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He Nohona 'Ae "Oia  
A Culture of SustAINAbility

In 2020, Hawai'i became the first state to conduct a Voluntary Local Review bringing together four city and country councils of Hawaii representing eight islands spearheaded by governor and U.S. Congress members including Senators and House of Representatives. The public private partnership process is grounded in host Kanaka Maoli culture recognizing the indigenous values and vision are center of all campaigns and coordination ensuring indigenous voice is core of all collective actions.

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A Culture of SustAINAbility is our guiding star.

We recognize sustainable solutions are deeply rooted in legacy of indigenous systems transformative thinking in partnership between indigenous peoples and nature.

Hawai'i shared the results of its VLR at the UN HLPF last year, HIHR and HGG was selected for an official side event where we hosted a VLR Lab featuring multiple hour program with local leaders, national NGOs, think tanks and public officials from Hawaii. We also had side event with partners in the Pacific sharing our islands approach to the 2030 Agenda. At the opening week of the UN General Assembly 75th session, Hawaii presented its full VLR.

The year prior we participated at VLR Lab with UNDP and other cities around the planet. We also attended OHCHR Human Rights Cities inaugural expert meeting with mayors.

Hawai'i is dedicated to be dynamic partner to shape global public policy. Hawaii adopted the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples since 2005. We continue partnership adopting the UN Paris Agreement, 2030 Agenda and even most recently UPR recommendations.

Hawai'i Institute for Human Rights is pleased to be partner with Hawaii Green Growth, a UN recognized Local2030 Hub, committed to advancing 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement through a holistic human rights based approach in our indigenous initiative of Aloha+Challenge.

HGG coordinates through three working groups — Policy & Legislation, Measures & Data, and Local-Global Next Generation Pathways. The three working groups meet regularly throughout the year continuing the conversation. All contribute to a Aloha+ Dashboard based on community activities. In followup to our VLR, HIHR was pleased to amend SDG 16 data to invigorate our democracy with innovative indicators.

We focus on education, mobilization and realization. We engage and exchange together examples of empowerment and engagement toward equality and equity.

Also, after the VLR we continue to create new opportunities to organize around the 2030 Agenda in Hawaii. We created a new course, Indigenous Peoples and the United Nations, ensuring youth involved in the international arena from Lo'i Kalo to the United Nations.

We carried out a pilot Voluntary University Review chaired by indigenous student leaders at University of Hawaii at Manoa and West Oahu

We are committed to municipal multilateralism with meaningful participation of indigenous peoples. We remember when Hokulea and her crew came to the UN HQ to celebrate World Ocean Day on her world voyage of Malama Honua. Our common sailplan for humanity is to take care of each other and our earth together.

The VLR creates a peoples centered participatory process of proactive policy making to protect our planet. We look forward to continue our collaboration and cooperation together. We will continue to contribute local leadership toward climate justice with a LDC under Paris Agreement. The VLR is a transformative tool to steer our common canoe toward sustainability