



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 7, 2023

For more information, contact:

Louella Losinio
Science Communicator
Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant
University of Guam
Email: losiniom@triton.uog.edu

Countdown to 2030: UOG and partners usher in Sustainable September

As the world's gaze zeroes in on 2030, which marks the culmination of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant and its multi-sectoral partners, are raising awareness under the banner of Sustainable September.

The month-long initiative aims – to spotlight sustainability, cultivate awareness about environmental challenges, and reinforce the collaborative efforts dedicated to safeguarding Guam's biodiversity.

“This month-long commemoration is a testament to the university’s unwavering dedication to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals,” said UOG President Anita Borja Enriquez. “Through meaningful events and conversations, we illuminate the path to a greener, more harmonious future – where awareness, collaboration, and commitment converge.”

Sustainable September rallies an array of voices, actions, and commitments to amplify this shared commitment. The month started with a proclamation signing on September 1.

Other activities planned for Sustainable September include the launching of the Guam Green Growth (G3) Local2030 Islands Network Conservation Corps, National Sea Grant Association Meeting, International Coastal Clean-up, Unveiling of the Sustainable September exhibit at DFS Galleria, Launching of the CHalan Deskubre magazine, and Community Planting at the GROW Site in Malojloj. Details of the events will be posted on social media soon.

During the proclamation signing, Austin Shelton, Director of the UOG Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant, emphasized the significance of this month’s events.

"We are truly excited to sustain the momentum in forging a better future for our island. The United Nations underscores the critical urgency of achieving the 17 UN (Sustainable Development Goals), emphasizing that the world stands within a pivotal window to tackle humanity's most pressing sustainability issues before the clock strikes 2030."

At the proclamation signing, Governor Lou Leon Guerrero said, "As we meet the challenges that we face, from climate change, geopolitics to other issues on our island, we have to remember that we need to put our energy into making our island sustainable."

The governor also highlighted the agreement between the Government of Guam and Blue Planet Alliance to source 100% of Guam's power from renewable energy sources by 2045.

###

Photo caption:

The University of Guam Center for Island Sustainability and Sea Grant team members gather for a group photo at the 2023 Island Sustainability Conference. CIS and Sea Grant and their partners are hosting several events for Sustainable September to highlight the continuing efforts of the community to achieve the 17 United Nations Sustainable Goals by 2030.