Office of the Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Charting a Course for a Sustainable CNMI
OIA Briefing and BIL Priorities Overview
Natural Infrastructure
March 28-30, 2022
NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE:
CNMI MARINE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER AND CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM

WHO: CNMI’s Natural Resources Management Taskforce

WHAT: Design, permitting, and construction of CNMI’s Marine Research and Education Center to support environmental education, capacity building, succession planning, and management implementation objectives.

WHY: Enhancing resilience of our coral and wetland systems reduces vulnerabilities to storm surge and flooding events in addition to supporting ecosystem services and benefits.

HOW: Design and build a LEED-certifiable Marine Center to serve as a marine and wetland plant nursery and training facility for students and practitioners engaged in coral reef and mangrove restoration efforts.
GROWING NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN CNMI

- Supporting existing coral and wetland restoration efforts
- Expanding facilities to build capacity and support education, communications, and management priorities
- Amplifying 30x30 and regional conservation goals
GROWING NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN CNMI

• Expand on A&E Design for state-of-the-art coral and mangrove propagation facility and training institution

• Partner with the Public School System, Northern Marianas College, and Natural Resources Management Agencies to amplify education and training events to build understanding and support of NBS

• Support Saipan Coral and Wetland Nurseries and watershed management projects to support resiliency outcomes
GROWING NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN CNMI

• Grow partnership with education institutions to build capacity and an expanding cohort of on-island coastal resource managers and programs

• Connect with conservation, climate action, water-quality, and land-based pollution control goals and objectives

• Diversify CNMI’s economy with a functional aquaculture / mariculture research facility that expands on existing partnerships and programs
GROWING NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE AND NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS IN CNMI

Thank you

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