



Protecting Micronesia's environment through long-term sustainable funding

Vision

A Micronesia-wide system of protected areas enhancing the lives and livelihoods of our people and the environmental integrity of our islands

Mission

Supporting conservation and related sustainable development for the people of Micronesia by providing long-term, sustained funding





The Structure

Financial

- Non Governmental, Not for Profit Financial Corporation established in 2002
- Instruments include:
 - Endowments
 - Operations Endowment (\$2.5 million goal)
 - Micronesia Challenge (\$75 million goal)
 - Site Specific Endowments
 - Sub Accounts
 - Donations
 - Sinking Funds
 - Hosting
 - Coordinating
 - Revolving Funds (i.e. Payment for Ecosystems Services)
 - Guam and CNMI Military Buildup Mitigation Banking – in negotiation

Granting & Capacity Building Institution - Not a project implementing organization

(more) Organizational Structure

Board of Trustees

- Membership
 - Regional Member (7 representatives)
 - International Member (2 representative)
- Set policy and maintain integrity

Staff

- Executive Director
- Deputy Executive Director/Grants Program Manager
- Grants Officer
- Finance Officer
- CEPP Program Officer
- Administrative Officer

Financial Advisor – Citi Smith Barney

Technical Project Review Committee

- Social and Biological Scientists

Funds Distribution

- 80% Re-granting
- 20% Admin Cost (12% Office & 8% Capacity)

Current Advised Sinking Funds

Direct Funding and Capacity Building to Local Organizations/Communities/ Individual Leaders/Practitioners

- Protected Areas Development Program (\$100,000)
- Invasive Mammal Eradication Program (\$400,000)
- Just in Time - Capacity Building (\$100,000)
- Marine Rapid Ecological Assessments (\$250,000)
- DOI/NOAA/Pew Marine Fellows - Micronesia Challenge Internship Program for Young Conservation Leaders (\$150,000)
- US Forest Services - Professional Internships in Ecosystems Management Program (\$150,000)
- German Lifeweb Program – Protected Areas (1.5 million Euros)
- US OESI - Conservation Enforcement and Policy/Legislation development (\$250,000)
- European Union - Conservation and Environmental Protection Program (720,000 Euros)
- NOAA-CRI Monitoring Grants (\$100,000)

Coordinating and Capacity-Building Roles

Providing Coordination, Technical Assistance and Funding to MPA Managers Across the Micronesia Region

- NOAA - Pacific Islands Managed and Protected Areas Community Program (Regional Host/Co-coordinator)
- IUCN-WCPA Marine Sub-regional Coordinator
- Micronesians in Conservation Learning Network
- Informal networks as well as various steering committees etc.
- Capacity-building through project monitoring



Hosting GEF-PEF Small Grants Program

Global Environment Facility and Pacific Environment Fund Small Grants Program

- separate governance structure/requirements/project review and monitoring
- 2 UN Employees hosted within MCT
- provides @\$1,000,000 annual in grants to local organizations and communities
- MCT provides admin support
- MCT serves on the Regional Steering Committee



MicronesiaChallenge
www.micronesiachallenge.org

The Micronesia Challenge is a commitment by the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to conserve at least **30%** of the near-shore marine resources and **20%** of the terrestrial resources across Micronesia by **2020**.

- Initiated by a coalition of regional governments
- Implemented on the ground by local communities
- Supported by technical agencies, donors, regional networks and NGO partners
- Each jurisdiction develops its own strategies for implementation – per Palau example

Serving as the Financing Mechanism for the Micronesia Challenge

MCT Manages the Micronesia Challenge Endowment

Example from Palau

- MCT is responsible only for the investment, management and reporting of the endowment funds
- Palau developed specific country program strategies that identify its own funding priorities
- Net earnings on the endowment go from MCT to the Palau financing mechanism (Palau Protected Areas Network Fund)
- Projects proposals are received and approved, funds disbursed, and projects monitored, managed and reported by individual country programs

Micronesia Challenge Sustainable Finance Plans:

- Sustainable finance plans completed in Palau and RMI
- Draft sustainable plans developed in FSM, Guam, and CNMI
 - FSM plan will be presented to State and National leadership for endorsement in September
 - Draft plans in Guam and CNMI currently being reviewed
- Currently working on business /fundraising plan for Micronesia Challenge incorporating all sustainable finance plans, and conservation and funding benchmarks between now and 2020





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Thank You