EVENT SPOTLIGHT  Developing the GLISPA 2030 Strategy

Highlights from the 2015 Steering Committee Meeting  13 to 15 October 2015, Turin, Italy

“From small islands come big ideas because we are not afraid to dream.”
—H.E. Ronny Jumeau, Vice-Chair of the GLISPA Steering Committee,
Ambassador for Climate Change and SIDS Issues, Republic of Seychelles

Our 2015 Steering Committee meeting was held at a significant time for our partnership as we prepare to celebrate our ten-year anniversary in 2016. Building on our ten years of impact working together toward common goals, this meeting refreshed our GLISPA 2030 Strategy and put in place clear and measurable targets to be achieved by 2020 and beyond. It further reinforced the need to urgently address the sustainability of the partnership to make sure the vision can be achieved.

HIGHLIGHTS

• H.E. Hersey Kyota, Palau’s Ambassador to the United States was welcomed as incoming Chair of the Steering Committee and H.E. Ronny Jumeau, Seychelles Ambassador for Climate Change and SIDS Issues, as Vice-Chair during a gala dinner hosted by the Mountain Partnership.

• GLISPA will continue focus on catalyzing leadership and commitments to build resilient and sustainable island communities as well as support accelerating the implementation of commitments made through the Partnership including strengthening our collective ability to measure impact.

• A new Sustainable Coastal Fisheries Working Group was formed that will be chaired by Rare and focuses on: identifying and sharing bright spots in this area, creating a menu of innovative options for islands to adopt sustainable coastal fisheries options and that contribute to community sustainability as well as catalyzing national commitments to advance sustainable coastal fisheries.

• A new high impact demonstration activity launched to advance innovative financing for a blue/green economy in islands which will include existing activities on debt swaps for adaptation and the island resilience initiative. These initiatives help change the narrative on financing through identifying potential financing bright spots and mobilizing island leadership around new tools.

• GLISPA’s ongoing efforts on ecosystem based adaptation on islands now includes disaster risk reduction with a focus on identifying early leadership, bright spots and lessons learned and integrating this into new and existing commitments.

• To support GLISPA’s path toward sustainability the Executive Committee created a member fee of at least USD 5,000 per entity that participates in GLISPA which goes into effect immediately.

• Further on GLISPA sustainability, GLISPA participants and those who would like to support the partnership were requested to include GLISPA (where relevant) in funding proposals and projects and to continue to mobilize resources for the partnership.
“The sustainability of the partnership remains the biggest challenge to achieving our vision. All islands and our supporters are urgently called on to help us overcome this challenge.”

—H.E. Hersey Kyota, Chair of the GLISPA Steering Committee, Ambassador to the United States, Republic of Palau

**GLISPA LEADERSHIP**

H.E. Hersey Kyota, Palau’s Ambassador to the United States, is the new Chair of the GLISPA Steering Committee until the 2017 Steering Committee meeting. H.E. Ronny Jumeau, Seychelles Ambassador for Climate Change and SIDS Issues, is Vice-Chair for the same period. The Steering Committee recognized the significant efforts of Ambassador Jumeau and the Government of the Seychelles for their strong leadership and continued commitment to GLISPA.

Seychelles will host the first GLISPA Leaders Summit in 2016 to launch the GLISPA 2030 Strategy, recognize commitments to the sustainability of the Partnership and provide renewed energy to reach its goals. The proposed date is March 2016.

**GLISPA SUSTAINABILITY**

GLISPA has had two issues in 2015 and in planning for 2016, one being a cash flow situation and the other the funding that is available to the partnership. It was determined that changes and refinements needed to be made including:

1. **Membership:** a GLISPA member fee including the benefits of GLISPA membership is recognised and paid for
2. **Efficiency:** Improve efficiency and return on investment of existing arrangements and identify new opportunities
3. **Clarity:** Formalised/institutionalized arrangements specifying members and GLISPA informal relationships, hosting arrangements are in place which specify relationships and obligations, and risk analysis of informal versus formal arrangements is undertaken
4. **Business Plan:** Agreed that GLISPA would develop a business plan to support operationalization of the 2030 Strategy

**GLISPA MEMBER FEE**

GLISPA will put in place an annual minimum member fee of USD5,000 per entity that participates in the partnership to go into effect immediately. Existing Steering Committee as well as broader participants of the partnership are invited to pay a 2016 member fee by completing GLISPA Member Pledge Form. Entities that contribute fees or sign a pledge form before 25 November 2015 will be publicly recognized by GLISPA Leaders at our events during UNFCCC COP21 as well as acknowledged during the GLISPA Leaders Summit. GLISPA remains a collaborative and inclusive partnership, open to any entity that supports its mission. Any government, organization or individual is welcome to participate in supporting implementation of GLISPA’s strategy through engaging in working groups, events or other ways. However those that benefit most from GLISPA are being asked to provide a financial contribution to the partnerships sustainability. Entities that contribute fees or sign a pledge form before 31 January 2016 will be publicly recognized during the GLISPA Leaders Summit.

**FISCAL HOST SEARCH**

It was determined that the ten-year anniversary of GLISPA is a good time to review fiscal hosting arrangements which has been provided through IUCN since 2009. The Executive Committee will launch a search for innovative proposals to play the role of fiscal host of GLISPA.

Institutions interested in learning more about the search should contact kate.brown@glispa.org before 15 December 2015.

**GLISPA LEADERS**

It was agreed to develop a process to invite a broader group of GLISPA Leaders to join the Presidents of Palau and Seychelles as well as Prime Minister of Grenada in providing high-level leadership and guidance to the partnership.
GLISPA 2030 STRATEGY

VISION: Build resilient and sustainable island communities

MISSION: To promote action to build resilient and sustainable island communities by inspiring leadership, catalyzing commitments and facilitating collaboration for all islands.

VALUES:
- Equality: All members are equal regardless of size, political status, sector or role
- Trust: We are transparent in our interactions and always assume good intent
- Collaborative: We are open, inclusive and respectful in approach
- Solution-focused: We seek impact through all our actions

2030 GOALS
- Inspire leadership and catalyze commitments to address critical island issues
- Accelerate implementation of sustainable island commitments
- Ensure a sustainable partnership to achieve 2030 Strategy

2020 PRIORITIES
1. Ensure GLISPA is a financially sustainable partnership to achieve its 2030 Strategy
2. Launch one new sustainable island commitment each year (high-level multi-island commitment)
3. Accelerate implementation of sustainable island commitments made through the GLISPA platform
4. Kick start one high impact demonstration activity from each of:
   a. Innovative financing for a blue/green economy in islands
      i. Support island efforts toward innovative financing through improving connectivity/cohesive direction toward broader goals, changing the narrative around financing
      ii. Mobilize island leadership for innovative new tools including debt swaps and the island resilience initiative
      iii. Identify innovative financing bright spots (including on access to financing, project pipeline, political will, project design and public private partnerships amongst others) and share these through annual convenings
   b. Sustainable Coastal Fisheries
      i. Identify and catalyze national level commitments from islands
      ii. Create a menu of options for islands to adopt sustainable coastal fisheries that is innovative and which contributes to community sustainability.
   c. Building Resilience (Ecosystem Based Adaptation/Disaster Risk Reduction)
      i. Identify early leadership, bright spots and lessons learned from islands on EBA/DRR
      ii. Support island leadership on building resilience including through integrating EBA/DRR into existing commitments and mobilizing new commitments.

The final version of the GLISPA 2030 Strategy will include a business plan which will identify how we will execute our strategy that will include governance, sustainability plan and models as well as our work plans and strategies for action.

Priority Events to 2016 “Celebrating 10 years of Island Action through Partnership”
The following events will be leveraged by GLISPA as an opportunity to move forward the partnership’s priorities. If you are interested in supporting these priorities and events email jessica.robbins@glispa.org.
Priority Events to 2016
CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF IMPACT ON ISLANDS

The following events will be leveraged by GLISPA as an opportunity to move forward the partnership’s priorities. If you are interested in supporting these priorities and events email jessica.robbins@glispa.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPPORTUNITY</th>
<th>PRIORITY FOR GLISPA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNFCCC COP21</strong>&lt;br&gt;Paris, France&lt;br&gt;31 Nov to 11 Dec 2015</td>
<td>Showcase island solutions in climate change adaptation and blue/green growth to reinforce the need for greater action on all islands and launch GLISPA's ten year anniversary celebration. A series of events are being coordinated including: “Innovative Island Solutions” high level event co-hosted by a GLISPA Leader and OCTA Chair, an island bright spot exchange as well as range of side events with partners. Access our Islands @ COP21 Event Calendar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GLISPA Leaders Summit</strong>&lt;br&gt;Seychelles&lt;br&gt;March 2016 (TBC)</td>
<td>The President of Seychelles will invite the President of Palau and Prime Minister of Grenada to formally launch the refreshed GLISPA 2030 Strategy, mobilize high-level commitment to its implementation and acknowledge support to sustainability of GLISPA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Worldwide Voyage</strong>&lt;br&gt;arrival, US east coast&lt;br&gt;DC, late May/early June 2016&lt;br&gt;NYC, June 2016</td>
<td>Celebrate the inspirational journey of the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage in creating a more sustainable planet; Share first-hand stories and bright spots of what's working, in oceans; unite a group of ocean and island leaders together with the Worldwide Voyage for action toward healthy, resilient oceans for a healthy and sustainable planet.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>World Conservation Congress</strong>&lt;br&gt;Hawaii, USA&lt;br&gt;1 to 9 Sept 2016</td>
<td>GLISPA will organise a high level event to showcase Hawai‘i and island leaders commitments to green growth and building resilience as well as catalyze new commitments to island action.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual GLISPA Steering Committee meeting</strong>&lt;br&gt;Location and date TBC</td>
<td>Review progress of strategy implementation activities in 2015/2016 Develop work plans to support implementation toward 2020.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Convention on Biodiversity COP13</strong>&lt;br&gt;December 2016</td>
<td>GLISPA showcase island bright spot as part of Aichi Biodiversity Champions and highlight links between UNFCCC COP21, Leaders Summit, Voyage and World Conservation Congress.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STEERING COMMITTEE OUTCOMES

- Reflected on the last 10 years of GLISPA
- Refreshed the GLISPA 2030 Strategy goals, priorities and values
- Agreed on measurable targets to be achieved by 2020
- Developed priority working group plans as well as priority events and stakeholders to advance GLISPA’s strategy in 2016
- Linked GLISPA priorities to GLISPA fundraising strategy (partially achieved)
- Welcomed Ambassador Kyota to the role of Chair of the Steering Committee and Ambassador Jumeau as Vice-Chair until 2017

OUTPUTS

- GLISPA 2030 Strategy (draft)
- Priority Working Group Plans - available on request
- GLISPA 2020 Event Calendar
- GLISPA Executive Committee Membership (insert)
- Meeting Participants (insert)

STRATEGY CONSULTATION

- Identified strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to the Partnership to inform strategy development
- Identified recommended elements, events and priorities for the GLISPA 2030 Strategy

GLISPA 2030 STRATEGY PROCESS

Several consultations were held in the lead up to the annual Steering Committee to engage a broad group of representatives in the Strategy development process. These included:

- Formation of a working group as well as online consultation meetings with GLISPA Executive and Steering Committee
- GLISPA Participant Survey, May to June 2015
- Strategy Consultation meetings at Rare in Washington D.C. and Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in New York City on the 6 and 8 October respectively
- Steering Committee, Turin, 14 to 15 October

3rd World Forum on Local Economic Development: A Means to Address post-2015 sustainable development goals

Hosted by Government of Italy, 16 October 2015

During this Forum Ambassadors Kyota and Jumeau with Kate Brown joined a panel alongside Counsellor Grammenos Mastrojeni of the Italian Development Cooperation, Thomas Hofer of the Mountain Partnership, and Professor Fabio Attorre of Sapeinza University focused on “How to promote innovation ensuring environmental sustainability in islands & mountains”.

The panel sparked discussion from the audience around the power of uniting in purpose, particularly around areas of commonality such as the significant contribution watershed health has in ridge to reef management for cleaner oceans. Ambassador Jumeau affirmed this commonality when noting the strong need to sustainably manage from the “...top of the mountain, to the coast and all the way out to the reef and seagrass beds”. Highlights of innovation included the building of strong alliances to promote projects such as the “First National Inventory and Biodiversity Survey” in Papua New Guinea which is an innovative way of different entities coming together to support the tangible sustainability of mountains through the protection of their soils, forests and watersheds.

Other innovative ways of environmental sustainability included the example of the Seychelles debt swap and ocean management through marine spatial planning made possible through GLISPA alongside The Nature Conservancy and supporting organizations. Grammenos Mastrojeni closed noting he believes we can succeed in this “huge challenge to save our planet earth” through continued innovative implementation.

“Italy has long been a supporter of both the Global Island Partnership and the Mountain Partnership and we see the two realities, mountains and islands, share in their diversity the common challenges of fragile territories. We are a country surrounded by the sea—and crossed by mountains—with many small islands, and a rich coastal and marine environment. For this reason, Small Islands Developing States are a priority in the Italian foreign and cooperation policy.”

—Hon. Paolo Gentiloni, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Thank you to the Italian Development Cooperation for hosting the Steering Committee at the Palazzo Cisterna, Turino as well as Rare and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office for hosting the strategy consultation meetings in D.C. and NYC respectively.

2016 GLISPA LEADERSHIP AND MEMBERS

LEADERS:
President Remengesau of Palau, President Michel of Seychelles, Prime Minister Mitchell of Grenada

CHAIR OF STEERING COMMITTEE:
H.E. Hersey Kyota, Ambassador to the United States, Republic of Palau

VICE-CHAIR OF STEERING COMMITTEE:
H.E. Ronny Jumeau, Ambassador for Climate Change and SIDS Issues, Republic of Seychelles

MEMBERS:

COORDINATION TEAM:
Kate Brown, Executive Director, and Jessica Robbins, Communications Manager.

2015 SUPPORTERS

SENIOR ADVISORS:
Thank you to dedicated senior advisors who have contributed significant time in shaping new opportunities for the Partnership: Ryan Argentieri (Silver Mountain Solutions), Celeste Connors (c-dots), Maya Doolub (Elms Consulting), Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy (Context Partners) and Audrey Newman.

FELLOWS:
A big thank you also to our 2015 GLISPA Fellows: Stephanie Art, Julius Fischer, Karena Mahung, Alex Samaras, Sameera Savarala, Erin Spencer, Allie Tsubota and Tamara Thomas.

FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS:
An enormous thank you to our financial supporters in 2015: Convention on Biodiversity Secretariat, Heidehof Stiftung, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Island Conservation, Italy, Micronesia Conservation Trust, Rare, Seychelles, Taiwan, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. State Department (via IUCN) and the World Bank.

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

Email jessica.robbins@glispa.org

@GLISPA_discuss    GLISPA Impact Dashboard    www.glispa.org