

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Recovery Plan

State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds 2023 Report

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANAS ISLANDS 2023 Recovery Plan

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Executive Summary

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) is a remote US territory in the Western Pacific whose main economic base is tourism originating from East Asia. With the CNMI's sole dependence on the tourism industry, the social and economic impact COVID-19 negatively imposed on the islands was significantly evident. Throughout the course of the pandemic, East Asian countries adopted COVID-19 rules and regulations that made tourism travel difficult in small numbers, initiating a ripple effect on the CNMI. The substantial drop in tourist arrivals caused related businesses to suspend or close their establishments, leading to employee furloughs, which ultimately hindered salary and wage, and business gross revenue tax collections of the CNMI Government. During the COVID-19 public health emergency, the CNMI witnessed a large number of families surviving on Federal aid. With funding assistance provided through its federal partners with the recent passage of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (CSLFRF) continues to benefit the CNMI in many ways. The CSLFRF provides substantial flexibility for the CNMI Government to meet its local needs-including support for households, small businesses, impacted industries, essential workers, and the communities hardest hit by the crisis. These funds may also be used to make necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. The primary available use of the CLSFR funds that the CNMI has largely utilized is for the provision of government services. As a US territory, the CNMI was allocated a total of \$481,876,521 with broad flexibility to decide how to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities. The CNMI plans to use the fiscal recovery funding for the following categories based on Section 602 of the Act:

(A) To respond to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) and its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and non-profits, and aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.

B) To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the territory that are performing such essential work, and by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work.

(C) For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of the territory due to the COVID–19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year of the territory prior to the emergency.

(D) To make necessary investments in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

Figure 1 below illustrates the CNMI's plans for spending the CSLFRF under each indicated category to date.





Uses of Funds

The CNMI is committed to using these funds in an effort to provide for a strong, equitable, economic and inclusive recovery that would meet the needs of our islands and their communities. From the time the original version of the ARPA Spending Plan was presented by then Secretary of Finance on June 4th, 2021 there have been changes to these allocations. Figure 1 above depicts an overview of allocations made to date of this Recovery Plan. In order to maximize our programmatic impact, distribution and expenditure of these funds are based on principles to address areas significantly impacted by the pandemic and the needs of each islands' communities. Below are the following Intended Use of the Funds:

Fund Allocations

To date, the CNMI allocated the following funds for each section as indicated:

A. \$143.9 Million allocated to respond to the public health emergency with respect to COVID–19 and its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality. The intention of these funding allocations will be to fund vaccine incentive programs and other COVID-19 response needs, create programs to help small businesses, and provide direct assistance to nonprofits, travel, tourism, and hospitality industries.

Households	\$75,400,000
Small Businesses	\$14,000,000
Nonprofits	\$4,100,000
Tourism, Travel and Hospitality	\$44,000,000
COVID-19 Response	\$6,400,000

B. \$18.9 Million allocated to respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID–19 public health emergency by providing premium pay to eligible workers of the CNMI that are performing such essential work, and by providing grants to eligible employers that have eligible workers who perform essential work.

To recover government costs for the premium pay extended to first responders performing essential work in responding to the public health	\$17,500,000
emergency in FY 2021	
To make grants available to private companies responding to the public	\$1,400,000
health emergency partnering with the government performing essential	\$1,400,000
work during the COVID-19 public health emergency	

C. \$301.5 Million allocated for the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue of the CNMI due to the COVID–19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in Fiscal Year 2019.

To make funding available for the for the provision of government services, its operations and activities affected by the loss of revenue due to the public health emergency beginning March 03, 2021.	\$272,800,000
To make funding available for the operations and activities of the Judicial Branch	\$13,200,000
of government affected by the loss of government revenue due to the public	
health emergency beginning March 03, 2021.	
To make funding available for the operations and activities of the Legislative	\$4,800,000
Branch of government affected by the loss of government revenues due to the	
public health emergency beginning March 03, 2021.	
To make funding available for the payment of government utilities beginning	\$10,700,000
March 03, 2021.	

D. \$17.7 Million allocated to make necessary investments in water and sewer infrastructure.

Other Federal Recovery Funds under ARPA to Date

- The Commonwealth COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance (CCERA) received funding to continue providing assistance to qualifying individuals in the CNMI with rental, utilities, and other expenses related to housing incurred directly or indirectly due to COVID-19.
- The CNMI Public School System received funding that will enable them to quickly and safely reopen schools for full-time, in-person learning; meet students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs; and address disparities in access to educational opportunity that were exacerbated by the coronavirus pandemic.

- The CNMI Nutrition Assistance Program received funding for the Pandemic EBT Program to
 provide reimbursements to eligible students to replace the cost of meals students would have
 received at school if not for the lack of in-person instruction or due to school closures during
 the 2020-2021 school year. P-EBT benefits are coupon benefits that are redeemable just as
 how NAP coupons are redeemed at NAP authorized retailers and vendors.
- The CNMI received funding for the Homeowner Assistance Fund (HAF) Program administered by the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHS) to support homeowners facing financial hardship associated with COVID-19 by providing mortgage delinquency assistance, mortgage payment assistance, annual home-related insurance premium assistance, home utilities assistance, and broadband assistance.

Promoting Equitable Outcomes

Although the CNMI territory is an underserved/disadvantaged community, the CNMI government is committed to promoting equity in applying funds across all allowable use areas. The CNMI is a small community of 47,329 people as of the 2020 census. These programs are regularly advertised and discussed in the local news, social media outlets, and among the community. Information on the intended use of funds was publicly presented and will continue to incorporate public input to benefit our local community.

Various projects from the use of funding include water and wastewater projects that will continue to provide essential services to the community, broadband projects to the benefit of all citizens to address impacts of the pandemic, funding assistance to non-profits for continued operations, direct financial assistance to households (food, utilities, and other needs), assistance to impacted industries (such as tourism, travel, and hospitality), provide premium pay to our frontline workers, and provisions of government services which will allow for government operations to continue providing its' services to the community as a whole. Although the list above does encompass all the covered projects, all citizens are given access to the benefits of the completed outcome. As the intent is to close gaps and reach universal levels of service, the CNMI remains committed to providing the community with as much assistance and service that is made possible with such funding.

The CNMI government prioritizes providing to disproportionately impacted communities the services needed to address health disparities and the social determinants of health, build stronger neighborhoods and communities (e.g., affordable housing), address educational disparities (e.g., online class, community schools, and academic, social-emotional, and mental health supports for high poverty schools), and promote healthy childhood environments (e.g., childcare).

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused great harm and widespread panic throughout the CNMI community, with the neighboring municipal islands of Tinian and Rota being hit the hardest as the funds for these island's municipalities will be used to help with their impacted industries. State level lockdowns were implemented, and curfew hours were enforced to mitigate the spread of the virus, forcing government shutdowns and business closures for months in an effort to address health disparities and build a stronger neighborhood and community. Aside from the main hospital on island and private clinics, vaccine distributions have been offered in various youth centers throughout the municipalities and distributed in public schools in an effort to cater to our youth (12 yrs. & above). During the peak of the pandemic, a campaign ad was created by the Public School System (PSS) about the importance of getting vaccinated for our youths and following the CDC

guidelines of the importance of following the 3 W's (wear a mask, wash your hands & watch your distance).

Funding for the programs is targeted to benefit the community as a whole, covering the main island of Saipan and neighboring islands of Tinian, Rota and the Northern Islands, with no barriers to a certain race, color or ethnicity.

Community Engagement

The CNMI understands how important it is for our local community to be engaged and to avail of the programs that have been funded by ARPA. Our CNMI population is so diverse with limited English proficiency, that we did not adopt English as our official language until becoming part of the United States in 1985. The official languages of the CNMI were Chamorro and Carolinian. We are constantly working to locally serve a population that has difficulties with English. Aside from the local population, the CNMI also regularly serves the immigrant population and takes their needs into account.

Funds have been invested in programs that were anticipated to strengthen resources for community support and that are vital for aiding the CNMI on its path towards recovery socially and economically long term.

One of the programs implemented was the \$500 local stimulus aimed to assist individual households with their necessities during the pandemic spending these funds within the local economy, supporting local businesses. Also implemented as a direct assistance to households was the utility stimulus that credited residential utility accounts to reduce the burden such utility bills imposed on residents.

Other programs include funding for operations to aid Tourism, Travel & Hospitality such as the CNMI's hosting of the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games for sports tourism industry to programs such as the Travel Investment Resumption Plan (TRIP) for operations in an effort to create a tourism travel bubble with South Korea and Japan to resume the CNMI's lone revenue generating industry – Tourism & Travel.

Labor Practices

The CNMI has awarded the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding assistance for investing in water and wastewater projects. Wastewater related infrastructure projects include investments to prevent aging and the collapse of sewer pipelines, reduce oil contaminants in the wastewater equipment, and increase response time to urgent customer related issues. CUC has also been able to extend water service lines to areas on the island, servicing customers who may not be able to pay for lengthy waterlines and laterals, as well as improvements to water storage facilities and units.

With the increase in such infrastructure projects, CUC has participated in hiring qualified professionals and staff internally to streamline the success of these projects. All these positions are advertised internally on their local website to encourage hiring of local citizens. For specialized positions such as engineers, these were advertised internally, locally, and nationally through channels including the American Water Works Association and the Water Environment Association. After more than eight months of active recruiting for engineers, CUC did not receive any qualified applications. Considering the extremely competitive market for positions such as

professional engineers, CUC needed to reduce requirements for these positions, which resulted in the submission of multiple applications.

Use of Evidence

The CNMI is continually reviewing the requirements of reporting on evidence-based interventions. Where appropriate, the CNMI may use program evaluations or evidence-based reporting to demonstrate the effectiveness of the approved programs funded with ARPA SLFRF. Future versions of this Recovery Plan will include specific approaches for each program where appropriate.

1: Public Health				
COVID-19 Mitigation & Prevention				
COVID-19 Vaccination [^]	1.1	1.1	100,000	0
COVID-19 Testing [^]	1.2	1.2	1,200,038	0
Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine) ^	1.7	1.8	4,196,971	0
2: Negative Economic Impacts				
Assistance to Households				
Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid*^	2.2	2.2	25,940,000	18,440,000
Household Assistance: Cash Transfers*^	2.3	2.3	49,416,080	2,242,113
Assistance to Small Businesses				
Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship^	2.29	2.9	14,109,992	14,109,992
Assistance to Non-Profits				
Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted) ^	2.34	2.1	3,915,721	1,769,907
Aid to Impacted Industries				
Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality^	2.35	2.11	35,060,999	17,028,318
3: Public Health-Negative Economic In	npact: Pub	olic Sector	Capacity	
General Provisions				
Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs	3.5	-	414,950	414,950
4: Premium Pay				
Public Sector Employees	4.1	4.1	17,495,305	0
Private Sector: Grants to Other Employers	4.2	4.2	1,365,292	354,380
5: Infrastructure				

Table of Expenses by Expenditure Category

Water and Sewer				
Water and Sewer: Other	5.18	-	11,883,664	2,781,000
6: Revenue Replacement				
Provision of Government Services	6.1	6.1	195,015,098	69,503,040

PROJECT INVENTORY

EC 1: Public Health

Project 8899210033: Road to 80 Vaccination Campaign

Funding amount: \$100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 1.1 COVID-19 Vaccination

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- A campaign launched to motivate CNMI residents who have not received their vaccinations to get their vaccinations by offering different incentives. The goal of the campaign is to help the CNMI get to herd immunity (80% of population fully vaccinated). An increase in vaccination sites was implemented to ensure all residents of the CNMI have easy access to these sites. All residents were eligible to receive the different prizes and incentives.
- Outputs:
 - Increased vaccination sites
 - Prizes and incentives
 - Awareness through social media and advertisements
- Outcomes:
 - Herd Immunity Goal Reached
 - 10% increase in vaccination because of the incentive
 - 80% of CNMI population vaccinated
 - 4,512 residents received their full vaccinations

Project 8899210033: Community Based and Airport Arrival Testing

Funding amount: \$1,200,038

Project Expenditure Category: 1.2 COVID-19 Testing

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- Costs incurred for community-based testing and airport arrival testing as a surveillance tool to help the CNMI COVID-19 Task Force and the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation (CHCC) detect and contain the SARS-COV2 virus, the virus that causes COVID-19, within the CNMI. Such testing helped experts understand how widespread the virus is in the community and identified people who may be infected with the virus, especially those who may be pre-symptomatic or asymptomatic, in order to direct these people to the appropriate care, contain the virus, and prevent its spread using tools such as quarantine, isolation, and contact tracing.
- Outcomes:

- Mitigate spread of the virus
- Reduce risk of "immune compromised" individuals from contracting the virus

Project AR88990004: COVID-19 Government Shutdown

Funding amount: \$1,737,975

<u>Project Expenditure Category</u>: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- Costs of government workers isolating themselves at home to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 during the spike. Due to the sudden rises of positive community cases in the CNMI as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency, the government limited services to limit contact through person-to-person interactions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.
- Outcomes:
 - Mitigate spread of the virus
 - Limit person-to-person contact

Project 8899210033: Pandemic Mitigation Platform (Safe Travel Marianas)

Funding amount: \$960,000

<u>Project Expenditure Category</u>: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- A web and mobile application (iOS and Android) that enables contact tracing by alerting travelers if they have come into close contact with COVID-19 cases declared by local government units under suspect, probable and confirmed cases. A person in close contact with someone who is infected with COVID-19 are at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, and of potentially infecting others. Closely watching these contacts after exposure to an infected person will help the contacts to get care and treatment, and will prevent further transmission of the virus
- Outputs:
 - Advanced contact tracing
 - Health condition reporting
 - Case management modules
 - Social distancing system
- Outcomes:
 - Mitigate spread of the virus through the advanced contact tracing, health condition reporting, case management modules, and social distancing system, to be customized for travelers

Project 8899210033: Emergency Response

Funding amount: \$163,996

<u>Project Expenditure Category</u>: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- Purchase of emergency response vehicles to serve the CNMI by meeting the daily demands of the CNMI COVID-19 Taskforce such as the need for personnel, equipment, specimens, and personal protective equipment (PPE) to be transported to multiple locations daily to ensure the safety of personnel and the public. In more detail, such vehicles are being used to transport COVID-19 test kits, operational supplies, medical supplies, trauma bags, firefighting gear, medical kits, and more importantly used for contact tracing, transporting Emergency Medical Technicians that are trained and certified with
- Outcomes:
 - Mitigating spread of the virus through the advanced contact tracing and
 - Ensuring safety of the public through emergency response

Project 8899210033: COVID-19 Careforce (CCF)

Funding amount: \$1,335,000

<u>Project Expenditure Category</u>: 1.7 Other COVID-19 Public Health Expenses (including Communications, Enforcement, Isolation/Quarantine)

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- An outreach endeavor to bring testing, prevention, and inoculation to the residents of the CNMI. The CCF team will provide test kits, PPEs, trained and licensed clinicians who will be able to provide vaccination and booster shots, as well as offer assistance in the way of food supplies, water, and wheelchairs to give mobility to those who are not ambulatory. The program is also intended to provide education and resources to the underserved and impoverished residents, some of whom do not have transportation to acquire PPEs or vaccinations.
- Outcomes:
 - Provide PPEs, testing, and vaccinations to underserved communities
 - Mitigate spread of the virus

EC 2: Negative Economic Impacts

Project 8899210030: CNMI Utility Stimulus

Funding amount: \$25,940,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.2 Household Assistance: Rent, Mortgage, and Utility Aid

Status: Complete

Project Overview

- A program to assist all households with their utility bills due to the financial impact caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The CNMI provided utility assistance funding to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation that provided a \$500.00 stimulus credit to all residential utility accounts.
- Outputs:
 - Apply \$500 utility credit to residential accounts
- Outcomes:
 - Provide financial relief to CNMI residents

Project 8899210030: CNMI Local Stimulus

Funding amount: \$49,416,080

Project Expenditure Category: 2.3 Household Assistance: Cash Transfers

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program to assist all CNMI families with financial hardships experienced due to the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Administered through the CNMI Department of Finance Division of Revenue and Taxation, two rounds of \$500 stimulus were distributed to all CNMI taxpayers and their dependents via prepaid debit card to promote spending these stimulus funds within the CNMI.
- Outputs:
 - \$500 stimulus per taxpayer and dependent
- Outcomes:
 - Provide financial relief to CNMI families

Project 8899210031: Building Optimism, Opportunities and Stability Together (BOOST) Program

Funding amount: \$14,009,992

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program to assist eligible small businesses including local nonprofits that have experienced financial hardship due to the negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, COVID-19. The intent of the program is to support the viability of such businesses and the employment opportunities they offer residents of the CNMI, to further the government's goal of a diverse economy, and to increase commonwealth tax revenues.
- Outcomes:
 - Small businesses recovering losses due to the pandemic
 - Small businesses continuation of operations
 - Increase commonwealth revenues

Project 8899210031: Saipan Community School

Funding amount: \$100,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.29 Loans or Grants to Mitigate Financial Hardship

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- Award provided to Saipan Community School (SCS), a small business and/or non-profit
 organizations to provides financial assistance to, due to the negatively impact caused by the
 pandemic. Funds awarded are to support staff payroll and fringe benefits due to the financial
 impacts that the public health emergency had on SCS's revenues.
- Outcomes:
 - Small businesses/non-profit recovering losses due to the pandemic
 - Small businesses/non-profit continuation of operations
 - Increase commonwealth revenues

Project 8899210004: Nonprofit Organizations Assistance

Funding amount: \$3,915,721

<u>Project Expenditure Category</u>: 2.34 Assistance to Impacted Nonprofit Organizations (Impacted or Disproportionately Impacted)

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program to assist eligible non-profit organizations that have experienced financial hardship due to the negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, COVID-19. Funds awarded are intended to support operational costs to continue to provide vital services and annual programs that benefit communities across the islands, as many non-profits were unable to raise enough funds or experienced a significant reduction in donations due to the pandemic.
- Outcomes:
 - Nonprofit organizations recovering losses due to the pandemic
 - Nonprofit organizations continuation of operations

Project 8813210002: Tourism Resumption and Investment Plan (TRIP)

Funding amount: \$22,661,257

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program administered by Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) to provide incentives to stimulate economic recovery through the revitalization of the tourism industry, restoration of travelers' confidence in travelling to the CNMI, and increased overall destination exposure.
- Outputs:
 - Tourist incentives
 - Airline Incentives
- Outcomes:
 - To resume tourism industry
 - Generate local revenue

Project 8899210023: Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games

Funding amount: \$6,317,851

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program to provide sports tourism opportunities to the CNMI, where the tourism industry
 was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. With the effects of the public health
 emergency, COVID-19, on the CNMI's tourism industry, this funding aims to support the
 pacific games in attracting tourists to the CNMI, a vaccinated tourism destination, to watch
 these games whilst spending money within CNMI, sparking local economic activity.
- Outputs:
 - Hosting of Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games
- Outcomes:
 - To resume tourism industry
 - Generate local revenue

Project 8899210032: Saipan International Airport

Funding amount: \$2,200,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program to assist the Saipan International Airport in continuing operations. Due to the negative effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the drastic decline in passenger traffic, the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) experienced a substantial decline in revenues, resulting to actions such as cutting employee working hours. The CNMI awarded CPA funds to fully restore employee hours to be readily able to maintain, develop, operate, and manage the ports during all efforts to restore affected industries such as tourism.
- Outcomes:
 - Continued operations
 - Fully restore CPA employee working hours

Project AR88990002: Marianas Pacific Express Airline Incentive

Funding amount: \$2,381,891

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

 Procurement of services of Marianas Pacific Express, LLC. to provide inter-island scheduled and chartered air and cargo passenger service between the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota and between the CNMI and Guam, as commercial activities on the CNMI have been detrimentally impacted. The new means of airtransportation allowed tourists and potential visitors a secondary accommodation option and additional flight schedules for travel into the island of Saipan transiting from the island of Guam. In addition, when the CNMI's lone inter-island airline, STAR Marianas Air, temporarily suspended flights between the islands of the CNMI, due to lack of tourism activity, causing unease for residents of Rota and Tinian who had no alternative air-travel options to and from the main island of Saipan, the Commonwealth sought immediate and critical inter-island travel alternatives to safeguard the health and safety of Tinian and Rota and to ensure reliable air transportation between the three main Commonwealth islands.

- Outputs:
 - Airline Incentives
- Outcomes:
 - To resume tourism industry
 - Safeguard residents of Tinian and Rota
 - Generate local revenue

Project 8899210032: Aid to Tourism and Hospitality Industry

Funding amount: \$1,500,000

Project Expenditure Category: 2.35 Aid to Tourism, Travel, or Hospitality

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- A program to provide assistance to organizations operating in the tourism and hospitality industries negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in restoring it's business operations to restore economic activity within the CNMI.
- Outcomes:
 - To revitalize the tourism industry as a whole, inclusive of the hospitality industry
 - Generate local revenue

EC 3: Public Health-Negative Economic Impact: Public Sector Capacity

Project AR51010001: CNMI Judiciary Case Management System

Funding amount: \$414,950

Project Expenditure Category: 3.5 Public Sector Capacity: Administrative Needs

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- To provide funding for the CNMI Judiciary's new Case Management System (CMS) to aid and benefit the Judiciary and Commonwealth as a whole as the system assists to expedite resolution of complex issues and ensures optimal case flow for litigants. It will also decrease paperwork and allow for better recordkeeping as information is stored digitally. Further, all data in the system can be securely accessed by remote users, optimizing real-time and speedy judicial access. Such digital access will increase transparency and facilitate clear audit trails by providing easy access to information, foster communication, and identify risks and issues for efficient resolution.
- Outcomes:
 - To produce an optimal case flow for the Judiciary
 - To speed up resolution of cases

EC 4: Premium Pay

Project 8899210034: Public Sector Premium Pay

Funding amount: \$17,495,305

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1 Public Sector Employees

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- To provide public sector employees including CNMI Central Government Employees as well as autonomous agency employees with premium pay for essential services provided throughout the pandemic period beginning March of 2020 with cutoff being September of 2021.
- Outcomes:
 - To provide premium pay to public sector employees

Project AR88990003: Healthcare Sector Premium Pay

Funding amount: \$1,365,292

Project Expenditure Category: 4.2 Private Sector: Grants to Other Employers

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- To provide private sector employees deemed by the Governor of the CNMI as essential, such as private healthcare providers and pharmacies, with premium pay for essential services provided throughout the pandemic period beginning March of 2020.
- Outcomes:
 - To provide premium pay to healthcare sector employees

EC 5: Infrastructure

Project 8899210003/28: Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

Funding amount: \$11,883,664

Project Expenditure Category: 5.18 Water and Sewer: Other

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- Programs awarded to the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) to make necessary repairs, upgrades, and investments in water and sewer infrastructure. High priority projects are awarded to ensure the safety of distributing water to the public, as well as the necessary treatment of wastewater.
- Outcomes:
 - Investments to improve water and wastewater services to residents of the CNMI

EC 5: Revenue Replacement

Project MI210001: Provisions of Government Services

Funding amount: \$195,015,098

Project Expenditure Category: 4.1 Public Sector Employees

Status: Ongoing

Project Overview

- To provide funding up to the amount of revenue loss experienced by the CNMI government due to the COVID-19 public health emergency by restoring reduction of hours, reinstating furloughed employees, and supporting all operations that would enable the CNMI government to continue to provide vital services to the general public.
- Outcomes:
 - Continue vital services to the public

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES: TAX OFFSET PROVISION

Item	Amount
a. Revenue-reducing Covered Changes	\$ O