

## Climate Institute Announces GHG Emissions Offset Program to Support Small Island States

September 4, 2014

### Dear Colleagues:

On the occasion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> historic International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS) in Apia, Samoa, the Climate Institute announces a greenhouse gas emissions offset program to support the transition to sustainable energy sources in small island economies. The program will offer individuals, businesses, and organizations the opportunity to reduce the carbon footprint resulting from their activities, operations, and events by investing in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects in Small Island Developing States.

SIDS spent about US\$ 140 billion on fossil fuel imports in 2012 alone – a figure 700% higher than in the year 2000. According to a study by the Climate Institute in collaboration with SIDS DOCK, a 1% increase in renewable energy investments in SIDS were associated with 0.05% increases in GDP across 16 SIDS between 2000 and 2013. The study underscores the benefits of renewable energy investments to macroeconomic performance in SIDS and will be released later this month during the Climate Summit in New York.

Climate Institute over the last 15 years has assisted and supported a number of Small Island States in developing and implementing sustainable energy plans. The Institute promotes the leadership of Small Island States and encourages them to become models of sustainability for the rest of the world. The Institute is also promoting the idea of 100% renewable energy and carbon neutral islands and communities across the world. The carbon offsets program is part of the VISION 20/30 initiative of the Climate Institute that was launched at the Rio+20 Conference in June 2012, in support of the UN Secretary General's Sustainable Energy for All (SE4ALL) initiative. Sustainable Energy for Island Economies has been identified as one of the High Impact Opportunities of the SE4ALL initiative.

To learn more about the Institute's offset program, contact [nkhattak@climate.org](mailto:nkhattak@climate.org) or [chris.walker@climate.org](mailto:chris.walker@climate.org). More information on the Institute's Small Islands initiative is available at [www.gseii.org](http://www.gseii.org)



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*Protecting the balance between climate and life on Earth*



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