

**HIGHLIGHTS OF OIA FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AWARDS
TO THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS IN FY 2010**
Prepared for the Senior Plenary Session of the Interagency Group on Insular Areas
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The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) has provided a substantial amount of financial assistance in the past year to assist the U.S. Virgin Islands in a variety of areas including solid waste, wastewater, and health.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- A \$1.98 million Capital Improvement Project (CIP) grant was awarded to the U.S. Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority to create new centralized convenience centers for citizens to dispose of solid waste. The staffed convenience centers will facilitate the reduction in the number of bin sites on the island of St. Thomas.
- A \$1.15 million CIP grant was awarded to the U.S. Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority to remove scrap tires and scrap metal stockpiled in and around the two landfills on St. Thomas and St. Croix. The scrap tires and scrap metal will be compacted and shipped out of the territory.
- A \$900,000 Water & Wastewater grant was awarded to the U.S. Virgin Islands Waste Management Authority to address a consent decree project to replace 3,000 linear feet of antiquated wastewater piping on St. Croix.
- A \$698,487 CIP grant was awarded to the Schneider Regional Medical Center to upgrade its information technology infrastructure. The upgrade will allow the medical center to become eligible to receive up to four years of financial incentive payments under Medicare and up to six years of incentive payments under Medicaid.
- A \$66,000 Technical Assistance (TA) grant was awarded to the Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands to implement a comprehensive street naming and addressing system.
- A \$350,000 TA grant was awarded to the U.S. Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue to integrate its Excise Tax System with the Bureau's main operation system.
- A Coral Reef Initiative (CRI) grant for \$624,839 was awarded to the Joint Institute for Caribbean Studies, a consortium of universities partnering with OIA and the National Park Service, to build a world-class marine research and education center on St. Croix, USVI.
- A CRI grant for \$625,161 to the National Park Service to develop the architectural designs for the proposed Marine Research and Education Center at Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve.