



FY2025 Government of Guam Appropriation Report

Reporting Period: October 2024 to September 2025

Prepared by:

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For more information about Guam Green Growth, visit:

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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 [G3 Dashboard](#), 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) is a workforce development program supported by the G3 local appropriation that 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 the training and graduation of four (4) G3CC cohorts with a fifth cohort set to graduate in September 2025. Graduates receive job placement assistance in the local economy, or they return to school for further training in green workforce areas.

In FY2025, G3 partnered with Kupu, Hawaii's largest conservation workforce non-profit, to leverage additional funding. G3CC was renamed as the G3 Kupu Conservation Corps (G3KCC). The additional funding adds a bump in weekly stipend, a sixth (6th) month of paid training, and an education stipend to be used at UOG or GCC upon completion of the program.

Throughout their 6-month program, the G3KCC rotates as a cohort through green partner organizations on a bi/weekly basis to 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.

Impacts from the current 5th G3KCC Cohort include:

- 50 (42-gal) bags aluminum cans diverted from the landfill and recycled with the i*recycle program. Redemption funds go back to local schools.
- 28,920 pounds of trash collected at various cleanups throughout the island.

- Over 150 feet of erosion control devices were built and installed in the Ugum watershed reducing sedimentation at the Ugum Water Treatment Plant (supplies water to most of southern Guam) and Talofofo Bay protecting marine life.
- 5 community restoration projects for village beautification and road safety.
- Over 650 feet of invasive plant species removed from several sites.

COMPENSATION: Through UOG Global Learning and Engagement, G3KCC members receive one *Continuing Education Unit* (CEU) for every 10 hours of service (up to 80 CEUs for the 5 months) and health insurance. G3 Kupu Conservation Corps Leaders receive a \$1,360 stipend and G3 Conservation Corps Supervisors receive a \$1,500 stipend every two weeks.

ELIGIBILITY: G3KCC 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 6 months (March – September 2025). 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.

Expansion of G3 Conservation Corps Programs through Leveraged Funds

The success and popularity of the G3 local appropriation facilitated the leveraging of additional external funds to create over forty (40) additional conservation corps positions in FY2025.

- G3 GROW Corps

A new \$250,000 grant from Malu received in June 2025 led to the creation of a new G3 Guam Restoration of Watersheds Conservation Corps (G3 GROW Corps). Six (6) members were recruited to work full-time over six (6) months to restore watershed through tree plantings, fire breaks, and fencing in order to improve surface water quality and the health of downstream coral reefs.

- G3 Local2030 Islands Network Conservation Corps (G3LINCC)

Through leveraged federal support from the U.S. State Department via NOAA National Sea Grant, a new regional-focused conservation corps was created. The G3 Local2030 Islands Network Conservation Corps (G3LINCC) is comprised of UOG students from Micronesia currently housed at the UOG Residence Halls. In FY2025, ten (10) members completed the cohort in each semester, graduating a total of twenty (20) members.

- G3 Kupu Corps Program (G3KC)

Additional leveraged funds from the Kupu non-profit organization led to the creation of 8-12 additional conservation corps positions ranging from 6 to 11 months in duration in Guam, and CNMI. G3KC members are assigned to a partner host site (e.g. Guam Department of Agriculture, National Park Service) to

be equipped with skills and leadership opportunities to move ahead in their career.

- Guam Green Growth Art Corps

G3 leveraged funding from the Governor's Education Assistance and Youth Empowerment grant to successfully recruit a total of seventeen (17) G3 Art Corps members over two years to plan and develop educational murals centered around the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. In FY2025, the second cohort featured nine (9) members ranging from developing artists to masters, all with the intention of growing the local familiarity and knowledge of sustainable practices in Guam. A total of 17 murals have been launched with the messaging of the SDGs in villages of Hågat, Inalåhan, Humåtak, Barrigada, Tamuning, Piti, Tumon, Yigo and Ordot Chalan Pago. The murals showcase the talent of local artists and mark Guam's progress towards achieving sustainability by 2030.

G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub

The G3 local appropriation supports rent and utilities for the G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub located at CHamoru Village- a place to cultivate new green industries and diversify our local economy. Five full-time staff members, equipment, and part-time instructors are leveraged from grant funding. The physical space provides a platform for entrepreneurs, artisans, and innovators to develop and showcase sustainable products and services. The G3 Hub fosters collaboration and knowledge sharing, further accelerating the transition to a circular economy where waste is minimized, and resources are maximized.

In FY2025 so far, the Hub successfully conducted 26 workshops and two Science Cafe sessions, engaging 1,139 participants with positive feedback. These events, combined with ongoing partnerships, yielded results in outreach, education, and capacity building. Participants gained a hands-on understanding of circular economy principles by creating new products from waste, also learning from student research at the Science Cafes. Collaborations with youth programs are "planting seeds" for future sustainable innovators.

As part of its ongoing community engagement, the Hub hosts a weekly plastic collection drive during the CHamoru Village Night Market. This initiative targets high-density polyethylene (HDPE) and polypropylene (PP) plastics while simultaneously educating the public about plastic recycling. To date, the program has collected more than 5,000 individual pieces of plastic and marine debris. These materials are repurposed into art pieces or processed using Precious Plastic machines to produce plastic lumber, referred to as "PluMber." Research is currently being conducted with faculty from the UOG School of Engineering to evaluate the structural integrity and commercial viability of PluMber compared to conventional industry-grade materials. While testing is still in the initial phase, preliminary results are promising and were presented at the Conference on Island Sustainability 2025.

Economic Valuation of the Guam Green Growth Initiative

UOG CIS and SG partnered with the Pacific Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (Pacific RISA) based at the East West Center and Arizona State University. Leveraged NOAA funds support a project to conduct economic valuation assessments of sustainable actions facilitated through the G3 initiative. This project is actively researching, evaluating, and supporting the development of circular economy products for Guam and regional island partners.

The project team is building user-friendly economic valuation tools to support real-time tracking and reporting of the impacts of their conservation activities. This effort emerged from our ongoing valuation research, which highlighted the need for practical, field-deployable tools that G3 team members and partners can use independently to estimate the economic value of their work.

This new focus area directly supports G3's mission to institutionalize sustainability across Guam by embedding data-driven valuation practices into everyday program operations. It also strengthens the long-term sustainability of our research by building capacity within the G3 team and fostering a partnership model based on shared knowledge, co-developed tools, and mutual accountability for impact.

Expanding Conservation Efforts throughout the Region

G3 is now a recognized leader in the Pacific for sustainable development as other islands are now following Guam's example following engagement with other islands through the Local2030 Islands Network and the Micronesia Islands Forum of Leaders. UOG CIS and Sea Grant received grant funding from the U.S. State Department via NOAA National Sea Grant. This provides G3 the ability to assist regional partners in development of their own green growth initiatives. G3 assisted with the launch of CNMI Green Growth and Palau Green Growth. These are now flourishing innovative public-private partnerships that support stakeholder engagement for consensus building and identify priority metrics to track on the Dashboard, reflecting a growing movement of locally-led, data-driven efforts guided by island values.

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.

In calendar year 2024, local appropriations to UOG CIS&SG resulted in a 33.9 x Return on Investment (ROI). For every \$1 in local funds, UOG brought in \$33.9 in external funds. More details on impacts and leveraged funds are available in the [UOG CIS and SG 2024 Impact Report](#).

FY2025 Local Appropriation Actual Expenditure Summary

<i>FY2025 Local Appropriation Expenditures as of September 30, 2025</i>	
Salaries and Fringe for key G3 Action Framework and Outreach Staff - G3 Action Framework Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- G3 Working Group coordination - G3 Action Framework Associate Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- G3 Dashboard data/metric management and community engagement - G3 Public Engagement and Outreach Coordinator (0.5 FTE)- Coordinates G3 Conservation Corps program and conducts public outreach on sustainable development - G3 Public Engagement and Outreach Assistant (0.2 FTE)- Assists with coordinating outreach and stakeholder engagement activities and administrative tasks such as purchase orders and expense tracking - Associate Director of Communications and Community Engagement (.15 FTE) – Oversight of education, outreach and community engagement. - Administrative support (.25 FTE) – Two part-time administrative support G3 project implementation and to assist project team with processing of payroll, personnel renewals, procurement, supply inventory, reporting, and etc.	\$168,045.21
G3 Conservation Corps Stipends for 12 G3CC members to work full-time for 5-months Continuing Education Units for workforce training Gas for transportation to and from work sites Supplies and materials (e.g. uniforms, tools, gloves, etc)	\$193,663.00
G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub Rent and utilities at CHamoru Village space	\$37,324.04
General supplies and materials for G3 activities Tools, office supplies, educational signage and materials	\$5,561.67
Miscellaneous/Contractual - Grant workshop trainings for staff professional development - Dues for Guam's membership in the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) - Dues for Guam's membership in the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA). - Contract for Guam Science and Technology Committee facilitation and green workforce development - Cooperative agreement with iRecycle Guam.	\$45,403.75
RCUOG Administrative Fee for HR, procurement, and federal grant match tracking services	\$50,000.00
TOTAL	\$499,997.69