



GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

April 13, 2021

Dear Local2030 Islands Network Secretariat,

I am pleased to confirm that Puerto Rico supports the Four Principles of the Local2030 Islands Network:

- Identify local goals to advance the SDGs and strengthen long-term political leadership on climate resilience and net-zero emissions pathways.
- Strengthen public-private partnerships that support diverse stakeholders in integrating sustainability priorities into policy and planning.
- Measure SDG progress through tracking and reporting on locally and culturally informed indicators.
- Implement concrete initiatives that build island resilience and a circular economy through locally appropriate solutions, particularly at the water-energy-food nexus

With this communication, we express our intent to implement these principles and we are committed to engaging in collaborative island projects which advance the local implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. Puerto Rico will make a clear statement of this commitment to our partners and the general public. Our top priorities of collaboration with the Local2030 Islands Network are:

- Capitalization of the Green Energy Trust to establish program or financially support projects that provide residents of low- and moderate-income communities with access to green energy; to support municipal energy, community solar, microgrid businesses in isolated and low- and moderate-income communities; to facilitate the financing of green energy projects in small- and medium-sized businesses (SMBs), or microbusinesses.
- Integrating the use of microgrids, as a means to render the Electrical System more resilient to events of force majeure such as storms and hurricanes, thereby allowing for the continuity or quick reestablishment

of the service in essential service facilities, industrial sectors, and remote areas to facilitate the integration of distributed generation, make the system more robust, and prevent interdependence between services.

- To eliminate the use of fossil fuels in the energy sector, especially coal, for energy generation and, in lieu thereof, promote the use of renewable or alternative energy. To achieve one hundred percent (100%) from 2041 to 2050 pursuant to the new Renewable Portfolio Standard set forth in the Puerto Rico Energy Public Policy Act and Act No. 82-2010, as amended.
- To gradually reduce by sixty percent (60%) the amount of solid waste currently disposed of in Puerto Rico's landfills by 2030.
- To recover and preserve the quality of surface waters, aquifers, and groundwater for droughts periods and climate change effects. To reduce the population's vulnerability to the reduction of water resources by implementing residential, commercial, and industrial water conservation programs; reducing water loss in the Aqueduct and Sewer Authority's (PRASA) distribution system; reusing PRASA's and the private sector's treated wastewater; harvesting rainwater, and protecting the aquifers and drainage basins.
- To encourage that any construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation of, and/or improvement to any existing structure promotes the use of efficient energy, water, and air-conditioning systems or those designed to reduce 29 greenhouse gas emissions by granting a credit for the cost of duly-approved equipment.
- To promote the planning and design of sustainable tourist facilities and initiatives, such as green design and operating guidelines, through the Puerto Rico Green Lodging Program, among other initiatives.

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence N. Seilhamer Rodríguez  
Secretary of State