time for islands!

small islands organisation
2021 annual report
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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 UCN 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
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
130k inhabitants reached
150 members and partners
+1,2M€ invested

4 yrs

SMILO annual report 2021

Time for islands

SMILO NETWORK

CERTIFICATION UNDERWAY

45 20 28

in 2021

in the last

4 yrs
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.
## Progress Report from Small Islands

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<th>Brownsea</th>
<th>Bolama</th>
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<th>Frioul</th>
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**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. SMILIO 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

- Hydrousia: regenerative and nature-based water solutions
  - Kerkennah, Porquerolles, Saint-Honorat, Zlarin
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 (SITO), 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.
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.

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.

Hydrousua: regenerative and nature-based water solutions

The HYDROUSA project aims to provide innovative, nature-based & circular solutions for water/waste-water 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.hydrousua.org
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.
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
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 HOMEBIOGAS technology—encourages local fishermen to reduce pollution and improve the island’s poor hygienic conditions, as well as eliminating gas cylinder purchase costs.

Training women to save energy
Bassar-Bassoul, Senegal

On the island of Bassar (Salam 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.

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 HOMEBIOGAS 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
Zlarin, 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, 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.

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.
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
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.

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.

35000 giant reed-made items
500 picnic kits for the Port-Cros National Park
25 businesses involved
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. SMIMO 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
  Principe, 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
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 Principe 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 Principe
Preventing coastal erosion
Diogué, 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.

Protecting marine protected areas
Pangatalan, Philippines

In order to better protect the Marine Protected Area of Pangatalan, the Sulubaaï 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
Lérins 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 Lérins 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.

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 Lérins.

Learn more on YouTube
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).

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.

23 local people involved
624 crowns of thorns removed
4 ha of coral covered
Landscapes & 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.
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.

Tip for islands

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 (Brownsea, 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.
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!

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
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.

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.

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

Mr. Maxime Prodromides, 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!

Celebrate Islands
18–23 May 2021

SMILO, the PIM Initiative, the Global Island Partnership (GISP), 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.

**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 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.

**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 those 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.

**Read the intermediate report**

**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”
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 SMILE

SMILE annual report 2021

Gorée
Senegal
Governance

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

Tatienne 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 Organization)
Annie JOUGA  Western Africa
Maxime PRODROMIDES
Kahaia ROBERT  Pacific

Frédéric TARDIEU  Asia

Find out more about our Board of Directors here.
Find out more about our Secretariat here.

Secretariat
Operational body

Sylvain PETIT
Executive Secretary
Marta FERRETTI
Project Manager
Dominique LE HUEDE
Project Manager
Quentin BODIGUEL
Project Manager

Cyrielle GROUARD
Project Assistant
Julie MEYER
Project Assistant
Clélie VERNA
Volunteer (Civic service)

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 Ecolodge

International organisations

Regional Activity Centre for Priority Actions Programme / Mediterranean Action Plan within the United Nations Environment Programme
Consortium of partners in the Hydrousa project

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

Islands Commission of the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions
International National Trust Organisation

Mediterranean Water Institute
IUCN – Small-scale initiatives programme
Cape Verde
Amigos do Calhau
Biofера 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'îles
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 Ecoodge

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

Philippines
Sulubaaï Foundation

Portugal
Associação de Moradores da Ilha do Culatra
Corvo Regional Nature Park

United Kingdom
Brownsea Island National Trust

Senegal
Wens Wendaye Ehidj Association
Nébéday 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
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)
**Jeta, Guinea Bissau**

Jeta is a small island just off Coio, 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

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**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 consultatory role, and fills an important gap in terms of socio-economic 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)

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**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

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**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 Overseas territories, South Pacific Ocean

**Inhabitants:** 18,353 (2019)

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**Nosy Satrana, Madagascar**

The islet of Nosy Satrana is part of the Nosy Ankao 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

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**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 SMIL0’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 SMIL0 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 (Li-gue 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 profes-sional 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 co-ordinate the control of invasive species (rats) on small North African islands. I also prepared feasi-bility plans for different small islands in the Medi-terranean 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 manage-ment. In 1984, I joined IFREMER to do my doctorate in the small islands of Polynesia, and I began a career entirely dedicated to environmental pro-tection, specifically coastal preservation. Over nearly 30 years, I have coordinated many inter-national projects, alongside Tunisian institutions. I have worked on multiple themes, such as waste and hazardous waste management, protection of marine and coastal ecosystems, industrial pol-lution, 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.”

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**Muminato Jaló**

“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.”

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**Thomas Pavy**

“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-economicist, 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.”

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**Ravaka Natacha Ranaivoson**

“I am an economist with more than 20 years of experience in financing conservation, natural resource 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.”

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**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.”

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**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 (ISIS).”

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**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 Tany Meva Foundation on renewable energy and natural resource management. For the last twenty years, I have worked for the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF), currently as Grant Director. My missions have led me to work for the Tany Meva Foundation on renewable energy and natural resource management.”

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**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.”

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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

Gobilob 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 eco-friendly coffee products to finance the “Small Action on Small Islands for Big Changes” programme, aimed at preserving island natural resources.

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.

SMILO and small islands thank you!
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.
Communication

“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 ongoing!

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

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.

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

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

We’re on Youtube! Discover our videos!
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 SMIMO and with sustainable small islands via our social media and website!

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