

Annex 4 – Criteria for Evaluating Priority Issues¹

Steps 4 and 5: Scoring, Mapping and Justifying VRCP

Step 4 seeks to develop benchmarks for the indicators developed in step 3 so that each of the indicators can be scored. The process is as follows:

1. Develop benchmarks for each of the indicators for each criterion for the selected themes. The benchmarks are established based on a scale of 1 to 5, in which 1 represents maximum vulnerability exposure and 5 the maximum level of resilience.
2. Score each of the indicators according to the benchmarks.
3. Review the benchmarks and identify the scores given to each indicator.
4. Take the average of the Indicator Scores in order to obtain the composite result of each dimension (economic, social and environmental) of vulnerability and resilience.
5. Take the average composite score of the three dimensions to obtain the composite score for each thematic area in terms of vulnerability and resilience.

Step 5 aims to map out the score calculated in step 4 and then to describe and explain the scores for each of the thematic areas; to justify the scores and then identify ways in which the vulnerability for each of the thematic areas can be mitigated and its resilience profile improved. This step is made up of two stages:

- Stage 1: mapping the vulnerability and resilience scores using the excel spreadsheet from step 4
- Stage 2: discussing the scores

The VRCP Map is a numerical score for each priority theme based on a qualitative assessment, which is presented graphically. It is expected that the scores and the VRCP Map can help Saint Lucia understand the situation in terms of vulnerability and resilience and “quickly grasp” the relationship (imbalance/discrepancy/mismatch) between vulnerability and resilience for the different areas of the Samoa Pathway and corresponding SDGs. This helps to make more informed decisions, prioritizing certain thematic areas in terms of priorities and resource allocation. The Map can also be useful in raising awareness of donors and mobilizing resources for development (reducing vulnerability and increasing resilience). The importance of VRCP Map is that it identifies and displays, within a single graph, vulnerability and corresponding resilience scores - based on a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest score - for each of the thematic areas. It is, however, important to be able to interpret and justify the Map to the senior policy-makers and potential development partners.

¹ Method developed and provided by the Department of Economic Development, Transport and Civil Aviation of St. Lucia

Potential benefit to the economy

What does this mean?

- Potential impact on economic growth, employment and poverty reduction while-
 - ✓ Promoting a climate resilient economy,
 - ✓ Reducing disaster risk and/ or
 - ✓ Creating equal opportunities for all citizens.

Benefit to the Economy	Score
Low impact	1
Modest impact	2
Moderate impact focuses on jobs and poverty reduction	3
High impact strong focus on jobs and poverty reduction & equity/DRR	4
High impact strong focus on jobs and poverty reduction & equity/DRR, promotes climate resilient	5

Promotes Social Justice, Cohesion, Equity & Poverty Reduction

- Potential impact on reducing disparities in access to social and economic resources/ opportunities including regional disparities, inequalities and social exclusion among:
 - **Women and men, generations, income levels and disabled.**
- Potential to protect the poorest & most vulnerable from economic downturns and shocks, and building coping mechanisms to climate change and disasters.
- Potential to bridge social divisions; and improve conflict management in the wider society.

	Score
Weak correlation with social cohesion, justice & equity	1
Modest correlation with social cohesion, justice & equity	2
Moderate correlation with social cohesion, justice & equity	3
High correlation with social cohesion, justice & equity	4
High correlation with social cohesion, justice & equity - particularly integrates Gender equality, climate and DRR.	5

Contributes to sustainable interaction with the environment without degradation

- Potential to maximizing resource-use productivity while minimizing or mitigating environmental impacts, loss of biodiversity, climate change (mitigation and adaptation), ensuring development is inclusive, and creating sustainable livelihoods will all improve disaster resilience.

	Score
Weak correlation with productive use of resources / damaging environmental impact/ weak efforts at mitigation	1
Modest correlation with productive use of resources / damaging environmental impact/ weak efforts at mitigation	2
Moderate correlation with productive use of resources / damaging environmental impact/ weak efforts at mitigation	3
High correlation with productive use of resources / strong on mitigation/ disaster risk reduction and climate change	4
High correlation with productive use of resources / strong on mitigation/ disaster risk reduction and climate change focuses on DRR, Mitigation, Climate change includes gender focus	5

Overall political legitimacy

- The likely acceptability to policymakers of proposed policy ideas or alternatives. Refers to whether officials are likely to support the idea (Across sectors (horizontally) and across levels (vertically) of government).
- This is assumed to reflect a broader social acceptability of the same ideas or alternatives, by all stakeholders including civil society, Internationally: donors, international organisations, NGOs.

Overall political legitimacy	Score
Low legitimacy	1
Modest Legitimacy	2
Moderate Legitimacy	3
High Legitimacy	4
Very Strong Legitimacy	5

