SUSTAINABLE INITIATIVE



Hawai'i is blessed with thousands of species of plants, birds, fish, marine mammals, and other wildlife found nowhere else on earth. Today, these unique species, and the ecosystems on which they depend, are in peril. We know the limits of our natural environment. We see the impacts of our actions very close to home. We are a microcosm of our planet earth. Like the Hawaiian Voyaging Canoe, we are one canoe, one island, one planet.

We in Hawai'i have established ambitious goals for sustainability through the Aloha+ Challenge, which sets concrete measurable targets for both public and private sectors.

As part of this effort, Governor lge is proud to announce the Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative.



double local food production by 2020

In 2016, we completed a survey of all agricultural land use in Hawai'i to create a foundation for our efforts to increase local food production. To continue to provide food security and support our local farmers, we are committed to increasing agricultural loan programs, invasive species prevention and control, and purchasing and improving high-value agricultural lands.

"Local agricultural production has to take its rightful place as one of the economic drivers of our economy. Increasing local production will help to diversify our economy, provide healthy food to our communities, and reduce our reliance on imported goods."

~ Jerry Ornellas, Farmer, Kauaʻi



implement interagency biosecurity plan by 2027



Invasive species threaten our agriculture, natural areas, tourism economy, and health. We've made progress through quarantines and innovative response efforts, but we can do better. Our Hawai'i Biosecurity Plan provides the path forward. We will establish the Hawai'i Invasive Species Authority to lead this effort, create new research and inspection facilities, hire additional inspectors and first responders, and use new technologies to efficiently mitigate risks.

"A single new invasive species could change Hawai'i forever, which is why we need more people at the docks, on the tarmac, in our forests, and in our communities finding and stopping them. Invasive species control is everyone's responsibility and we all need to take ownership."

~ Randy Cabral, President, Hawai'i Farm Bureau

protect 30% of priority watersheds by 2030

In the last five years, we've protected an additional 5% of our priority watershed forests through fencing projects done in collaboration with our community-based Watershed Partnerships. Today, we are halfway to our goal, with 15% of our priority watersheds protected. To reach 30%, continued funding is needed to control damaging invasive species and diseases, plant trees, prevent wildfires, and educate the community about the importance of our forests.

"Our native forests in Hawai'i comprise one of the world's natural treasures. They supply us with hundreds of billions of gallons of fresh water each year, provide a home for our unique Hawaiian plants and animals, moderate impacts from climate change, reduce flooding, protect our coral reefs from erosion, and hold profound cultural significance. By protecting our forested watersheds, we protect all life in these islands."

~ Dr. Sam 'Ohukani'ōhi'a Gon III, Conservation Biologist & Kumu



effectively manage 30% of nearshore ocean waters

by **2030**

Hawai'i's fisheries and corals have declined dramatically, significantly threatened by ocean warming, sediment and pollution, and unsustainable fishing practices. Effective management of 30% of our nearshore ocean waters will require statewide planning and monitoring, updating and implementing priority management strategies, collaborating with communities and stakeholders, and focused marine enforcement.

"Our oceans sustain our way of life. If we want to ensure the health of our islands for our keiki, our policy, practice and process should be civic-oriented, place-based and inclusive of people as part of the environment. We must empower those with an intimate understanding of our resources—especially Native Hawaiian communities and fisherfolk—to actively participate at all levels of management, enforcement, monitoring and education."

~ Kevin Chang Executive Director, Kua'āina Ulu 'Auamo



achieve 100% renewable electricity by 204.5

Climate change poses the greatest threat to our forests, our coastlines, and our corals. Hawai'i is also the most oildependent state in the nation. We must do everything we can, globally and locally, to reduce our use of fossil fuels. That's why we're committed to reaching 100% renewable energy use in the electricity sector by the year 2045.

"Continuing to burn fossil fuels poses a threat to our island way of life, from rising seas to increased storms. The cost of importing fossil fuels is a burden to everyone. Accelerating our shift to clean energy not only allows us to be a model to the world, it creates economic opportunity and local jobs for our residents."

~ Anthony Aalto Chair, Sierra Club of Oʻahu





"We have a kuleana, a responsibility, to malama, to steward, our natural and cultural resources. The health of our natural resources is critical to our way of life, our economy and our culture. Yet, Hawai'i's natural environment faces many threats from invasive species, wildfires, development, unsustainable fishing practices, climate change, and so much more.

We strive to develop innovative solutions to these challenges. My administration has developed an ambitious initiative to make Hawai'i more sustainable by working together with communities, businesses, and other partners."

~ David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawai'i

COMMITMENTS



double local food production

2020



implement interagency biosecurity plan

2027



protect 30% of priority watersheds

2030



effectively manage 30% of nearshore ocean waters

2030



achieve 100% renewable electricity

2045

The voyage of Hōkūle'a shows, more than ever before, that we are in this together—one canoe navigating Island Earth. The planet is indeed at a crossroads. But Hawai'i, along with the rest of the world, has the power to choose the direction we take.

For more information, please visit http://governor.hawaii.gov/sustainable-hawaii-initiative/