

**“Unity is strength, when we speak together as one we will be heard.”**

—DR. PICKERING, DEPUTY PREMIER OF BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, SPEAKING AS NEW GLISPA LEADER.

The annual Global Island Partnership Members meeting coincided with two important milestones—the celebration of our ten year anniversary working together toward our vision to build resilient and sustainable island communities, and our first year as a member-based partnership.

Chaired by H.E. Hersey Kyota, Palau’s Ambassador to the United States, the meeting strengthened the governance and membership structures as well as identified priority outcomes, activities and measures of success for 2017 and 2018 to achieve 2030 Strategy.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- \* **H.E. Danny Faure, President of Seychelles and The Hon. Dr. Orlando Smith, Premier of the British Virgin Islands are recognized as new GLISPA Leaders.**
- \* **Final GLISPA Executive and Steering Committee meetings:**
  - ★ New GLISPA 13-member GLISPA Board formed with increased accountability on strategy implementation in addition to responsibilities for leadership, growth, membership, governance and funding; and
  - ★ Steering Committee has been replaced by the GLISPA Council which will take place every two years for GLISPA Council members.
- \* **A tiered membership structure to ensure the partnership remains open and inclusive:**
  - ★ **Council Member:** contributes member fee of \$5,000 to \$25,000+ annually and are invited to Council and Member meetings;
  - ★ **Member:** contributes \$500 - \$4,999 and are invited to Members meetings at international forums; and
  - ★ **Friends of GLISPA:** contribute no fees but participate in achieving GLISPA 2030 Strategy.
- \* **Work plans strengthened around:**
  - ★ **STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**
    - GLISPA Sustainability and Membership (Growth)
    - Launching new sustainable island commitments (Launch)
    - Accelerating commitments already launched (Accelerate)
    - Added a new working group focussed on measures—strengthening measures both for GLISPA impact and for commitments launched (Measures)
  - ★ **MEMBER-LED, HIGH-IMPACT INITIATIVES**
    - Coastal fisheries
    - Innovative and/or sustainable financing
    - Resilience
- \* **Agreed on strategic events in the short term for the Partnership including the 13th Convention on Biodiversity Conference of the Parties, Mexico, in December 2016, the G7, Italy, in May 2017, and the SDG 14/Oceans Conference, NYC, in June 2017.**
- \* **The Executive Committee agreed to explore the institutionalization of GLISPA as an organization (in the same way that the Mountain Partnership is based at FAO) maintaining the characteristics that make GLISPA work while providing better support to its sustainability.**
- \* **On the issue of sustainability – guidance on support potential from donor members of GLISPA and others including growth in membership.**





2016 Steering Committee meeting

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECISIONS

### GLISPA Leaders

Recognized H.E. Danny Faure, President of Seychelles, as succeeding H.E. James A. Michel, former President of Seychelles. President Michel first called for the Global Island Partnership during the Mauritius International Meeting on SIDS in 2005 alongside President Remengesau of Palau and has been a powerful champion of the Partnership and island priorities throughout his Presidency. President Faure has also been involved in GLISPA during his tenure of Seychelles Vice President including representing Seychelles in a number of GLISPA High Level Events, including in NYC in 2010 and at Rio+20 in 2012.

The Premier of the British Virgin Islands, The Hon. Dr. Orlando Smith, represented by Deputy Premier, The Hon. Dr. Kedrick Pickering, was welcomed as a new GLISPA Leader, joining President Remengesau of Palau, President Faure of Seychelles and Prime Minister Mitchell of Grenada.

### Board and Council

The Executive committee decided to become a board which will initially consist of current members - Palau, Seychelles, Grenada, British Virgin Islands, Hawaii Green Growth, Rare, IUCN, TNC, CBD Secretariat, Italy - and three new priority members including representatives of one of GLISPA's current supporters, a development bank and a philanthropy/private sector. The Board is responsible for the overseeing functioning of the Partnership and will meet every three months by teleconference and once a year in person.



## GLISPA Model

The Executive Committee noted GLISPA's model format (as a business model canvas) and clear outlining of what it is that GLISPA does:

- \* We mobilize high level political will for island commitments and action on resilience and sustainability;
- \* We build and strengthen partnerships that implement global conservation & sustainability goals on islands, especially the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); and
- \* We help our members strategize to bring global attention and support for island solutions and initiatives, especially at major international meetings & conferences.

It was agreed that in order to achieve it's goals, GLISPA focusses primarily on engaging with:

- \* High-level island leadership;
- \* Government, business and NGOs;
- \* Small island developing states;
- \* Countries with islands:
  - ★ EU Overseas, US territories;
  - ★ Self-governing and large (eg Hawaii, Jeju, Okinawa);
- \* NGOs and Intergovernmental organisations that share our mission;
- \* Global donors to island initiatives (current and potential);
- \* Organisations, individuals, local partners focussed on islands; and
- \* Universities focused on sustainability, partnerships or aspect of mission/help address a GLISPA priority.

GLISPA's work would then be undertaken through:

- \* High level events;
- \* High level political chairs and spokespeople engaging at the right place and time;
- \* Strategy and messaging (aligning right people / right message);
- \* Providing and adapting the island commitment model;
- \* Connections, peer support, learning, coopertition (bright spots);
- \* Building a network of island champions & their partners (build the island movement);
- \* Tracking progress at global and commitment level;
- \* Surfacing and highlighting Island examples that illustrate action on key global policy; and
- \* Focussing on action.

## GLISPA Membership

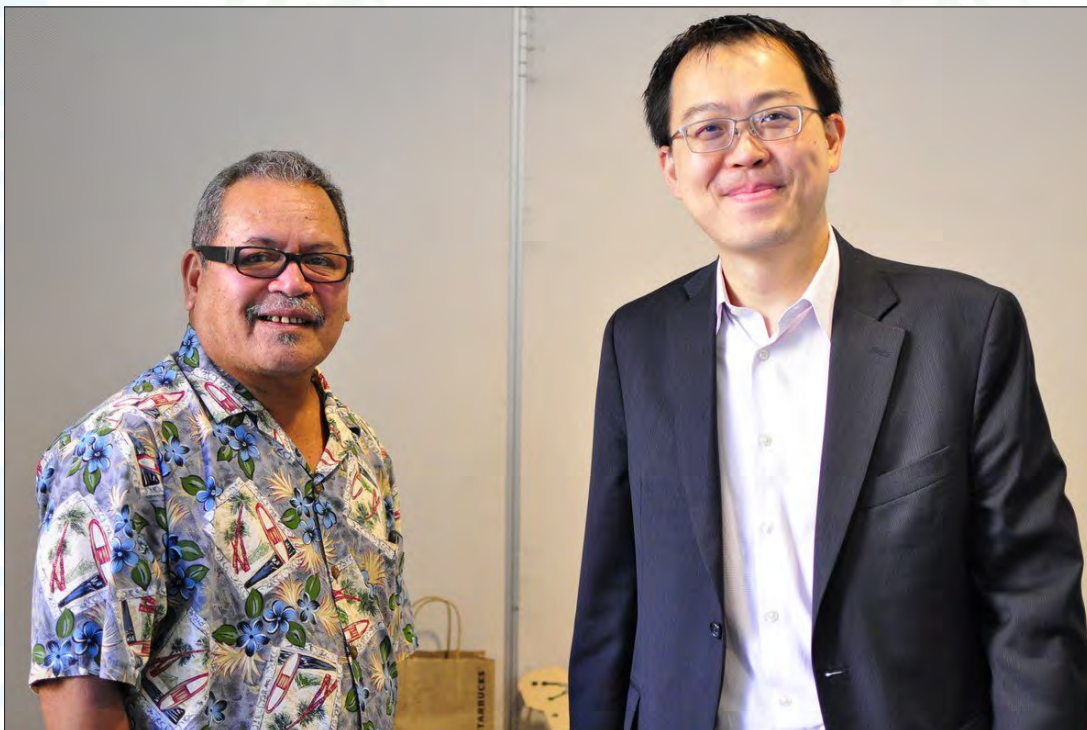
Excellent progress has been made on membership with 21 members joining in 2016 (after membership was first introduced at the 2015 annual meeting). To make sure the partnership remains open and inclusive the following categories were introduced:

- ★ **Council Member:** Contributes member fee of \$5,000 to \$25,000+ annually and are invited to Council and Member meetings as well as high level events
- ★ **Member:** contributes \$500 - \$4,999 and are invited to Members meetings at international forums
- ★ **Friends of GLISPA:** contribute no fees but participate in achieving GLISPA 2030 Strategy

## GLISPA Meetings

Moving forward, GLISPA Members will come together in three different ways through:

1. Council Meetings held every 18 months to 2 years and will focus on bringing together members for collaborative planning on existing and emerging strategic priorities and trends. The first Council Meeting will be in 2018.
2. Member Meetings will be convened at international events where GLISPA Team is present and bring together members around strategy implementation and opportunities for engagement in the partnership. The first of these will take place at the CBD COP in Cancun in December 2016.
3. Engagement in priority working groups and initiatives (convened by Working Group Chairs and usually via web conference).



Ambassador Kyota of Palau and Greg Lee of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, New York, during the Board meeting.



## Priority Working Groups

Working Groups have been strengthened around the Partnership's core 2020 strategic priorities, with each group now being chaired by a member of the Board who will report back on a quarterly basis. Working Groups include:

- ✿ **Growth:** membership and fundraising. Corresponds to the 2020 Priority: Ensure GLISPA is a financially sustainable partnership to achieve its 2030 Strategy. This group is a subset of the Board who remain responsible for the sustainability of the partnership. Chaired by Ariane Steins-Meier of Rare.
- ✿ **Launch:** Corresponds to the 2020 Priority: Launch one new high-level and visionary sustainable island commitment each year such as the Palau National Marine Sanctuary or Caribbean Challenge Initiative. Chaired by Susi Menazza of The Nature Conservancy.
- ✿ **Accelerate:** Corresponds to the 2020 Priority: Accelerate implementation of sustainable island commitments launched and strengthened through GLISPA. Chaired by Carole Martinez of IUCN Europe Overseas.
- ✿ **Measures:** Corresponds to the launch and acceleration of priorities where all sustainable island commitments promoted and strengthened through the partnership (current and future) will include measures including core GLISPA measures common across commitments. A chair is being identified for this Working Group.

Each of these working groups are open to anyone wishing to participate and contribute.

## Member Led - High Impact Initiative Groups

These groups support members in incubating innovative high impact initiatives that address current and emerging island priorities and advance GLISPA's 2030 Strategy. Groups are active on:

- ✿ **Coastal Fisheries** led by Anna-Marie Laura, Rare, [amlaura@rare.org](mailto:amlaura@rare.org)
- ✿ **Resilience** led by Ali Raza Rizvi, IUCN, [Ali.raza@iucn.org](mailto:Ali.raza@iucn.org)
- ✿ **Innovative and/or Sustainable Financing** A leader is being sought for this group.

Initiative Groups are mobilized and led by a GLISPA Member in support of the partnership's mission in coordination with the Board. These are identified in the GLISPA 2030 Strategy.

## Coordination Team Staffing

The Coordination Team positions were adjusted. Kate Brown remains Executive Director (based in D.C.), Jessica Robbins position changed to Operations and Partnerships Manager (based in Australia) and Jenny Hawes remains Support Officer (part-time based in Canada). The Board will expand the Coordination Team to four full time staff when resources allow.

## Sustainability

The sustainability of the partnership has improved as a result of the introduction of member contributions as well as support of financial supporters and contracts however considerable progress still needs to be made. Contributions to the Partnership can be made through: membership, inclusion of GLISPA in larger grants and projects or contracts/fees for service.



Xavier Prens of Curacao, Ambassador Jumeau of Seychelles, Ali Raza Rizvi of IUCN, Greg Lee of Taiwan, Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy of PRECOVERY Labs & GLISPA Advisor, and Charles Ngyandiga of UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme share their priorities to achieve through the partnership in 2017

## GLISPA STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

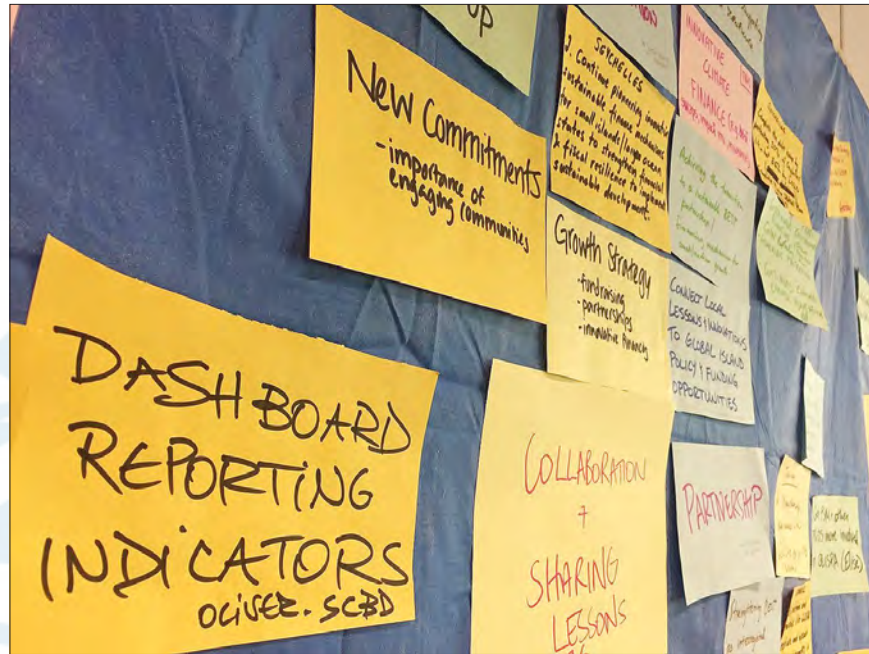
- ✿ Progress toward goals of the sustainable island commitments promoted through the partnership were shared and their goals and priorities toward 2020 articulated.
- ✿ Member priorities toward 2020 on islands were identified.
- ✿ Potential innovative and sustainable financing options for islands were identified that will be followed up by the financing group.
- ✿ Work plans were developed around the strategic priorities (growth, launch, accelerate and measure) as well as around the High Impact Initiatives (coastal fisheries, resilience and innovative and/or sustainable financing) that will be moved forward by the working groups which are open to those interested in participating.
- ✿ Priority events were identified where GLISPA will explore coordinating events or initiatives to move forward the priorities (a [calendar of events](#) relevant to islands is also available).

### Island Commitments

Reports on progress were made on each of these island commitments:

- ✿ Micronesia Challenge
- ✿ Caribbean Challenge Initiative and Caribbean Biodiversity Fund
- ✿ Palau National Marine Sanctuary
- ✿ Aloha+ Challenge and Hawai'i Green Growth
- ✿ Island Resilience Initiative and Island Resilience Challenge
- ✿ Seychelles Debt for Adaptation Swap and 30% EEZ commitment





Priorities members want to move forward through the Partnership.

## PRIORITY EVENTS TO 2017

The following events will be used by the Partnership as an opportunity to move forward the our priorities. If you are interested in getting involved in these events, contact [jessica.robbins@glispa.org](mailto:jessica.robbins@glispa.org).

| Event   | Priority for GLISPA  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Thirteenth Conference of the Parties for the Convention on Biodiversity</b><br/>4 to 17 December 2016,<br/>Cancun, Mexico</p> | <p>GLISPA is coordinating a high level event to launch new island commitments as well as celebrate the ten year anniversaries of the Programme of Work on Island Biodiversity, Global Island Partnership and Micronesia Challenge (6 Dec).</p> <p>Bright spots in mainstreaming biodiversity on islands (specifically tourism and fisheries) will be showcased as part of a one day event in the Rio Pavilion (7 Dec).</p> <p>A Members meeting will be coordinated to engage members on partnership opportunities in 2017 (date tbc).</p> |
| <p><b>The 43rd G7 Summit</b><br/>26 to 27 May 2017, Sicily, Italy</p>   | <p>GLISPA has formed a small working group to explore an opportunity to highlight island priorities as part of the G7 Summit being held in Italy.</p>  |
| <p><b>High-Level UN Conference to Support the Implementation of SDG 14</b><br/>5 to 9 June 2017, New York, U.S.</p>                 | <p>GLISPA is exploring how the SDG14 Conference can help to inspire leadership and catalyze commitments as well as demonstrate implementation and mobilise partnerships.</p>   |
| <p><b>GLISPA Annual Board Meeting</b><br/>October 2017, Location TBC</p>  | <p>This meeting will convene to review progress of implementation of workplans and take decisions on governance, growth and sustainability.</p>  |

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to Louise Heaps (MBA Student) for her extensive work on sustainable and innovative financing options and advice on GLISPA's comparative advantage. Thank you to The Nature Conservancy for providing the venue and the support of Alejandra Bowles on logistics. Thank you to Sachi Singh (GLISPA Fellow) and Joseph Vitolo for their voluntary support to the meeting. Thank you to the valuable advice from a number of our Board, Members and friends that were unable to participate in person in this years meeting. Thanks specifically to Audrey Newman, Gerald Miles, Julius Fischer, Celeste Connors and Neil Hannahs for input into elements of GLISPA's Executive and Steering Committee Meeting preparation.





Carole Martinez (IUCN Europe Overseas), Karin Zaubnerger (European Commission), Lina Sjaavik (WMO), Phil Andreozzi (US APHIS), Mae Burton-Adams (TNC Micronesia) and Krista Singleton-Cambage (GLISPA Advisor) discuss their priorities toward 2020.

## THE 2016 GLOBAL ISLAND PARTNERSHIP: LEADERS, MEMBERS & COMMITMENTS

### Leaders

**H.E. Tommy E. Remengesau Jr.**, President of Palau  
**H.E. Danny Faure**, President of Seychelles  
**Dr. The Right Hon. Keith Mitchell**, Prime Minister of Grenada  
**The Hon. Dr. Orlando Smith**, Premier of the British Virgin Islands

### Board Members

| Leader Representatives                                    | Board   | Role in GLISPA  |
|---|---|---|
| <b>Palau</b>  | <b>H.E. Hersey Kyota</b><br>Ambassador to the United States<br>Dean of the Diplomatic Corps   | Chair of the Board (2015-17)<br>President's Representative  |
| <b>Seychelles</b>   | <b>H.E. Ronny Jumeau</b><br>Ambassador for Climate Change and Small<br>Island Developing State Issue  | Vice Chair (2015-17) of the Board<br>(Chair 2012-15)<br>President's representative  |
| <b>Grenada</b>  | <b>H.E. Angus Friday</b><br>Ambassador to the United States   | Prime Minister's representative   |
| <b>British Virgin Islands</b>                             | <b>Dr. Kedrick Pickering</b><br>Deputy Premier and Minister of Natural<br>Resources and Labour  | Premier's representative to the<br>Steering Committee   |
| Members   | Board   | Role in GLISPA  |
| <b>Hawai'i Green Growth</b>                               | <b>Celeste Connors</b> , Executive Director   | Advisor on high impact initiatives  |
| <b>International Union for<br/>Conservation of Nature</b> | <b>Ali Raza Rizvi</b> (focal point)<br>Programme Manager Ecosystem Based<br>Adaptation<br><b>Carole Martinez</b><br>Coordinator Europe Overseas Programme | IUCN Focal Point as host of GLISPA<br>Coordination Team<br>Chair Resilience Initiative Group<br>Chair of Accelerate Working Group |
| <b>Italy</b>  | <b>Grammenos Mastrojeni</b><br>DGCS Environment Coordinator<br>Italian Development Cooperation  | Founding Supporter  |
| <b>Rare</b>   | <b>Ariane Steins-Meier</b><br>Director, Global Development (Europe)   | Host of Executive Director<br>Chair Growth Working Group  |
| <b>Secretariat of the<br/>Convention on Biodiversity</b>  | <b>Oliver Hillel</b> , Program Officer  | SCBD Focal Point on Programme of<br>Work on Island Biodiversity   |
| <b>The Nature Conservancy</b>                             | <b>Susi Menazza</b> , Senior Policy Advisor   | Chair Launch Working Group  |





### 2016 MEMBERS

Palau, Seychelles, Grenada, British Virgin Islands, Convention on Biodiversity Secretariat, Indian Ocean Commission, IUCN, Hawaii Green Growth, Italy, Micronesia Conservation Trust, Association of Overseas Countries and Territories, Rare, Taiwan, The Nature Conservancy, UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme, State of Hawaii, County of Hawaii, Silver Mountain Solutions, Waitt Foundation and Waitt Institute, Global Environment Facility as well as our financial supporters: the European Commission and U.S. Department of State.

### ADVISORS

Ryan Argentieri (Silver Mountain Solutions), Eric Coppenger, Maya Doolub (elms consulting), Keneti Faulalo, Scott Hajost, Neil Hannahs (Ho’okele Strategies), Floyd Homer, Audrey Newman, Kristin Rechberger (Dynamic Planet), Krista Singleton-Cambage (Sustainability Connections), Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy (PRECOVERY Labs) and Jack Sterne (Prosperity of the Commons).

### FELLOWS (2015 TO 2016):

Julius Fischer, David McCartney, Sachi Singh, Stephanie Ratte, Kristin Qui, Alison Rhatigan, Olivia Santiago, Karena Mahung, Tamara Thomas, Latha Swamy, Carlie Dario.

## JOIN GLISPA

Make an impact in building resilient and sustainable island communities – become a GLISPA Member

Email: [jessica.robbins@glispa.org](mailto:jessica.robbins@glispa.org)