

FY2022 Government of Guam Appropriation Report Prepared by:

UOG Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant

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Background

What is Guam Green Growth (G3)?

Guam Green Growth (G3) is the most comprehensive public-private partnership ever created to achieve a sustainable future for the island of Guam. G3 creates tangible solutions to sustainability challenges and drives green economic development for the island region.

Local2030 Islands Network

In 2015, the United Nations (U.N.) Member States adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) designed to put the world on a path to a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future. The necessity of implementing SDGs at local and regional levels to achieve the ambitious and unprecedented U.N. Agenda for Sustainable Development led to the establishment of the U.N. Local2030 Initiative in 2018 and the recognition of the Hawai'i Green Growth Local2030 Islands Hub.

In 2019, Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Joshua F. Tenorio committed the U.S. island territory of Guam as a founding member of Local2030 Islands Network during the 74th U.N. General Assembly and Climate Week NYC. Guam is now united with islands around the world in advancing the 17 U.N. SDGs through locally-informed and culturally-driven strategies.

G3 Action Framework Process

In September 2019, Governor Leon Guerrero and Lt. Governor Tenorio promulgated Executive Order 2019- 23, creating the 100+ member *G3 Working Group* comprised of government, academia, private sector, non-profit, and youth partners. The executive order assigned the facilitation of the G3 Working Group to the University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant (UOG CIS/SG).

The *G3 Working Group* is charged with developing, updating, implementing, and tracking the *G3 Action Framework*. The framework is a 10-year plan comprised of hundreds of goals and action items guiding the development of Guam's sustainable future. The *G3 Action Framework* is aligned with the U.N. SDGs and focused on five categories of action—1) Healthy and Prosperous Communities; 2) Educated, Capable, and Compassionate Island; 3) Sustainable Homes, Utilities, and Transportation; 4) Thriving Natural Resources; and 5) Sustainable Alliances. Cross-cutting elements are incorporated into all categories— climate action, resilience, public engagement, policy, and the core CHamoru values of respect, cooperation and treating others with kindness, generosity, and dignity.

The Co-Chairs for the G3 Initiative are the Honorable Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, Governor of Guam and Dr. Anita Borja Enriquez, 12th President of the University of Guam. The G3 Steering Committee is comprised of the co-leads from the Categories of Action and is co-chaired by the Honorable Joshua F. Tenorio, Lt. Governor of Guam and Dr. Austin J. Shelton, Director of UOG Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant. The steering committee holds monthly check-in meetings.

Progress is tracked on the <u>G3 Dashboard</u>, a public and transparent platform demonstrating to local and global communities how action on the ground in Guam is contributing to a sustainable future for our planet. G3 Biannual Meetings bring the full working group together to present progress and highlights on the G3 Action Framework to the G3 Co-Chairs and stakeholders.

G3 Implementation Projects

While hundreds of goals in the *G3 Action Framework* are underway and tracked through the *G3* Working Group process, several high-impact *G3 Implementation Projects* are highlighted throughout the year.

G3 Conservation Corps

The G3 Conservation Corps (G3CC) prepares our community for the emerging green economy. Since 2021, G3 recruits an annual cohort of 12 conservation corps members to join a full-time 5-month workforce development program. The program is designed to build capacity in the green workforce where qualified personnel are often difficult to find. Local funding has supported three (3) cohorts of conservation corps. Upon graduating from the program, corps members are assisted in finding jobs on UOG projects and partner organizations, or they return to school for continued training in green workforce areas.

Throughout their 5-month program the G3CC works with green partner organizations assist in advancing their initiatives and to receive training on the following topics: Agriculture and Aquaculture; Circular Economy and Zero Waste; Ocean Conservation; Invasive Species Management; Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy; Watershed Restoration and Reforestation; Island Wisdom; and Resume Building, Interviewing, and Job Skills. Additionally, the G3CC works with the Mayors Council of Guam to do weekly island beautification event in a different village.

COMPENSATION: Through UOG Global Learning and Engagement, G3CC members receive one *Continuing Education Unit* (CEU) for every 10 hours of service (up to 80 CEUs for the 5 months). G3 Conservation Corps Leaders receive a \$1,300 stipend and G3 Conservation Corps Supervisors receive a \$1,500 stipend every two weeks.

ELIGIBILITY: G3CC members must be 18 years or older, U.S. citizen or legal resident, in good physical condition able to lift 50lbs or more, and able to fully commit to a full-time 40-hour per week program for 5 months (February – July 2024). During some weeks, the schedule includes early mornings, nights, holidays, and/or weekends. UOG runs a search for conservation corps members following the policies and procedures of the Research Corporation for the University of Guam.

Investing in the Future: The G3 Conservation Corps

A cornerstone of G3's efforts in FY2022 was the successful graduation of two cohorts from the G3 Conservation Corps (G3CC). This innovative workforce development program equips participants with the knowledge and skills necessary for careers in the burgeoning green economy. The program doesn't just focus on theory. G3CC members actively participate in hands-on projects across the island. In 2022, graduates logged an impressive 4,149 volunteer hours. Their tireless efforts resulted in a cleaner Guam:

- **Island Beautification:** G3CC members conducted extensive clean-up drives, collecting hundreds of bags of trash and bulky waste from beaches and roadsides.
- **Waste Management:** Promoting a circular economy, the program facilitated the collection and recycling of over 70,000 aluminum cans, diverting them from landfills.

- Renewable Energy Transition: G3CC played a role in the installation of over 600 solar panels and the switch to LED lighting in various locations, contributing to a cleaner energy grid.
- Reforestation and Habitat Restoration: The program actively addressed Guam's
 environmental challenges. Members prepped land for reforestation projects, planted
 thousands of trees and food crops, and built erosion control devices to protect valuable
 ecosystems. They also participated in the removal of invasive species such as the
 brown tree snake and chain of love, helping to restore native habitats.

Beyond the environmental benefits, the G3CC program empowers individuals. Graduates gain valuable professional skills and certifications, making them competitive candidates in the green job market. This not only enhances their employability but also fosters a sense of ownership and responsibility for Guam's sustainable future.

Cultivating New Green Industries

FY2022 also saw G3 focus on developing the infrastructure needed for a green economy. A key achievement was the launch of the G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub at the CHamoru Village. This physical space provides a platform for entrepreneurs, artisans, and innovators to develop and showcase sustainable products and services. The Makerspace fosters collaboration and knowledge sharing, further accelerating the transition to a circular economy where waste is minimized, and resources are maximized. FY2022 also saw the launch of various workshops and classes for new business owners, entrepreneurs, and artists. Through the year, the Guam Green Growth Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub was able to help ten (10) businesses expand their offerings, and four (4) new businesses open up shop for the first time.

Community Engagement and Capacity Building

Guam Green Growth recognizes that a sustainable future requires a collective effort. In FY2022, the program continued its outreach efforts by engaging with various community stakeholders. This included:

- Educational Programs: G3 hosted workshops and seminars to educate the public on topics like sustainable living, renewable energy options, and responsible waste management practices. Through the Guam Green Growth Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub, over 830 members, presenters and visitors participated in programs.
- G3 Community Gardens: The program continued to expand its network of community gardens, providing residents with access to fresh, locally grown produce and promoting sustainable food systems. The group opened our third community garden on island through a partnership with Guahan Sustainable Culture at the Dededo Sports Center.
- Collaboration with Businesses: G3 actively partnered with local businesses to
 encourage sustainable practices. This could involve promoting energy efficiency
 measures, reducing waste generation, or sourcing local and sustainable products.
 Guam Green Growth through the UOG Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant
 celebrated partnerships with over 103 local and federal government, private sector,
 non-profit and other organizations.

By engaging with diverse sectors of the community, G3 fosters a culture of sustainability that extends beyond government initiatives. This empowers individuals and organizations to take ownership of their environmental impact and contribute to a greener Guam.

Looking Ahead: A Sustainable Future for Guam

The accomplishments of Guam Green Growth in 2022 paint a promising picture for the island's future. By equipping residents with the necessary skills and fostering collaboration across sectors, G3 is laying the groundwork for a sustainable and prosperous future. The program's focus on workforce development, infrastructure creation, and community engagement positions Guam to become a leader in the green economy.

While details beyond what's publicly available are limited, it's safe to say that 2022 was a year of significant progress for Guam Green Growth. The program's commitment to a sustainable future is evident in its dedication to education, training, community engagement, and infrastructure development. As Guam Green Growth continues its work, we can expect to see even greater strides towards a thriving green economy and a more sustainable island paradise.

Matching and Leveraged Funds

The Guam Legislature's appropriation of \$500,000 to the University of Guam provides critical base support for the G3 Initiative. It also has the added benefit of serving as critical local matching dollars to leverage external federal dollars.

The Guam National Science Foundation Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (Guam NSF EPSCoR) is the largest scientific grant ever awarded to UOG. The grant builds scientific research capacity to conduct cutting edge coral reef and ocean research in Guam and grows local STEM, green workforce, and circular economy capacity. The National Science Foundation requires \$1,000,000 in local matching funds per year for \$5,000,000 in federal dollars. The Guam Legislature's local appropriation satisfies \$500,000 of the required \$1,000,000 local match each year. Other local investments, such as tuition waivers for graduate students, are used satisfy the remainder. This translates to an immediate 5x return on investment (ROI) for the local dollar. However, the local base funding support allows the University of Guam to elevate the G3 Initiative and compete for many more additional external dollars for greater impact. During FY22, \$10 in external funding was leveraged for every \$1 in local funding at the UOG Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant, achieving a 10x Return on Investment (ROI).

FY2022 Local Appropriation Expenditure Summary	
Salaries and Fringe for key G3 Action Framework and Outreach Staff	\$189,627.78
G3 Action Framework Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- G3 Working Group coordination	
G3 Action Framework Associate Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- G3 Dashboard data collection and metrics	
 G3 Public Engagement and Outreach Coordinator (0.5 FTE)- Coordinates G3 Conservation Corps program and conducts public outreach on sustainable development G3 Makerspace Attendant (0.5 FTE)- attends to makerspace equipment and educates members on proper usage of machines and development of products 	

Assistant Director for Communications (0.25 FTE)- creates materials for education and community engagement	
Grant Assistant 1 (0.15 FTE)- administrative tasks such as purchase orders and	
expense tracking	
G3 Conservation Corps (G3CC)	\$149,907.08
Stipends for 12 G3CC members to work full-time for 5-months	
UOG Continuing Education Units (CEUs) certifications for workforce training completion	
Gas for transportation to and from work sites	
Supplies and materials (e.g. uniforms, tools, gloves, etc)	
G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub	\$21,410.20
Rent and utilities at CHamoru Village space	
G3 Community Garden	\$10,000.00
Groundraising of new community garden at Dededo Sports Complex (cooperative	
agreement)	
G3 Equipment	\$43,995.00
2021 Ford Transit 150 XLT Low Roof 8 Passenger Full-Size Van to transport staff and	
supplies to program events, activities, and project site.	
General supplies and materials for G3 activities	\$4,540.00
Outreach, office, and other general supplies	
Educational signage at gardens	
Miscellaneous/Contractual	\$17,083.15
Grant workshop trainings for staff professional development	
Contract for Guam Science and Technology Committee facilitation and green workforce	
development	
RCUOG Administrative Fee for HR, procurement, and federal grant match tracking services	\$13,436.79
TOTAL	\$500,000