EPA Work Plan & Budget 28
Executive Summary

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The Paradigm Shift

- Covid-19 pandemic affected communities worldwide
- Estuario shifted to virtual operations
- Modified CCMP actions to follow physical distancing mandates and protocols
- Public engagement through virtual platforms & social media
- Development of safety protocol, continuation of hybrid operations
FY 2022 Priorities

- Environmental Justice
- Reduce Nutrient Pollution
- Marine Litter Reduction
- Green Infrastructure & Resiliency
- NEP Program Evaluation
- SJBE Watershed Hazard Mitigation Plan
- CCMP Revision
Focus on Communities

- Outreach & Empowerment
- Water Community Network
- Resilient Community Hubs
- Education Program
- Environmental Justice
Estuario Multijurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Nine municipalities - Bayamón, Canóvanas, Carolina, Cataño, Guaynabo, Loíza, San Juan, Toa Baja and Trujillo Alto.
Green Infrastructure Master Plan

- Multisectorial collaboration
- Participatory mapping activities
- Support to municipalities in MS4 compliance
Illicit Discharges Detection & Elimination

- Expanded to other regions in the watershed basin region of Río Grande de Loíza
- 200 diagnostic stations
- 85% critical illicit sanitary discharges localized and solved
- The Water Community Network – part of a “watchdog” network of citizens
Goals for CCMP Implementation in FY 2022

- Establishing governance structures according to watershed boundaries
- Using science to develop and implement management plan
- Fostering collaborative problem solving
- Involving and informing stakeholders to sustain commitment
Environmental Justice

- Long-term community resilience support
- Comprehensive watershed-based mitigation plan
- Community involvement and participation in decision-making processes
- Access to information
- Focus area in CCMP revision
Reduce Nutrient Pollution

- Water quality monitoring
- Socio-ecological resilience initiatives
- Expansion of the Water Community Network
- Anchoring efforts in Estuario's Resilient Community Hubs
Marine Litter Reduction

- Solid Waste Program and Oil Recycling Campaign was a success
- Estuario aims to expand this model to other estuarine communities
- Results will provide key input in the capacity for a recycling program in the Island’s Metro Area
Green Infrastructure & Resiliency

- Focus on incorporating community-validated GI strategies
- Integrated coastal ecosystems strengthening
- Defense against extreme events
Strategic Initiatives

- Water Quality
- Habitat & Wildlife
- Aquatic Debris
- Public Education & Involvement
- Green Infrastructure
NEP Program Evaluation

- Findings will determine actions Estuario will include in its CCMP revision
- Will ensure relevant and sustainable goals
Hazard Mitigation Plan

- Identification of vulnerabilities and assets
- Development of long-term watershed-based mitigation strategies
- Inclusion of Estuario’s Scientific and Technical Advisory Committee (STAC) and Water Community Network
- Mitigation Plan submission to FEMA
CCMP Revision

- Will require extensive analysis of proposed actions, their status and effectiveness
- Expected to update, amend, and offer further actions based on current and projected threats to the ecosystem
- Framework will be based on fellow 27 NEP programs and their CCMPs to identify lessons learned
Strategic Five-Year Plan

- Sustainable growth of our organization is a common purpose
- Coordination of NEP evaluation, Hazard Mitigation Plan and Green Infrastructure Master Plan
Accomplishments and Completed 2021 Major Projects
12th Puerto Rico Water Quality Monitoring Day
Urban Forest Network
Vivero Estuario
Development of a Watershed Ecosystems Services Index & Health Indicator
Oil Recycling Program
Co-Management of the Condado Lagoon Estuarine Reserve
Solid Waste Management Activities
Citizen Science Certification Program

- 598 people impacted so far in FY 2021 (6 workshops)
- 782 in FY 2020 (13 workshops)
Estuarine Education Program
Communications Program
Bird Census