

time- e for is- lands !

**small islands
organisation**
2021 annual
report

Contents

Editorial / 4

Our Mission / 6

Certification Process / 10

Islands Fund / 14

Water and Sanitation / 16

Energy / 22

Waste / 28

Biodiversity / 36

Landscapes & Heritage / 44

Missions and Events in 2021 / 50

Onsite Missions / 52

Annual Meeting / 56

Events / 59

Trainings / 62

They are SMILO / 64

Governance / 66

Members / 69

Latest islands to join our network / 72

The Assessment Committee / 78

Partners / 82

Communication / 86

Perspectives / 88



Editorial



During COP 26, Barack Obama introduced himself as a “child of the islands” (the Hawaiian Islands, in the case of the former US President). SMILO is happy, via its network, to introduce him to a large part of his family!

COP 26 was an opportunity—more than previous editions—to focus on island living conditions threatened by climate change. SMILO can only welcome this, provided that the link between climate and biodiversity always remains in the forefront. SMILO also welcomes the fact that small island states are increasingly making their voices heard among the concert of nations. However, let us not forget that many small islands are not states, and therefore do not benefit from a political forum within international bodies.

How can they be heard? Through the sovereignty of Example. Indeed, now more than ever, it is possible for SMILO to work and move forward with small islands that are trying to establish their own resilience project, and to help them reach this objective, one after the other and all as one. The part and the whole; the clarinet and the orchestra; islands and resilience are consonant in sustainable solutions: res’islands.

At the end of 2021, the most important thing is to note that our archipelago is expanding and has more and more capacity to imagine a future of its own, and SMILO is growing with it.

We saw this with a certain pleasure during the three sessions of the World Islands Network the association organised: over the past five years, SMILO has taken its place among other island networks, and our uniqueness has been simultaneously highlighted: always more field missions. We hope that this substantive work, as close as possible to the realities of the land and the sea, will also allow us to raise the voice of the SMILO small islands to major international bodies, as we did during the IUCN World Congress in Marseille in September 2021.

2021 was a year of transition, consolidation, and expansion for SMILO. Despite the pandemic and the fact that we had to learn to follow the islands as closely as possible while at a physical distance, certain changes took place unintentionally—in particular, the improved preparation of funding applications. This has enabled the association to consolidate through access to new (AFD) or renewed (FFEM and Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation) grants, which will inaugurate season 2 of SMILO.

These marks of trust and recognition have inevitably led to a better structuring of the Secretariat, which sees its missions broadened and its staff numbers increased; they have also enabled our progress in time and space. Indeed, SMILO is tending more and more towards an “archipelago way of thinking”, with the implementation of combined operations beyond the borders of land and sea. Our insular Babel is being enriched by several new territories, some of which are part of countries or geographical areas we already know—in Senegal, the Philippines, Madagascar, the Mediterranean... Other islands will bring SMILO into new seas or oceans, in New Caledonia, Indonesia, Norway...

Another scenario has arisen with the Seychelles: in 2022 — for the first time — SMILO is to sign a framework agreement with a state, before rolling out its actions in several territories of the archipelago (Gozo-Malta will also belong to this new domain).



If this perspective takes shape, the “bottom-up” principle of SMILO (concrete actions as close as possible to the reality of each island) will intersect with the desire of island states to single out environmental preservation policies on the scattered islands closest to their area, and to have these adapted and differentiated management systems recognised.

It is this very chapter we wish to inaugurate in 2022: an international plea for the exemplarity and resilience of small islands that can fit into the international agenda of Sustainable Development Goals.

Maxime Prodromidès

President of SMILO.

Our Mission

Our mission is to support island communities in carrying out concrete actions to sustainably develop their territories, and gain SMILO “Sustainable Island” certification. In the spirit of inter-island solidarity, we also promote the sharing of knowledge, know-how, and good practices among our small islands network.

SMILO Islands

< 150 km² Less than 150km²

~~bridge~~ No bridge to the mainland and clearly separated at low tide

- inhabited or not
- protected or not
- in any sea

Fields of action



water and sanitation



energy



waste



terrestrial and marine biodiversity



landscapes and heritage

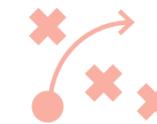
...but also



governance



innovative funding



strategic planning



tourism



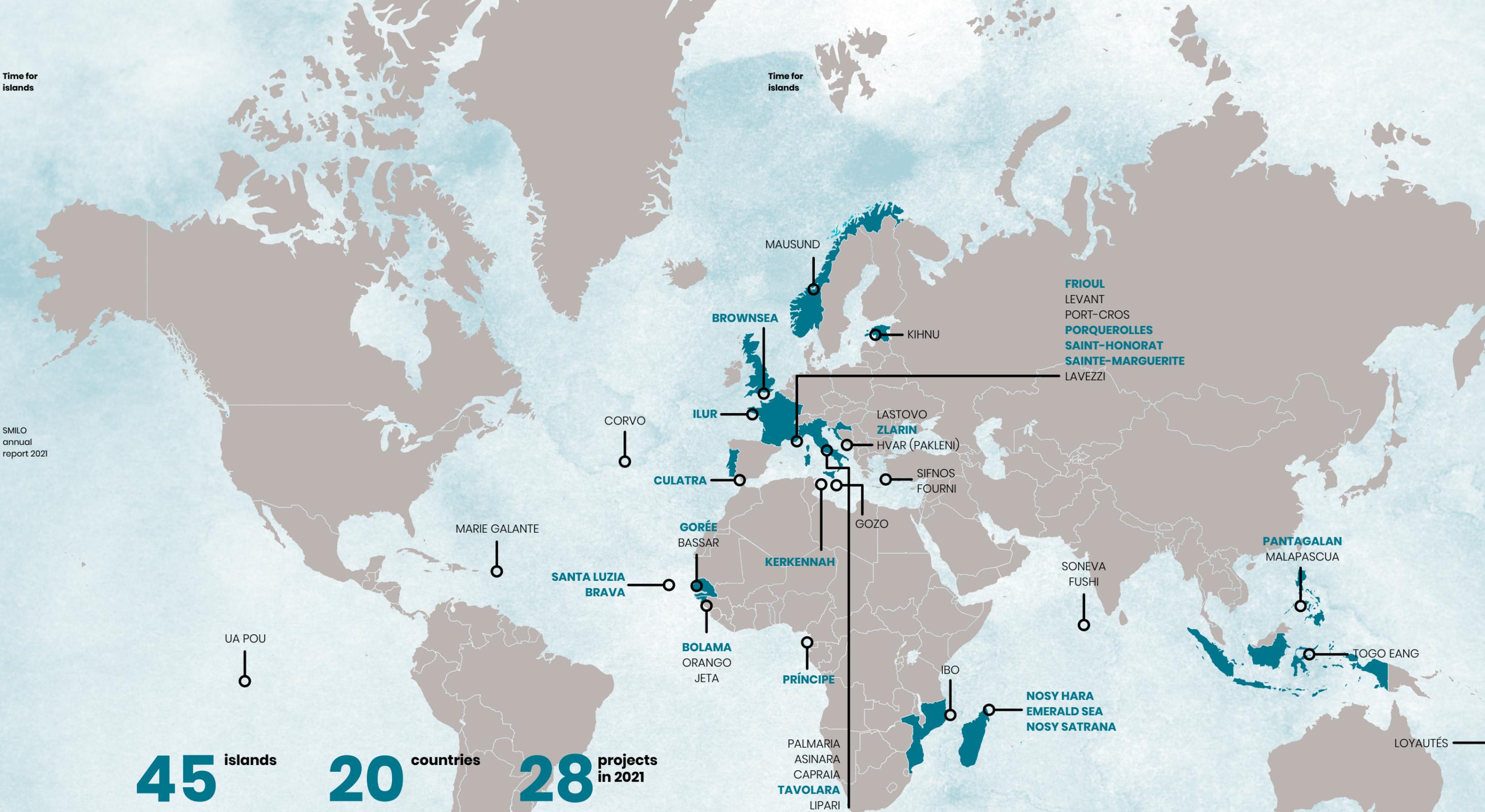
fisheries



sustainable agriculture

Strategy

- To structure and reinforce **local governance**; to support integrated **local projects** and a vision shared by **local players**
- To enhance the **management and protection of resources** by developing **concrete, innovative projects** in the field
- To **strengthen local technical capacities** in project management and land use and development
- To help islands **pool best practices and knowledge** through SMILO’s international network of small islands



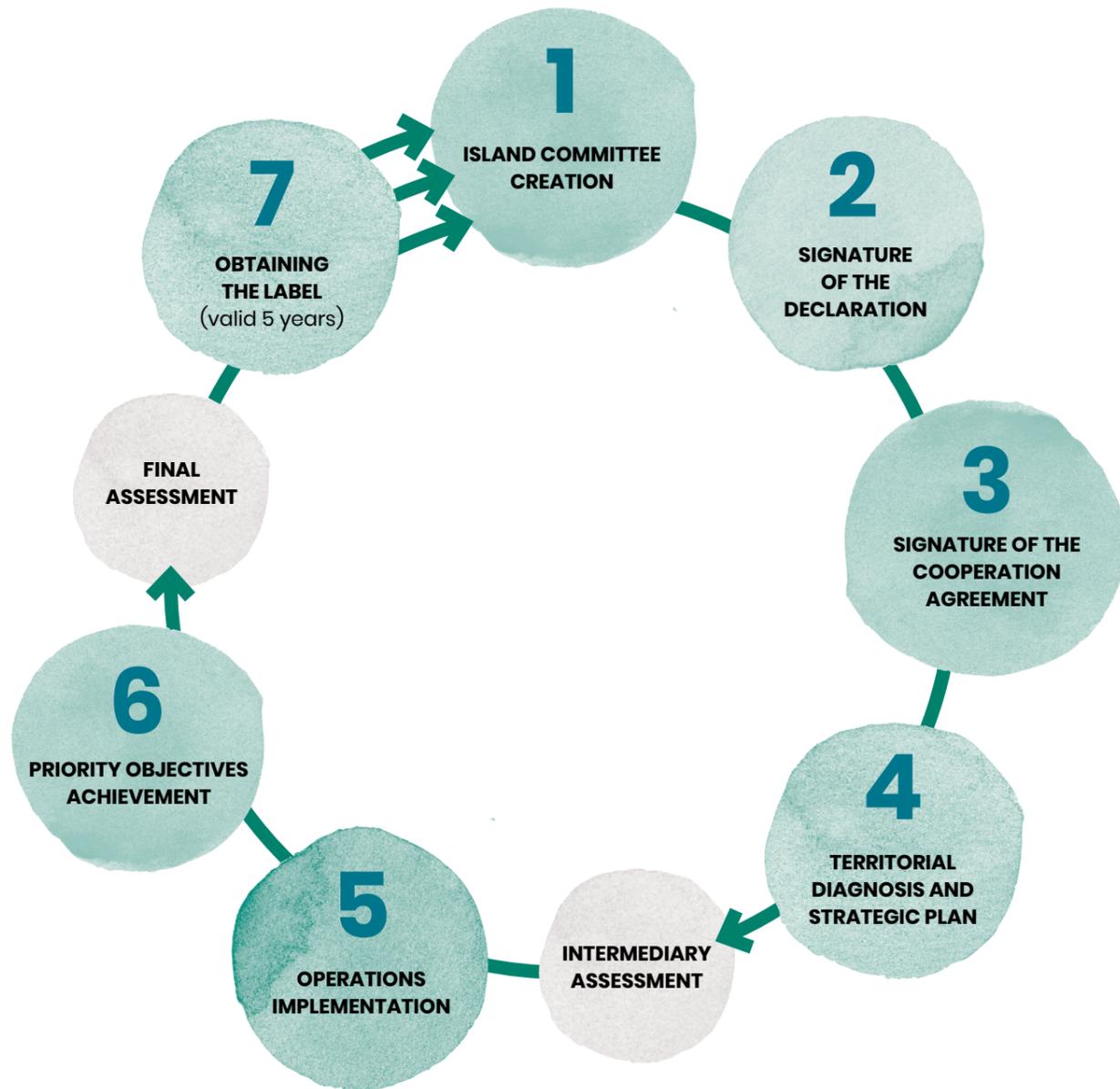
45 islands **20** countries **28** projects in 2021

130k inhabitants reached **150** members and partners

+1,2M€ invested in the last **4 yrs**

● SMILO NETWORK
● CERTIFICATION UNDERWAY

Certification Process



Sustainable Island Label

The methodology that SMILO has developed to encourage good practices and more concerted, complete territorial management on small islands is based on its label: the Sustainable Island Label. This label symbolises international recognition for an island's improved management and conservation of natural resources. The certification process, developed by SMILO, consists of several stages that must be completed in order to earn the label.

Step by step

- 1. An Island Committee is formed:** representing all stakeholders on the island
- 2. The Sustainable Islands declaration is signed:** to confirm that the island is joining the NGO SMILO and embraces its values.
- 3. A Cooperation Agreement is signed:** this officially seals the island's commitment to the certification process.
- 4. The Island Committee carries out a diagnosis of the territory and draws up a strategic plan:** The diagnosis is an inventory. It addresses all topics covered by SMILO and is used to measure the island's progress. The Strategic Plan lays out the main challenges and objectives. The objectives must be ambitious but realistic, and in line with the strategic principles developed by SMILO. The Island Committee may call upon a SMILO facilitator to help draw up these two documents.
- 5. Concrete operations are carried out:** to help the island reach its priority objectives; they may qualify for financial support (via the Islands Fund) and expert help.
- 6. The Final Assessment:** is made once priority goals have been reached. The label is awarded for a period of 5 years, during which continuous improvement remains ongoing.
- 7. At the end of the 5-year period, the island can renew its label:** by proving that it has updated all of the phases in the certification process.

The Secretariat forwards the application to the

Progress Report

from Small Islands

Brownsea
Bolama
Culatra
Frioul
Gorée
Ibo
Kerkennah

Lavezzi
Levant
Mer d'Émeraude
Nosy Hara
Pangatalan
Porquerolles
Principe
Santa Luzia
Ste-Marguerite
St-Honorat
Tavolara
Ziari

	Brownsea	Bolama	Culatra	Frioul	Gorée	Ibo	Kerkennah	Lavezzi	Levant	Mer d'Émeraude	Nosy Hara	Pangatalan	Porquerolles	Principe	Santa Luzia	Ste-Marguerite	St-Honorat	Tavolara	Ziari	
Island committee creation	Red	Green	Red	Green	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Green	Red	Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Signature of the declaration /membership		Green			Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Green		Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Signature of the cooperation agreement		Green			Green	Red	Green			Green		Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Territorial assessment and strategic plan		Green		Red	Green	Red	Green	Red	Red	Green		Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Intermediary assessment		Green			Green		Green			Green		Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Operations implementation		Green			Green	Red		Red	Red	Green		Blue	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
Priority objectives achievement												Blue								
Final assessment												Blue								
Label award												Blue								

Islands Fund

SMILO created the Islands Fund to support islands undergoing the certification process. The Fund contributes to certain operations in the Strategic Plan drawn up by the Island Committee that reflect SMILO's specific themes (water and sanitation, energy, waste, biodiversity and ecosystems, landscapes and heritage). The Fund can inject between €1,000 and €50,000 into a project.

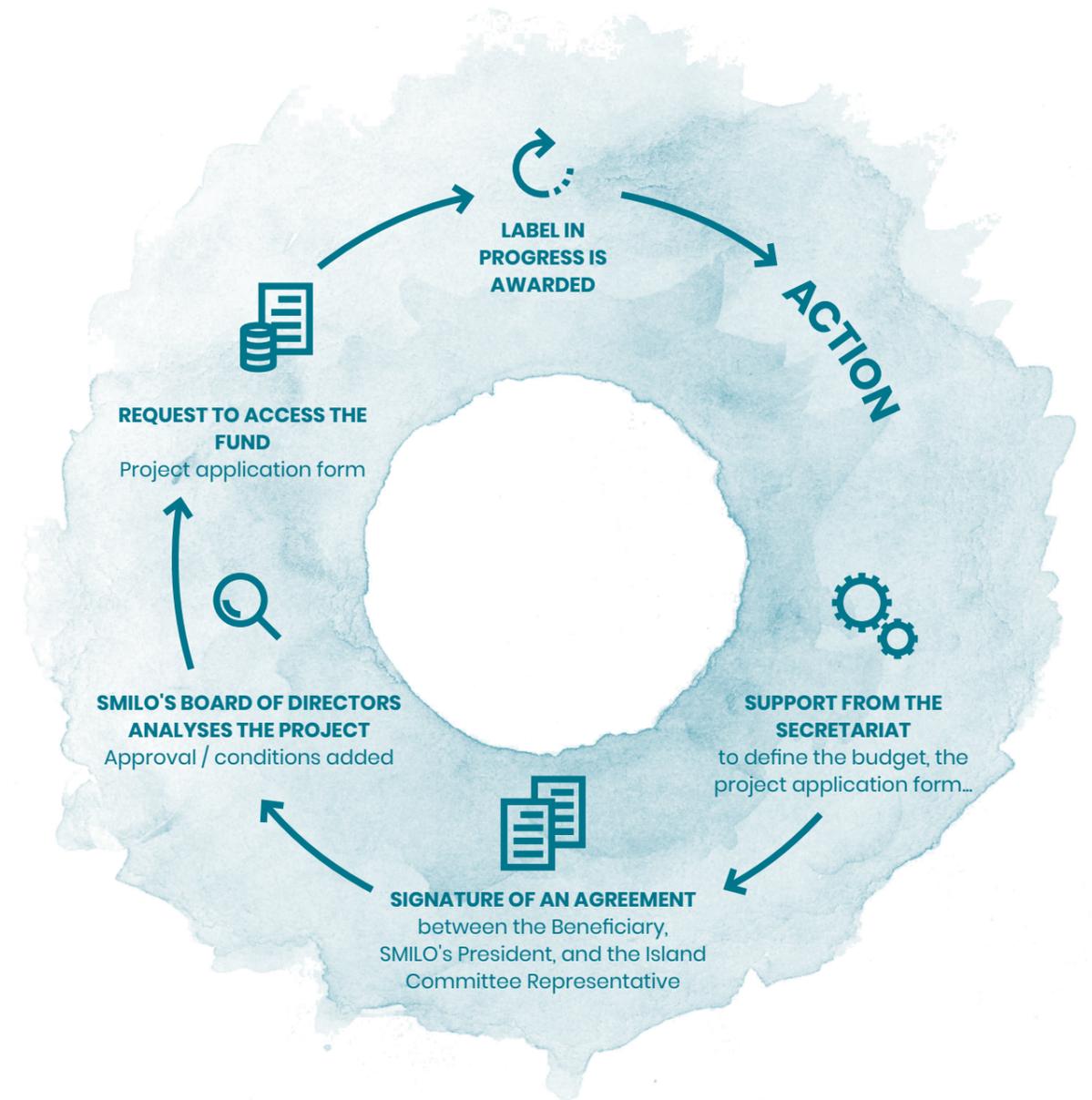
How it works

- 1.** Once an island has the Label in Progress, it can submit a form to the Islands Fund to request funding for a specific project.
- 2.** The Board of Directors assesses the funding request and approves (or rejects) it.
- 3.** An agreement is signed.

The beneficiary and Island Committee is supported by the SMILO Secretariat.

Required documents

- Islands Fund user manual
- Project form
- Precise budget
- Declaration of integrity



Water and Sanitation

Access to drinking water on islands is very uneven, as fresh water quality can be affected by the infiltration of seawater in the groundwater, or by pollution due to agricultural, domestic, or tourist activities. Moreover, some small islands often face water shortages: their limited size, topography, low-density plant cover, scarce sources of fresh water, poor water infiltration into groundwater, inadequate geology, or even a lack of rain can all cause serious shortages in water availability. SMILO supports small island communities in reducing pressures on water resources at the source, controlling water runoff and soil erosion, strengthening infiltration, and diversifying sources of fresh water supply, encouraging dialogue and conflict management between water users.



concrete actions

Updating wastewater treatment facilities
Gorée, Senegal

A more ecological sanitation system
Saint-Honorat, Lérins islands, France

Restoring traditional infrastructure
Kerkennah islands, Tunisia

Year-round access to water
Orango, Bijagos islands, Guinea-Bissau

Improving irrigation
Ibo, Quirimbas islands, Mozambique

Facilitating human activities on a desert island
Santa Luzia, Cape Verde

Hydrousa: regenerative and nature-based water solutions
Kerkennah, Porquerolles, Saint-Honorat, Zlarin



Updating wastewater treatment facilities Gorée, Senegal

On the island of Gorée, off of Dakar, the sanitation system is old and all wastewater is released into the sea without being processed. These emissions cause major problems both on land and at sea, and increase the risk of infectious disease. Together with the Syndicate of Initiatives and Tourism of Gorée (SITG), we support the implementation of a more efficient sanitation network by contributing to the remodelling of a block of public toilets to enhance sanitary facilities on the island, as well as the purchase and use of degreasing tanks for restaurants.

A more ecological sanitation system

Saint-Honorat, Lérins islands, France



For centuries, the island of Saint-Honorat has been owned and managed by a Cistercian community. In recent years, the Lérins Abbey has endeavoured to reconcile the monks' way of life and work with the environment and nature preservation, particularly through organic farming and public awareness campaigns on imported waste issues.

However, the island still faces challenges in wastewater treatment. Involved with SMILO since 2017, Saint-Honorat has benefited from our support through a diagnostic tool to assess existing

dilapidated infrastructure, as well as through the analysis of effluents. This will help the community determine the size of a future ecological sanitation plant, which will positively impact biodiversity and marine habitat conservation.

The research results will be used to elaborate guidelines that will be shared with other islands facing wastewater treatment issues; the hope is to encourage as many territories as possible to adopt sustainable, eco-friendly sanitation systems.

Restoring traditional infrastructure

Kerkennah islands, Tunisia

The islands of Kerkennah have many ancient cisterns and impluviums which were traditionally used to collect rainwater, some of which date back to Carthaginian times.

With the support of SMILO and our Islands Fund, the municipality and public authorities are restoring 12 of them, which will provide local farmers with fresh water, and reduce soil salinisation and sterilisation in a territory facing increasingly severe droughts.



Year-round access to water

Orango, Bijagos islands, Guinea-Bissau



On the island of Orango, a lack of drinking water profoundly affects local communities, especially during the dry season. That is why SMILO supported local partners in building three improved drinking water wells with solar pumps. We also provided technical assistance to create a management committee for each well, and to train beneficiaries to use them sustainably.

Priorities were given to wells close to schools and to the only health centre.

Improving irrigation

Ibo, Quirimbas islands, Mozambique



The island of Ibo faces malnutrition issues. Developing sustainable food production is thus now a priority for local communities. In this context, we financed the acquisition of six solar-powered pumps, an elevated tank, and irrigation pipes to ease irrigation for local farmers, which has made local irrigation more efficient and independent from the level of the tide.

The farmers have also benefited from training sessions promoting good practices in water management.

Facilitating human activities on a desert island

Santa Luzia, Cape Verde

In accordance with local fishermen, civil society, and national and environmental authorities, SMILO financed the purchase and installation of a solar desalinator powered by a small photovoltaic system. This innovative and sustainable solution will provide permanent access to water for temporary visitors, mainly fishermen and NGO conservation staff who spend nights on the island. The staff has been trained to guarantee the device's proper function.

This activity will also help reduce the transport of water and waste related to water recipients.

This solution is easily replicable on other islands or isolated territories as it involves very low maintenance costs.



Hydrousa: regenerative and nature-based water solutions

The HYDROUSA project aims to provide innovative, nature-based & circular solutions for water/wastewater management, which are currently being demonstrated on the Greek islands.

SMILO has been chosen as an expert to support HYDROUSA in implementing replication studies on four Mediterranean islands: Porquerolles and Saint-Honorat (France), Kerkennah (Tunisia), and Zlarin (Croatia). To do so, we provide the main inputs for these studies and we organise consultation with local stakeholders.

Learn more at www.hydrousa.org



Energy

Many islands face a lack of conventional, locally available sources of energy, and they are thus forced to import and/or use fossil fuels from the continent. These solutions make them dependent; they are also often costly, and generate a strong ecological footprint and greenhouse gas emissions. In other cases, the energy requirements of households put a great deal of pressure on fragile island environments and local ecosystems. Therefore, SMILO helps small islands reduce their energy consumption, promoting renewable energy, raising user awareness, and increasing energy efficiency.



concrete actions

Developing renewable energy
Kerkennah islands, Tunisia

Training women to save energy
Bassar-Bassoul, Senegal

Producing biogas with organic waste
Santa Luzia, Cape Verde

Developing Renewable Energy Kerkennah islands, Tunisia

On the islands of Kerkennah, our Islands Fund is supporting the Municipality in developing green energy through the implementation of a photovoltaic plant at City Hall and candelabras in strategic areas. Energy efficiency is also being promoted on the island through the replacement of sodium bulbs with LED lighting at the ferry port and fishing port.



“ For the last 10 years, Kerkennah's public lighting network has evolved significantly in accordance with citizens' requests within the framework of the Urban Development Programme. Energy costs currently amount to 25% of the Municipality's budget. The Municipality has thus decided to move towards renewable energy by installing photovoltaic power stations and increasing the energy efficiency of lighting points, in order to achieve an energy savings of 40%.

After validating the territorial diagnosis and action plan to more sustainably manage our islands, SMILO committed to financing pilot projects in the energy sector. The Municipality greatly appreciates this initiative, which encourages us to continue this process to reach our goals.

”
Fayçal Mechri,
Municipal Councillor of Kerkennah



Energy

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Training women to save energy Bassar-Bassoul, Senegal

On the island of Bassar (Saloum delta), local NGO Nebeday taught women from the local women's association how to build better cooking stoves, thus reducing energy consumption by 50%. This in turn reduces pressure on nearby mangroves, the area's main source of firewood. The SMILO Islands Fund also supported mangrove restoration.



Energy

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60 women have been trained

33 improved stoves were built

24 k mangrove trees have been planted

Producing biogas with organic waste Santa Luzia, Cape Verde



In Cape Verde, a local project to transform organic waste and human waste into gas for cooking is being implemented on the small island of Santa Luzia, in cooperation with Biosfera NGO. This sustainable methanisation process—made possible with HOME BIOGAS technology—encourages local fishermen to reduce pollution and improve the island's poor hygienic conditions, as well as eliminating gas cylinder purchase costs.

Waste

Waste management problems—especially plastic pollution—are more acute on islands due to geographical constraints and distance from the continent. Islands lack adequate storage facilities and financial resources; treatment facilities are often incompatible with the amount of waste generated, which is sometimes increased by seasonal tourist influx. Poor waste management can lead to sanitation problems and degrade soil, water, land, and marine environments, as well as landscape quality, which negatively impacts the appearance of the site and life on the island. That is why SMILO helps small islands monitor and reduce waste quantities at the source and implement sustainable solutions to better manage, recycle, and recover waste.



concrete actions

- Composting green waste for local use**
Príncipe, São Tomé and Príncipe;
Bolama, Guinea-Bissau
- Tackling plastic waste on islands**
Santa Luzia and São Vincent islands
- BeMed – island capitalisation process**
Kerkennah islands, Tunisia
- Managing and recovering green waste**
Zlari, Croatia
- Sorting waste at the source**
Gorée, Senegal
- A local, innovative solution for tackling single-use items**
Hyères islands, France
- Collect and recover plastic fishery waste**
Kerkennah islands, Tunisia

Composting green waste for local use

Príncipe, São Tomé and Príncipe; Bolama, Guinea-Bissau

In Príncipe, local authorities and civil organisations are taking action to better manage and recover bio-waste on the island. To support them, we financed the purchase of composters and wood shredders, while local technicians have been trained in the use of this technology directly in the field by experts from the Spanish city of Pontevedra.



These activities allow them to transform bio-waste into a stable final, non-contaminant product that is beneficial for the ground (compost), while working on small or very small scale. Moreover, it reduces the transport and ex situ treatment of this waste.

Similar action is being taken on the island of Bolama, Guinea-Bissau, benefiting from the experience and expertise of SMILO and partners and technicians from Príncipe.

Tackling plastic waste on islands

Santa Luzia and São Vicente islands, Cape Verde



In Cape Verde, beaches are constantly polluted with macro- and micro-plastic waste from the sea. This waste—mainly fishing equipment—is an obstacle for turtles during nesting and hatching periods, and neither of these two islands currently have a sustainable management system for plastic waste.

SMILO thus called on an expert to draw up a diagnosis of plastic waste and share recommendations on how to better store and recover the plastic regularly collected by local NGOs. This will help

local authorities implement a strategy to create items made from recycled plastic for the local market.

BEMED-islands capitalisation process

The CapiMed process aims to have a long-term impact on marine waste reduction by capitalising on the results of the plastic prevention projects supported under the BEMED-Islands programme.

In cooperation with SCP/RAC, we work on three levels of intervention:

- Encouraging collaboration between BEMED-Islands modular projects in order to facilitate a coherent and complementary approach.
- Transferring approaches, results, and lessons learned from individual activities to other islands in the Med.
- Ensuring the representation of projects and their results in national and regional policies, particularly in the framework of the Barcelona Convention.

Learn more by visiting the [BEMED-Islands website](#).



Managing and recovering green waste

Zlarin, Croatia

Based on a study conducted by SMILO that found that organic waste was collected and mixed with other waste, transported, and unloaded on the mainland without any sorting, the community of Zlarin decided to take action to improve green waste and biowaste management on the island. Shredding and composting devices were purchased in order to reduce the share of green waste exported and burned. The Municipality of Šibenik, locals, businesses, and tourists have also been involved in a new governance model for the implementation of an effective green waste management plan.

In parallel, Zlarin is also tackling plastic waste, becoming the first Mediterranean island without single-use plastic. Now Zlarin is sharing this experience with neighbouring islands in the Šibenik Archipelago thanks to the work of Tatavaka, and with the support of SMILO and the BeMed Programme.

55m³

green waste shredded between Dec. 21 and Jan. 22

32km

of paths cleaned

1st

Adriatic island with no single-use plastic since 2019

Sorting waste at the source Gorée, Senegal

The Municipality and Board of Initiatives and Tourism of Gorée are pushing for a more sustainable waste management system through the "Gorée Sett Fepp" project ("Gorée Totally Clean" in Wolof). We supported the creation of a compost area with an experimental garden. Agents in charge of collecting waste were trained to learn how to create compost, use it in the gardens, and sell part of the compost to the mainland to support their wages. New houses now sort their waste, thanks to the extension of the sorting and collection system. The Municipality and the Board have continued to raise community awareness of the importance of sorting at the source to tackle uncontrolled waste deposit. Children have participated in several workshops to learn how to reuse bottle caps and create objects, as well as how to make paper bags.



“ The “Gorée Sett Fepp” project has made it possible to extend participatory waste management to around thirty influential stakeholders through the selective sorting of household waste. Thanks to the acquisition of a plant shredder, the green waste management system is also being redesigned in order to encourage green space owners to adhere to the process with a financial contribution dedicated to the treatment of vegetal waste.

” **Abdoul Sow**
Deputy Chief of Staff,
Municipality of Gorée

38 pilot households

3.5 t of waste collected

2 health organisations, 2 public institutions and 3 schools equipped

240 trees planted

200 volunteers during the launching event

A local, innovative solution for tackling single-use items

Hyères islands, France

SMILO met business owners on the islands of Levant, Porquerolles, and Port-Cros, and worked together with Antoine Boudin, a local designer, to design giant reed-made cutlery, straws, ice-cream spoons, and stirrers. Giant reed is locally used by the musical industry, which produces a great deal of green waste that is systematically burned. This project aims to recover the waste, transforming it into 100% natural, reusable items for businesses and customers.

After a positive summer experimentation campaign, business owners and producers using giant reed expressed their wish to continue the experiment.

 Watch the video on the full project!

Replication projects are being implemented on the Frioul islands (off Marseille), and on Kerkennah (Tunisia) where the association "Jeunes Science Kerkennah" is following the same method (diagnosis, research and development, involvement of local business owners and experimentation). They are using date palm waste coming from the fishery industry to develop a new biomaterial.



35000 giant reed-made items

500 picnic kits for the Port-Cros National Park

25 businesses involved

Collect and recover plastic fishery waste

Kerkennah islands, Tunisia

The community of Kerkennah has identified waste management—specifically plastic waste management—as a major issue. Building on current initiatives, SMILO aims to further work on the collection, treatment, and refurbishment of used plastic traps from fishing activities.

Therefore, we are joining forces with Earthwake, a company that has designed a rare example of a functional low-tech pyrolysis machine that can be operated directly in polluted areas. Transforming plastic waste into fuel is meant to encourage the collection of plastic waste and provide a source of energy. After the installation of this technology on the island, local employees will be trained in the use and maintenance of the machine.



Bio- diversity

The remote nature of islands results in a high rate of endemism. The future of this remarkable biodiversity is intimately linked to that of human communities, who often highly depend on natural resources. However, various phenomena make it particularly fragile, such as invasive species and low connectivity with neighbouring ecosystems, but also the destruction and fragmentation of habitats, the overexploitation of certain resources (including fisheries), and the polluting of strategic ecosystems such as mangroves, seagrass beds, etc. Moreover, small islands are more often exposed to extreme climatic events, which are likely to degrade ecosystems of primary importance to local species. SMILO supports these territories in developing eco-friendlier practices such as non-conventional agriculture, agrobiodiversity, non-destructive fishing techniques, and restoration activities.



concrete actions

Preserving mangrove ecosystems
Príncipe, São Tomé and Príncipe

Preventing coastal erosion
Diogué, Wendaye and Ehidj islands,
Casamance, Senegal

Facilitating preservation activities
Santa Luzia, Cape Verde

Restoring the marine environment
Sipo, MPA of Bamboung, Senegal

Protecting marine protected areas
Pangatalan, Philippines

More ecological island management to preserve marine ecosystems
Lérins islands, France

Raising awareness
Ventotene, Italy

Mediterranean islands collective (Mic) – to develop a strategy for biodiversity conservation

Tackling invasive marine species
Malapascua, Philippines

Preserving Mangrove Ecosystems Príncipe, São Tomé and Príncipe

In the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Príncipe, institutional partners and civil organisations are working together to preserve and promote the sustainable use of their mangroves. SMILO supported their programme by financing the development of a mangrove nursery and tree-planting campaign, building walkways and ecotourism infrastructure, and providing fully-equipped com-

puters and binoculars to monitor the mangrove sites and their habitats. Training and awareness campaigns were also implemented and disseminated to reach schools and local communities. All these activities will help Príncipe develop ecotourism, which will support community development and job opportunities.



“ With the support of SMILO, the Regional Directorate of Environment and Nature Conservation managed to stop the degradation of the mangrove of Praia Salgada through restoration.

The project has additional relevance as it has allowed the Biosphere Reserve of Príncipe Island to present this very important ecosystem to locals, who were previously unaware of its benefits and importance.

”
Maria José Prazeres
Director of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve of Príncipe

Preventing coastal erosion Diogu , Wendaye and Ehidj islands, Casamance, Senegal

Schools on three Casamance islands worked together with local communities to implement a low-cost, low-tech solution to prevent coastal erosion, and to monitor and share the results with the population. Students and teachers shared their experience with schools in Brittany, France, from where the GREF (Group of Educators without Borders) actively supported the project.



Facilitating preservation activities Santa Luzia, Cape Verde



On the uninhabited island of Santa Luzia, two shelters have been built and installed by local association Amigos do Calhau to benefit the National Direction of the Environment and the Biosfera NGO in their implementation of actions to protect the island ecosystem. This island is one of the most important nesting spots for loggerhead sea turtles in the Cape Verde archipelago, and it is also host to several endemic seabirds. These two removable 15m² shelters, made of maritime plywood, help improve the accommodations of 20 to 30 volunteers, biologists, and technicians.

Restoring the marine environment Sipo, MPA of Bamboung, Senegal

In the Marine Protected Area of Bamboung, the NGO FENAGIE Fishery trained members of local communities, mainly women and youths, to make artificial shell-made reefs. The aim was to reinforce local ecosystems through habitat diversification and to protect biodiversity from poaching.

25 people trained

50 artificial reefs made and submerged

Protecting marine protected areas Pangatalan, Philippines



In order to better protect the Marine Protected Area of Pangatalan, the Sulubaa'i Environmental Foundation, which manages the island, made markings around this marine sanctuary. Sixty recycled buoys were bought in the surrounding villages, cleaned, and painted, to be installed every 50 meters along a 3km perimeter. This allows local fishermen to more easily respect the MPA's boundaries, while benefitting from the results of protection.

More ecological island management to preserve marine ecosystems L rins islands, France

Alongside organisations, communities, and fishermen active on or around the archipelago, SMILO is working on a project to preserve the marine habitats of the L rins islands. It includes awareness campaigns for tourists and boaters, as well as activities to help the monastic community managing the island of Saint-Honorat reduce its impact on marine biodiversity.



[Learn more on YouTube](#)

“ Thanks to this project and the support of SMILO, our community will be able to size its future ecological wastewater treatment plant, and thus have a positive impact on biodiversity and the conservation of marine habitats around the island. Moreover, we are truly committed to this project because the activities we are implementing on Saint-Honorat will be used to draw up a guide of good practices. This will help other SMILO islands facing challenges in this sector. ”

Brother Vincent

Monastic community of the Abbey of L rins.



Raising awareness Ventotene, Italy

Every year, the community organises a traditional event at the Nature Reserve of the small island of Ventotene in September, during which hot air balloons are painted and launched.

To encourage visitors to come to the island outside the busy summer season, the Lavica association organised events during the autumn and winter for visitors and local inhabitants to discover the island, local music, and the local tradition of hot air balloons, while also raising awareness about the island's biodiversity (the island is an important bird migration area, amongst others).



Biodiversity

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Mediterranean Islands Collective (MIC) – To develop a strategy for biodiversity conservation

The MIC is an initiative coordinated by the Mediterranean Small Islands Initiative (PIM), built with the cooperation of organisations working in the Mediterranean, including Conservatoire du littoral and IUCN-Med.

This initiative is designed to gather the elements of management and conservation strategy development for islands and nature on the scale of the Mediterranean basin, and define how islands can collectively contribute to better protecting these territories.

In the framework of this project, SMILO won a call launched by IUCN-Med for advisory and consultancy services in biodiversity conservation in the Mediterranean islands.



Tackling Invasive Marine Species Malapascua, Philippines

Because of human impact, the population of crown-of-thorns starfish is out of control in the reefs surrounding the island of Malapascua. As they feed on live coral, this invasive species is having a high impact on the marine ecosystem. Thanks to SMILO, a local NGO and the community monitored and removed crown-of-thorns starfish through two manual removal sessions, and by purchasing vinegar injection guns. This method has been proven to decrease the COT population in the Great Barrier Reef and New Caledonia.

Biodiversity

SMILO
annual
report 2021

23 local people
involved

624 crowns
of thorns
removed

4 ha of coral
covered

Land- scapes & Heritage

Small islands often have remarkable landscapes, shaped by human activity, which reflect the tenuous link between nature and culture, and make local knowledge and practices tangible. These landscapes are often strong identity landmarks for island communities. They are important symbols and the visible expression of an often very rich cultural heritage—material and immaterial—reflecting practices, beliefs, and customs that should be preserved. Therefore, SMILO encourages small islands to promote global landscape comprehension, enhance intangible heritage and traditional techniques, and analyse the visible impacts of global changes.



concrete actions

Promoting sustainable, locally-based tourism

Brownsea, England, United Kingdom
Lastovo, Croatia

Protecting remarkable landscapes

Emerald Sea, Madagascar

Mainstreaming good agricultural practices

Ibo, Quirimbas islands, Mozambique

Raising environmental awareness

Lavezzi islands, Corsica, France

Promoting sustainable, locally-based tourism

Brownsea, England, United Kingdom

The National Trust of Brownsea Island cooperated with BH Fish, a locally involved company, to promote locally-sourced food on the island. Thanks to the Anna Lindh Foundation, BH Fish received expertise to enhance their Food Safety Plan for crab processing, their marketing plan, and website's communication. The National Trust and BH Fish also organised a local fish and seafood tasting event. Over 400 visitors, staff, and volunteers were encouraged to try a whole range of local fish and seafood dishes.

 [Learn more on YouTube](#)

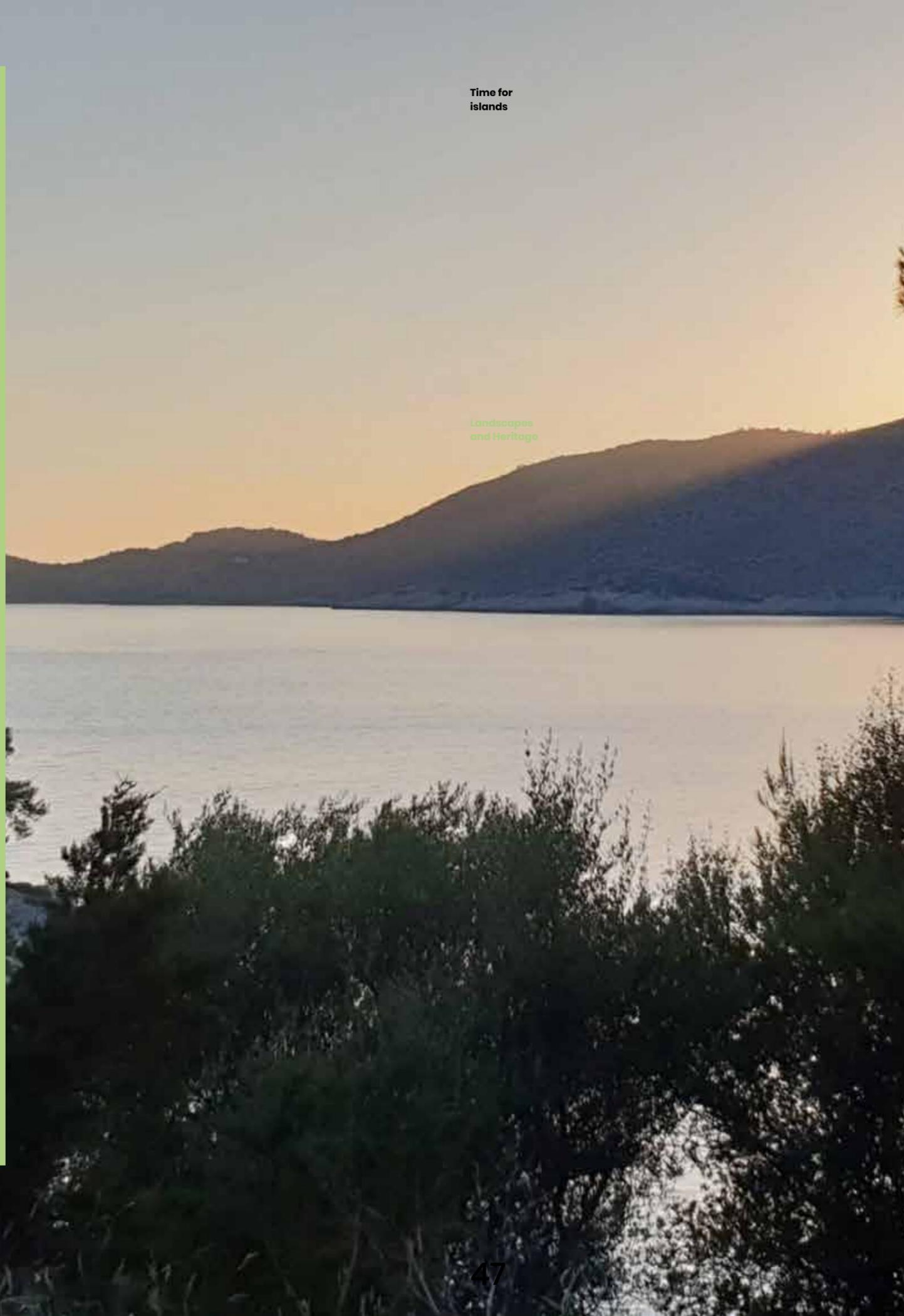
Lastovo, Croatia

Lastovo is the most remote island in Croatia. The access to many resources, including tourism, is complicated for this territory and its inhabitants. Local institutions and entrepreneurs cooperated to find sustainable alternatives to develop tourism on the island, based on a traditional local product: olive oil. OPG Zoltan Trojkovic, a local family-run farming concern, won a silver medal at the 2021 London International Olive Oil Competition, and 60 endemic olive trees were planted to raise awareness of biodiversity conservation among visitors and inhabitants.

 [Learn more on YouTube](#)

SMILO also supported sustainable tourism development projects in Paros, Greece, with the implementation of alternative tourist routes, and in Kerkennah, Tunisia, with local traditional craftswomen.

 Watch on YouTube a presentation made by **Kerkennah's** and **Paros' partners**.



“ Thanks to cooperation between SMILO, Lastovo Nature Park, and the Anna Lindh Foundation, we were able to show other women on Lastovo by example that we can make something very special for visitors simply by organising ourselves. The traditional family farms also learned how to improve their offerings in the tourism sector, which is challenging on our remote island.

The event we organised gave our guests new insight into working in olive agriculture on a remote island. Everyone planted their own little olive tree, so they left a piece of themselves in our groves. Once they come back, they will see the results.

”
Annette Mufić Trojković
Entrepreneur, OPG Zoltan Trojković



Protecting remarkable landscapes Emerald Sea, Madagascar

In northeastern Madagascar, the Diana Region fosters sustainable and responsible tourism whilst protecting its heritage to the benefit of its inhabitants. SMILO's Islands Fund supported the Island Committee in creating the first Marine Protected Area (MPA) of Diego-Suarez. Preliminary steps included funding applied research to map the marine and terrestrial ecosystems to protect them and locate human pressures. A set of site management recommendations was created thanks to the operational mapping.

To create the best conditions for the MPA, the local NGO MADA worked with fishing communities to further define future zoning (agree on non-fishing areas, but also raise awareness of existing legislation regarding fishing techniques, fishing seasons, etc). As the future MPA also required the means to improve surveillance of the area, the Island Committee decided to purchase a boat and local equipment.



Mainstreaming good agricultural practices Ibo, Quirimbas islands, Mozambique



The island of Ibo has a unique cultural and natural heritage based on its "salty" paddy fields. The salinity of these flooded small fields, which tends to be high, is kept below excessive levels thanks to the presence of the mangrove that completely surrounds the island and which is managed by fishermen.

To sustainably preserve traditional agriculture and an important economic activity, we supported the NGO "ECO Mozambique" in promoting good practices among local farmers, mainly women (95%). They also performed exchange

with local services and an international expert from the University of Milan to improve the quantity and quality of rice production.

Raising environmental awareness Lavezzi islands, Corsica, France

On the Lavezzi islands, the Corsican Office of the Environment (OEC) committed to preserving local heritage within the framework of a larger sustainable planning scheme to reduce visitor impact on the islands. To support this initiative, SMILO designed an environmental awareness and education campaign for the OEC, but also for the Bonifaccio Municipality and Tourist Board to utilise.



Missions and Events in 2021



Onsite Missions

After some difficult times in 2020 for SMILO and for all of us, and the first half of 2021 when we were still prevented from physically meeting our partners on their islands, we went finally back where we belong—to small islands! It was with great pleasure that we were able to return to the field, and we want to thank our local partners who welcomed us to their territories this year.

Zlarin & Lastovo, Croatia / April 2021

During spring, our Executive Secretary Sylvain Petit visited two Croatian islands that are part of the SMILO network: Zlarin and Lastovo. On Zlarin, we are building sustainable bio and green waste management schemes together with the local tourist board, the Municipality of Šibenik, and local NGOs and civil organisations.

On Lastovo, the most remote Croatian island, we attended and participated in an event focusing on sustainable olive oil production and the promotion of sustainable tourism by local women, co-organised by Lastovo Nature Park and OPG Trojkovic, a local olive oil producer.



Príncipe, Sao Tome and Príncipe / 17-25 September 2021



SMILO, represented by Project Manager Domitille Le Huede, went to Príncipe to meet local partners and stakeholders and discuss current and future activities being implemented on the island in the framework of the "Sustainable Island" certification process.

Various meetings were organised with official representatives, such as the President of the Regional Autonomous Government of Príncipe, the Minister of the Environment, and the Director of the Environment. We also met the team of the Biosphere Reserve and local NGO AARBIP, with whom we are working on two main sectors: green waste management and mangrove preservation. We

were thus able to see the real progress our partners are making on the ground to preserve their exemplary ecosystems.

A training session on sustainable tourism was also held during our visit by a member and associated expert of SMILO, Cristina de Abreu.

Frioul, France / 21 September 2021

The SMILO team participated in the first Island Committee co-organised with the Marseille city government and local stakeholders. The meeting brought together elected officials, inhabitants, socio-economic actors, representatives of local authorities and public services, as well as a National Park manager and the Conservatoire du Littoral. We presented them the SMILO approach, and together we prepared and launched a diagnosis and strategic plan to reach the "Sustainable Island" label.



Sifnos, Greece / 17-20 October 2021

Our President Maxime Prodromidès and Executive Secretary Sylvain Petit walked the old paths and traditional villages of Sifnos island, Western Cyclades. This island joined SMILO in 2016. Together with the Municipality, local stakeholders, and NGOs, we are supporting current efforts to preserve and enhance the island's natural & cultural landscapes, biodiversity, and water management schemes, as well as to propose avenues for adaptation to climate change. We discussed current and potential future activities concerning these essential sectors.



Brava & Santa Luzia, Cape Verde / 11-23 October 2021



Brava and Santa Luzia, two islands in the Cape Verde archipelago, are part of the SMILO islands network that are undergoing the "Sustainable Island" certification process. In October, we visited both of them, going first to Brava, which joined SMILO in 2021. Our Project Manager Domitille Le Huédé met local partners and authorities for the first time, and was able to share more information about our NGO and Label while learning more about this territory.

We then visited Santa Luzia, where several activities are already being implemented to preserve biodiversity and improve the accommodation conditions of temporary visitors to the uninhabited island, mainly fishermen, public conservation teams, and local NGO members. Domitille discussed these actions with representatives of the National Direction of the Environment and the Biosfera NGO.

Saint-Honorat, France / 28 September – 1 October 2021

On one of the two islands forming the Lérins archipelago off Cannes, representatives of Saint-Honorat and three other European islands (Brownsa, UK; Mausund, Norway; Zlarin, Croatia) met within the framework of a technical workshop co-organised by SMILO and the Lérins Abbey. During this 3-day training, the monastic community that owns and manages the island introduced their territory and their sustainable management plan to other islanders. Participants were able to learn from the good practices implemented on Saint-Honorat, and significant exchange time allowed them to reinforce this European network.



Gorée & Sine Saloum, Senegal / 31 October – 8 November 2021

As Gorée is one of our more emblematic small islands, it was natural that SMILO—represented by Executive Secretary Sylvain Petit and Project Manager Marta Ferretti—visit this island for one of its first post-lockdown onsite missions. We attended the Island Committee meeting on November 3, during which members assessed the progress made under the strategic plan and discussed the next steps for the year. Alongside local partners, we also monitored the progress of activities funded by the Islands Fund with regard to waste management and sanitation improvement. Together with the Conservatoire du Littoral, we took the opportunity to meet partners and local authorities in Dakar, specifically the Protected Areas Directory, to discuss the new marine protected area inaugurated in Gorée in 2020. Sylvain and Marta finally visited the Sine Saloum region and the small island of Bassar, which joined the SMILO network in 2021.



Gozo, Malta / 6-9 December 2021



As they participated in the 4th Mediterranean Water Forum in Malta, our president and executive secretary visited Gozo, north of the archipelago. As Gozo joined SMILO this year, we went to meet the Gozo Regional Development Authority and its CEO, Mario Borg, who are already clearly involved in maximising the island's potential through a sustainable development strategy.

Ilur, France / 15-17 December 2021

Project Manager Domitille Le Huédé visited the island of Ilur in Brittany to meet our current partners who are working on island preservation in order to observe the concrete activities being carried out and plan the following steps of the certification process. During this mission, she also presented our NGO to representatives from neighbouring islands, universities, and the Regional Natural Park of the Gulf of Morbihan.



Annual Meeting

Small Sustainable Islands Annual Meeting Kerkennah 2021

Like every year, SMILO organised an Annual Meeting, which brings together our members, partners, and representatives of all the islands in our network. The island of Kerkennah, Tunisia, hosted its 2021 edition on November 23-25. With the partnership of the Conservatoire du Littoral and the Municipality of Kerkennah, and with the support of the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM) and the Prince Albert II Foundation, we were able to bring people together from islands all over the world to make this conference a success!



65
+45 online participants

18
islands

13
countries

On the morning of Tuesday, 23 November, SMILO organised its General Assembly; after the Secretariat and Bureau of the NGO presented the actions taken throughout the past year and perspectives for the following year(s), members—either in person or remotely—voted on the moral and financial report, as well as the provisional budget and action plan. All the islands represented in this event also had the chance to present their territory to the audience, highlighting good practices and specific needs in terms of sustainable development.



After a speech by Tunisian Minister of Environment Ms Leila Chikhaoui officially opening the event, several participative workshops took place across the three days dedicated to the “Small Sustainable Islands” meeting.

During the first afternoon, group discussions were held to discuss SMILO’s Strategic Principles defining sustainability guidelines for small islands in the five themes covered by our NGO—five years after they were written—in order to keep them in



line with the reality on the ground and the environmental challenges small islands face.

Two other participative workshops were held during the meeting: the first concerned biodiversity preservation strategies for small Mediterranean islands in the framework of the Mediterranean Islands Collective, implying SMILO as project owner; the second workshop was intended to highlight the inter-island perspective of training sessions, and to share their specific needs in terms of sustainable development.

A day was also dedicated to discovering the island and various projects run by the municipality and various stakeholders in the sustainable development of Kerkennah, with the support of SMILO and its partners.

For more information, visit our dedicated webpage.

We warmly thank the Association Jeunes Science Kerkennah (AJSK) and Hippocampe Travel for their invaluable support throughout the meeting.

Evening for awarding Kerkennah with the “Label in Progress” 23 November 2021, Hotel El Kastil, Kerkennah

Mr. Maxime Prodromidès, president of SMILO, gives Mr. Moncef Fgaier, President of the Municipal Council of Kerkennah and representative of the Island Committee, the SMILO “Label in Progress” as an award to the archipelago and the various partners working daily to more sustainably and inclusively develop their territory.

Congratulations!



Events

Celebrate Islands 18–23 May 2021

SMILO, the PIM Initiative, the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA), and the Conservatoire du Littoral co-organised the 8th edition of Celebrate Islands. Every year, islanders from archipelagos all over the world rally to act in favour of their territories, to protect their heritage, and to get residents and visitors more deeply involved in conservation.

To a certain extent, climate change and the destruction of our ecosystems have paved the way to today’s health crisis, underlining the importance of action to guarantee the long-term survival of our biodiversity and our resources.

Celebrate Islands provides islands a platform upon which to honour initiatives that contribute

to the good conservation and vitality of their ecosystems.

Celebrate Islands innovated this year by launching a video-contest—“Your project in 120 seconds”—which allowed organisations to receive grants to finance small projects on their territory. In this framework, SMILO financed three small projects on Malapascua and Pangatalan islands, Philippines, and on Ventotene, Italy. This successful video-contest will be replicated and extended in 2022.

[Watch on YouTube](#) all the videos of applicants to this video-contest.



IUCN World Congress 2021 Marseille, 3-11 September

The IUCN World Conservation Congress is where the world comes together to set priorities and drive conservation and sustainable development action.

SMILO took this opportunity to organise a series of exhibitions and side events to honour the innovative aspect of islands and raise awareness of the importance of protecting their ecosystems.

territories to replicate innovative good practices implemented by islands.

Various topics were discussed, such as biodiversity conservation and invasive species control on islands, plastic pollution, island sustainable development and adaptation to climate change, island legal frameworks, and community empowerment.

Building island resilience, 6 September

The first session was dedicated to islands during this important event, in cooperation with the Global Island Partnership (GLISPA). Participants from all over the world highlighted and shared successful solutions to strengthen the resilience of islands to climate change and contribute to international global conservation, inspiring other



ICO Solutions 8-9 September

SMILO organised a series of events during the ICO (Island, Coastal, and Ocean) Solutions two-day meeting. It was the perfect occasion to hold our World Island Networks session, which brings together international networks and organisations that contribute to the preservation of island environments and heritage.

SMILO has mapped these networks in order to analyse their role and identify opportunities for cooperation between these stakeholders. The intermediate results of this analysis were presented, followed by a panel discussion with international institutions and funders.

[Watch on YouTube](#) the recordings of the World Island Networks & Organisations conference

Two other workshops were held during this IUCN World Congress side event: one on small African islands leading the way towards more sustainable development, during which 17 innovative projects financed by SMILO were presented by local NGOs, communities, and organisations in order to share results and good practices; another on plastic pollution on Mediterranean islands, where innovative and sustainable solutions are being implemented by organisations supported by the BEMED-Islands programme.

[PDF](#) [Read the intermediate report](#)

[Watch on YouTube](#) the recordings of "Mediterranean Islands, lands of solutions against plastic pollution"



4th MedWater Forum Malta, 6-8 December

The Mediterranean Water Forum is a regional event that brings together the main stakeholders in the Mediterranean Water Community.

For its fourth edition, SMILO, the Prince Albert II Foundation, and the Mediterranean Water Institute (IME) brought together stakeholders involved in island resilience and implementing sustainable water and wastewater sanitation management solutions. Successful solutions to strengthen islands' resilience, partly established with the support of SMILO, were highlighted and shared.

[Watch on YouTube](#) a video of "Small Mediterranean islands: engines of sustainable development"



4th Mediterranean Water Forum 2021



Training sessions

Web training sessions – Project management / September–November

In autumn, SMILO organised a series of three web training sessions alongside Conservatoire du Littoral and the PIM Initiative. These training sessions focused on:

- Designing projects and preparing applications
- Executing projects
- Preparing reporting to stakeholders involved in the conservation or management of coastal and island environments all over the world.

These training courses, available in English, French, and Portuguese, were primarily open to staff from public and private organisations involved in the conservation or management of natural coastal and island areas all over the world. Attendees strengthened their theoretical skills and benefited from practical advice and key information from donors and practitioners involved in technical, administrative, and financial project preparation and management.



Tackling plastic pollution on Mediterranean islands / September–December

In the framework of the BEMED–Islands capitalisation process led by SMILO alongside SCP/RAC, several technical support sessions were organised based on modular project managers’ suggestions and the objectives of BEMED, focusing on:

- Harmonised communication and support
- Plastic waste management models on Mediterranean islands
- Plastic waste monitoring methodologies and tools
- Mobilising stakeholders to tackle plastics
- Private sector involvement and alternatives to single-use plastics
- Policy instruments and legal aspects to fight plastic pollution on islands

NGOs from Albania, Croatia, France, Spain, and Tunisia shared their own good practices and lessons, and benefited from external expertise on each theme.

They are SMILO



Govern- ance

General Assembly Representative body

Composed of all members of the association

Bureau Management body



Maxime PRODROMIDES
President



Roger ESTEVE
Treasurer



Antonio DE ABREU
Secretary

Board of Directors Decision-making body

Composed of founders, experts, and geographical representatives



Tatiene BE
Indian Ocean



Fabrice BERNARD



Bruno COSTA-MARINI



Antonio DE ABREU
Macaronesia



Roger ESTEVE



Kate BROWN
Executive Director of GLISPA
(Global Island Partnership)



Gregg HOWALD
North America



Sami BEN HAJ
President of PIM Initiative for
Small Mediterranean Islands
Mediterranean



Catherine LEONARD
Secretary-General of INTO
(International National Trusts
Organisation)
Northern Europe



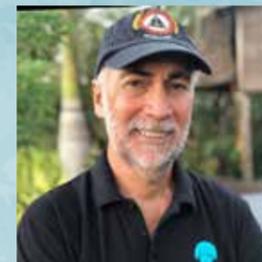
Annie JOUGA
Western Africa



Maxime PRODROMIDES



Kahaia ROBERT
Pacific



Frédéric TARDIEU
Asia

[Find out more about
our Board of Directors
here.](#)

Secretariat Operational body



Sylvain PETIT
Executive Secretary



Marta FERRETTI
Project Manager



Domitille LE HUEDE
Project Manager



Quentin BODIGUEL
Project Manager



Cyrielle GROUARD
Project Assistant



Julie MEYER
Project Assistant



Clélie VERNA
Volunteer (Civic service)

Find out more about
our Secretariat here.

Members

New members in 2021



Permanent Centre
of Initiatives for the
Environment (CPIE) –
Lérins islands



Gozo Regional
Development
Authority



Small-scale initiatives
programme (PPI)



Province of Loyautés
islands



Togean Conservation
Foundation



Togo Eang Ecologde

International organisations

Regional Activity Centre for Priority Actions
Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan within
the United Nations Environment Programme

Regional Activity Centre for Sustainable
Consumption and Production /Mediterranean
Action Plan within the United Nations
Environment Programme

Islands Commission of the Conference
of Peripheral Maritime Regions

Consortium of partners in the Hydrousa project

Global Island Partnership

International National Trust Organisation

Mediterranean Water Institute

IUCN – Small-scale initiatives programme

Cape Verde

Amigos do Calhau
Biosfera Association
Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment

Croatia

Lastovo Nature Park
City of Šibenik
Zlarin Local Committee
Zlarin Tourism Board

Estonia

Kihnumare OÜ

France

Lérins Abbey
Amis de Port-Cros
Les Amis du Petit Langoustier
Amis des îles d'Hyères
Les Amoureux de Porquerolles
Mer Terre
Petites Îles de Méditerranée
Association pour la Pêche et les Activités Maritimes
UT'iles
Communauté de Commune de Marie-Galante
Domaine de l'île
Green Cross France et Territoires Métropole
Toulon-Provence-Méditerranée
Corsican Environment Agency
Port-Cros Nature Park
Syndicat d'Administration d'Héliopolis Villa Carmignac
Town of Hyères les Palmiers
City of Cannes
City of Marseille
Permanent Center of Initiatives for the Environment (CPIE) – Lérins islands
Province of Loyautés islands

Greece

Fotoessa

Guinea-Bissau

Pró-Bolama Association
Bolama Regional Government
Organização para a Defesa e Desenvolvimento das Zonas Húmidas
Orango National Park

Indonesia

Togean Conservation Foundation
Togo Eang Ecolodge

Italy

Tavolara Punta Coda Cavallo MPA

Madagascar

Madagascar National Parks Monde Au Développement Adapté
Nosy Hara National Marine Park
Diana Region

Maldives

Soneva

Malta

Gozo Regional Development Authority

Mozambique

OIKOS Association
Environment Childhood Organization
Mozambique
Government of the District of Ibo

Philippines

Sulubaa'i Foundation

Portugal

Associação de Moradores da Ilha da Culatra
Corvo Regional Nature Park

United Kingdom

Brownsea island National Trust

Sao Tomé and Príncipe

Regional Government of Príncipe
UNESCO Biosphere Reserve

Senegal

Wens Wendaye Ehidj Association
Nébédjay Association
Commune of Gorée Island
National Fisheries Federation of Senegal
Gorée Tourism Board

Tunisia

National Waste Management Agency
Association Kratten du Développement Durable de la Culture et du Loisir
Commune of Kerkennah

Latest islands to join our network



Bassar, Senegal

The Senegalese island of Bassar is located in the Sine Saloum, a 180,000 ha natural region formed by the confluence of the Sine and Saloum rivers. The island is part of the Saloum Delta National Park, the country's second largest, with exceptionally high biodiversity. The main economic activity on and around the island is fishing. Given the presence of many islands in the region, the construction of fishing boats is also an important source of activities and income.

Location: Sine Saloum, Senegal, West Africa
Protection status: Saloum Delta National Park



Brava, Cape Verde

The island of Brava is a volcanic island in the Atlantic Ocean. It is the smallest inhabited island of Cape Verde. It lies in the shadow of the enormous Pico de Fogo volcano. Volcanic activity on the island has been mainly located along three lines that intersect at the crest of earth forming the highest part of the island. More humid and much greener than the other islands of Cape Verde, Brava is known as "the Island of Flowers", and is home to some unique species.

The economy of the island is mainly based on fishing and (irrigated) agriculture. The main agricultural products include coffee, potatoes, sweet potatoes, corn (maize), bananas, and sugar cane.

Area: 62,5 km²
Location: South west of Cape Verde, Atlantic Ocean
Inhabitants: 5,698 (2015)



Gozo, Malta

Gozo is the second most important island of the Maltese archipelago. It has strong natural and cultural heritage, and relatively well-preserved landscapes.

It presents both economic and social specificities and challenges, which arise from the combined effects of double insularity, environmental vulnerability, population density, and limited resources. On-site, GRDA plays a regulatory and consultative role, and fills an important gap in terms of socioeconomic development by implementing and monitoring regional policies.

Area: 67 km²

Location:
northwest of Malta,
Mediterranean Sea

Inhabitants: 31,000

Partners: Gozo
Regional Development
Authority (GRDA)



Hvar, Pakleni Islands, Croatia

The island of Hvar is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Croatia, and the longest Dalmatian island. This territory features rich heritage dating back to Ancient Greece. The eponymous city faces the 21 islands and islets comprising the Pakleni island chain, which can be reached by boat and ferry.

Location: southern
Croatia, Adriatic Sea
Inhabitants: 11,000



Jeta, Guinea Bissau

Jeta is a small island just off Caio, a village on the mouth of the river Mansoa in northwestern Guinea Bissau. It has a few villages inhabited by a population that mainly lives off of fisheries or agriculture. The island is also an important nesting place for seabirds.

Location:
northwestern Guinea
Bissau, West Africa



Lipari, Italy

Lipari is the main island of the volcanic Aeolian islands. Tourism is the main source of income, and activities are centred in Marina Corta and Marina Lunga, with many restaurants, bars, and cultural exhibitions. This economic sector has replaced fishery and agriculture, which were dominant in the past. The island also has important pumice quarries.

Area: 37 km²
Location: northeast
of Sicily, Italy,
Tyrrhenian Sea
Inhabitants: 12,500
Protection status:
listed by UNESCO as a
World Heritage site



Loyalty Islands, New Caledonia

The Loyalty Islands Province has four coral islands, Maré, Tiga, Lifou, and Ouvéa, and is situated north-east of the main island (Grande Terre).

The economy is centred around fisheries and agriculture, as well as tourism, which the local authorities wish to make sustainable. Their heavenly beaches, deep forests, and steep cliffs make these islands a remarkable place to preserve.

Location: east of New Caledonia, French Oversea territories, South Pacific Ocean

Inhabitants: 18,353 (2019)



Nosy Satrana, Madagascar

The islet of Nosy Satrana is part of the Nosy Ankaos archipelago. It is an important village home to the most productive fishermen of Loky Manambato. The fishermen have formed an association in collaboration with a local manager—the Fanamby association—to manage the Marine Protected Area of Loky Manambato.

Location: southwest of Madagascar, Indian Ocean

Inhabitants: 312



Malapascua, Philippines

Malapascua is a coral island with many beaches, cliffs, and famous diving sites with thresher sharks and manta rays. The nine island villages mainly live off of fishing, although tourism is gaining more and more economic importance.

The territory has a primary and secondary school, and there are neither roads nor cars on the island.

Area: 2 km²

Location: Central Visayas, Philippines, Pacific Ocean

Inhabitants: 5,000

Partners: People and the Sea



The Assessment Committee

The **Assessment Committee** is composed of **10 qualified individuals**, representatives of SMILO's themes of interest. These members, called **rapporteurs**, come from all around the world. They meet at least once a year to carry out the ongoing intermediate and final assessments. In this context, they **issue a common opinion after studying the applications**, which they transmit to the **Administrative Council, the sole body that grants Labels**. They are all **independent, non-adherents to the NGO, and sign a cooperation convention** defining their role within SMILO NGO.

Available and open-minded, the **rapporteur's role goes beyond simply reviewing the required minima. He/She can advise and lead the island—via its Island Committee—to modify its project to improve consistency with the objectives of attaining a Sustainable Island Label.**



The Rapporteurs

- Awatef Abiadh**
- Habib Ben Moussa**
- Eduardo Bueno Guimarães**
- Pierre Carret**
- Muminato Jaló**
- Pauline Malterre**
- Thomas Pavy**
- Ravaka Natacha Ranaivoson**
- Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy**
- Nenad Starc**

Awatef Abiadh



— “I am a programme coordinator for the LPO (Ligue pour la Protection des Oiseaux) and BirdLife France in charge of developing conservation programmes in francophone countries. After I received my PhD in Biology, I started my professional career teaching at universities in Tunisia. My first contact with islands was in 2007, and it has radically influenced my career. I was involved with the PIM Initiative NGO from 2007 to 2012 to coordinate the control of invasive species (rats) on small North African islands. I also prepared feasibility plans for different small islands in the Mediterranean to reproduce these activities.”

Habib Ben Moussa



— “I am currently Special Adviser to the Tunisian Ministry of Local Affairs and Environment, and in charge of coastal issues and waste management. In 1984, I joined IFREMER to do my doctorate in the small islands of Polynesia, and I began a career entirely dedicated to environmental protection, specifically coastal preservation. Over nearly 30 years, I have coordinated many international projects, alongside Tunisian institutions. I have worked on multiple themes, such as waste and hazardous waste management, protection of marine and coastal ecosystems, industrial pollution, and climate change.”

Eduardo Bueno Guimarães



— “I am an engineer specialised in the generation and transmission of electrical energy. I also have a close relationship with the sea, as I am a Navy second lieutenant and reservist, as well as an amateur skipper with more than 4,000 nautical miles navigated. Now retired, I live part-time on an island (Ilha Grande) 170 km south of Rio de Janeiro. I was also the Director of the Engineering Union of Rio and worked at PROCEL, the Brazilian energy savings programme. My last professional experience was as CEO of Serra do Facão Energy SA, a private company responsible for the construction and operation of a hydroelectric plant. During this experience, I managed community relations and dealt in the protection of the environment and resource quality.”

Pierre Carret



— “I am an agronomist and expert in biodiversity conservation. For the last twenty years, I have worked on nature conservation programmes with several international organisations. My career began in the Congo Basin with European forest protection programmes. Later, I joined the environment/biodiversity team of the EU Commission’s international cooperation directorate. Since 2010, I have worked for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), currently as Grant Director. My missions have led me to work for the protection of nature in more than thirty countries of the Caribbean, Africa, the Mediterranean, and the Indian Ocean.”

Muminato Jaló



— “I am a PhD student in Sustainability Science at Universidade de Lisboa in Portugal. My main research focuses on dynamic interactions in the relationship between ecosystem services and social well-being. I also hold master’s degree in International Politics and Economics from Kingston University; I have worked on the PASSA-HRS project for four years as a socio-economist, carrying out internal capacity business in social sciences through monitoring, training, and improving rural productivity, employability, and income opportunity. I recently founded the Think Company, which took charge of all socioeconomic aspects of deploying drinking water and small electricity wattage to small villages in Guinea-Bissau.”

Pauline Malterre



— “I am a marine biologist with a degree in Integrated Coastal Zone Management; for 15 years, I have specialised in marine protected area (MPA) planning and management. I worked at a marine reserve in a French overseas territory before joining several cooperation projects to provide technical assistance to biodiversity practitioners in different areas. I also worked for the IUCN French Committee, and am still involved in two expert groups related to Protected Areas and Overseas programmes. I am now an independent consultant leading the IEMI consultancy.”

Thomas Pavy



— “I am a Coastal Ecosystems Management specialist, working as an independent consultant in this domain. Born in the Alps, I naturally started by focusing on mountain ecosystems before crossing over to coastal ecosystems science in 2009 while studying at the University of Edinburgh. From 2015 to 2018, I was in charge of environmental operations for the “Pangatalan Sustainable Island” in Palawan, Philippines, a project initiated by the Sulubacai Environmental Foundation in 2012. There, I participated in establishing a 40ha Marine Protected Area surrounding the island.”

Ravaka Natacha Ranaivoson



— “I am an economist with more than 20 years of experience in financing conservation, natural resources management, and human development on islands in the Indian Ocean and on the African continent. I am currently Director of Marine Conservation at the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) programme in Madagascar, where I am in charge of the strategic development, planning, financing, and implementation of marine conservation. I previously worked for the Tany Meva Foundation on renewable energy and natural resource management; I also served as the Executive Secretary of the African Fund for the Environment (CAFÉ) network.”

Stewart Sarkozy-Banoczy



— “I work at the intersection of resilience, community, and storytelling, primarily in urban, island, and indigenous contexts, with a particular passion for all things water and ocean. Family connections to the Isle of Lismore, Scotland, catalysed my interest in island ecosystems early in life. I am presently Director of Global Strategic Partnerships and Development, and Senior Advisor North America, for the Resilient Cities Network. I am also the founder of Precovery Labs, where creativity and community drive impact and awareness for international clients. I am also Senior Advisor for the Global Island Partnership and member of the advisory committee for SeaAhead.”

Nenad Starc



— “I am a researcher and consultant in the field of regional economics specialised in island development, strategic plans, and local development programmes. I was a senior researcher (now emeritus) at the Institute of Economics of Zagreb, and Head of the Department of Regional Economics. My activities include scientific research, mentoring, and the preparation and evaluation of local and regional development strategies and programmes. In the 1990s, I advised the Croatian Ministry of Development and Reconstruction and coordinated the preparation of the National Island Development Programme (1997), the Island Act (1999), and the new Island Act (2018). I am also a member of the Executive Board of the International Small Island Studies Association (ISISA).”

Partners

Financial partners

Since 2021 or earlier, they have financially helped us support island communities in implementing concrete actions on their islands to move towards sustainably managing their territory. SMILO and small islands thank you!



Private partners



Gobilab committed to support SMILO through the “1% for the Planet” programme, and by donating 10% of the sale price of a **SMILO-colour gourd**. This will allow us to implement concrete actions to counter plastic waste on French Mediterranean islands.

Provence Cafés Services will donate part of the profits made from the sale of certain ecofriendly coffee products to finance the “Small Action on Small Islands for Big Changes” programme, aimed at preserving island natural resources.



With **Dune**, an international company offering underwater activities all around the world, we will share our experience and expertise in developing underwater eco-tourism on small islands.



Human Trip donates part of its profits through the “1% for the Planet” programme to support conservation activities. This partnership will continue to promote more responsible and sustainable tourism.



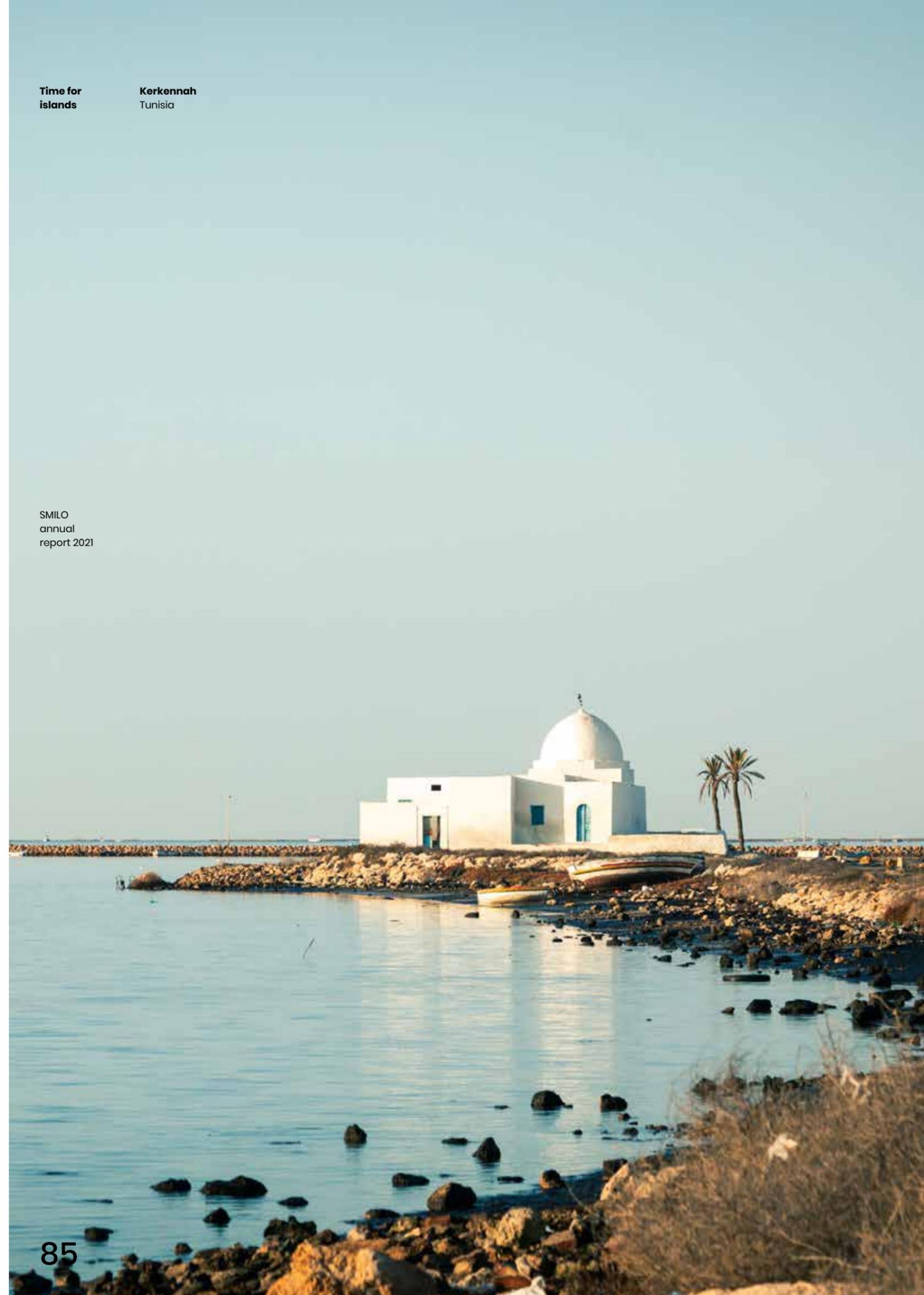
SMILO formed a partnership with **Zenon** to promote the sustainable development of islands. Zenon provides grants and investments for effective, efficient, and sustainable projects designed to make marine ecosystems more resilient to climate change.

In 2021, the partnership agreed on a **Call for proposals for the SMILO Islands Fund** with the cooperation of Conservatoire du Littoral. The call will support innovative, specific field operations that promote island development while strengthening resilient marine ecosystems. This call has three focused themes: **sustainable energy solutions, sustainable fisheries, and marine ecosystem conservation and restoration.**

Institutional partners



In 2021, SMILO joined the "1% for the Planet" programme as a non-profit partner. 1% for the Planet is an international organisation whose members donate at least one percent of their annual sales to environmental causes such as SMILO. This partnership is intended to advance our impact, as well as involve more businesses and individuals in supporting SMILO's actions on small islands.



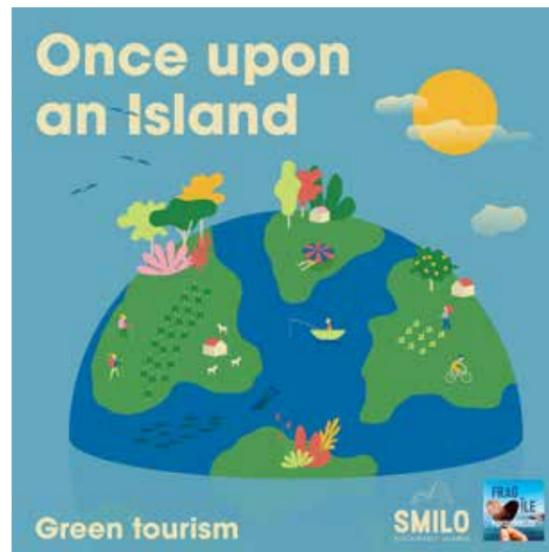
Comm- nication

“Once Upon an Island – green tourism”

The brand new podcast that highlights ecotourism on small islands! In 2021, SMILO inaugurated a podcast dedicated to good practices implemented by islanders on small islands. The first series of episodes on sustainable tourism was launched in September and is still on-going! Islands fascinate us with their promise of peace and freedom, but did you know that small islands are pioneer territories for more sustainable development? This podcast gives a voice to islanders—especially women—in developing environmentally friendly tourism. They live off the British, Greek, Tunisian coasts, or off the French, Croatian, and Norwegian coasts. They share their innovations and experiments with us, specific, inspiring solutions that can be transposed to other islands and continents. Coproduced by SMILO and FRAGILE PORQUEROLLES.

▶ Listen to episodes here
...or subscribe on any platform

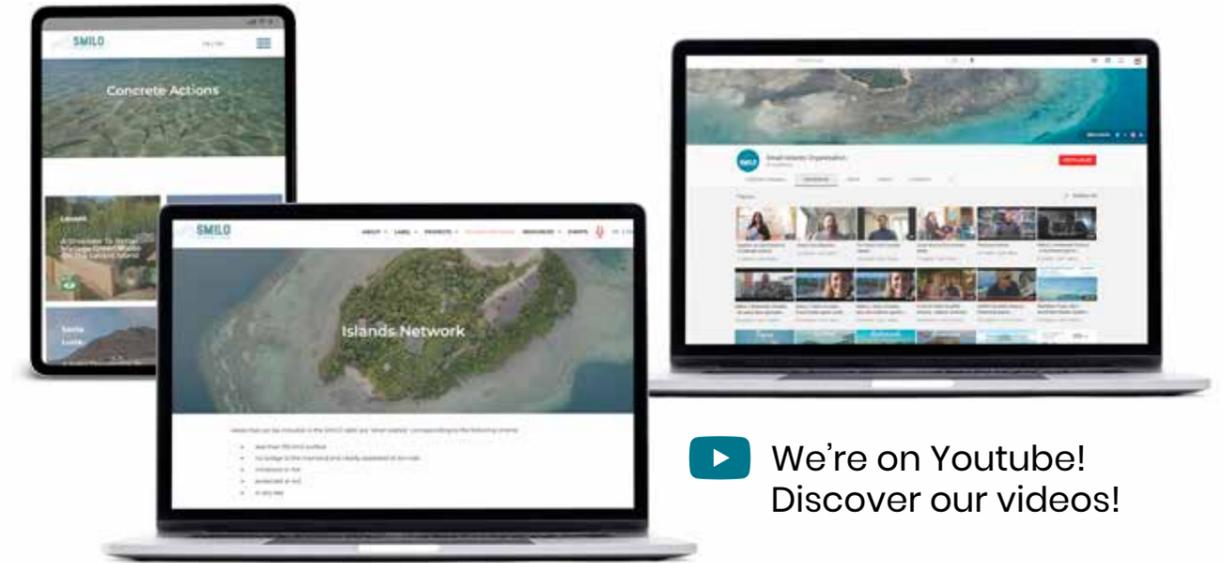
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With the support of: Anna Lindh Foundation
Co-funded by: Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Discover our new website

This year, we gave our website a fresh, new look! Discover the latest concrete, sustainable actions carried out by islands in the SMILO network, and find all the information you need on our association, our “Sustainable Island” label, certification process, and technical documentation at www.smilo-program.org.



...and follow us day after day on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram!



SMILO’s Serious Game “Sustainable Islands”

SMILO’s Serious Game is a simplified, fun application for the labelling process developed by SMILO. It is a role-playing game that simulates the process of collaborative planning and governance on an island. The aim for the players is to build a coherent project to achieve a common objective (obtain the Sustainable Island Label).

This Serious Game also tests and increases the players’ knowledge of sustainable development, and offers a dynamic environment to foster exchanges among the players. It is the ideal tool to animate and host meetings, training sessions, and workshops.

Want to know more about SMILO or organise a “Sustainable Islands” Serious Game? Feel free to contact us at secretariat@smilo-program.org



Perspectives

With continuing dialogue with island networks and organisations, the development of ongoing projects financed through our Islands Fund, the opening of the SMILO network to small island states, and the conclusion of the first phase of the large “Sustainable Islands” project with the final evaluation of the FFEM which will open new horizons, 2022 promises to be a rich year: “Continue, consolidate, expand”!

Indeed, we will continue to give meaning and consistency to the “World Islands Network”, which we started with the aim of bringing together island networks and organisations from all over the world, and better defending the uniqueness and resilience of small islands. In this sense, we will present the final results of our mapping of these networks and organisations. They will hopefully strengthen SMILO in our advocacy and spokesperson missions for small islands on the international stage.

We will simultaneously update our methodology and strategic principles, integrating comments and needs expressed by our members and island partners during the Annual Meeting held in Kerkennah in November 2021.

The Secretariat will continue to implement ongoing projects or carry out those to be launched in 2022 (FFEM, AFD, FPA2, etc.), always with more workshops, training sessions, and concrete actions, particularly on islands newly involved in our certification process, such as the Frioul islands off of Marseille. We will develop a monitoring tool to measure and evaluate the impact of these actions, as well as to better integrate and distinguish islands in the global agenda, pursuing SDGs or those of the CBD’s objectives.

To go further, we will try to strengthen and develop our partnerships, especially with the private sector, via “1% for the Planet”, which we joined in 2021, or through new agreements like the one we signed with the Zenon foundation. This will enable us to finance more concrete actions to preserve

the SMILO islands’ ecosystems—the very same islands we will try to visit as many times as the evolution of the health crisis will allow us, continuing in the momentum of late 2021, when we were able to (finally!) meet our partners again.

2022 will also be a pivotal year. Our historic partner, the French Facility for Global Environment (FFEM), will deliver the evaluation of our “Small Sustainable Islands” initiative. This evaluation will be presented during Monaco Ocean Week next March, and should allow us to continue our growth and develop new projects with a joint AFD/FFEM project in sight, and with reaffirmed technical and institutional support from the Conservatoire du Littoral.

Finally, SMILO will open up to new territories by continuing to enrich our network of new islands from countries new and old, in order to develop a unique, archipelago way of thinking. Additionally, for the first time, we will sign a framework agreement with an island state—the Seychelles. In the same vein, the association will sail to the Maltese archipelago and the island of Gozo, which has become the most populated territory of our network with 40,000 inhabitants, involving new challenges for us.

Thanks to our partners and optimism, SMILO is heading towards 2022 and new Mediterranean, European, Polynesian, and New Caledonian horizons.



Keep up-to-date with SMILO and with sustainable small islands via our social media and website!

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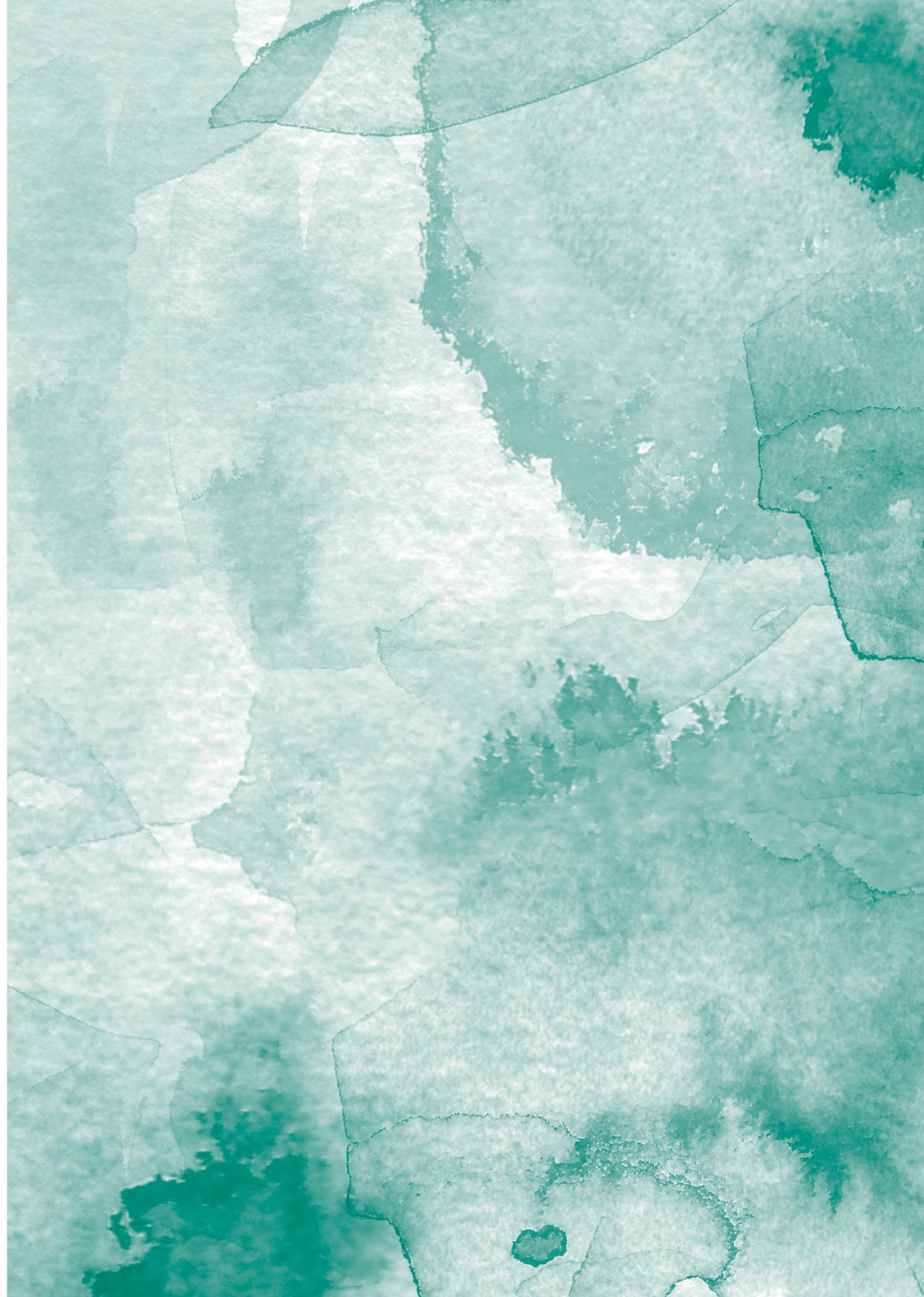
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Time for islands!