

2021 HLPE

*"Coming together to help Small Island Developing States to get on a path to realize the SDGs"*

9 July, 9:00 am - 11:00 am EDT

Delivered by: Joshua Cooper on behalf of AP RCEM

Aloha Ambassadors and fellow Aloha Aina Advocates. Malama Honua. Take care of each other and our earth. Philosophy and Practice of Kanaka Maoli of Hawaii but applicable to all humanity for a holistic human rights based approach to the 2030 Agenda.\*

Paying attention to risk management measures and integrating health/pandemic management into disaster management, As these issues will continue to collide as climate change continues to reign down on us. Thus, more integrated planning and recovery is needed.

\* Conduct a thorough data disaggregation by ethnicity and disability for a more targeted COVID19 planning and intervention for those belonging to the marginalized and vulnerable sectors.

\* Studies indicate that UHC is "likely to exclude more women than men, and even when achieved, it is unlikely to translate into universal access to health care for women unless factors contributing to inequalities in affordability, availability, and access of healthcare by women are systemically addressed." This is grounded in gender-power inequalities, which underlie women's limited access to resources and lack of decision-making power. For instance, a WHO study across 6 countries including Cambodia, Nauru, Philippines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, and Tuvalu found that 78-97% of women aged 15-19 years had one or more problems accessing health care when they needed it, many of which were not related to affordability. Moving from a universal coverage framework towards a universal access framework is critical in ensuring barriers faced by marginalised populations including women are adequately addressed.

\* A systems approach that recognises the systemic interlinkages between nature and human society is necessary as new form of governance in the age of disruptions. If anything has become clear with the pandemic it is that human and environmental health are intrinsically interlinked, and indeed that human health is dependent on nature, but that nature is NOT dependent on human well-being to thrive. Practically this can mean that human and environmental health needs to become a performance indicator for ministries of health, finance and environment alike.

\* Responses to the COVID-19 crisis must be centered on the well-being of people, empowering them and advancing equality. Driving change in the people-environment nexus to protect the health of people and natural resources is the key to a future that does not repeat the crisis we are in today.

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.

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.

He Nohona 'Ae "Oia

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

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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.