

## **PROGRESS**

Overall, Samoa through the partnership it has developed with development partners, the private sector, NGOs and civil society has achieved considerable progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action. The partnerships have been well facilitated due to the fact that the Programme of Action for the LDCs and others such as the MDGs, BPoA etc are well integrated in the national development strategy and its implementation framework. Such an arrangement is cognisant of the need to lessen the administrative burden of reporting on us but more importantly the need to integrate these goals and strategies into single workable and measurable framework. The only area lagging in progress is under Commitment 5 specifically to do with Accession to WTO and implementation of trade facilitation measures and quality control.

## **LESSONS LEARNED**

1. Linkages between the Programme of Action for LDCs, the MDGs, the national development strategy and the UNDAF are well developed such that Samoa's one report caters for all its reporting commitments. It is a well integrated process that is driven and owned by Samoa.
2. The importance of harmonisation of donor procedures and processes and linked capacities of the government to drive it
3. Maximise utilisation of the opportunities earmarked for LDCs particularly at the regional and international levels

4. At regional/subregional level, focus should be on ways to develop increased regional cooperation

### **BEST PRACTICES**

1. Nationally, the setting up of Task Forces that are well represented of all stakeholders, to gather information for national assessment reports and the development of a consistent mechanism for discussions and consultations. This also promotes ownership of the process.
2. Country driven harmonisation of donor processes and systems – use of joint programming mechanism particularly within the UN system and using the UN Country team
3. Where most practicable, use the south – south partnerships
4. Wide involvement of civil society, private sector on the basis of a broad based dialogue

### **OBSTACLES AND CONSTRAINTS**

There remains a dearth of data in particularly areas for example the impact of investment of environmental management and sustainable development and the indicators used should relate to all other major international commitments and the national development strategy.

There are still gaps in capacity needs that must be nurtured to ensure that human, institutional, physical and functional resources progress in unison with enabling environments.

## **EMERGING ISSUES**

1. The emergence of hardship or relative poverty at household level.
2. Increasing incidence of emerging health issues such as HIV/AIDS, NCDs, SARS and avian flu and our inability to adequately cope with potential outbreaks
3. The potential environmental and social effects of trading regimes while also noting the importance of trade in sustainable development.
4. the accelerated breakdown of diverse agricultural and food systems that have been the basis of sustainability, nutritional wellbeing and food security of the country for centuries as evident in the increasing dependence on imported foods.
5. Full and effective implementation of policies on communication technologies to enhance connectivity.
6. Full and effective implementation of energy policy to ensure available, affordable, reliable and environmentally sound energy.

## **FOLLOW UP AND IMPLEMENTATION**

The country review process emphasises linkages between the macroeconomic framework and sectoral strategies. Sector planning and policy development is encouraged for implementation and as a basis for aid coordination.

There is effective coordination of harmonised donor procedures that apply to all global summits and meetings including reviews and other developmental initiatives as they relate to LDCs.