

Laying the Foundation for Regional Ocean Planning in the US Caribbean

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OCEAN PARTNERSHIP

ALIANZA REGIONAL
OCEÁNICA DEL CARIBE

The Nature
Conservancy



Protecting nature. Preserving life.

Presentation Outline

1. What is CMSP?
2. What is CROP?
3. Challenges
4. Lessons Learned
5. Next Steps

Every project is an opportunity to learn, to figure out problems and challenges, to invent and reinvent.
~David Rockwell

What is CMSP?

- ✓ Science-based tool
- ✓ Collaboration
- ✓ Decrease user conflict
- ✓ Improve planning and regulatory efficiencies
- ✓ Engage communities and stakeholders
- ✓ Preserve ecosystem function and services



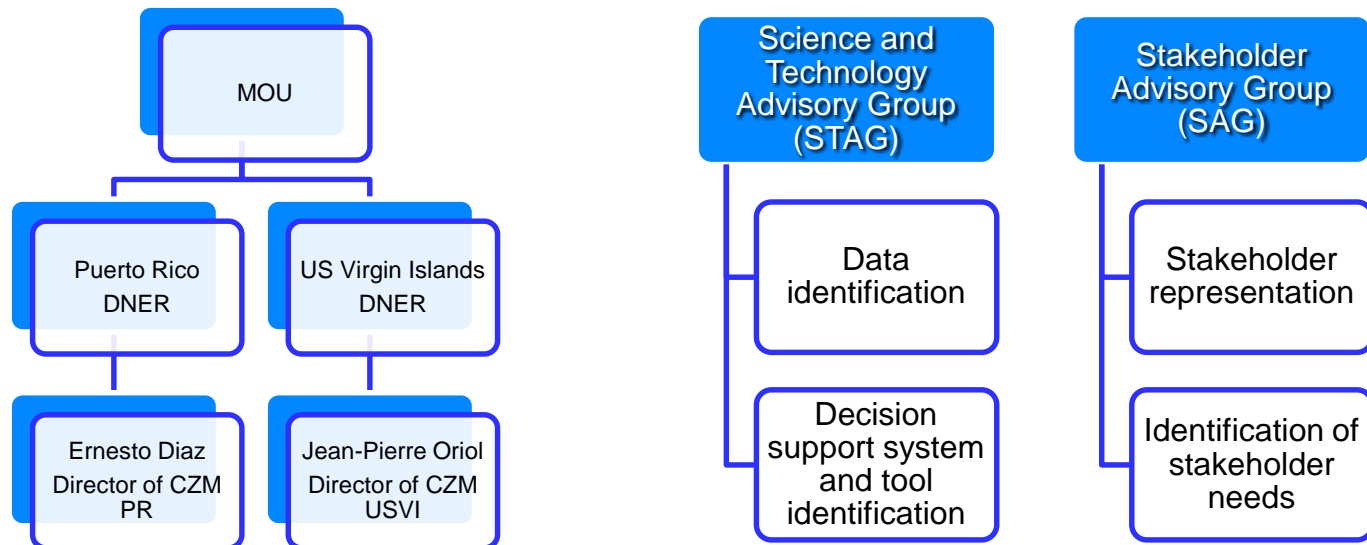
What is CROP?



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- ✓ June 2009: Interagency Ocean Policy Task Force
- ✓ May 2012: MOU between Puerto Rico and USVI



Challenge #1

TURNING A MARINE BIOLOGIST INTO A WEB-BASED DATA PORTAL EXPERT



Challenge #2

PRIORITIZING DATA AND IDENTIFYING GAPS

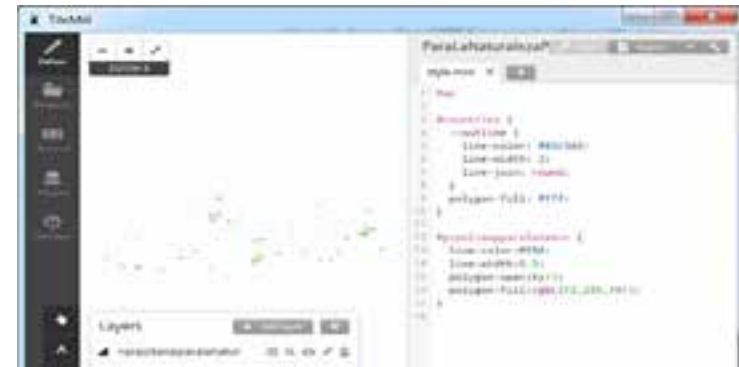
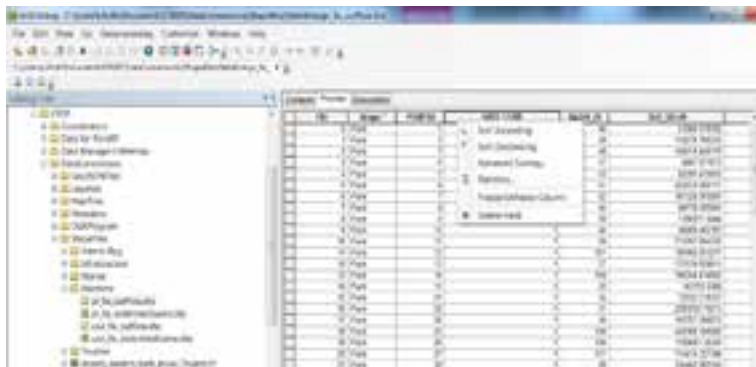


Participatory Mapping Workshops

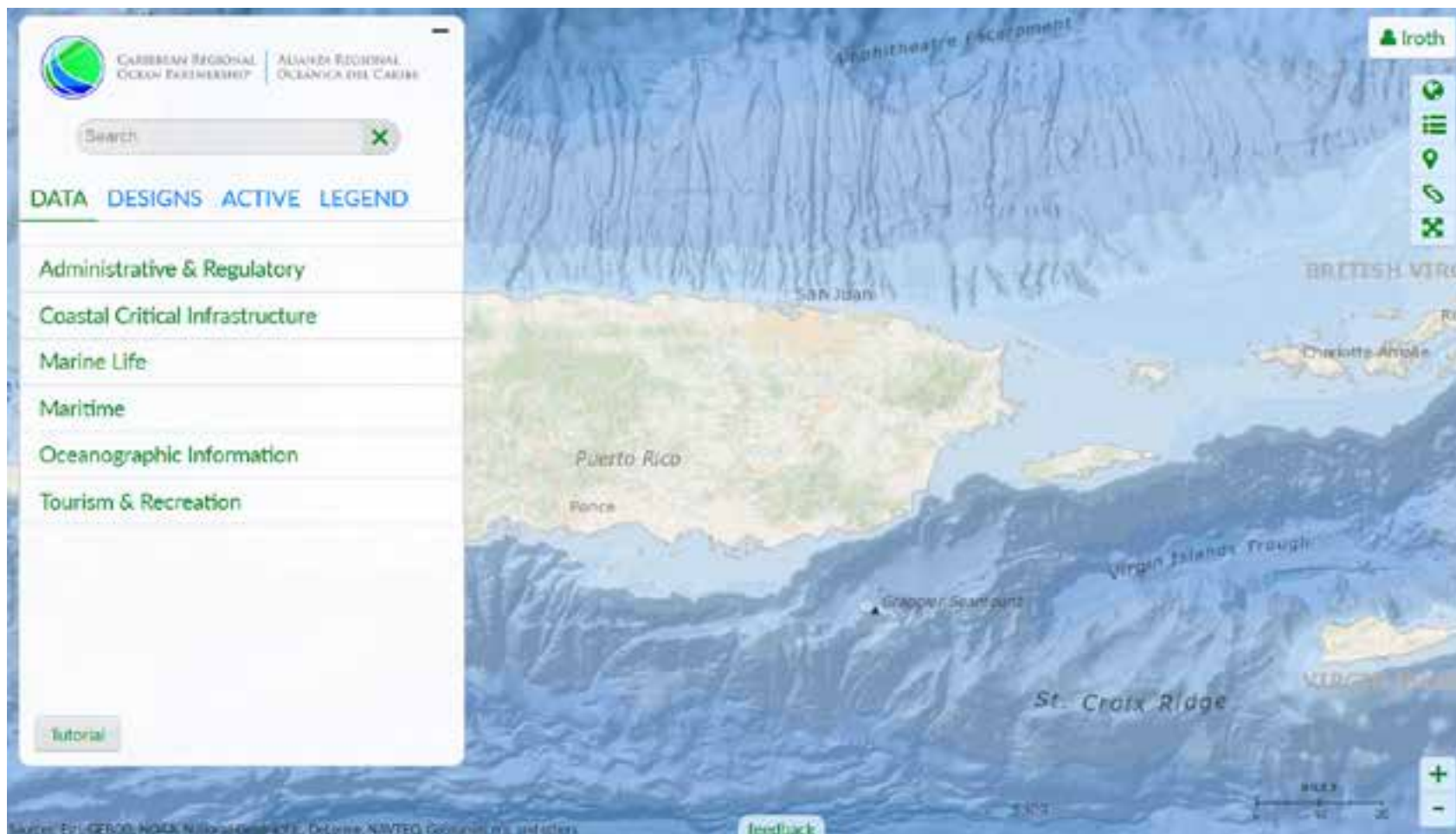


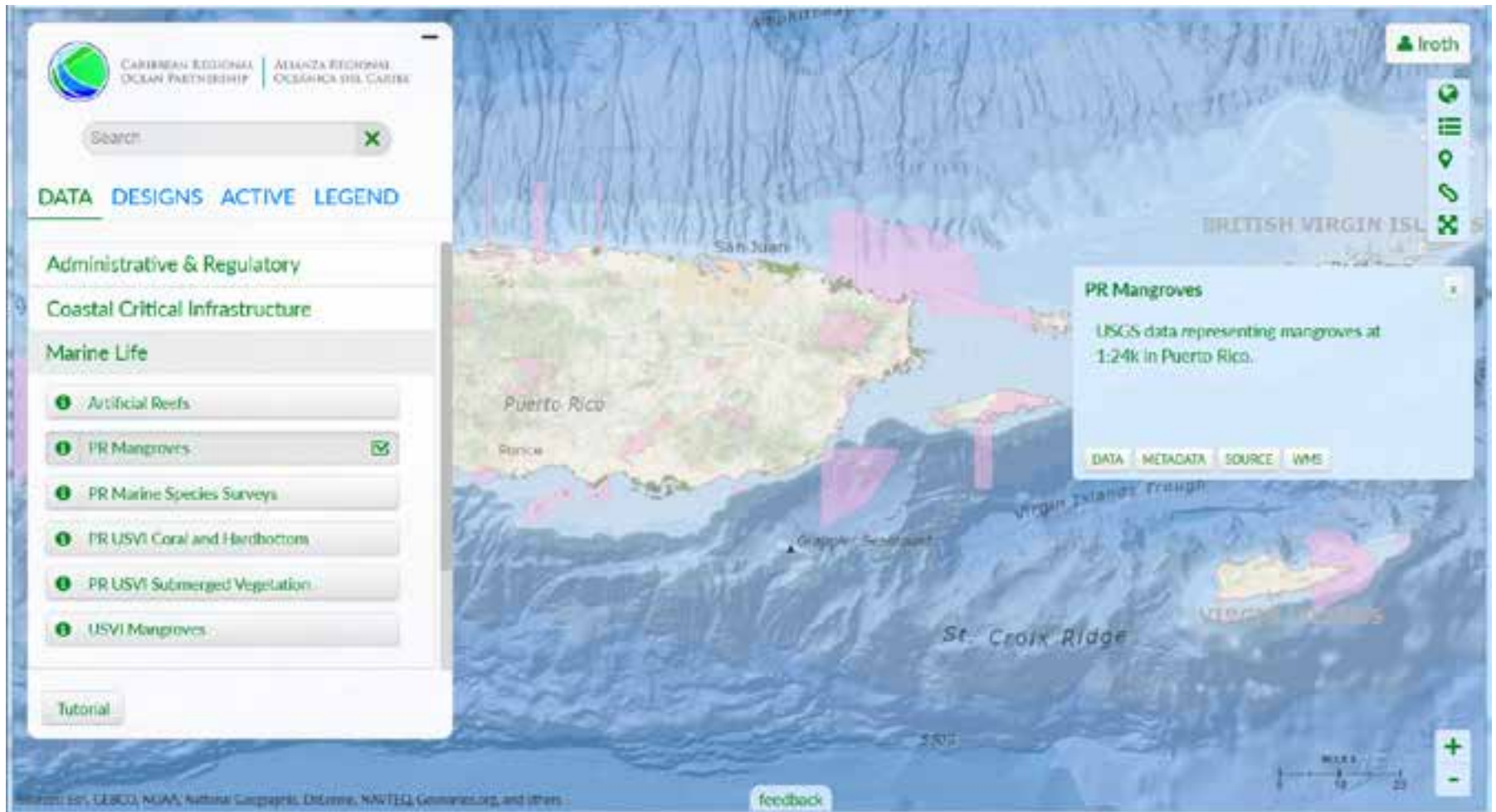
Challenge #3

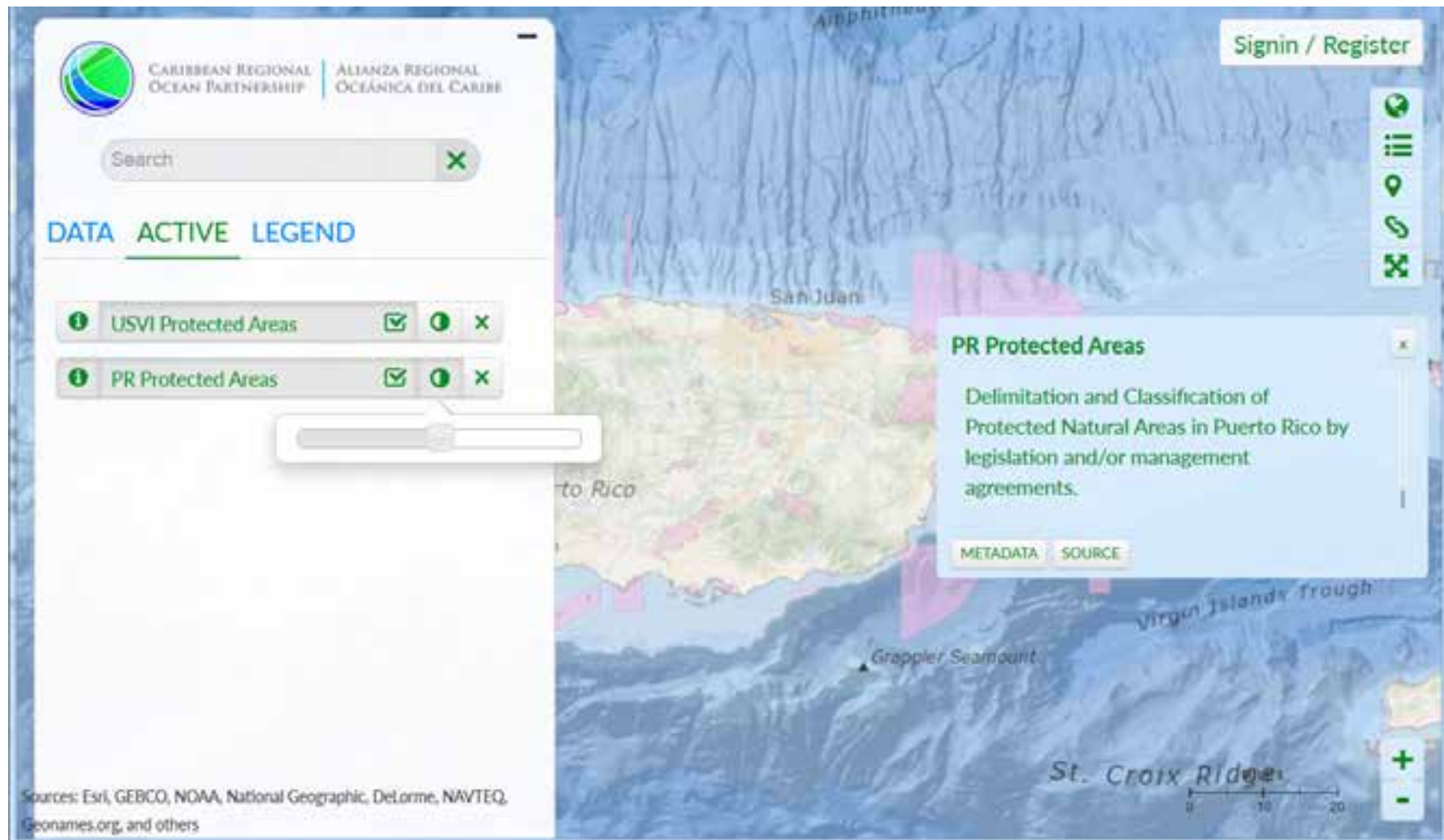
PREPARING DATA FOR DATA PORTAL PLATFORM



CROP Marine Planner







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Search

DATA DESIGNS ACTIVE LEGEND

Drawing

Step 1 of 2

Click the button below to begin drawing your polygon.

Draw Shape

Cancel Next >

Sources: ERI, GEBCO, NOAA, National Geographic, DeLorme, NAVTEQ
planner.caribbean-mp.org/visualize/#map-links-modal

feedback

Basemaps
Hide Layers
Bookmarks
Share this Map
Fullscreen

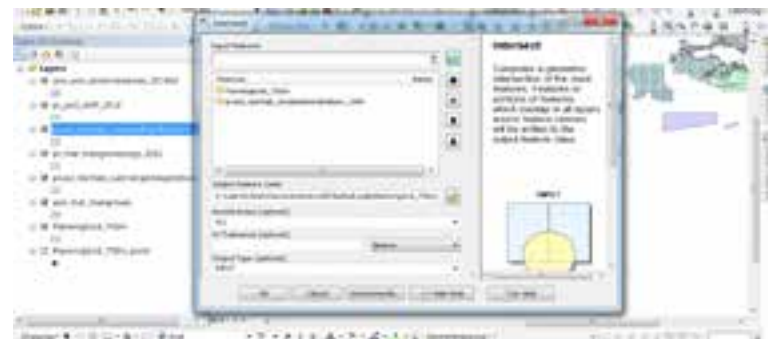
San Juan
Puerto Rico
Grappier Seamount
Virgin Islands Trough
St. Croix Ridge

0 10 20

Challenge #4

DEVELOP PORTAL-BASED TOOL FOR CMSP

1. Planning Grid
 - a) Create Fishnet – 30m contour
 - b) Remove cells covering land
 - c) <10,000 cells – 750m x 750m
2. Calculate attributes
 - a) Zonal Statistics as Table: Wind Energy and Bathymetric layers
 - b) Vector Cover Percentages: benthic habitats, protected areas, priority areas
 - c) Vector Distance (Near tool): coastline and electric substations



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Search

DATA DESIGNS ACTIVE LEGEND

Wind Energy Siting

Step 1 of 3

Select one or more criteria from the list below

- Wind energy potential

Minimum watts / square meter:

- Average Depth

Ocean depth in meters: to meters

- Distance to Coastal Substation
- Distance to Shore

76 Grid Cells Remaining

Cancel Next >

San Juan

Puerto Rico

Ponce

Virgin Islands Trench

St. Croix Ridge

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

THURSDAY ISLAND

ROAD TOWN

THURSDAY ANCHORAGE

GRAPPEL / SCARFOUNT

WALKS

0 10 20

iroth

feedback

3/3/19



Lessons Learned

- ✓ Web developer on staff
- ✓ Better understanding of portal limitations
- ✓ Document procedures along the way
- ✓ Proprietary vs. Open Source

Insanity: doing the
same thing over
and over again and
expecting different
results.
~Albert Einstein

Next Steps

- ✓ PR and USVI government data managers take ownership of portal
- ✓ STAG and SAG are established
- ✓ Suggestions/updates from STAG and SAG incorporated into portal
- ✓ New tool development based on planners needs
- ✓ CMS Plan is developed
- ✓ Continue engagement and involvement of neighboring governments (DR/BVI) with the partnership



Questions?

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- ✓ CROP Project Team
- ✓ The Nature Conservancy
- ✓ USVI Department of Planning and Natural Resources
- ✓ Puerto Rico Department of Natural and Environmental Resources
- ✓ NOAA



CCRI

