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**UN Global Compact Communication on Engagement
September 2019 - September 2021**

September 4, 2021

To our stakeholders,

The Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) Local2030 Hub strives to build a more resilient, sustainable, and equitable future for Hawai'i, island earth, and our *keiki* (children). As a UN-designated Local2030 Hub, HGG is committed to bringing together diverse public and private partners to catalyze scalable island-led solutions to achieve the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through a local framework for action, the Aloha+ Challenge.

With this commitment, I am pleased to confirm that Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles relating to human rights, labor, environment, and anti-corruption.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that HGG has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles. Aligning with our commitment to accountability and transparency, we also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely,



Celeste Connors
Executive Director
Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub

Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub's Commitment to the UN Global Compact

The Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub is a diverse network of private and public partners that are working together to achieve the global sustainable development goals through the Aloha+ Challenge, Hawai'i's framework to drive sustainable development. As a Local2030 Hub, our goals, mission, and vision closely align with those of the United Nations and the United Nations Global Compact.

Our efforts and actions to advance the Ten Principles and the UN Sustainable Development Goals include tracking Hawai'i's progress on its statewide sustainability goals through a public, open-data Dashboard; publishing Hawai'i's first statewide Voluntary Local Review (VLR); launching the Local2030 Islands Network in partnership with the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA); and convening a group of local CEOs committed to taking private-sector action on sustainability goals.

Aloha+ Dashboard:

- Hawai'i Green Growth stewards the Aloha+ Dashboard, an open-data platform that measures progress on the Aloha+ Challenge, Hawai'i's statewide sustainability goals; tracks Hawai'i's contribution towards all 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals for 2030; and supports accountability and transparency on the goals, with community-driven metrics to inform statewide and county-level decision-making.
- The Aloha+ Challenge is a statewide cross-sector commitment that brings together diverse partners to develop community-based 2030 goals and measurable targets across six priority areas: clean energy transformation; local agriculture; natural resource management; solid waste reduction; green workforce and education; and smart sustainable communities.
- Metrics on the Aloha+ Dashboard were co-developed through an initial four-year stakeholder engagement process starting in 2014 facilitated by Hawai'i Green Growth that brought together government, business, academia, philanthropy, civil society and community partners in meetings across all four counties.
- Guided by *measuring what matters* to Hawai'i's communities, the Aloha+ Dashboard currently tracks six sustainability goals through thirty-seven targets and over two hundred and eighty indicators based on available data. Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 continues to convene stakeholders regularly throughout the year through established working groups focused on data, policy and legislation, local-global next-generation leadership, and a CEO-led Sustainability Business Forum (SBF).
- The SBF is currently working to track locally and culturally appropriate Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) metrics on the Aloha+ Dashboard to show their commitment to the Aloha+ Challenge, the UN SDGs, the UNGC's Ten Principles, and the communities in which they operate.

- Hawai'i's progress on the Aloha+ Challenge and the SDGs can be viewed here: <https://alohachallenge.hawaii.gov/>

Voluntary Local Review:

- In 2020, Hawai'i became the first state to present a comprehensive statewide Voluntary Local Review on the UN Sustainable Development Goals in the United States, and joins cities from Los Angeles to New York City, Bristol, Helsinki, and others around the world that have already taken this important step to report their collective progress.
- The Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub produced the report in collaboration with network partners from across government, business, and civil society sectors.
- The report covers six years of data on the Aloha+ Challenge, based on metrics that were co-developed by partners statewide and used to track progress through the Aloha+ Dashboard.
- The VLR provides benchmark data on Hawai'i's progress on certain UNGC issues such as Ocean Action, Gender Equality, Food and Agriculture, and the Environment.

Local2030 Islands Network:

- The Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Hub and GLISPA manage the Local2030 Islands Network, a group of island members, partners, and observers committed to advancing the Network's Four Principles. The Four Principles are as follows:
 - Identify local goals to advance the SDGs and strengthen long-term political leadership on sustainable development and climate resilience.
 - Strengthen public-private partnerships that support diverse stakeholders in integrating sustainability priorities into policy and planning.
 - Measure SDG progress through tracking and reporting on locally and culturally informed indicators.
 - Implement concrete initiatives that build island resilience & circular economy through locally appropriate solutions, particularly at the water energy-food nexus.
- The Local2030 Islands Network brings together a diverse set of island nations, states, and communities from all regions of the world - islands tied together by their shared island experience, cultures, strengths, and challenges. It aims to promote island solutions and leadership based on shared island experiences and perspectives.
- As the co-secretariat of the Network, Hawai'i Green Growth is helping to scale its solutions, such as the Aloha+ Challenge and Aloha+ Dashboard, to other island communities to accelerate SDG implementation.
- In 2020, the Local2030 Islands Network convened a series of virtual panel discussions that featured island leaders to discuss the various dimensions of sustainable development while also meeting the urgent challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. The topics of the discussions

included strengthening island food security in light of COVID-19-related supply disruptions, economic recovery and resilience, and nature-based solutions and ecosystem-based adaptation to build back better.

Sustainability Business Forum:

- Hawai'i Green Growth convenes the Sustainability Business Forum (SBF), a group of 24 Hawai'i-based CEOs and high-level executives who are committed to driving triple bottom line outcomes for the communities in which they operate and make progress on the Aloha+ Challenge. In addition to the SBF, HGG convenes four other working groups to advance sustainable policies and action in Hawai'i.
- In early 2020, Hawai'i Green Growth partnered with BlackRock to host the Sustainability Investing Summit in Honolulu, HI to discuss emerging themes in ESG and sustainable investing and finance.
- Under normal circumstances, the SBF convenes in person quarterly for candid discussions to drive private sector action on Hawai'i's sustainability goals, and share corporate sustainability best practices. At the beginning of COVID-19 pandemic, HGG was quickly able to pivot to virtual convening and launched the *Green Growth Talk Story* series – a fireside chat with leaders from around the world to discuss the most pressing issues facing the private sector and green recovery solutions. From May 2020 until now, Hawai'i Green Growth has convened six *Green Growth Talk Story* sessions. The forum allowed SBF CEOs to engage their peer CEOs in discussing COVID responses, including office closures and supply chain disruptions. In addition, CEOs were able to engage thought leaders from around the world regarding the SDGs and ESG implementation as a way to promote a green recovery.
- Out of Hawai'i Green Growth's many working groups, the SBF is the most actively involved in the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles. Hawai'i Green Growth has participated in and supported SBF engagement in many UNGC events, including Uniting Business LIVE and the UNGC Leaders Summit. In addition, the SBF has three key pillars and initiatives that help to make progress on the Ten Principles and SDGs.
 - **Participation in UNGC Events:** Hawai'i Green Growth connects its SBF members to multiple UN and UNGC events throughout the year.
 - In 2020, HGG's Executive Director, Celeste Connors, participated in an event hosted by Arizona State University titled "Business Action & Hawai'i's Voluntary Local Review: The Importance of Collective Action amid COVID-19."
 - At the same event, SBF members and HGG partners discussed transformative actions that need to be taken in Hawai'i to reach its ambitious sustainability goals.
 - Hawai'i Green Growth relays UNGC communications and opportunities to SBF Members. Most recently, one SBF member joined the UNGC and participated in the SDG Ambition Accelerator program.

- **Kona Hema Carbon Offset Pilot:** Inspired by high-level dialogues at the IUCN World Conservation Congress, SBF members agreed to focus on accelerating market-based mechanisms in Hawai'i, including a carbon offset initiative and Payment for Ecosystems Services. In 2019, SBF members jointly invested \$150,000 in a carbon offset pilot project that partners with The Nature Conservancy to improve an 8,000-acre portion of the Kona Hema forest on Hawai'i Island. The pilot project is expected to generate over 120,000 carbon credits during the first 10 years. This pilot project is developing Hawai'i's first mechanism to price and sell carbon credits.
- **Tracking action and progress on the Aloha+ Dashboard:** As mentioned earlier, the SBF is working to upload localized ESG metrics on the Aloha+ Dashboard to increase transparency to stakeholders and build trust in the community. The Aloha+ Dashboard currently tracks SBF members' energy efficiency and consumption and explains businesses' actions to reduce energy use. The data is updated annually.
- **Sustainable Tourism:** The SBF regularly discusses challenges and opportunities related to tourism, one of Hawai'i's main economic drivers, and is invested in finding a project to help promote sustainable and regenerative tourism. The SBF is connected with the public sector and leaders in the tourism industry, and together they are looking for future partnership opportunities to promote sustainable tourism in Hawai'i.