



16 January 2017

Ruth Spencer
Deputy Director, Marine Ecosystems Protected Area Trust (MEPA Trust)
Antigua and Barbuda

Dear Ms. Spencer,

Subject: Thank you for becoming a Friend of the Global Island Partnership

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to the Marine Ecosystems Protected Area Trust (MEPA Trust) for becoming a Friend of the Global Island Partnership. Led by the Presidents of Palau and Seychelles, Prime Minister of Grenada and Premier of the British Virgin Islands, our mission is to promote action to build resilient and sustainable communities for all islands globally and I look forward to your engagement through the Partnership as we work together to achieve this.

The Global Island Partnership is a voluntary and inclusive partnership of island champions - countries and organisations - who inspire and support each other to take action and produce results for island communities. As a Friend of the Global Island Partnership, you connect with a group of dedicated island leaders and supporters working towards the common goals and priorities of our [2030 Strategy](#). I welcome you to share, learn and collaborate with our network of political leaders and supporters through engaging in our Priority and Member-led High Impact Initiative Working Groups as well as strategy implementation activities. You can find our list of [2017 Members and Friends here](#).

As you become more familiar with the Partnership and how we work, I encourage you to consider becoming a full member to help us shape our goals and priorities. As a Friend, we invite you to be a champion of the Partnership through raising awareness of island resilience priorities and recommending others that will add value to our Partnership's network.

For more information on how we work, please do review the [Members Handbook](#). I also encourage you to reach out to Kate (kate.brown@glispa.org) or Jessica (Jessica.robbins@glispa.org) to discuss opportunities to engage with the Partnership this year.

Thank you once again for becoming a Friend of GLISPA at this pivotal time for islands.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hersey Kyota".

Hersey Kyota
Board Chair, Global Island Partnership
Ambassador to the United States, Republic of Palau

Building resilient and sustainable island communities

<https://impact.glispa.org>