



The 11<sup>th</sup> University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability will take place from **March 31 to April 3, 2020** at the Hyatt Regency Guam, with pre-conference events on March 30 and 31. UOG President Dr. Thomas W. Krise and Guam Governor Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero will serve as co-chairs of the conference, with the theme of **"Island Wisdom for a Global Future."**

## ISLAND WISDOM

As keepers of traditional knowledge stretching back thousands of years, islanders have long understood challenges related to geographic isolation, limited resources, and severe weather. With advancements in transportation and communication in recent centuries, many island communities shifted from self-reliant sustainable societies to ones largely dependent on goods received from abroad. Today, islanders are among the first people on the planet to experience severe impacts of climate change and other pressing challenges. They are reaching into their repositories of island wisdom and blending it with modern tools to innovate a transition toward a sustainable future.

As a matter of necessity, and even survival, islands are at the forefront of a global movement toward sustainability. They are building climate change resilience, improving food security, implementing entrepreneurial solutions, promoting green economic development, reducing waste production, advancing renewable energy, and protecting and restoring natural resources.



## GLOBAL FUTURE

Islands are leading at the international forefront of a global sustainability effort. In 2015, United Nations (U.N.) adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) designed to put the world on a path to a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future. **The Decade of Action begins now in 2020 to deliver the Goals by 2030.**



To accelerate and scale local solutions to global sustainability challenges, the U.N. designated Local2030 Hubs in 2018, with Hawai'i Green Growth as the single hub focused on islands. The hub recently expanded with the launch of the Local2030 Islands Network during the 74<sup>th</sup> U.N. General Assembly in 2019. Founding partners and supporters of the network include Hawai'i, Guam, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Seychelles, Grenada, Belize, Curaçao, Ireland, the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP), the U.N. Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), and the U.N. Foundation.

Members of the Local2030 Islands Network will convene during the conference to discuss solutions and a collective agenda to achieve a sustainable global future.

## JOIN THE CONFERENCE

Together with strategic partners, the Local2030 Islands Network and Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), the 11<sup>th</sup> University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability aims to gather representatives from at least 20 islands in 2020 to share progress, innovations, and strategies to collectively move toward a sustainable global future. Sustainability leaders from around the globe are also invited to share innovations and partnership opportunities that will contribute to island sustainability.

**Register today to join us: [www.uog.edu/cis2020](http://www.uog.edu/cis2020)**



## CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

Proposals for sessions are now being accepted for the 11th University of Guam Conference on Island Sustainability — Island Wisdom for a Global Future. The annual conference is a blend of scholarship, advocacy, and action. Diverse abstract submissions from academia, government agencies, non-profit organizations, teachers, students, and the general community are encouraged.

## OVERARCHING TOPICS FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

- ❖ **Island Wisdom.** As keepers of traditional knowledge stretching back thousands of years, islanders have long understood sustainability challenges. What wisdom are we using today in islands to solve sustainability challenges? What wisdom can we revisit?
- ❖ **Global Future.** In what ways can we apply Island Wisdom to challenges around the world to achieve a sustainable global future?

## YOUR ABSTRACT SHOULD COVER THE FOLLOWING:

- How are you taking action on sustainability?
- Do you have sustainability innovations to share?
- How are you or your organizations advancing U.N. Sustainable Development Goals?
- Which U.N. SDGs are you contributing to?

## TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS (1 Hour)

- **Breakout Workshop** — highly interactive session, offering participants a deep-dive, hands-on approach to learning and skill building. Workshops are outcome-based and intended to engage attendees as participants, not just as a passive audience. Creativity, peer-to-peer learning, and small-group interactions are prioritized.
- **Breakout Panel** — moderated discussions, preferably with few or no slides or formal presentations. Though less hands-on than workshops, we prioritize panels that offer ample time for audience Q&A.
- **Poster Presentation** — breakout session open to all conference participants where you can network and present your poster.

## PRESENTATION AVAILABILITY

Sessions are limited. In addition to plenary speakers and panels, the conference will accommodate 12 breakout sessions, with a maximum of 4 speakers per session. There are 50 poster presentation slots.

## SUBMISSIONS AND DEADLINE

Session proposals can be submitted at [www.uog.edu/cis2020/call-for-abstracts](http://www.uog.edu/cis2020/call-for-abstracts). Submissions should be submitted **no later than 5:00 p.m. February 28, 2020.**



**| SUGGESTED TOPICS**



**Sustainable Environments**

- How can we improve Life Below Water (SDG14) and Life on Land (SDG15)?
- What is contributing to the environmental degradation of island ecosystems, and what solutions are available to reduce degradation and/or restore healthy ecosystems?
- What sustainable activities can be implemented to promote healthier terrestrial, aquatic, and marine island environments?



**Climate Change**

- What actions are needed in our community to address climate change impacts (SDG13)?
- How can we cultivate and sustain youth climate leaders in our communities?
- What strategies for resilience, mitigation, and adaptation are working and how do we scale them quickly?

**Sustainable Society**

- What can be done to reduce poverty and inequalities and promote good health and well-being (SDG 1,3, 5, 10)?
- What can be done to improve food security and reduce reliance on imported goods (SDG2)?
- What advancements in technology can be applied to local food production, processing, packaging, and delivery to reduce dependence on imports (SDG2, 9)?
- How can communities promote decent work and economic growth (SDG8)?

**Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency**

- What is the current outlook for our region's energy future (SDG7)?
- What programs or practices are available for residential and commercial consumers to use energy sustainably?
- What are the challenges in adopting renewable energy in islands, and how do we overcome them?

**Circular Economy and Sustainable Development**

- What circular economy initiatives can be promoted to design out waste and create new industries (SDG9,11,12)?
- How can increased tourism and revenue be achieved while implementing sustainable and responsible practices?
- What sustainable designs and land-use practices can be incorporated in the planning process (e.g. Development Master Plans)?

**Education, Workforce Development, and Capacity Building**

- What is being done to provide quality education and engage our community and K-12 students on issues of sustainability (SDG4)?
- What capacity are we lacking in our region to achieve sustainable cities and communities (SDG11)?
- Where do we need to connect the dots for students to major in STEM, sustainability, socioeconomic, and green technology fields and ensure local jobs are ready and available for them?

**Policies for Sustainable Development**

- What sustainability policies are our islands lacking, and what can be done to improve enforcement of existing policies (SDG16)?
- What policies should be considered to responsibly accommodate incoming military personnel, regional migrants, and natural population growth?
- What policies are needed to safeguard long-term conservation efforts?

**| REPEAT ABSTRACTS WILL NOT BE SELECTED**

Proposals must consist of new research or ideas that have not been presented at a previous Conference on Island Sustainability. Exceptions will be made for research projects with significant updates, which should be detailed in the submitted abstract.