



April 2017

I'm David Sklar. More than a decade ago, in 2006, I began a very improbable journey. It all started when I discovered a 35-acre uninhabited island in the Bahamas, hidden in a protected sound only minutes from North Eleuthera and world famous Harbor Island. When I first set foot on the deserted island beach, I knew this was a special place.

I envisioned a new kind of destination on this beautiful island. A place where people could enjoy incredible comfort while leaving a zero-carbon footprint! I looked for examples to follow that were realistic, replicable and scalable. What I found was not very encouraging: at first, it seemed I either had to be an engineering genius or a billionaire. Unfortunately, I'm neither. The reality is that initially I had no idea how to do this and very little resources available. Having spent most of my career designing and building, I felt there had to be a reasonable way to do this.

I spent years on the island trying to accomplish this seemingly impossible goal, with little more than a cooler of food, a machete and a hammock. I went broke 3 times, got hit by 2 hurricanes and made more mistakes than I care to remember. Most of the time, the only thing that kept me going was my desire to leave a good example for my young son, Vail, and not just quit because it was too difficult.

Finally, with a lot of help from our team which continues to go above and beyond, I am pleased to announce we have reached our goal! S.T.A.R. (Sustainable Terrain and Resources) Island Bahamas is now a reality: we have completed our Phase 1 prototypes! Right now, we produce clean power, pure water and fresh food. Visitors can come and take a sustainable lifestyle for a test drive. The Beach Bar & Grill is open and we are finishing the first overnight suite that will establish a new type of off-grid experience.

For me, it has been the adventure of a lifetime, but it is only the beginning. We still have plenty to do and can use a lot of help. Unlike a conventional project, the development process is just as important as the final product: we welcome questions, suggestions and expertise from everyone. So much has been learned to get to this point and we are now able to reduce the learning curve for others. We want to create a desirable sustainable model for the future that can become a blueprint for as many people as possible.

We would love for you to visit, and it's our hope that you will spread our story and make it known that more places like this can and should exist. There are many ways you can get involved: from becoming a member to simply sharing our story and vision, everyone can contribute to the STAR Island project. We invite all individuals and organizations to [visit our website](#) and learn more about how you can become a part of it.

I hope you will join the STAR team and I in celebrating our grand opening this Earth Day, April 22nd, 2017, and that you help us realize this vision for the future of our people and the planet.

Thanks for listening.

David



## **Become a new member of STAR Island Bahamas**

Thank you so much for being a part of our Grand Opening celebration. We would like to offer you a complimentary Level 1 STAR Island membership.

Members at this level help us buy seeds for STAR's organic gardens. The gardens allow us to study agricultural practices that work best on the island, grow fresh food on-site and provide extra produce to the local area and help those in need.

Contributions helps us purchase the fruit and vegetable seeds that are used in our organic garden. At this membership level, you get:

- SIB Stickers
- Access to our exclusive STAR newsletter, where we will update our members on the latest news, special offers and progress of the project.

Please go to [www.starislandbahamas.net/starmembership](http://www.starislandbahamas.net/starmembership) and enter code SIBTHANKYOU to get your free Level 1 membership.

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## **STAR Media Kit**

In an effort to conserve resources, the STAR Media Kit will be available at our website, with photos, brochures, masterplan, press releases and more.

Find it at: [www.starislandbahamas.net/media](http://www.starislandbahamas.net/media)

