



**FY2024 Government of Guam Appropriation Report**

**Prepared by:**

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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, 12<sup>th</sup> 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) 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 (4) 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.

### *2024 G3 Conservation Corps – Cohort 4*

The fourth cohort of the G3 Conservation Corps featured our most diverse group of members (musicians, an architect, an HR specialist, a retail manager, a housekeeper, and more). The cohort gained work experience with agencies like the Guam Power Authority, Department of Agriculture, UOG Triton Farm, Guam Forestry, Department of Parks and Recreation, Island Girl Power and more. The members learned skills that have created a strong foundation for future careers in our green economy. They have also hosted and participated in weekly island beautification events that included bus stop and mural painting, beach cleanups and roadside cleanups in Guam's villages. While the focus of this program is workforce development, many of the activities members engaged in throughout the 5 months had widespread impact that benefited the community.

Some of these impacts include:

- 31,710 aluminum cans diverted from the landfill and recycled with the i\*recycle program. Redemption funds go back to local schools.
- 13,483 pounds of trash collected at various cleanups throughout the island.
- Over 200 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.
- Over 650 feet of invasive plant species removed from several sites.
- The graduation ceremony for the 12 members took place on July 29, 2024, in the Governor's Large Conference Room in Adelup. Within two weeks of graduation, five members have successfully obtained green jobs.

### 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. This initiative allows students to learn and develop their skills while focusing on their coursework and study programs.

This year, 10 members of the G3 GLINCC completed the first cohort of this program. The G3 GLINCC conducted waste audits at the Residence Halls and is in the process of assisting with the creation of a waste management plan for the entire program. This cohort also established the UOG Residence Halls Community Garden which allows for lessons and workshops on food sustainability and proper farming techniques for all hall residents. It has also helped with food security concerns as residents can partake in the harvested produce free of charge. The group has also helped preserve our southern watershed by helping plant nearly 5,000 trees with the Guam Restoration of Watershed Initiative and the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Soil Division, slowing erosion in the area.

### G3 Kupu Corps Program (G3KC)

G3 leveraged additional funds from its partner Kupu, the largest non-profit organization in Hawaii that provides entry-level hands-on learning experience for young professionals to commit to a career in conservation, now creating the G3 Kupu Corps (G3KC). Growing our skilled workforce supports the diversification of our island's economy.

The program helps prepare our community for the emerging green economy. G3KC recruits members on Guam and in the CNMI to serve a six or 11-month term with a partner host site in the environmental field to be equipped with skills and leadership opportunities to move ahead in their career. This built the member's knowledge and skills that were highlighted in the member's graduation from the program. This year, 10 members were successfully recruited and 5 graduated.

### Guam Green Growth Art Corps

G3 leveraged funding from the Governor's Education Assistance and Youth Empowerment grant to successfully recruit eight (8) Art Corps members to plan and develop educational murals centered around the 17 UN SDGs. The first cohort featured 8 members ranging from developing artists to masters all with the intention of growing the local familiarity and knowledge of sustainable practices in Guam. Two murals have been launched with the messaging of the SDGs in villages of Yona and Malesso'. 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 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. Four 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. A regular offering of workshops and classes support new business owners, entrepreneurs, and artists. In 2023, the G3 Hub hosted 265 members and visitors and expanded five (5) businesses.

G3 hosted four weaving workshops taught by traditional artisans, with a focus on Coconut Palm Weaving and Pandanus Leaf weaving. These workshops were a direct response to an increase of imported goods has affecting a decline of indigenous artforms, hand crafted objects, and language.

Other educational activities and workshops were hosted on topics including business growth and development, recycling art, local creations, and small business consultations. The G3 Hub also mentored members of the Guam Unique Merchandise Association (GUMA), and the award-winning teams of the high school Junior Achievement programs. The G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub

also received a First Place in Events award from the CHamoru Language Commission for our commitment to preserving the CHamoru language and cultural heritage through our events.

### 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. Two experienced analysts are now assessing and quantifying the economic impact of sustainability initiatives, starting off with the G3 Conservation Corps workforce development program and will provide insight into the financial benefits and return on investment for these initiatives. The team has determined and customized economic valuation methodologies in collaboration with experts in environmental economics to refine the valuation models and develop a standardized framework.

### 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. 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. The G3 team assisted in the launch of CNMI Green Growth and Palau Green Growth in February 2024. At the June 2024 Micronesia Islands Forum in Guam, the heads of state from Micronesia signed a communique indicating support and adoption of green growth initiatives in all jurisdictions. During the MIF meeting, FSM and RMI Leaders requested assistance from our team to support their Green Growth Initiative launches. RMI is now starting their RMI Green Growth process.

### **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.

More details on impacts and leveraged funds are available in the [UOG CIS and SG 2023 Impact booklet](#).

**FY2024 Local Appropriation Actual Expenditure Summary**

<b><i>FY2024 Local Appropriation Expenditures as of August 2024</i></b>	
<b>Salaries and Fringe for key G3 Action Framework and Outreach Staff</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G3 Action Framework Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- G3 Working Group coordination</li> <li>G3 Action Framework Associate Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- G3 Dashboard data collection and metrics</li> <li>G3 Public Engagement and Outreach Coordinator (1.0 FTE)- Coordinates G3 Conservation Corps program and conducts public outreach on sustainable development</li> <li>G3 Public Engagement and Outreach Assistant (1.0 FTE)- Assists with coordinating outreach and stakeholder engagement activities and administrative tasks such as purchase orders and expense tracking</li> </ul>	\$186,942.70
<b>G3 Conservation Corps</b> 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)	\$177,757.53
<b>G3 Circular Economy Makerspace and Innovation Hub</b> Rent and utilities at CHamoru Village space	\$34,450.33
<b>G3 Community Garden</b> Maintenance of G3 Community Gardens (cooperative agreement)	\$5,000
<b>General supplies and materials for G3 activities</b> Tools, office supplies, educational signage and materials	\$3,203.13
<b>Miscellaneous/Contractual</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grant workshop trainings for staff professional development</li> <li>Dues for Guam’s membership in the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)</li> <li>Contract for Guam Science and Technology Committee facilitation and green workforce development</li> </ul>	\$33,203.13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>RCUOG Administrative Fee</b> for HR, procurement, and federal grant match tracking services</li> </ul>	\$50,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$490,556.82
<b>Remaining encumbrances will be used before 9/30/2024 to support staff salaries</b>	\$9,443.18