

**Monique Barbut**  
**CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF)**

*Transcribed from incomplete video recording.*

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As you know, in the GEF we have started helping the small island states. The first program, approved this year by the GEF Council, is the Pacific Alliance for Sustainability (PAS). Inside that program, there are two projects such as the Micronesia Challenge and the Coral Triangle Initiative. We hope soon to be able to help the Caribbean Challenge the same way we did with the Micronesia Challenge.

We want also hear say a specific thank you to NGOs – like TNC, like IUCN, like others – who have been coming in my office every day to speak on behalf of the small island states and all the help they are bringing to the islands.

I also have to say that I really welcome the Life Web initiative and, Minister Gabriel, we will try as much as you can to help you and put our resources to make sure this initiative is successful. On behalf of the GEF, thank you so much for this.

As you know, I'm a friend of the islands, I was married to an islander and my life and my heart is with you. You will always find in the GEF people who will listen to your needs. Please do not hesitate to come to speak to us. You will always be welcomed.

Thank you so much.