2030 STRATEGY & STRUCTURE

Vision:
Build resilient and sustainable island communities

Mission:
To promote action to build resilient and sustainable island communities by inspiring leadership, catalyzing commitments and facilitating collaboration for all islands.

Goals & Priorities

Launch one new high-level and visionary sustainable island commitment each year.

Accelerate implementation of sustainable island commitments.

Lead one high-impact demonstration activity or event per year.

The Global Island Partnership will ensure measurable progress is made towards its long-term goals through its commitment to the following activities each year:

- Commitments are significant, measurable pledges made publicly by the highest levels of government to build resilient and sustainable island communities. The Aloha+ Challenge, for example, is a commitment by Hawai‘i's Governor, four Mayors, the leader of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and the State Legislature, launched through the Partnership, that sets six ambitious green growth targets to be achieved by 2030. GLSPA is working to inspire island leaders to launch new commitments through showcasing Aloha+ Challenge, alongside other island commitments, as an innovative model that can be scaled and adapted by cities, states and countries globally to locally deliver in a culturally appropriate way on the SDGs.

- The Micronesia Challenge was launched through the Global Island Partnership in 2006 to effectively conserve at least 30% of near-shore marine areas and 20% of terrestrial areas by 2020. Since its launch, this initiative has added in strengthening or establishing over 150 protected areas, secured US$14.8 million of $56 million for the Micronesia Conservation Trust that supports the Challenge as well as inspired similar commitments in the Caribbean, Western Indian Ocean, Coral Triangle and Hawai‘i. The Partnership has also played a key role in developing supporting initiatives, such as the Micronesia Conservation Trust, to ensure mechanisms exist to more rapidly deploy financing and investment to islands. GLSPA is focused on accelerating implementation of existing commitments through peer-learning between commitments around measuring progress and impact, innovative financing and maintain momentum of leaders through strategic events.

- Islands have a unique role as living laboratories in developing innovative and integrated solutions that can be scaled to achieve the globally agreed goals. The Partnership is dedicated to attracting members and supporters to shape innovative, high-impact initiatives that show the world how to build a resilient and sustainable future. Our members are working together to leverage the convening power of the Partnership to address priority areas, including:
  - Innovative financing for a blue/green economy in islands
  - Sustainable coastal fisheries
  - Building resilience through ecosystem-based adaptation and disaster risk reduction

- For example, to support Seychelles in realizing its blue economy vision including their commitment to protect 30% of their marine territory by 2020, the Partnership helped facilitate the design of the world’s first debt-for-adaptation swap of US$21.6 million with Seychelles. The Partnership is working to expand this innovative financing mechanism and other tools to more islands, and is seeking regional and global partners to support these efforts.

- Recognizing that existing public resources alone are insufficient to achieve island goals, the Partnership is focused on incubating new partnerships to create innovative models that can mobilize large-scale investment in sustainable development initiatives such as the Island Resilience Challenge. This Initiative engages the island and global community to build a pipeline of sustainable development projects around resilient, integrated infrastructure at the water-energy-food nexus on an initial ten islands.

HOW WE WORK

With the leadership of Palau’s Ambassador to the United States, H.E. Hersey Kyota, as Chair of the Partnership’s Steering Committee, and Seychelles Ambassador for Climate Change and Small Island Developing State Issues, H.E. Ronny Jumeau, as Vice Chair, the Partnership is guided by a Steering Committee who takes an active role in designing and implementing our 2030 Strategy. An Executive Committee, a subgroup of the Steering Committee, provides oversight on governance and sustainability matters. A dynamic network of participants are involved in strategy implementation through working groups and strategic events. Strategy implementation is guided by Kate Brown, Executive Director, and Jessica Robbins, Communications Manager, who make up the Coordination Team.

Each Steering Committee member contributes US$5,000 annually to support a sustainable partnership capable of delivering on the 2030 Strategy. Members are recognized as leaders and supporters of island action and join a trusted network of high-level leaders and advisors working together to leverage the convening power of the Partnership to make change. The Partnership also benefits from supporters, advisors, participants and fellows who contribute to strategy implementation activities, events and financing.

Results and return on investment are measured through an impact dashboard for relevant project regions and issue areas. In addition, recently launched collaborative efforts such as the Island Resilience Challenge were designed to ensure financial outcomes are directly tied to environmental progress.

GLOBAL RECOGNITION

The Global Island Partnership is recognized as a mechanism for advancing the conservation of island biodiversity Decision IX/21, CBD COP9 (2008) and Decision XII/15, CBD COP11 (2012) further invites Parties to engage with the Global Island Partnership as an effective partner to support conservation of island biodiversity; as a best practice partnership by the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (UNCSD, 2010); and as a success factor in preparations for the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).

IMPACT

The Global Island Partnership is a solutions-focused and impactful partnership able to mobilize significant action through its members, supporters and diverse participant network of more than 70 entities. Since its launch in 2006, the Partnership has engaged high-level leaders to catalyze US$145 million for island action around the world. In addition, the Partnership has assisted more than 30 countries to launch or strengthen major sustainable island commitments such as the Aloha+ Challenge and Micronesia Challenge. The Partnership showcases island commitments as bright spots on the international stage to inspire new leadership and encourage investment to scale and replicate impactful initiatives.

The Global Island Partnership invites public and private sector institutions and organizations that support our vision to explore how you might best engage with the Partnership for mutually beneficial outcomes. We also encourage you to become a Global Island Partnership Member.

For more information email: info@glispa.org.
OUR LEADERS AND MEMBERS

The Global Island Partnership Leaders provide strategic high-level guidance and leadership to the Partnership:

H.E. Tommy E. Remengesau Jr.  
President of Palau

H.E. James A. Michel  
President of Seychelles

Dr. The Right Hon. Keith Mitchell  
Prime Minister of Grenada

Dr. the Hon. D. Orlando Smith  
Premier of the British Virgin Islands

The Partnership is proud to be joined by the following members in 2016:

Get Involved

The Global Island Partnership is a collaborative and inclusive partnership open to any entity committed to promoting action to build resilient and sustainable island communities.

Interested entities are encouraged to contact the Coordination Team at info@glispa.org to explore how you might best engage in the partnership.

Make an impact by building resilient and sustainable island communities.

Get involved with the Global Island Partnership.