemployed.
Environment

1. There is a need to address land use management in a sustainable way especially with high competition for land in Barbados as a SIDS. Land for agriculture and waste management were seen as essential elements to sustainable development and needed urgent attention.

2. Reducing the high cost of energy was seen as a necessity. Action is needed to address the issue of incorporating alternative sources of energy as well as education for the public to encourage support for a move towards more sustainable energy consumption nationally.

3. There is a need to address climate change and disaster risk resilience in Barbados. CSOs noted that climate change mitigation and there was a requirement for increased knowledge on climate change and mainstreaming disaster risk resilience into their work and in advocacy.
**Closing Session and Agreements and Next Steps**

The following were stated in plenary after the working group presentations:

Participants agreed that CYEN-Barbados would present the noted sustainable development priorities articulated by the civil society to the Government of Barbados for consideration, in the development of a national position for both the upcoming SIDS meeting in Samoa and the Post-2015 Development Agenda process. The participants also agreed to facilitate the establishment of a formal major group mechanism that will be linked to the UN Major Groups system. Eight chairpersons were nominated and selected as chairpersons for nine (9) interim major group committees. Those selected persons were charged with the responsibility of disseminating information on the consultation to other stakeholders within their grouping. A timeframe of two months was given for the interim committees.

Table showing the nominated and elected chairpersons, their major group designation and the CSO they represent.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Group Sector</th>
<th>Interim Chairperson</th>
<th>Chairperson’s Organisation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business and Industry</td>
<td>Lynette Holder</td>
<td>SBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children and Youth</td>
<td>Waynelle Collymore-Taylor</td>
<td>CYEN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers</td>
<td>James Paul</td>
<td>BAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous People</td>
<td>Carl Talma</td>
<td>Ichirouganaim Council for the Advancement of Rastafari (ICAR)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Authorities</td>
<td>Jaime Paul</td>
<td>BWA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs</td>
<td>Elsa Webster</td>
<td>BARP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>Lynette Holder</td>
<td>YWCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workers and Trade Unions</td>
<td>Margo Bannister</td>
<td>NUPW</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ms. Jamilla Sealy thanked everyone for their availability and inputs; she noted that this was just the beginning of a long process that will move towards Samoa and beyond. She recognised the contribution of her fellow presenters, Ms. Shantal Munro-Knight and Mr. Travis Sinckler, the office of UNDP - GEF/SGP, present members of CYEN-Barbados and Mr. Reginald Burke, Executive Coordinator of CYEN.
ANNEX

Annex 1 Background of CYEN

The Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) is a non-profit, charitable non-governmental organisation which focuses on the development of youth with respect to sustainable development and environmental issues. The organisation focuses on engagement, participation, advocacy, lobbying, awareness and education of youth to empower them. There are 19 (nineteen) Chapters across the region with over 800 individual members.

CYEN has been involved in the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) process since the 1st international Conference held in Barbados, in 1994 until present. As this year, 2014, has been designated as the United Nations International Year of SIDS, the organisation has been promoting and raising awareness of SIDS issues at various events in Barbados at Agrofest, Barbados Water Authority (BWA) World Water Day showcase, the National Youth Consultation on SIDS and Post-2015 Development Agenda and World Environment Day celebrations. The Chapter has also conducted research on the awareness of sustainable development in SIDS of Barbadian Youth this year to gather information of the youths understanding about SIDS and sustainable development. CYEN has also produced a video and position paper entitled the Caribbean We Want to showcase unified priority areas for Caribbean Youth with respect to sustainable development. Other activities conducted by CYEN is the annual International Coastal Cleanup coordinated by CYEN where volunteers come together to clean the beaches and record the types and the quantity of the garbage collected.
**Opening Ceremony**

**Master of Ceremonies – Mr. Stefan Knights**
*Special SIDS Envoy, CYEN*

**Welcome Remarks - Mr. David Bynoe**
*National Coordinator, UNDP - GEF/SGP*

**Brief Remarks – Ms. Waynelle Collymore-Taylor**
*National Coordinator, CYEN-Barbados*

**Featured Speaker – Mr. Stephen O’Malley**
*Resident Representative, UNDP-Barbados and the OECS*

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**Agenda**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Lead discussant</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Welcome, opening session and introductions</td>
<td>UNDP-GEF/SGP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:20 am</td>
<td>Brief media session</td>
<td>Travis Sinclair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Overview of the SIDS and Post-2015 processes</td>
<td>Senior Environment Officer, Ministry of Environment and Drainage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:35 am</td>
<td>Overview of draft documents for SIDS and post-2015</td>
<td>Shental Munro-Knight, Executive Coordinator, CPDC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15 am</td>
<td>Presentation: National Youth Consultation on SIDS and research findings</td>
<td>Jamilla Sealy, Project Coordinator, CYEN-Barbados</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:35 am</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:05 am</td>
<td>Instructions for working sessions</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>Working groups to identify key SIDS issues from the CSO perspective</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 am</td>
<td>Work group deliberations presented in plenary session and discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:05 pm</td>
<td>LUNCH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 pm</td>
<td>Working group session to examine avenues and opportunities to create a formal Major Groups mechanism that can be linked to the UN Major Groups system and which can also develop a meaningful CSO-Government platform for dialogue</td>
<td>Facilitator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:55 pm</td>
<td>Work group deliberations presented in plenary session and discussion</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Agreement on next steps and CSO approaches going forward.</td>
<td>CSO representative-led</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Closure</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Civil Society Organisations Consultation ON SIDS and the Post-2015 Development Agenda

- Travis Sinckler
- Government of Barbados
- July 30, 2014
- UN House. Barbados

Implementation of the BPOA and MSI/BPOA has been less than satisfactory

UN GA Res 65/2
OBJECTIVES

► (1) outline the process leading up to the Third International Conference on SIDS and how the Government of Barbados has participated;

► (2) map out how the Government of Barbados plans to be engaged in the Post 2015 Development Agenda process;

► (3) Identify potential entry points for CSOs to get meaningfully engaged in these development processes.

PROCESS

► Rio+20- Future We Want and the Global reaffirmation to sustainable development
► Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development
► High Level Political Forum, UN Environment Assembly, Sustainable Development Goals, Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing
► Commitment to the Third International Conference on the Sustainable Development of SIDS
PROCESS

▶ Resolution 67/207

▶ **Assess the progress** to date and the remaining gaps in the implementation of the BPOA and the MSI building inter alia on existing reports and relevant processes;

▶ **Seek a renewed political commitment** by all countries to effectively address the special needs and vulnerabilities of SIDS by focusing on practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the BPOA and MSI inter alia through mobilisation of resources and assistance for small island developing states;

PROCESS

▶ **Identify new and emerging challenges and opportunities for sustainable development of SIDS** and ways and means to address them including through the strengthening of collaborative partnerships between small island developing states and the international community; and

▶ **Identify priorities for sustainable development of SIDS** for consideration as appropriate, in the elaboration of the post-2015 UN development agenda.
PROCESS

- National Preparations- National Consultation and NAR-April-July 2013
- CARICOM COFCOR- May 2013
- Regional Consultations- July 2013
- SIDS Interregional (August 2013)
- Modalities Resolution (December 2013)

PROCESS

- First Prep Com –February 2014
- Civil Society Steering Committee Nomination -April 14, 2014
- Inter-sessional April 21-25, 2014
- Pre-Conference- August 28, 2014
  - Youth,
  - Major groups
  - Private Sector
- 3rd International Conference- September 1-4, 2014
PROCESS

- Small States Biennial Meeting
- ECLAC Meetings
- CARICOM Heads of Government
- Bilateral Meetings
- Youth Consultation

PROCESS

- Approximately 2 years of preparation
- Barbados played a key roll
- International Year of SIDS
- Several parallel processes (SDGs)- capacity and space
- SAMOA Outcome has been finalized
- Beyond Samoa
POST 2015 ENGAGEMENT

- SIDS National Assessment Report
- MDG Assessment Report- UNDP Support
- Member of the Open Ended Work on Sustainable Development Goals- CARICOM Approach
- High Level Political Forum-CARICOM
- CARICOM Declaration
- High Level Stocktaking Event on the Post 2015 development Agenda

POST 2015 ENGAGEMENT

- SIDS Outcome provides an entry point
- Negotiations in 2015-regional strategy is expected
- HLPF 2015
CSO POTENTIAL ENTRY POINTS

- SAMOA Conference- Partnerships, etc
- UN Major Groups Process
- UN Processes
- Political Engagement at Regional and National Governance Processes
- Media
- UN Resident Coordinator

CSO POTENTIAL ENTRY POINTS

- Institutional Mechanism should be considered-Barbados Major Groups Consultation Platform
- Levering on UN experience with Major Groups
- Regional Dimension is just as critical
- Preparation for Post 2015 is opportune
- Good Governance is a key ingredient for the mechanism
- Supports monitoring of Samoa Outcome
LAST THOUGHTS

- 1 in 10 year event
- CPDC has been driving CSO engagement- provides a platform
- Partnerships for Samoa
- SIDS-SIDS Cooperation among CSOs
- Establish CSO Follow-Up Meetings to Samoa
- SIDS Village- Promote One Caribbean
Annex 4: Presentation by Jamilla Sealy – Findings from National Youth Consultation on SIDS and Post-2015 Development Agenda and KAP Research on Youth Awareness of Sustainable Development Issues

Findings from National Youth Consultation on SIDS and Post-2015 Development Agenda and KAP Research on Youth Awareness of Sustainable Development Issues

JAMILLA SEALY, PROJECT COORDINATOR, CYEN-BARBADOS
30TH JULY 2014

National Youth Consultation on Small Island Developing States and the Post-2015 Development Agenda

BARBADOS CHAPTER OF CYEN
DIVISION OF YOUTH
National Youth Consultation

- Occurred on Global Youth Service Day 2014
- Division of Youth support
- 39 participants

Objectives:
- Capture and document the perspectives of young citizens on SIDS and the Post-2015 Development Agenda.
- Sensitise youth on the issues.
Solutions

- Creation of appropriate and effective legislation and enforcement
- Enforcement of strict policies (education, recycling, sustainable land management)
- Ignorance or fear of the system
- Increased youth participation
- Change in attitudes and behaviour (entrepreneurship, solid waste management, sustainable consumption and production)
- Marketing and research in tourism sector
Conclusions and Recommendations

- Sustainable development will not be brought about by policies alone.
- To achieve sustainable development, profound changes in behaviour are necessary.
- Some participants wanted to become change-agents within their organisations and communities and also join in the discussions for the two processes through CYEN-Barbados.

KAP Study of the Awareness of Sustainable Development in SIDS of Barbadian Youth

CYEN-BARBADOS
Rationale

▪ Do Barbadians know about sustainable development?
▪ Does the average Barbadian young citizen know about issues in Small Island Developing States?
▪ What are their top priorities or challenges for sustainable development?

▪ Objectives:
  ▪ To determine the knowledge about SIDS and sustainable development.
  ▪ To identify the priority areas for sustainable development for youth within Barbados.

Findings

▪ 361 persons between the ages of 15-30 years were surveyed.
▪ 42% were 15-19 years old while 28% were from 20-24 years and 25-30 years respectively.
64% of Barbadian Young Citizens have never heard of the term ‘Small Island Developing States’

56% of Barbadian Young Citizens have never heard the term ‘Sustainable Development’
Top Five Priorities for Barbadian Youth

1. Youth Participation
2. Science, Innovation and Technology
3. Conservation of Plants and Animals
4. Poverty
5. Tourism

High Priority
- 1. Youth Participation
- 2. Science, Innovation and Technology
- 3. Conservation of Plants and Animals
- 4. Poverty
- 5. Tourism

Unemployment

Low Priority
- Prevalence of NCDs
- High dependence on Fossil Fuels
- Climate change and weather

Not Important
- High food import bill
- Sustainable land and water management
Conclusions and Recommendations

- Barbadian youth are not aware of sustainable development issues and SIDS
- Increased education
- Increased participation

Any Questions?
Presentation for SIDS Consultation

July 30th, 2014

ROLE OF CSOS

- **Service providers**: delivering services to meet societal needs such as education, health, food and security, community economic development, implementing natural resource management, undertaking disaster management, preparedness and emergency response, especially at the community level.
- **Experts**: bringing unique knowledge and experience to shape policy and strategy, and identifying and building solutions on social, economic and environmental issues.
- **Capacity builders**: providing education, training and other capacity building via informal as well as formal programmes for a wide range of target audiences and using a diverse set of capacity building approaches including innovative use of information and communication technologies.
- **Representatives**: giving power to the voice of the marginalized or under-represented, including poor communities and resource users who are otherwise excluded from decision-making processes.
- **Watchdogs**: holding governments to account, promoting transparency and accountability.
- **Advocates**: raising awareness of societal issues and challenges and advocating for change, including on a range of sustainable development issues.
- **Innovators**: leading on new and emerging issues such as green economy, sustainable consumption and production, and renewable energy.
CSO Involvement in SIDS

Long history of engagement in the process since the first SIDS Conference held in Barbados in 1994

There was a recognition of the role of the sector

At its organizational session, in April 1993 the Preparatory Committee considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/CONF.167/PC/2). The report stressed the importance of NGOs in the preparatory process and the Conference:

22. As with the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the community of non-governmental organizations clearly has a major contribution to make to the deliberations of the Conference and its preparatory process and is expected to serve once again as an important channel for disseminating the results of the Conference, as well as for mobilizing public support for strengthened policies at the national and international levels.

Against this background, the Preparatory Committee decided to invite NGOs to participate in the preparatory process and the Conference itself.

Resolution of the GA (A/RES/47/189)

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CSO Involvement in SIDS

- Key Role
- Mobilizers
- Advocates
- Monitoring Commitments
- Implementers
Current Process

- The formation of the Civil Society Consultative Working Group
- Multi-sectoral Working Group which worked to coordinate Civil Society positions for input into the regional preparatory processes

Current Process

- Development of positions papers
- Insertion into regional preparation processes
- Building linkages across SIDS
- Developing coalitions across the sector
- Insertion into the UN system for Caribbean voices
- Building linkages with the UN Major Groups process
**CCWG**

- **Recommendations:**
  - Establishing an institutionalised Major Group Forum which would be given official status to make interventions and inputs into the SIDS 2014 process and follow actions for implementation.
  - Strengthening international development partnerships not only to support direct government interventions but also to support civil society actions at various levels, including partnerships among CSOs across all SIDS.
  - Developing an institutional framework (policies, laws, structures, processes) that enables civil society participation in development at the regional, national and local levels.
  - Strengthening the capacity of CSOs to directly support delivery of services, including through provision of resources, training and exchanges.

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**Post 2015**

- UNDP national and thematic consultations
- WWW2015.org
- Bottom up?

**SDGs**

- UN TT Briefs
  - MLP report on post 2015
  - UNGC report
  - SD Solution Network
- UN TT MDG report
- OWG Draft report
- Bottom up?

**One set of coherent goals?**

- Poverty eradication still overriding and multidimensional
- Other topics? Interdependency among goals?
- Universal? Indicators/monitoring?
- Role of science? Dashboard?
- Integrate 3 dimensions? Right-based approach. Need to address drivers.
- Means of implementation?
Participation in the Post 2015 Development process

- Eight Focal areas in the OWG Process
  - **Cluster 1**
    - Poverty eradication
    - Promote equality
  - **Cluster 2**
    - Gender equality and women’s empowerment
    - Education
    - Employment and decent work for all
    - Health and population dynamics
  - **Cluster 3**
    - Water and sanitation
    - Sustainable agriculture, food security, and nutrition
  - **Cluster 4**
    - Economic growth
    - Industrialization
    - Infrastructure
    - Energy
  - **Cluster 5**
    - Sustainable cities and human settlements
    - Promote Sustainable Consumption and Production
    - Climate
  - **Cluster 6**
    - Conservation and sustainable use of marine resources, oceans and seas
    - Ecosystems and biodiversity
Cluster 7
- Means of implementation/Global partnership for sustainable development

Cluster 8
- Peaceful and non-violent societies, rule of law and capable institutions

Caribbean CSO participation
- To date the participation has been sporadic
- Little civil society mobilization even though there is much resonance with the issues
- Little practical engagement/dialogue at the national level
- Currently process for participation is dominated within the United Nations
Process for Engagement

- National Level engagement
- Civil Society Mobilization
- Insertion in policy spaces at the regional and national levels

Ensuring meaningful engagement

- Facilitating the enabling environment
- Creation of genuine spaces for dialogue

Tangible support:
- On government delegations
- Resources for participation
- Access to information and spaces

CSO Strengthening
- Stronger and more transparent representation
- Greater concrete interventions and positions
Process for Engagement

- Opportunities for mutual support on key issues
- Creation of national commissions /working groups for monitoring implementation
- CSO involvement in COTED/COSHOD negotiations
- Development of inclusive national position papers
Annex 6: Newspaper articles and Press Releases on the CSO Consultation

Press Release published on What’s Up Caribbean website July 30th 2014:

Spread the word

BYNOE: BAJANS NOT AS AWARE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES AS THEY SHOULD BE.

It is important that Barbados continue to play a leading role in informing their citizens on the programme of action of small island developing states (SIDS). Furthermore, national coordinator of the Global Environment Facility's small grants programme, David Bynoe, says that he believes that as long as the island and other partners in the region have the capacity to contribute to that information dissemination they should.

Speaking to Barbados TODAY during a Civil Society Organization (CSO) consultation on SIDS and post-2015 development agendas held at the United Nations House in Hastings, Christ Church, this morning, Bynoe said it was important Barbadians were aware of the sustainable development challenges facing SIDS. Particularly, he added, because though the region did not contribute significantly to climate change in terms of the amount of carbon emission created, “we nonetheless were most impacted.”

“Generally, Barbadians are not as aware of the process as they should be, but you have significant pockets of persons who make sure that they make it their goal or task to be informed. But what we want to do is to ensure that the average person understands what is happening in the global agenda as it relates especially to SIDS, because as a small island developing state we are (exposed) to several major impacts in climate change.

“We are seeing it in out coral reefs, change of weather patterns...days are getting hotter, sea levels are rising, very strange weather patterns, more significant downpours and people generally feeling there is something happening that is very different from before,” Bynoe said.

Bynoe, who is also an agriculturist, stated that because everyone did not identify this issue as climate change, more education was therefore needed, so more people would be willing to take action. And this workshop, he said, was also part of the process.

“We can’t rely on Government and international agencies like the United Nations alone to disseminate the information but the average citizen through community-based organizations can play a role in getting that information out to their constituencies.”

The GEF provides special grants for opportunities for training in areas such as: climate change, international waters, biodiversity and the prevention of harmful waste, climate change adaption funding, as well as land derogation, which is particularly important to Barbados since a large portion of the Sci District is prone to land slippage.

Today’s workshop was opened to CS and Bynoe was hoping that it would not “talkshop”; rather he wanted it to be a opportunity for these persons to form a formal major group structure and their voices heard.

“It is not a one-off workshop. We will have others following on and building on foundation that has been laid today. We are going to have grants specifically targeting issues that were raised, and these grants opened between US$50,000. Some of the benefits of having a formal major group is that for you to influence policy within system, you need a conduit to go through. Traditionally the main conduit would through Government, but following the I Conference what happened was that wanted to get more citizens involvement if countries in the Caribbean don’t have this major group structure, it makes it more difficult going forward,” Bynoe added. (KC)
Major Group for B’dos in the works

By Kord Gooding

CIVIL SOCIETY organisations came together yesterday for one purpose—to voice their opinions on the goals which need to be met to ensure the development of Barbados.

With the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to be held in September of this year in Apia, Samoa, the Civil Society Organisations’ Consultation on Small Island Developing States and Post-2015 Development Agenda at the United Nations (UN) House in Barbados was deemed crucial and urgent. Despite taking issue with the lateness of the consultation, the Master of Ceremonies and Special SIDS Envoy with the Caribbean Youth Environment Network – Barbados Chapter, Stefan Knights, urged for the meeting to be meaningful.

He said, “Undoubtedly, the Consultation today is of great significance. It is important because Civil Society is given an opportunity, albeit only at the 11th hour, to have our voices heard and taken into account in the aforementioned development process. Today we are given the opportunity to develop a strong and coherent Civil Society process on sustainable development for Barbados. Based on the information that I have received, the priority issues that we identify today will be taken into account by the Government in the development of National Position for SIDS Conference and the Post-2015 Development Process.”

In addition, he insisted, “The Consultation has the potential to be a watershed moment for Civil Society in Barbados, because it gives us an opportunity to strengthen the working relationship between Civil Society and Government on key issues,” and he added that the establishment of a formal Major Group mechanism would be moving in a positive direction.

According to Senior Environment Officer in the Ministry of Environment and Drainage, Travis Sindleh, the day’s Consultation falls under setting the stage for Post-2015 negotiations and engagement as the Government works to do just that, “to put together a Major Group for Barbados.”

A move which was endorsed by Resident Representative for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for Barbados and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Stephen O’Malley, who insisted that a formalised group be established because their input is highly valued by the UN as it comprises the inputs of Civil Society and ultimately leads to better outcomes for everyone.

“Hence from our perspective, it is so important that everyone comes together here,” he affirmed.

We will note some people, “We will have a bold new organisation, with bold new direction and management, and with a bold new ambitious vision and identity... a new brand identity for Barbados in the form of a new logo that will speak to patriotism, pride and the boldness and strength of our people,” he added.
Annex 7: List of Participants

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<td>David Norgrove</td>
<td>Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA)</td>
<td>435-2230</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ymca_bdos@caribsurf.com">ymca_bdos@caribsurf.com</a></td>
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