



Arnold I. Palacios
Governor

David M. Apatang
Lieutenant Governor

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

January 25, 2024

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Ms. Kate Brown
Executive Director
Global Islands Partnership

-and-

Ms. Celeste Connors
Executive Director
Hawaii Local2030 Hub

Subject: Confirmation of support and membership in the Local2030 Islands Network

Dear Local2030 Islands Network Secretariat:

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) is committed to upholding the principles set forth by the Local2030 Islands Network, which include:

- Principle 1: Identify local goals to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and strengthen long-term political leadership on climate resilience and net-zero emissions pathways;
- Principle 2: Strengthen public-private partnerships that support diverse stakeholders in integrating sustainability priorities into policy and planning;
- Principle 3: Measure SDG progress through tracking and reporting on locally and culturally informed indicators; and
- Principle 4: Implement concrete initiatives that build island resilience and a circular economy through locally appropriate solutions, particularly at the water-energy-food nexus.

As a demonstration of our commitment to sustainable development and the principles of the Local2030 Islands Network, on January 26, 2024 the CNMI will officially launch our Green Growth Initiative. The CNMI Green Growth Initiative represents a pioneering and inclusive approach to regenerative development. Through the formulation and execution of a comprehensive CNMI Green Growth Action Strategy, we aim to catalyze locally-driven, culturally-informed solutions aligning with the 17 United Nations SDGs and the principles of the Local2030 Islands Network.

The CNMI Green Growth Initiative will be co-chaired by myself and Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, President of the Northern Marianas College (NMC). To implement the Initiative, we will establish a Green Growth Initiative Working Group. The Special Assistant for Climate Policy, Christina Sablan, and Dean of Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Services (CREES), Patricia Coleman, will serve as co-chairs of the Working Group.

I hereby express the Commonwealth's enthusiastic intent to join the Local2030 Islands Network as a collaborating government partner and islands member. To ensure the long-term sustainability of our partnership and participation, the Northern Marianas College, and specifically the NMC-CREES, will serve as the CNMI's focal point for the Local2030 Islands Network.

We look forward to working in the spirit of collaboration with the secretariat and all islands and nations committed to pursuing the Local2030 principles and the 17 UN SDGs.

Sincerely,



Arnold I. Palacios

Governor

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands