



**July 26, 2020**

### **PVA Oceans 16 Cleanup Continues**

Another beach sweep was conducted in Ngaraard, Ngiwal, and Melekeok state on July 24th, 2020 as part of PVA Oceans 16 Cleanup.

Through collaborative efforts of Ngaraard, Ngiwal, and Melekeok state governments, Bank of Guam, Heirs to our Oceans, PREP program employees, and community volunteers, the team of over 60 individuals altogether collected roughly 70 bags of debris and planted 200 various species of plants.

Each state government designated locations for this beach cleanup as well as, tree planting: Kuabes, Ngaraard, Ngiwal State Office to Imekang, and Ngerang beach in Melekeok to the marina.

Melekeok State donated 100 plants varying in species in addition to Bureau of Agriculture's donation of a 100 fruit trees. Another key sponsor for the event was Bank of Guam, who provided essential cleanup supplies and lunch for the entire group.

Bank of Guam Branch Manager, Brandon Cruz, who also participated in the beach cleanup, expresses, "At Bank of Guam, we understand that protecting our natural resources is one of the smartest investments we can make in our island's future. We're proud to partner with Palau Visitors Authority and look forward to creating a more sustainable Palau today, tomorrow, and for generations to come."

Palau Visitors Authority would like to thank all the mentioned agencies and community volunteers for their time and generous contributions! PVA Oceans 16 Cleanup will continue throughout the remainder of the year.

Pristine Paradise.  
**PALAU**

