# Water and Climate Changes Watershed Management & Surface Water Protection in the Face of Climate Change

Water Security & Climate Change – Global Perspectives



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Watershed Management & Surface Water Protection in the Face of Climate Change

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### What is a watershed?



https://flotaa.com/watershed-management/

# What is nonpoint source pollution?

Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution occurs when runoff from stormwater carries pollutants into waterways such as the ocean, rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and even groundwater. Nonpoint source pollution is diffuse pollution that does not come from a single identifiable source.

# Why is NPS pollution an important issue?

According to EPA's Office of Wetlands, Oceans & Watersheds, "Nonpoint source pollution is the leading source of water quality impairment in the nation."

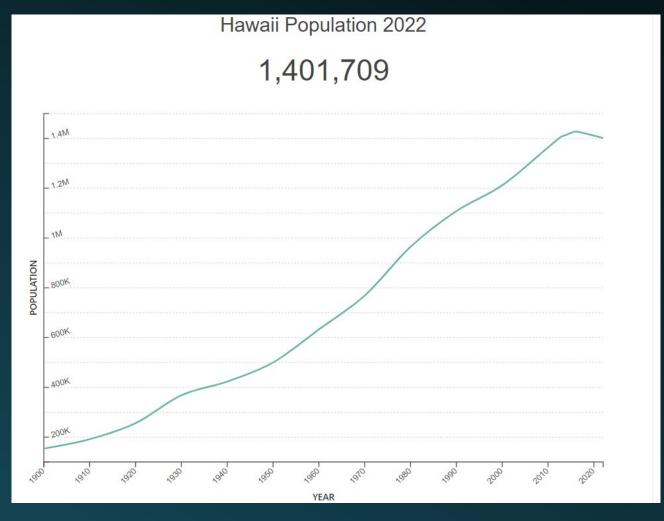
https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-water#wetlands

States report that nonpoint source pollution is the leading remaining cause of water quality problems. The effects of nonpoint source pollutants on specific waters vary and may not always be fully assessed. However, we know that these pollutants have harmful effects on drinking water supplies, recreation, fisheries and wildlife.

https://www.epa.gov/nps/basic-information-about-nonpoint-source-nps-pollution

# Hawaii History

- Mid-1900s to late 1900s
  - Statehood (1959)
  - Peak then Fall of Sugar and Pineapple Industry
  - Massive Population, Tourism and Urbanization grew
  - Massive Defense Industry Growth
  - Significant hydromodifications
  - Construction of WWTPs
  - Implementation of CWA for point source discharges- mostly nonstorm water focus



Worldpopulationreview.com

## Background

- In 1987, Federal Water Quality Act Amendments (the amended Clean Water Act) placed **new emphasis on nonpoint source pollution management** and contained specific requirements and responsibilities for state nonpoint source pollution programs.
  - A nonpoint source assessment report and a management plan were submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for approval.
  - The Polluted Runoff Control Program under the Clean Water Branch administers the state's Clean Water Act Section 319(h) grant and implements Hawaii's Nonpoint Source Management Plan.

# Background

- In 1993, the Hawaii State Legislature enacted Chapter 342E of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) relating to Nonpoint Source Pollution Management and Control.
  - HRS 342E provided DOH with authority to develop "a nonpoint source pollution management and control program to administer, enforce, and carry out all laws, rules, and programs relating to nonpoint source pollution in the State."
  - DOH has been working to further develop its Nonpoint Source Program.

### Surface Water Protection Branch

- In 2021, DOH established the Surface Water Protection Branch.
  - A reorganization was approved to establish the new branch and assign positions.
  - The Polluted Runoff Control Program was moved from the Clean Water Branch to the Surface Water Protection Branch.
  - The new administrative rules Chapter 11-56, Nonpoint Source Pollution Control were adopted.

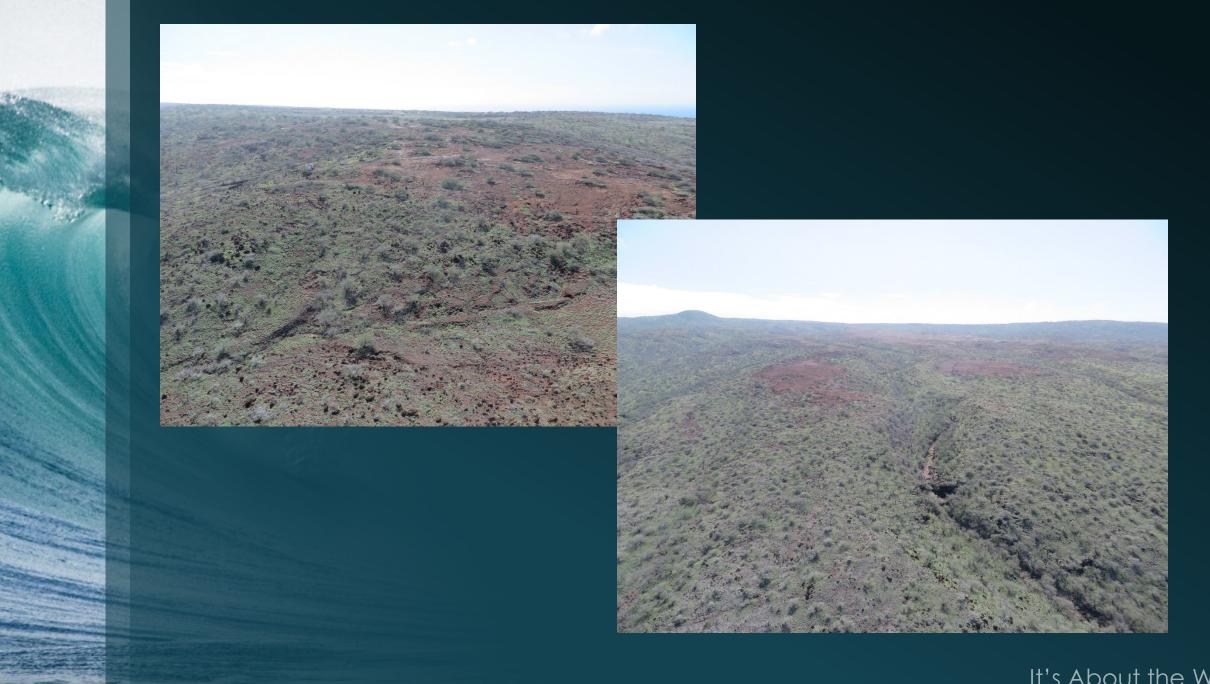
## How can climate change impact NPS pollution?

Climate change can increase the impacts of pollution by releasing chemical, microbial pathogen contaminants, and other pollutants into the environment and various water bodies of the State.

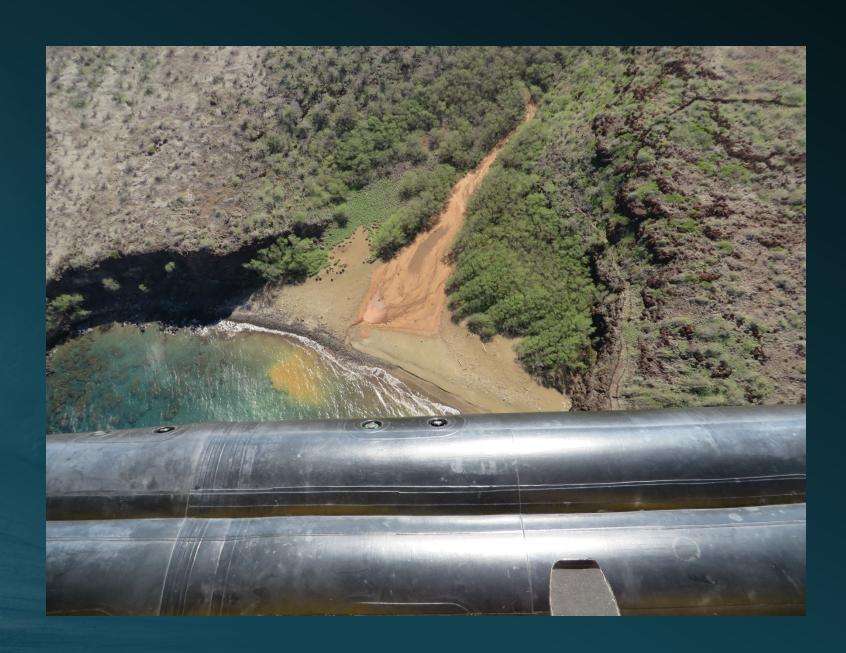
- Changes in precipitation (intensity and frequency)
- Natural disasters (heavy rainfall, flooding, hurricanes, wildfires)
- Erosion
- Sea level rise (cesspools along the coastline)

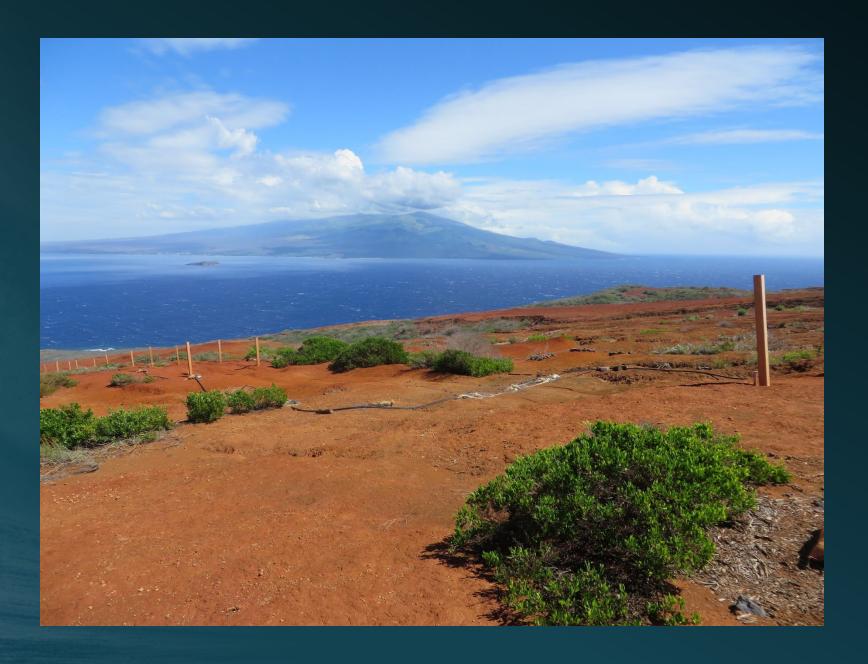
The problem, moreover, is already severe—more than 40,000 waters are currently impaired primarily by nonpoint sources and the situation will only deteriorate as more intense rainfall events associated with climate change produce more polluted runoff and more wildfires caused by higher temperatures and dryer conditions produce more erosion.

Office of Wetlands, Oceans & Watersheds, EPA, supra note 22, at 13.



It's About the Water



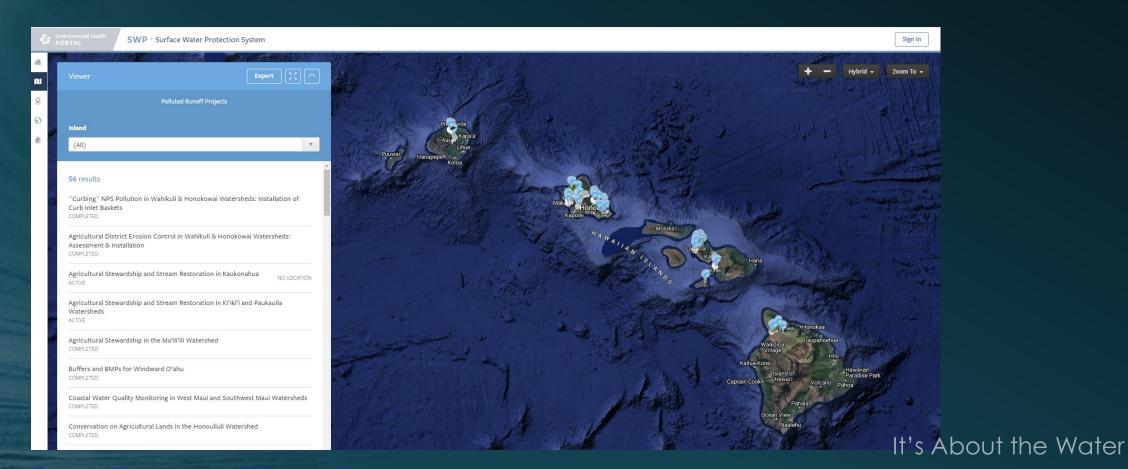






# What is the SWPB doing?

Using Federal Clean Water Act Section 319 funds, the SWPB distributes grant funding to implement watershed based plans developed to restore or protect waters impaired or threatened by nonpoint source pollution.



### What can we do?

#### Approaches to reducing nonpoint source pollution:

- Implementing green infrastructure (bioswales, rain gardens, rain barrels, pervious pavements)
- Improved agricultural practices (cover crops, buffer strips)
- Community engagement and education
- Participating in restoration efforts throughout the state (removal of invasive plants, outplanting native plants)

#### Policy Recommendations

- Enhanced regulations for managing nonpoint source pollution
- Support for climate resilient urban planning
- Funding for research on climate impacts on water quality
- Support for various state, local and community organizations
- Wastewater reuse?



# MAHALO

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Website:

https://health.hawaii.gov/cwb/swpb/

# Human Health, Sustainable Development, and the Water that Connects Us All:

Challenges, Management Trends, and Engagement Opportunities in the Pacific

Erin M. Derrington, Local 2030 Islands Network, Global Energy and Water Communities of Practice Coordinator

Panel Presentation for the Hawai'i State Department of Health Climate & Health Conference, Oct. 23, 2024





# SUSTAINABLE GALS DEVELOPMENT GALS

#### HAWAI'I GREEN GROWTH UN LOCAL2030 HUB

www.hawaiigreengrowth.org





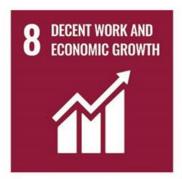
































# **ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND** SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL

- The world is not on track to meet the targets of SDG 6
- Global data gaps make tracking progress towards wastewater treatment and water quality management goals challenging
- One fifth of the world's river basins are experiencing rapid changes in surface coverage areas, indicative of flooding and drought events associated with climate change
- Water stress and scarcity are increasing disproportionately in some regions
- Access to improved drinking water is lagging in rural area in particular, including remote Pacific Islands

#### SUMMARY PROGRESS 2021: SDG 6 INDICATORS

2021 - SDG 6 - Water and Sanitation for All



6.1.1 DRINKING WATER



lacked safely managed drinking water services in 2017





6.3.1 WASTEWATER

of domestic wastewater is safely treated in 24 out of the 75 reporting countries most of the 75 are high-income countries)





globally

are at risk because the health of the rivers, lakes and groundwater is unknown

6.4.2 WATER STRESS



6.4.1 WATER-USE EFFICIENCY

Since 2015 water-use efficiency has increased by



of which 721 million live in high and critically water-stressed countries



#### 6.5.2 TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION

they share with their neighbours are covered to

#### 6.6.1 ECOSYSTEMS

are experiencing rapid changes in the area covered by surface waters





#### 6.b.1 PARTICIPATION

\_\_\_\_\_

6.a.1 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

# **ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND** SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL









**HYGIENE** 

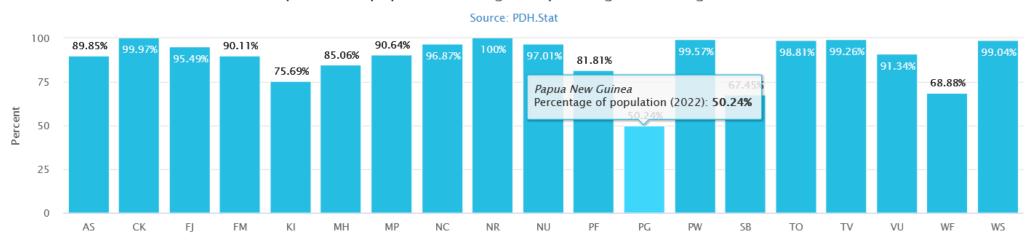


#### Target 6.1

By 2030, achieve universal and equitable access to safe and affordable drinking water for all

Indicator 6.1.1: Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.

6.1.1: Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water sources



Please note this data is not the full SDG indicator of 'safely managed' drinking water (free from contamination and available on the premises), which is being developed as Pacific Islands complete the MICS survey.

Source: https://pacificdata.org/dashboard/sdg-6-clean-water-and-sanitation

# ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL







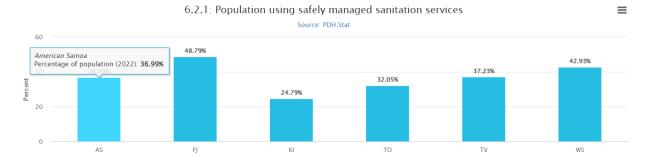




#### Target 6.2

By 2030, achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations

Indicator 6.2.1: Proportion of population using safely managed sanitation services including a hand washing facility with soap and water



#### Target 6.3

By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally

Indicator 6.3.1: Proportion of domestic and industrial wastewater safely treated

Visualisation(s) not yet available
View 6.3.1 data on PDH.stat

Download Metadata for indicator 6.3.1

Indicator 6.3.2: Proportion of bodies of water with good ambient water quality

NOTE: this indicator is not one of the 132 indicators in the Pacific SDG indicator subset

#### Target 6.4

By 2030, substantially increase water-use efficiency across all sectors and ensure sustainable withdrawals and supply of freshwater to address water scarcity and substantially reduce the number of people suffering from water scarcity

Indicator 6.4.1: Change in water-use efficiency over time

NOTE: this indicator is not one of the 132 indicators in the Pacific SDG indicator subset

Indicator 6.4.2: Level of water stress: freshwater withdrawal as a proportion of available freshwater resources

NOTE: this indicator is not one of the 132 indicators in the Pacific SDG indicator subset



Climate change-

in the Pacific

acidity

related phenomena

· Increasing air temperatures

· Accelerating sea-level rise

· Changing ocean salinity &

· Altered frequency and/or

severity of extreme weather

events (including extreme

heat, floods, storms and

associated phenomena)

· Altered rainfall patterns

Mediators of climate change-attributable impacts:

- socio-political strategies
- environmental measures
- health systems resilience

Potential pathways for health impacts of climate change in the Pacific

- · Direct exposures
- storms, floods, inundation, extreme heat
- · Indirect exposures
  - compromised safety and/or supply of food, water & clean air
  - potential loss of land & livelihoods
  - potential for population displacement
- altered disease exposure risk (e.g. due to spread of vectors/hosts, population movement/overcrowding)
- compromised health systems
- · Social disruption
- Detrimental impacts on economic and human development

Potential health effects of climate change in Pacific island countries

- Increasing incidence of vector-borne disease & zoonoses
- Water insecurity & increasing incidence of water-borne diseases
- Increasing risk of food-borne diseases (including ciguatera)
- Malnutrition (including increasing dependence on imported foodstuffs)
- Increasing morbidity and mortality due to non-communicable diseases
- · Traumatic injuries and deaths
- Increasing risk of mental health disorders
- · Disruption to health services

Health impacts of climate change in the Pacific



McIver et al., Health Impacts of Climate Change in Pacific Island Countries: A Regional Assessment of Vulnerabilities and Adaptation Priorities, Environmental Health Perspectives, Environmental Health Perspectives, 2016



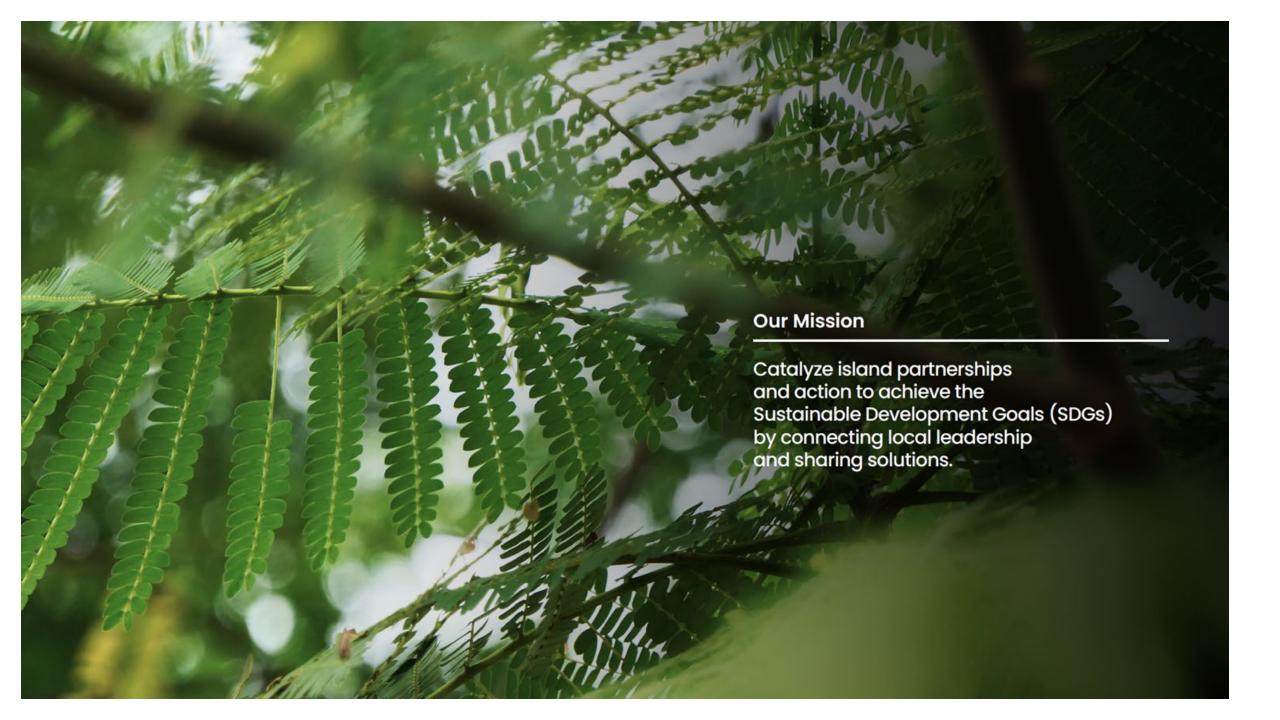
Islands Working Together for a Sustainable World



#### **Our Vision**

A sustainable Island Earth inspired by island leadership and values.





#### **Members and Partners** Ireland Netherlands America Sint Maarten Sint Eustatius Saba Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Ibiza Puerto Rico Palau Gibraltar Hawai'i British Virgin Islands **Guam** Antigua and Barbuda Micronesia Grenada Curação Marshall Islands Trinidad and Tobago Guinea-Bissau **Bonaire** Hobart, Tasmania Partners Members ISLANDS NETWORK Antiguo and Barouda · Caribbean Climate Adaptation · Greening The Islands - U.S Department of State · Federated States of Micronesia - Sobo . Aruba · Sirk function Network University of Puerto Rico · National Renewable Energy - U.S Environmental + treland Labratory MDAA (US Department of Com-(Puerto Rico) Center for Music of Global Affairs + United Nations Protection Agency Bonaire Gibratar + Netherlands - Sint Moorten Tosmonlan Way foundation - USAID

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Smilo Sustainable

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UNESCAP (Bangkok, Thailand) - U.S Department of

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Howari

+ Puerto Rico

Republic of Palau

+ Republic of Saychelles

+ Republic of the Marshall Islands

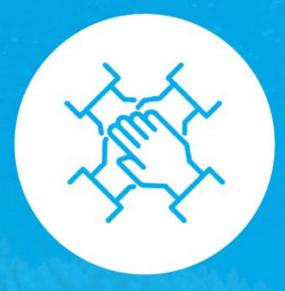
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United States of America

### **Guiding Principles for Impact**



Political Leadership and Local Goals



Public - Private Partnerships



Measurement



**Concrete Action** 



## **Communities of Practice (CoP)**

### Data for Climate Resilience



Building capacity to measure progress on local sustainability and climate goals



Resilient & Clean Energy Systems



Supporting island economies in achieving clean energy futures



Resilient Water Systems



Advancing resilient watershed systems through holistic management



**Sustainable & Regenerative Tourism** 



Supporting island economies in developing regenerative tourism



To learn more or sign up for a CoP Listserv, visit https://www.islands2030.org/community-of-practice

# ENSURE AVAILABILITY AND SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL





#### Water CoP

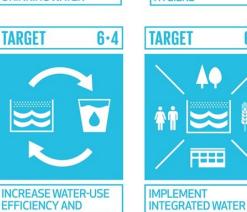


# The Resilient Water Systems Community of Practice (CoP)

The Local2030 Islands Network's Resilient Water Systems CoP provides peer-to-peer learning opportunities, targeted technical assistance for island-led initiatives, and fosters collaboration with various experts to support sustainable integrated water management solutions to achieve local and global island resilience goals.

https://www.islands2030.org/water-cop

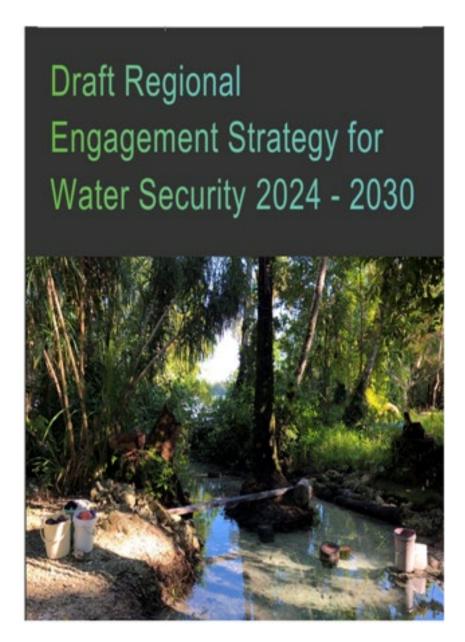




MANAGEMENT







# Strengthening engagement in water security as a key determinant of Pacific resilience

#### Vision:

"Water Security is embedded as a cornerstone in Pacific or Pasifika resilience initiatives and dialogs through championing by a diverse and collaborative community of leaders"



#### **DATA & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**

### G3 AF G3 DASHBOARD

Action Framework is a compilation of hundreds of goals, objectives, metrics, action items, action leads, and partnerships. Amongst these goals, primary indicators were identified by each working group, to stand as metrics on the G3 Dashboard.





- "Localization" Green Growth Goal Setting
- Data Collection Public / Private Partnerships
- Visualization Regular tracking of progress and reporting through the "G3 Dashboard"

#### CLEAN ENERGY

70% clean energy : 40% from renewables & 30% from efficiency



#### LOCAL FOOD

At least double local food production : 20-30% of food consumed is grown locally



#### NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Reverse the trend of natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing freshwater security, watershed protection, community-based marine management, invasive species control and restoration of native species



12

173,000

#### WASTE REDUCTION

Reduce the solid waste stream prior to disposal by 70% through source reduction, recycling, bioconversion and landfill diversion methods



#### SMART SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Increase livability and resilience in the built environment through planning and implementation at the state and county levels



#### GREEN WORKFORCE & EDUCATION

Increase local green jobs and education to implement these targets



#### 

Local Foods Production	Labor & Land Resources	Processing	Distribution	Consumption
104,635,130	1,100,000	10	90	578,595,000
Pounds of Food Locally Produced in 2018	Acres of Farmland in Use in 2021	Number of Commercial Kitchens in 2018	Number of Farmers Markets in 2018	Agricultural Products Sold in USD in 2016
X Needs improvement	X Needs improvement	O. Measuring	Q. Measuring	Q. Measuring

6.17%

68%

of January 2023

5.5%

Needs improvement	▶ Near target	Needs improvement	Near target	Q. Measuring	
🏹 Solid Waste Reduc	tion				
Total Solid Waste Diversion	Total Solid Waste Generation	Recycling	Source Reduction	Reuse Coming Soon	
27%	2,570,478	695,931	Coming Soon		
Solid Waste Diverted from Landfills in 2021	Tons of Solid Waste Generated in 2021	Tons of Recycled and Composted Materials in 2021			
X Needs improvement	× Needs improvement	× Needs improvement	Q. Measuring	Q, Measuring	

Mobility & Accessib		Economic Prosperity	Resilience & Disaster Management	Land Use Impacts	Open, Public, and Green Spaces	Connection to Place	Greenhouse Gas Mitigation
9,01	4 82.2	34.7%	▲ 0.414	7.183	1,019.2	15%	19.13
Annual Veh Miles Traveler Vehicle in 21	per Housing Affordability	Households Below the Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS)	Hawai'i Overall Social Vulnerability Index Rating as of 2018	Number of People per Acre of Urban Land in 2021	Sq. Feet of State Parks per Capita in 2020	Ahupua'a Managed with Community Based Plans in 2018	Percent Reduction o CO2 Emissions since 2015
X Needs improvem	× Needs	× Needs improvement	O., Measuring	O. Measuring	Q. Measuring	Q. Measuring	Q. Measuring

'Aina-Based Education & Community Engagement	Transformational Learning & Education Attainment	Equitable Access to Education	Workforce & Professional Development	Innovation & Entrepreneurship	Sustainable Tourism	Economic Diversity
20	85.9%	13.4%	3.6%	47.6%	46	-1%
School Community Sites in 2017	Hawai'i Students Graduated High School On Time in 2021	Youth (Ages 16-24) Not Attending School and Not Working in 2021	Workforce Unemployed in August 2022	Survival Rate of Start-Up Business after 5 Years in 2013	Number of Certified Ecotourism Businesses in 2021	Growth of Hawaiti's Strong Traded Economic Clusters in 2016
(Measuring	Q. Measuring	O, Measuring	X Needs improvement	Q. Measuring	X Needs improvement	Q. Measuring

# ALOHA+ CHALLENGE DASHBOARD

Accountability & Action on Hawai'i's Sustainable Development Goals



- "Localization" Green Growth Goal Setting
- Data Collection Public / Private Partnerships
- Visualization Regular tracking of progress and reporting through the "Aloha+ Dashboard"

info@hawaiigreengrowth.org

THANK YOU!



Islands working together for a sustainable world

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# Continuing the Conversation: Water Quality & Climate Changes – How the work interconnects and can be integrated moving forward



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