

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO

STATE CONSOLIDATED ACTION PLAN FOR HOUSING AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

2022 ACTION PLAN

June 2022



PLAN CONSOLIDADO



DE VIVIENDA Y DESARROLLO COMUNAL DEL
ESTADO Y PLAN DE ACCIÓN ANUAL

GOBIERNO DE
PUERTO
RICO



Annual Action Plan
2022

Executive Summary

AP-05 Executive Summary - 24 CFR 91.200(c), 91.220(b)

1. Introduction

The Consolidated Plan of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is the five-year housing and community development plan required by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to guide the distribution of its Community Planning and Development (CPD) formula grant funds. In 2020, the Government of Puerto Rico submitted the plan for the period of 2020-2024. This Annual Action Plan is the official application for the PY 2022 state grants, for the following programs:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME)
- Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
- Housing Trust Fund (HTF)

The activities to be undertaken as part of the Action Plan and the Five-Year Consolidated Plan are focused on achieving the following objectives:

- to increase the availability, accessibility, and affordability of decent housing,
- the creation of suitable living environments, and
- the promotion of economic opportunity for low- and moderate-income individuals.

The lead agency of the PY 2022 Annual Action Plan is the Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH). This agency coordinates all efforts toward the development of the housing and community development strategies that the PR-State government included on its five-year Consolidated Plan and executes annually as established in its action plan. In addition, the PRDOH is responsible for the administration of the PR-State CDBG Program allocation. In this effort, the Department of Housing works in conjunction with three (3) State agencies, that are responsible to act as HUD grantees and administrators for the other Community Planning and Development Programs (ESG, HOME, HOPWA and HTF). These agencies are the Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (PRHFA) for the HOME and HTF Programs, the Department of Family for the ESG Program and the Department of Health for the HOPWA Program. In the case of the HOPWA Program, although the PR Health Department is the grantee, the Municipality of San Juan acts as the program administrator in accordance with a collaborative agreement signed between the parties back in year 2010.

The plan includes a series of guiding principles that will lead the vision of the State public policy and that are based in the needs identified as part of the consolidated planning processes and the Government of Puerto Rico public policies on housing and community development.

2. Summarize the objectives and outcomes identified in the Plan

This could be a restatement of items or a table listed elsewhere in the plan or a reference to another location. It may also contain any essential items from the housing and homeless needs assessment, the housing market analysis or the strategic plan.

The strategic approach and actions to be undertaken by the responsible Commonwealth Agencies can be summarized into three main areas and related activities following the basic goals of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974:

Provide Decent Housing

- Provide street outreach, supportive services and emergency shelter
- Provide homeless prevention and rapid rehousing assistance
- Provide housing assistance and supportive services to HIV population
- Support homeownership by providing down payment and closing cost assistance
- Address the need of substandard housing by supporting rehabilitation of rental housing
- Increase the supply or preserve affordable rental housing by supporting rehabilitation and production of housing, prioritizing special needs projects
- Increase the supply of affordable housing by supporting the participation of CHDOs
- Promote the development of special needs projects, which are those that provide supportive service.
- Address the need of substandard housing by supporting construction of rental housing

Create a Suitable Living Environment

- Improve the quality of special needs populations, in particular the elderly, by supporting homecare services.
- Provide support services for youth, victims of domestic violence, and employment counseling.
- Improve safety and livability of neighborhoods by investing in public facilities, infrastructure, and urban renewal.
- Set-aside funds for emergency relief.

Expand Economic Opportunity

- Promote the development of microenterprises.
- Invest in public facilities that support business development.

- Create and retain jobs to low- and moderate-income persons.

The goal of the Housing Trust Fund is to provide decent affordable housing to low-income and very low-income households and individuals.

These objectives are, in turn, related and complement other efforts related to Puerto Rico's recovery from the disasters that have been faced during recent years. In particular, those related to housing and economic recovery, established through the CDBG-DR and CDBG-MIT programs. The CDBG-DR Action Plan for Hurricane Irma and Maria recovery has twenty (20) programs designed to provide opportunities for assistance to citizens, small businesses, municipalities, agencies and non-governmental organizations in order to create significant impact in the local housing, infrastructure, economic and planning sectors. Meanwhile, the CDBG-MIT Action Plan is designed to mitigate disaster risks and reduce future losses through programs that increase resilience to catastrophic events. Programs that provide assistance to households include the Single-Family Housing Mitigation Program, Public Housing Mitigation Program and Multi-Sector Community Mitigation Program.

The specific goals and other summary information for the PY 2022 Consolidated Action Plan is presented in the following table. For more details go to Appendix.

3. Evaluation of past performance

This is an evaluation of past performance that helped lead the grantee to choose its goals or projects.

This Consolidated Annual Performance Report (CAPER) provides an overview of the progress made during PY 2020, the first year of the Puerto Rico State 2020-2024 Housing and Community Consolidated Plan. During Program Year 2020, the state undertook activities consistent with the approved strategic and annual action Plan, for the following programs: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA).

Each of these programs of the Consolidated Plan invested available resources in eligible activities to address the needs of the low- and moderate-income persons with the final goals of:

- increasing the availability, accessibility, and affordability of decent housing,
- create suitable living environments, and
- provide economic opportunities for low- and moderate-income individuals.

Even with the challenges faced by Puerto Rico in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the State has made progress in meeting its 2020 goals and objectives and is moving forward the 5-year goals. The following summary of each program performance during program year 2020 is at the appendix section.

4. Summary of Citizen Participation Process and consultation process

Summary from citizen participation section of plan.

The State Citizen Participation Plan provides a framework and process by which the PR-State consolidated planning efforts comply with the citizen participation requirements in the regulations. It is the policy of the PRDOH to effectively incorporate meaningful citizen participation and consultation processes into the Consolidated Plan analysis and strategic decision-making processes. This action ensures adequate citizen involvement in the planning, implementation and evaluation of its housing and community development programs with a special emphasis on the participation of low- and moderate-income persons, Local and State government agencies and community organizations. As a result of this policy towards encouraging and facilitating a wide-range participation of residents and stakeholders in the development of all HUD required consolidated planning documents, the PRDOH develops the Five-Year Consolidated Plan, Annual Action Plans, Substantial Amendments, and the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER). The primary purpose of the participation processes is the identification of needs, allocation of funding, and program recommendations related to the consolidated planning process.

Citizen Participation Actions

The following citizen participation actions were taken as part of the 2022 Annual Action planning process:

Telematic Public Hearing Notice: As required by the regulations the State held a public hearing as part of the Citizen Participation process of the PY 2022 Annual Action Plan. The public hearing notification was published in *Primera Hora* newspaper on the edition of Friday, February 11, 2022. It invited the general population to participate of the Public Hearing for the CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA and HTF Programs PY 2022 Annual Action Plan. In compliance with the Consolidated Plan regulations, the hearing was held at least two (2) weeks after the notice was published.

Also, the public notice was posted in the Official PRDOH's Web Page and was disseminated through email blasts to the subrecipients and other interest parties. This expanded the outreach efforts with the objective of increasing the citizen feedback, buy-in and support of the Consolidated Plan activities.

The hearing was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 9:00 a.m. through the Microsoft Teams platform.

State Agencies officials (CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA, HTF) made a presentation of the Planning process and each program. The presentation included a description of objectives; content of the Plan, the consolidated planning process; identification of needs; proposed strategies and method of distribution and the opportunities for citizens and other stakeholders to comment. Attendees could present proposals and comments about the needs of their communities and how can they be addressed in the plan, as well as recommendations on the strategies and methods of distribution of funds that were presented. Information gathered at the public hearing, was analyzed and a summary of the comments and the state's response is included as an appendix.

Copies of all the public notices, the webpage notice and attendance sheet are included in the Appendix Section.

Public Comment Period: The draft plan was made public on April 13th, 2022. Citizens and interested parties had 30 calendar days from the day of the publication to submit written comments. The draft plan was made available at PRDOH web page for the review. Due to the emergency and the security measures that must be taken in the context of COVID-19, persons having difficulty accessing the Plan through the Internet should had a telephone number available to coordinate an alternative method.

5. Summary of public comments

This could be a brief narrative summary or reference an attached document from the Citizen Participation section of the Con Plan.

A total of six questions or comments were received during the public hearing and its comments period. No comments were received during the period for comments to the draft. A summary of the questions and comments and its response are included in a table at the appendix section.

6. Summary of comments or views not accepted and the reasons for not accepting them

No comments from the public hearing were rejected.

7. Summary

The PY 2022 Annual Action Plan is the Puerto Rico State Government comprehensive housing affordability strategy and community development plan and an application for funding under the HUD's Community Planning and Development formula grant programs. The Plan includes strategic activities to address the State housing, economic and community development needs for the aforementioned period. The State is an Entitlement Community for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG Program), for the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG Program), for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS Program (HOPWA Program) and a participating jurisdiction for the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME Program) and the Housing Trust Fund Program (HTF Program).

The plan is prepared in accordance with the 24 CFR Part 91, Consolidated Submissions for Community Planning and Development Programs. The Annual action plan includes strategies to be undertaken under the previously mentioned formula grant programs.

The Plan has three (3) statutory objectives established by HUD to address the needs of the low to moderate income individuals. The specific statutory objectives are:

- Providing Decent and Affordable Housing;
- Creating a Suitable Living Environment; and
- Expanding Economic Opportunities

The overall goal of the State plan is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low and moderate-income persons. The primary means towards this end is to extend and strengthen partnerships among all levels of government and the private sector, including for-profit and non-profit organizations, in the production and operation of affordable housing.

PR-05 Lead & Responsible Agencies - 91.300(b)

1. Agency/entity responsible for preparing/administering the Consolidated Plan

The following are the agencies/entities responsible for preparing the Consolidated Plan and those responsible for administration of each grant program and funding source.

Agency Role		Name	Department/Agency
CDBG Administrator	PUERTO RICO	Puerto Rico Department of Housing (PRDOH)	
HOPWA Administrator	PUERTO RICO	Municipality of San Juan & Department of Health	
HOME Administrator	PUERTO RICO	Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (PRHFA)	
ESG Administrator	PUERTO RICO	Puerto Rico Department of Family (PRDF)	
	PUERTO RICO	Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (PRHFA)	

Table 1 – Responsible Agencies

Narrative

The lead agency of the 2022 Annual Action Plan is the Puerto Rico Department of Housing. This agency coordinates all efforts towards the development of the housing and community development strategies that the PR-State government included on its five-year Consolidated Plan and executes annually as established in its Action Plan. In addition, PRDOH is responsible for the administration of the PR-State CDBG Program.

In this effort, the PRDOH works in conjunction with three (3) State agencies, responsible of acting as HUD grantees and administrators for the Community Planning and Development Programs. These agencies are the Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (PRHFA) for the HOME and HTF Programs, the Department of Family for the ESG Program and the Department of Health for the HOPWA Program. In the case of the HOPWA Program, although the Health Department is the State HOPWA grantee, the Municipality of San Juan acts as the program administrator in accordance to a collaborative agreement originally signed between the parties back in year 2010.

Consolidated Plan Public Contact Information

In compliance with the provisions of Section 91.115 of Title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part I of the Law of Housing and Community Development of 1974, as amended, the PRDoH announced the availability of the plan in a general circulation newspaper (see appendix for the announcement). Copies of the Annual Action Plan 2022 were available from the date of its publication on April 12, 2022, for review and submitting comments on the Internet at <https://www.vivienda.pr.gov/cdbg-estado>. Due to the safety measures required in the context of COVID-19, a telephone number was provided to persons with difficulties to access Internet, to make the arrangements for a physical copy (787-274-2527 extensions 5109 & 5110).

Comments to the plan should be addressed to:

Name: Ms. Aida Gracia

Position: Special Aide to the Secretary, PRDOH

cdbg-municipal@vivienda.pr.gov

Questions regarding consolidated planning may be addressed to:

Ms. Aida Gracia

Special Aide to the Secretary

cdbg-municipal@vivienda.pr.gov

AP-10 Consultation - 91.110, 91.300(b); 91.315(l)

1. Introduction

The Puerto Rico Annual Action Plan 2022 integrate the allocation of a variety of Federal funds for projects and activities benefitting low- and moderate-income persons. Applicable funds include those of the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), Housing Trust Fund (HTF), Housing Opportunities of Persons with Aids (HOPWA) and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG).

The Annual Action Plan represents a collective effort from the State to obtain the views of the Municipalities, Private, nonprofit, and public organizations, the private sector and other stakeholders. To obtain their views the state contacted and integrated them through meetings, email communications, and formal letters sent to stakeholders. Discussions included housing and community development needs, and recommendations on the method of distribution.

The establishment of effective partnerships among the consolidated plan stakeholders and interested parties, offers a wide range of benefits to the plan institutional structure. All consolidated plan stakeholders have key data, financing, and other resources with which, the lead agency can align the goals and programs. In addition, the State can leverage other public and private resources such economic development, transportation, and public health funding. Further, establishing strong relationships provides greater opportunity across all parties, including the low- and moderate-income population groups and the communities.

The following sections provide a summary of the state's activities to enhance coordination with these stakeholders, as well as mandatory requirements regarding ESG and CoCs in the jurisdiction.

Provide a concise summary of the state's activities to enhance coordination between public and assisted housing providers and private and governmental health, mental health and service agencies

Besides complying with the citizen participation and consultation minimum requirements, the PRDoH promotes and undertakes ongoing consultation, collaboration and interaction efforts throughout the program year. The objective behind these efforts is to develop strategic and accountable partnerships among the stakeholders that will lead to achieve greater results. Continued communication among the parties will allow to assess effectiveness of programs throughout the year, and what may be improved in future planning cycles. Based on this communication and feedback, the PRDOH may prioritize further consultation based on partnerships that will help to implement specific projects and activities. Building partnerships with stakeholders around shared priorities provides a strong foundation that supports continued collaboration.

As well, the administrators of other Programs such as HOPWA's director and the ESG Director participate in different multisectoral committees and groups (ex. CoCs, HIV and STDs Public Policy Multisectorial Committee, HIV Integrated Planning Housing Committee), which provide for the coordination with of stakeholders.

This document represents a collective effort from a comprehensive array of State and private organizations. Coordination with all stakeholders was achieved during the two public hearings conducted, consultations and the establishment of an interagency committee that met on a regular basis as part of the planning process.

Describe coordination with the Continuum of Care and efforts to address the needs of homeless persons (particularly chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans, and unaccompanied youth) and persons at risk of homelessness

The Department of the Family actively participates in the CoCs and is the Collaborative Agency of the CoC 502. Currently, the Director of ESG Program is represented in both CoCs and in the case of the CoC PR 503, is part of the Board of Directors, which facilitates the integration of ESG into the CoC planning processes. Meetings with both CoCs are held regularly. Similarly, the Department maintains constant communication with the coordinated entry systems and the HMIS where different strategies are developed to prevent and eradicate the situation of homeless youth and families with children, as well as families and youth at risk of homelessness. In fact, participation in the CES and the HMIS, are threshold requirements for ESG subrecipients. To assure integration and participation of ESG subrecipients, organizations and municipalities will continue requiring participating in CoC's subcommittees of their area and participating of the coordinated entry system.

As part of the consolidated planning process strategies are defined with the objective of addressing the main and core housing and supportive service needs of homeless individuals and families. In addressing the needs of the homeless population, the above-described parties collaborate and interact through a multi-layered service model that involves the non-profit organizations, faith-based initiatives, and other available statewide services entities. The homeless strategy encourages active participation of community-wide agencies and providers to meet the full spectrum of needs of the homeless as well as to identify gaps and priorities in the provision of services to homeless persons. The critical components of the Continuum of Care Strategy include:

Outreach, intake and assessment

- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Supportive Services
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Permanent Housing

- Homeless Prevention

As part of the FY 2021 competition, Puerto Rico received a total of \$22,711,802 in Continuum of Care allocated funds for both CoCs. With this funding the homeless strategy will be able to promote community wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effective utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Municipalities are also an important stakeholder related to the goal of eradicating homelessness. Municipalities not on are, some of them recipients and subrecipients of ESG and CoC funding, but they also provide support to other organizations in their outreach and service strategies. As well, municipalities have provided support to ESG-CV subrecipients, serving as responsible entities for purposes of environmental reviews and compliance.

Describe consultation with the Continuum(s) of Care that serves the State in determining how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of HMIS

In accordance with the regulation at 24 cfr 91.110, 91.300(b); 91.315(l), states, in the consolidated planning process, must consult with Continuums of Care (CoCs) on a variety of topics, including how to allocate ESG funds, develop performance standards for and evaluate outcomes of projects and activities assisted by ESG funds, and develop funding, policies and procedures for the operation and administration of the HMIS.

In order to comply with these provisions and continue strengthening the collaboration and coordination between the ESG Program and the two continuum of care systems in Puerto Rico (PR502 & PR503), the Puerto Rico Department of the Family conducted a survey of the organizations that are part of both entities. The information was collected through a web-based questionnaire, which was sent to all CoC member subrecipients of the Program. ESG Program staff was available to clarify doubts about the instrument.

A total of 24 organizations and municipalities belonging to the CoC answered the survey. Of these, 14 are entities that are part of CoC PR 502 and 10 of PR503. Among the entities, there was participation of the entities that manage the HMIS system and the coordinated entry system in both CoCs and one of the collaborative applicants (CoC 503). On the other hand, 12 of the participating entities are municipalities and 12 are non-profit organizations. A report of the consultation process with the results is included as an attachment.

2. Agencies, groups, organizations and others who participated in the process and consultations

Table 2 – Agencies, groups, organizations who participated

1	Agency/Group/Organization	PR Department of Housing
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Health Agency Child Welfare Agency Other government - State Other government - Local Business Leaders Civic Leaders Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis Lead-based Paint Strategy

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The agency is part of the inter-agency committee in charge of developing the plan and provided input during the meetings conducted by such committee.
2	Agency/Group/Organization	PR Department of the Family
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Service-Fair Housing Services - Victims Child Welfare Agency Other government - State Other government - Local Business and Civic Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Homeless Needs - Chronically homeless Homeless Needs - Families with children Homelessness Needs - Veterans Homelessness Needs - Unaccompanied youth Homelessness Strategy Non-Homeless Special Needs Market Analysis Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Agency was part of the inter-agency committee in charge of developing the plan and provided input during the meetings conducted by such committee.
3	Agency/Group/Organization	PR Department of Health
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Health Agency Other government - State Other government - Local Civic Leaders

	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment HOPWA Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Agency was part of the inter-agency committee in charge of developing the plan and provided input during the meetings conducted by such committee.
4	Agency/Group/Organization	MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JUAN
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Housing Services-Children Services-Elderly Persons Services-Persons with Disabilities Services-Persons with HIV/AIDS Services-Victims of Domestic Violence Services-homeless Services-Health Services-Education Services-Employment Services - Victims Other government - State Other government - Local Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Homelessness Strategy Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Municipality of San Juan was part of the inter-agency committee in charge of developing the plan and provided input during the meetings conducted by such committee.

5	Agency/Group/Organization	PUERTO RICO HOUSING FINANCE AUTHORITY
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing Other government - State Other government - Local Business and Civic Leaders
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The Agency was part of the inter-agency committee in charge of developing the plan and provided input during the meetings conducted by such committee.
6	Agency/Group/Organization	FEMA
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Federal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Emergency management
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
7	Agency/Group/Organization	Environmental Protection Agency
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Federal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Environmental protection

	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
8	Agency/Group/Organization	US Fish & wildlife Services
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - Federal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Ecological services
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
9	Agency/Group/Organization	US Army Corps of Engineers
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Infrastructure
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
10	Agency/Group/Organization	Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.

11	Agency/Group/Organization	Junta de Calidad Ambiental
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
12	Agency/Group/Organization	Oficina de Gerencia de Permisos
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
13	Agency/Group/Organization	NEGOCIADO DE MANEJO DE EMERGENCIAS Y ADMINISTRACION DE DESASTRES
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Agency - Emergency Management Other government - Federal
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.

14	Agency/Group/Organization	Junta de Planificaci3n
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Other government - State Planning organization
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
15	Agency/Group/Organization	Asosiaci3n de Constructores de PR
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Public Housing Needs Market Analysis
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
16	Agency/Group/Organization	Internet Society of Puerto Rico
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Narrowing the Digital Divide
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Economic Development
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.

17	Agency/Group/Organization	CLARO DE PUERTO RICO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Infrastructure
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
18	Agency/Group/Organization	LIBERTY PUERTO RICO
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Public Housing Needs Market Analysis Economic Development Infrastructure
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.
19	Agency/Group/Organization	Optico fiber by Critical Hub Networks
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Services - Broadband Internet Service Providers
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Market Analysis Economic Development Infrastructure
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	Consultation was made via written communication.

20	Agency/Group/Organization	Administracion de Vivienda Publica
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing PHA Services - Housing Other government - Local
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The CDBG director had a meeting with staff from the PHA to discuss information needs for the consolidated plan. The PHA provided input regarding housing needs and strategies for addressing the needs of low income families, which was incorporated in the plan.
21	Agency/Group/Organization	PR Department of Housing Disaster Recovery 2017 Program
	Agency/Group/Organization Type	Housing Services - Housing
	What section of the Plan was addressed by Consultation?	Housing Need Assessment Anti-poverty Strategy Disaster recovery needs
	Briefly describe how the Agency/Group/Organization was consulted. What are the anticipated outcomes of the consultation or areas for improved coordination?	The consultation was conducted through a meeting and written documentation (included as an attachment). The 2017 CDBG-DR team had the opportunity to read the draft plan developed by the Interagency Committee and provided comments and recommendations on the alignment of the plan with the Disaster Recovery plans (including the Earthquake Recovery Plan and MIT). In addition, programs were identified that have been developed under the disaster allocation that also address needs identified in the consolidated plan and contribute to the implementation of the poverty strategy set forth in the Plan.

Identify any Agency Types not consulted and provide rationale for not consulting

The Interagency Committee consulted with a wide array of stakeholders, as required by the regulation.

Other local/regional/state/federal planning efforts considered when preparing the Plan

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Continuum of Care	CoC 502, Balance of State	The goals of the CoC 502 Strategic Plan are focused on addressing homelessness, especially the need of placing in permanent housing unsheltered chronic homeless persons. The population of persons with a chronic homeless problem is one of the priorities for the effects of ESG.
Puerto Rico State Housing Plan	PR Department of Housing	The Consolidated Plan was prepared and developed in accordance with the principles included in the Puerto Rico State Public Policy established by the Office of the Governor.
Puerto Rico Disaster Recovery Action Plan 2017	PR Department of Housing	This Plan was designed for the use of CDBG-DR funds in response to 2017 hurricanes Irma & Maria, (July 29, 2018), as amended. CPD Programs Action Plans include disaster policies and procedures, as well as actions to complement recovery efforts.
Puerto Rico CARES Act Strategic Plan	PR Department of the Treasury	CPD Programs and the flexibilities for their implementation incorporated in the framework of the CARES Act, provide a complementary source of funding to help address the needs and impacts of COVID-19.
CDBG-MIT Action Plan	PR Department of Housing	The CDBG-MIT Action Plan provides a portfolio of programs dedicated to assisting in the recovery and resilient rebuilding of low- and moderate-income households. These grant funds have been allocated to Puerto Rico for implementing activities intended to support mitigation projects that reduce the potential for loss and destruction from future events and complement the existing mitigation programs currently administered by FEMA.

Name of Plan	Lead Organization	How do the goals of your Strategic Plan overlap with the goals of each plan?
Action Plan for the 2019-2020 Earthquakes Recovery	PR Department of Housing	This Action Plan provides a portfolio of programs dedicated to assisting in the recovery of the earthquakes experiences in Puerto Rico in 2019-2020 (major disaster declaration DR-4773-PR). As mentioned in the Action Plan page 10, as the recovery needs in Puerto Rico increase with each disaster, the need for a coordinated approach between agencies and local governments, as well as the recovery and mitigation programs launched, is ever present. The availability of these funds, as well as other recurring programs, such as CDBG, ESG, HOME and HOPWA, provide a unique opportunity to address the needs of low- and moderate-income persons in the aftermath of the disasters and strengthen the resilience of communities to future events.

Table 3 - Other local / regional / federal planning efforts

Narrative

The 24 CFR Part 91.110 provides the framework for the State to undertake a wide consultation process as an integral part of the statewide planning and preparation phases of the Annual Action Plan. Through the consultation process, the PRDOH was able to obtain key programmatic and service data from agencies and service providers (public and private) who provide assisted housing, health services, social and fair housing, and those that serve the chronically homeless and address lead-based paint hazards. Also, consultation with local governments in non-entitlement areas of the state is required.

The consultation strategy of the State, provided data in the following planning elements:

- Incorporate local data into planning process and validate the accuracy of this data;
- Gather input on priority needs and target areas;
- Increase coordination among consultation partners;
- Leverage Consolidated Plan activities with other public and private funding sources and Programs;
- Expand upon the outreach efforts of existing planning processes; and
- Increase citizen feedback, buy-in, and support of Consolidated Plan activities.

AP-12 Participation - 91.115, 91.300(c)

1. Summary of citizen participation process/Efforts made to broaden citizen participation Summarize citizen participation process and how it impacted goal-setting

The Annual Action Plan is a process that promotes the collaboration of state, municipalities and other key stakeholders associated with housing and community development in Puerto Rico to establish a unified vision for community development activities. This strategic planning process allows citizens to participate in the development of a plan for housing and community development programs. The state's implementation of the plan, as well as the plan itself, will be evaluated based on three objectives: (1) To provide decent housing; (2) provide a suitable living environment; and (3) to expand economic opportunities.

For the preparation of the PY 2022 Annual Action Plan the PRDOH followed its citizen participation plan. The planning process efforts were guided by transparency and promoted freedom of access to the contents of the draft plan. All municipal governments and community planning and development agencies and organizations were invited to participate at the public hearings conducted and to provide comments on the proposed actions. Information was posted in the PRDOH web page and the consolidated planning agencies.

The following actions were taken as part of the Citizen Participation process:

Mailing database: a stakeholder database containing all contact information of nonprofit organizations, municipalities, and other interested parties and groups was used. This information was used to generate a direct invitation by email for the parties to actively participate in the public hearings and planning process, including agencies, units of local government and NPOs.

Telematic Public Hearing Notice: As required by the regulations the State held a public hearing during the Citizen Participation process of the PY 2022 Annual Action Plan. on the notification of the hearing was posted in *Primera Hora* newspaper on the edition for Friday, February 11, 2022. It invited the general population to participate of the Public Hearing for the CDBG, HOME, ESG, HOPWA and HTF Programs PY 2022 Annual Action Plan. In compliance with the Consolidated Plan regulations, the hearing was held at least two (2) weeks after the notice was published.

Also, the public notice was posted in the Official PRDOH's Web Page. This expanded the outreach efforts with the objective of increasing the citizen feedback, buy-in and support of the Consolidated Plan activities.

The meeting was held on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 9:00 a.m. through the Microsoft Teams platform.

Copies of all the public notices, the webpage notice and attendance sheet are included in the Appendix Section.

Public Comment Period: The draft plan was made public on April 13th, 2022. Citizens and interested parties had 30 calendar days from the day of the publication to submit written comments. The draft plan was made available at PRDOH web page for the review. Due to the emergency and the security measures that must be taken in the context of COVID-19, persons having difficulty accessing the Plan through the Internet should have had a telephone number available to coordinate an alternative method.

Citizen Participation Outreach

Sort Order	Mode of Outreach	Target of Outreach	Summary of response/attendance	Summary of comments received	Summary of comments not accepted and reasons	URL (if applicable)

Table 4 – Citizen Participation Outreach

Expected Resources

AP-15 Expected Resources – 91.320(c)(1,2)

Introduction

For the PY 2022, HUD allocated to the PR-State a total of \$47,323,012 among all CPD Programs. Specifically, the allocation by programs is: \$22,595,084 for the CDBG Program activities; \$14,800,052 for the HOME Program activities, \$2,369,813 for the HOPWA Program activities, \$3,493,404 for the ESG Program activities and \$4,064,659 for the Housing Trust Fund activities.

All funds will be allocated to address the affordable housing needs of the low- and moderate-income persons and special needs population, the public services need of the special needs population, the homeless housing and supportive service’s needs, the non-housing community development needs, the prevention of homelessness actions of families and/or individuals, the low income economic development needs among other eligible service activities within the Puerto Rico State jurisdiction.

In addition to the 2022 resources the State estimates that it will have available the following resources Based on IDIS PR01:

- CDBG Previous Year Resources (PR01, available to commit)- \$29,393,895.58
- HOME Previous Years EN and CR Resources (Available to commit)- \$45,696,189.83 (Net of 10% Adm.)
- HOPWA Previous Years – \$2,274,366
- ESG Previous years (PR01, available to commit) - \$0.00
- HTF Previous Years- \$4,016,498.13 (Net of 10% Adm.)

Anticipated Resources

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
CDBG	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Economic Development Housing Public Improvements Public Services	22,595,084	1,020,300	29,393,895	53,009,279	45,190,168	Funding will be used for housing, community, and economic development activities, as well as assistance for special populations across the 51 non-entitlement municipalities of Puerto Rico.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOME	public - federal	Acquisition Homebuyer assistance Homeowner rehab Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership TBRA	14,800,052	0	45,696,190	60,496,242	29,600,104	Funds will be allocated to provide incentives for meeting developing and supporting affordable rental and homeownership housing units. This will be achieved through new construction, reconstruction, or rehabilitation of non-luxury housing with suitable amenities for rent and sale projects (funding for sale projects will be for CHDO's - set aside only). Also, funds will be used for acquisition of housing by homebuyers.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HOPWA	public - federal	Permanent housing in facilities Permanent housing placement Short term or transitional housing facilities STRMU Supportive services TBRA	2,369,813	0	2,274,366	4,644,179	4,739,626	Funds will be distributed among municipalities and nonprofit organizations for the provision of housing assistance and supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
ESG	public - federal	Conversion and rehab for transitional housing Financial Assistance Overnight shelter Rapid re-housing (rental assistance) Rental Assistance Services Transitional housing	3,493,404	0	0	3,493,404	6,986,808	Funds will be used primarily for, Outreach, Emergency, Shelter activities, and secondly to Homelessness Prevention, Rapid Re-housing.

Program	Source of Funds	Uses of Funds	Expected Amount Available Year 1				Expected Amount Available Remainder of ConPlan \$	Narrative Description
			Annual Allocation: \$	Program Income: \$	Prior Year Resources: \$	Total: \$		
HTF	public - federal	Acquisition Admin and Planning Homebuyer assistance Multifamily rental new construction Multifamily rental rehab New construction for ownership	4,064,659	0	4,016,513	8,081,172	8,129,318	The Housing Trust Fund (HTF) is a new affordable housing production program that will complement existing Federal, state and local efforts to increase and preserve the supply of decent, safe, and sanitary affordable housing for extremely low- and very low-income households, including homeless families.
Other	public - federal	Other	18,291,099,230	0	0	18,291,099,230	0	\$8,285,284,000.00 is the allocation received by Puerto Rico from the Community Development Block Grant & Mitigation funds (84 FR 45838 & 85 FR 4676) expected to be available as part of the CDBG-MIT Action Plan: Effective April 19, 2021.

Table 5 - Expected Resources – Priority Table

Explain how federal funds will leverage those additional resources (private, state and local funds), including a description of how

matching requirements will be satisfied

Go to appendix section for details of each program.

If appropriate, describe publically owned land or property located within the jurisdiction that may be used to address the needs identified in the plan

The Puerto Rico Housing Finance owns multiple properties statewide. The abandoned properties are often perceived as a problem, but the State understands that they are an opportunity for redevelopment. The State will implement a strategy to restore the abandoned properties to productive use and to address the need of persons affected by Hurricane Maria. This will require a commitment from different governmental agencies its residents and its neighborhood organizations. The State is committed and will articulate a long-term vision for the community and lay out the strategies to achieve that vision.

Non-entitlement municipalities occasionally donate land or property in support of activities designed to address the needs identified in the plan as part of their contribution to locally administered programs.

Discussion

Annual Goals and Objectives

AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives – 91.320(c)(3)&(e)

Goals Summary Information

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
1	Provide Decent Housing	2020	2024	Homeless	Statewide	Housing Chronic Homeless Homelessness Prevention	ESG: \$2,672,454	Homeless Person Overnight Shelter: 2560 Persons Assisted
2	Provide Decent Housing (B)	2020	2024	Homeless	Statewide	Homelessness Prevention Create and preserve affordable rental housing	ESG: \$558,945	Tenant-based rental assistance / Rapid Rehousing: 2000 Households Assisted
3	Provide Decent Housing (C)	2020	2024	Affordable Housing Non-Homeless Special Needs		Housing	HOPWA: \$2,369,813	HIV/AIDS Housing Operations: 400 Household Housing Unit Other: 420 Other
4	Create Suitable Living Environments	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Housing	CDBG: \$2,517,753	Public service activities other than Low/Moderate Income Housing Benefit: 540 Persons Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
5	Create Suitable Living Enviroments (B)	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Non-housing Community Development- Public Faciliti Non-housing Community Development- Public improvem Non-housing Community Development- Public Services	CDBG: \$16,818,358	Other: 191400 Other
6	Provide Decent Housing (D)	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Housing Create and preserve affordable rental housing	CDBG: \$2,059,419	Homeowner Housing Added: 20 Household Housing Unit
7	Expand Economic Opportunity	2020	2024	Economic Development		Non-housing Community Development- Economic Dev	CDBG: \$121,701	Jobs created/retained: 6 Jobs Businesses assisted: 3 Businesses Assisted

Sort Order	Goal Name	Start Year	End Year	Category	Geographic Area	Needs Addressed	Funding	Goal Outcome Indicator
8	Emergency Relief	2020	2024	Non-Housing Community Development		Non-housing Community Development- Public Faciliti Non-housing Community Development- Public improvem Non-housing Community Development- Public Services	CDBG: \$300,000	Other: 300 Other
9	Provide Decent Housing (F)	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Create and preserve affordable rental housing	HOME: \$13,320,047 HTF: \$4,064,659	Rental units constructed: 56 Household Housing Unit Rental units rehabilitated: 56 Household Housing Unit
10	Provide Decent Housing (E)	2020	2024	Affordable Housing		Housing	HOME: \$0	Homeowner Housing Added: 36 Household Housing Unit

Table 6 – Goals Summary

Goal Descriptions

1	Goal Name	Provide Decent Housing
	Goal Description	

2	Goal Name	Provide Decent Housing (B)
	Goal Description	
3	Goal Name	Provide Decent Housing (C)
	Goal Description	
4	Goal Name	Create Suitable Living Enviroments
	Goal Description	
5	Goal Name	Create Suitable Living Enviroments (B)
	Goal Description	
6	Goal Name	Provide Decent Housing (D)
	Goal Description	
7	Goal Name	Expand Economic Opportunity
	Goal Description	
8	Goal Name	Emergency Relief
	Goal Description	
9	Goal Name	Provide Decent Housing (F)
	Goal Description	88 rental units constructed or rehabilitated with HOME Funds and 24 rental units constructed or rehabilitated with HTF Funds.

10	Goal Name	Provide Decent Housing (E)
	Goal Description	36 household Assisted with HOME Funds from previous years.

AP-25 Allocation Priorities – 91.320(d)

Introduction:

Funding allocation priorities are based on the needs and strategies of each program. The next section discusses the rationale for each of the consolidated plan programs.

The PY 2022 Annual Action Plan allocation priorities are driven by the information obtained during the Citizen Participation process and consultations. The combination of both processes provided the citizens, the communities, the agencies and interested parties with a meaningful opportunity to actively determine where the housing and community development resources were allocated.

To validate the information gathered from the citizen participation and consultation process, the PRDOH also took into consideration the results of the five-year Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment report, which provides a clear picture of the State needs related to affordable housing, special needs housing, community development, and homelessness. This evaluation process allows PRDOH and Consolidated State Agencies to identify the highest priorities among the identified housing and community development needs.

HUD regulations provide that 3% of the CDBG allocation plus \$100,000 can be used for administration and technical assistance for the State administered program. In 2022, this adds to \$777,852.52. For the ESG program the Department of the Family will allocate \$244,538.28 for state administrative purposes, \$17,467.02 for subgrantees administration, and \$87,335.11 for HMIS.

Funding Allocation Priorities

	Provide Decent Housing (%)	Provide Decent Housing (B) (%)	Provide Decent Housing (C) (%)	Create Suitable Living Enviroments (%)	Create Suitable Living Enviroments (B) (%)	Provide Decent Housing (D) (%)	Expand Economic Opportunity (%)	Emergency Relief (%)	Provide Decent Housing (F) (%)	Provide Decent Housing (E) (%)	Total (%)
CDBG	0	0	0	12	77	9	1	1	0	0	100
HOME	0	15	0	0	0	15	0	0	48	22	100
HOPWA	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
ESG	83	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100
HTF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	100

Other CDBG- DR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Table 7 – Funding Allocation Priorities

Reason for Allocation Priorities

The proposed distribution of funds included in this Annual Action Plan is based on the information data regarding demographic characteristics, market conditions and geographic areas needs resulted from the combination of the citizen participation actions, the consultation process, and the Consolidated Plan Needs Analysis section.

The described processes provide opportunities to share data and expand available information useful to determine the housing and community development needs and priorities which are a key component of effective planning for HUD’s CPD low and moderate-income programs.

The evaluation and analysis of the information resulted from the aforementioned processes, provided the Consolidated State Agencies officials with the needed perspective to better understand the priority needs and allocate the available CPD resources to service activities directed to address the identified needs. Also, provided the officials with the information needed to align complementary resources streams and maximize the use of the available funds within the community to address the needs of the low-income persons and their communities.

How will the proposed distribution of funds will address the priority needs and specific objectives described in the Consolidated Plan?

The proposed distribution of funds was prepared in accordance with the needs presented during the hearings and are consistent with the Consolidated Plan.

HOME

The needs assessment identified a considerable need for housing rehabilitation, affordable housing for rent and homebuyer assistance programs. The assessment identified that the main needs are associated to substandard housing, cost burden, housing costs and lack of economic opportunities for persons with low educational attainment.

ESG

The distribution of funds will be based on the assessment of homelessness, conducted for the purpose of consolidated planning, and the results of the meetings held with CoCs and their organizations. The specific allocation of funds will prioritize the provision of services to address chronic homelessness and the needs identified in the homelessness assessment, particularly. Priority will be given to Emergency Shelters without restrictions and eligible to use their facilities as stabilization units (24 hour, 7 days a week entrance); Emergency Shelters without restrictions on population, age, and time; Emergency Shelter services; and the expansion of Street Outreach services. In the case of the Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing components, priority will be given to people with mental health conditions; projects addressing women’s safety; and Shelter proposals that include the Rapid Re-Housing component. Other services that promote economic and personal self-sufficiency will also be prioritized based on the reasons for homelessness, and the current socioeconomic context.

AP-30 Methods of Distribution – 91.320(d)&(k)

Introduction:

The Consolidated Plan regulations, specifically in 24 CFR 91.320, establishes the dispositions regarding the content of an Annual Action Plan. Among the components of the Plan, the PR-State must provide a description of the method for distributing funds to local governments and nonprofit organizations to carry out activities, or the activities to be undertaken by the State, using the funds that are expected to be received under the formula allocations and other HUD assistance during the PY 2022.

At a minimum, the Methods of Distributions must include the reasons for the allocation priorities, how the proposed distribution of funds will address the priority needs and specific objectives included in the Consolidated Plan and must describes any obstacles to addressing underserved needs.

Distribution Methods

Table 8 - Distribution Methods by State Program

1	State Program Name:	CDBG
	Funding Sources:	CDBG

<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>The State CDBG allocation for PY 2022 amounts to \$22,595,084. This program provides funding for housing, community, and economic development, as well as assistance for special populations across the 51 non-entitlement municipalities of Puerto Rico.</p> <p>The allocation for non-entitlement municipalities will be equally distributed among the municipalities, except for the islands of Vieques and Culebra, which both will receive an additional 15% above the Equal Allocation Grant. This method follows the distribution established via the enactment of local Act 137-2014 (later incorporated under the Municipal Code of 2020), as amended.</p> <p>The following is the proposed allocation:</p> <p>Allocation for 49 Municipalities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration \$71,304.67 Public Service \$62,915.88 Other Eligible Project (Housing, Community Development, Economic Development, Etc.) \$285,218.66 TOTAL \$419,439.21 <p>Vieques and Culebra</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration \$82,000 Public Service \$72,353.26 Other Eligible Project (Housing, Community Development, Economic Development, Etc.) \$328,001.46 TOTAL \$482,355.09 <p>PRDOH</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planning and Administration \$777,852.52 <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p>
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<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>Under Act 107-2020, as amended (the Municipal Code of 2020) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico established that all non-entitlement municipalities will receive the same amount of CDBG funds, with the exceptions of Vieques and Culebra, which will receive an additional 15%. Thus, under this method of distribution municipalities will receive the same share of CDBG funds with no need for a competitive round.</p> <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p>
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If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)

Application Submission

Application kits or Request for Proposals will be available 30 days from HUD’s approval of the Plan. The proposals and all its components and supporting documentation will be submitted via e-mail (the e-mail will be available at the Application kits) on or before October 31, 2022, no later than 11:59p.m..

Applications for the Emergency Fund may be submitted at any time during Program Year 2022 as long as they comply with the requirements presented on Circular Letter Num. 2013-09 of May 21, 2013, and any other requirement that applies.

Municipalities could submit applications for Section 108 loan and must follow the *Procedimiento de Solicitud y Administración de Préstamos Garantizados Sección 108*.

Proposal Requirements

Submission of a budget breakdown is mandatory as part of the proposals.

In determining an appropriate amount, the PRDOH reserves the right to adjust requested funds, based on review of compliance with the following requirements:

1. Compliance with the State CDBG requirements (Fair Housing and Citizen Participation).
2. Compliance with the College of Engineers and Land Surveyors of Puerto Rico Guidelines, including the project breakdown detailing: cost of material, labor, equipment, insurance, administrative overhead, and other costs related to the project in order to determine reasonable project cost.
3. Reasonability of the budget.
4. Inadequate or incomplete description of activities to be developed.
5. Past performance of the non-entitled municipality (open findings).
6. Timely expenditure of funds

All activities must be designed in compliance with the strategy developed by the municipality which should meet the needs of low and moderate-income individuals, addressing their special needs and ensuring maximum community development. The optional 15% Public Service Gap is based on the total CDBG State grant. 2022

When preparing the proposal’s budget municipalities must comply with the PRDoH policies and procedures on reasonability of administrative costs published in December, 2020.

The PRDoH will not approve an administrative budget in those instances where municipalities will be

<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable- Please refer to ESG program.</p>
<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	<p>Not Applicable- See HOPWA Section.</p>

<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The State CDBG allocation for PY 2022 amounts to \$22,595,084 will be distributed among eligible categories of the program.</p> <p>No more than 20% of the CDBG funds will be allocated for eligible Administrative and Planning Activities (3% by PRDOH and 17% by the Municipalities); up to 15% of the CBDG funds can be allocated for Public Service purposes and the remaining of the funds can be allocated for housing, community development and economic development related activities.</p> <p>Eligible activities under the State CDBG Program are listed on Section 105 (a) of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended. Each activity must meet one of the national objectives as to benefit low and moderate-income persons (24 CFR 570.483 (b)), pursue the elimination of slums and blighted areas (24 CFR 570.483 (c)), or activities designed to address a particular urgency that poses an imminent threat to the health and safety of the community (24 CFR 570.483 (d)). Each activity should correlate with a matrix code, national objective and CDBG citation.</p> <p>All applications for Program Year 2022 State CDBG funds must establish that no less than 70% of State CDBG funds will benefit LMI persons. Projects which do not meet eligibility requirements under Section 105(a) of Title I of the Housing Development Act of 1974, as amended, will not be considered.</p> <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p>
<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>Under Act 107-2020, as amended (Municipal Code of 2020), the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico established that all non-entitlement municipalities will receive the same amount of CDBG funds, with the exceptions of Vieques and Culebra, which will receive an additional 15%. Thus, under this method of distribution municipalities will receive the same share of CDBG funds with no need for a competitive round.</p>

	What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?	The expected outcomes measures are included on the appendix section.
2	State Program Name:	Emergency Solutions Grant Program
	Funding Sources:	ESG

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.

The Emergency Solutions Grant Program is administered by the Puerto Rico Department of the Family (PRDF). The PRDF uses a method of distribution of funds that consists of publishing a Request for Proposals the first year with a competitive evaluation for prospective subrecipients. For the second year, funds are distributed according to the level of performance of the subrecipients' projects and availability of HUD funds. On PY 2022, the PRDF will be receiving proposals from active entities.

If there are funds available during the Program Year as a result of the recapture process of surplus funds, they will be distributed according to the needs identified by the PRDF. The criteria for distribution will be notified by invitation.

In case of a declared disaster, the PRDF reserves the right to implement the disaster recovery policy (see Appendix section).

The ESG allocation for Program Year 2022 is \$ 3,493,404.00. Funding is intended to serve the seventy-eight (78) municipalities across the island within the 10 regions established by the PRDF. The regions established by the PRDF include Mayagüez, Aguadilla, Arecibo, Bayamón, San Juan, Carolina, Caguas, Humacao, Guayama, and Ponce. Non-profit organizations and municipalities that comply with the requirements and evaluation criteria established on this plan will be eligible to receive funds for the categories below.

The following is the ESG Program distribution by funding categories:

- Outreach and Shelter \$ 2,096,042.40 (60.0%)
- Prevention \$ 489,076.56 (14.00%)
- Rapid Re-Housing \$ 558,944.64 (16.00%)
- Data Collection (HMIS) \$ 87,335.10 (2.5%)
- Administration \$ 262,005.30 (7.5%)
- Total \$ 3,493,404.00 (100%)

The Department of the Family may allocate indirect costs to eligible activities.

As described in the following sections, continuation projects will be evaluated according to eligibility criteria; and the entities' performance and expenditure rates.

Proposals will be received by email on or before July, 2022. Because of the pandemic, an extension was provided.

Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.

An Evaluation Committee will be appointed with the purpose of carrying out the process of awarding contracts. The Committee will evaluate proposals based on two sets of criteria: (1) strict compliance in order for proposals to be considered; and (2) competitive criteria to determine the amount to be received by the applicants.

Eligibility Criteria

- Complete the proposal in all its parts and submit the required documentation, as applicable.
- Be a municipality or non-profit entity properly incorporated and in Good Standing, as applicable.
- Have financial management systems that meet the minimum accounting standards.
- Attend the virtual Proposal Application Orientation to be announced publicly during the first week of May 2022.
- In the case of shelters, the municipal endorsement is required.
- Have the Environmental Assessment, as applicable.
- Availability of fund matching (dollar-for-dollar) and its sources.
- Active participation in the CoC meetings for the respective geographic area.
- Have no pending obligations of previous funding (evidence required).
- No open findings of questioned costs, if applicable.
- No open allocations of funds (original allocations) from Program Year 2016 or prior.

In the case of active subrecipients, the following criteria will be considered:

- In the case of emergency shelters, bed utilization rate of 70% or more
- In the case of emergency shelters, the average length of stay in the Shelter is no more than ninety (90) days for the location of temporary or permanent housing.
- Have spent at least 85% of the most recent allocation for the requested component.
- Continuous participation in the Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- Compliance with the Data Entry in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
- Compliance with case closing in HMIS for previous allocations.

<p>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the ESG Program- (see CDBG section).</p>
<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Since Program Year 2011, the PRDF uses a distribution method in which an award is granted for a two-year period, subject to an evaluation of the first year’s performance and spending rate for allocated funds, and the availability of funds. During PY 2022, eligible organizations and local governments will be initiating their second program year of the two-year cycle. Meanwhile, unused funds available during the Program Year will be distributed according to the needs identified by the PRDF, by invitation.</p>
<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	<p>Not Applicable- See HOPWA Section.</p>

<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The following are the ESG Program distribution by funding categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach and Shelter \$ 2,096,042.40 (60.0%) • Prevention \$ 489,076.56 (14.00%) • Rapid Re-Housing \$ 558,944.64 (16.00%) • Data Collection (HMIS) \$ 87,335.10 (2.5%) • Administration \$ 262,005.30 (7.5%) • Total \$ 3,493,404.00 (100%) <p>The Department of the Family may be allocating indirect costs to eligible activities.</p>
<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>The grant size limits established for the ESG Program funds distribution are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach and Shelter No more than 60.0% • Prevention No limits • Rapid Re-Housing No limits • Data Collection (HMIS) Does not apply • Administration No more than 7.5%

What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?

Non-profit organizations and units of local government that are awarded ESG funds, are expected to comply with the following outcome measures, depending in the different types of projects:

Outcome Measures

OUTREACH

- Number of people receiving services
- Number of people who left the program
- Percentage of people who committed (engaged) to receive services
- Percentage of people who fulfilled their service plan
- Percentage of people who increased their income from any source
- Percentage of people located in emergency shelter
- Percentage of people located in temporary shelter
- Percentage of people placed in permanent housing

EMERGENCY SHELTER

- Number of people who entered emergency shelter
- Number of people who left the program
- Percentage of people who fulfilled their service plan
- Percentage of people who increased their income from any source
- Percentage of people who entered transitional housing
- Percentage of people who stayed in the shelter for less than three months
- Percentage of people who stayed in the shelter for more than three months
- Percentage of people placed in permanent housing

PREVENTION

- Number of people receiving prevention services.
- Number of people who left the program
- Number of people receiving economic assistance
- Percentage of people who received housing relocation services and stabilization services during the service period.

Annual Action Plan

2022

3	State Program Name:	HOME Investment Partnership Program
	Funding Sources:	HOME
	Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.	<p>The PRHFA will receive \$14,800,052 in HOME funds for PY 2022. All resources will be allocated to provide incentives for meeting the goal of developing and supporting 104 affordable rental and 60 homeownership housing units. This will be achieved primarily through the Rehab or New Construction by Owner, Rehabilitation or New Construction for Multifamily Rental Development. Funds from previous years, may be used to to provide down payment assistance to homebuyers. The distribution of HOME funds for PY 2022 will be as follows. Once the final allocation is received from HUD, the amounts will be adjusted proportionally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration \$1,480,005 • Rehab or New Construction for Multifamily Rental Dev. \$13,320,047 <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p>

<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>Following previous joint efforts and on-going initiatives, the Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (PRHFA) will make the activity of New Construction or Rehabilitation for Rental Housing Development under the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Action Plan (AP) a component of the forthcoming Notification of Funds Availability the Authority will issue. The NOFA intends to leverage funds from multiple sources under joint selection and underwriting criteria compatible with the AP and the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit's (LIHTC) Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) in order to maximize the use of public and private funds channeled to affordable rental projects meeting the housing needs and goals established in the State Housing Plan. Nonetheless, any representation and/or guideline contained in the NOFA will not be intended to, nor it statutorily could, modify or supersede the Authority's responsibility to comply with HOME requirements. Under the NOFA the HOME Program might implement a consolidated application for the HOME, LIHTC, which will combine the requirements of the programs to promote the development of multifamily rental projects.</p> <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p> <p>Other activities will be delivered by the PRHFA in accordance with the applicable regulations.</p>
<p>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HOME Program- see CDBG section.</p>

<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HOME Program- see ESG section.</p>
<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HOME Program - See HOPWA Section.</p>
<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The information that follows presents a description of the HOME Program activities and the criteria used for the distribution of funds addressing the priority needs, specific objectives, and performance measurements mentioned above. The minimum investment required by HOME activity is \$1,000 per unit.</p> <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p>

	<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>No grants size limits will be applied to proposed housing development projects. For Homebuyer Financial Assistance activities, the cap is a minimum of \$1,000 and a maximum of \$45,000 will be available for eligible homebuyers. The Director of the Home Program will approve on case by case basis the amount of subsidy needed to acquire or maintain an affordable housing unit.</p>
	<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>The following are the HOME Program Outcome Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homebuyer Assistance \$0.00 – A total of 36 homebuyers (served with funds available from previous years) • Rehab or New Construction by Owner \$0.00 – A total of 24 housing units (served with funds available from previous years) • Multifamily Rental Dev. \$13,320,047 – A total of 80 housing units. • Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) - \$0.00 – A total of 24 families (served with funds available from previous years).
4	<p>State Program Name:</p>	<p>Housing Opportunities Persons With AIDS</p>
	<p>Funding Sources:</p>	<p>HOPWA</p>

<p>Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.</p>	<p>The Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) Program provides housing assistance and supportive services for low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families. HOPWA funds are received by the Puerto Rico Department of Health to be distributed to Eligible Project Sponsors that include Municipal Governments and Non-Profit Organizations.</p> <p>Funds for PY 2022 will continue to be administered by the Municipality of San Juan. The Municipality will be responsible for its management, and distribution to sub recipients. Due to the law restrictions, administrative funds will not be distributed to sub recipients.</p> <p>HOPWA funds may be used for a wide range of services such as housing, social services, program planning, and development costs. These included, but not limited to acquisition, rehabilitation or new construction of housing units; costs for facility operations; rental assistance; and short-term payments to prevent homelessness. HOPWA funds may be used for health care and mental health services, drug dependence treatment, nutritional services, case management, assistance with daily living, and other supportive services. If remainder funds are available after distribution, distribution of funds will not require a new competitive process but will be distributed among organizations and municipalities that previously submitted their proposals.</p> <p>For the purpose of this Plan the Puerto Rico EMSA will include the 78 municipalities for unobligated funds and the PR-EMSA Municipalities for the HOPWA grant.</p>
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<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>The following evaluations factors will be used to evaluate the proposals presented by potential sub recipients. An evaluation committee selected by the Municipality of San Juan will evaluate the applications with a standard instrument that will take into consideration: HIV/AIDS population within the proposed service area, level of experience of the proponent party, use of funds history by the proponent party and performance history of the proponent party. All criteria have the same weight in the evaluation process. The maximum value for a proposal is one hundred (100) points. The following are the areas of evaluation and its relative weight:</p> <p>NON-Profit subrecipients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transmittal Letter - 3 Points • Description organization - 8 Points • Financial and Programmatic Background - 4 Points • Project Description - 35 Points • Budget - 36 Points • Required Documents - 4 Points • Performance – 10 Points • Total: 100 <p>Municipal subrecipients</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transmittal Letter - 2 Points • General Information Municipality -3 Points • Financial and Programmatic Background - 15 Points • Proposed Project Description - 25 Points • Budget -35 Points • Performance – 20 Points • Total: 100
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<p>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HOPWA Program- see CDBG section.</p>
<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HOPWA Program- see ESG section.</p>

<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	<p>For PY 2022 the Municipality of San Juan will accept island-wide applications, including potential sub recipients from the San Juan Eligible Metropolitan Statistical Area (SJ-EMSA). Priority will be given to potential sub recipients that are not included in the SJ-EMSA. Applicants located in the San Juan EMSA that are currently receiving HOPWA funds from the Municipality of San Juan cannot receive State HOPWA funds for the same purpose and uses.</p> <p>All the applications will be evaluated by the same standards and criteria.</p> <p>Support services eligible costs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutritional Services • Day care • Case Management • Mental Health • Medical services • Permanent housing costs • Any supportive service combined with housing <p>All sub-recipients are required to register with Dun and Bradstreet to obtain a DUNS number, if they have not already done so. In addition, they need to be registered on the System for Award Management (SAM).</p>
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<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The HOPWA Program funds will be distributed in the following categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative Activities: 10% • TBRA Activities and related: 33% • Housing related Activities: 37% • Supportive Services Activities: 20% <p>The final distribution by individual activity is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration Salud \$71,093 • Administration San Juan \$160,910 • TBRA \$756,867 • Delivery Cost TBRA \$30,340 • Operation Costs Transitional Housing and STRMU \$877,892 • Supportive Services \$472,711
<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>No grant size limits are established for the HOPWA Program funds distribution.</p>

	<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>The following are the HOPWA Program Outcome Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family - 70 Households • Tenant-based rental assistance - 120 Households • Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds - 80 housing units • Transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds – 130 Households • Supportive Services – 420 Households
5	<p>State Program Name:</p>	<p>Housing Trust Fund</p>
	<p>Funding Sources:</p>	<p>HTF</p>

Describe the state program addressed by the Method of Distribution.

The **PRHFA** will receive \$4,064,659 in HTF funds for PY 2022. The resources will be allocated for Multifamily Rental New Construction/Rehabilitation. The funds will be distributed as follow:

GRANT FUNDS BY ACTIVITY ALLOCATION FOR PY 2022

Assigned Budget: \$4,064,659

Distribution by Category:

- State Administration \$406,466
- Multifamily Rental New Construction/Rehabilitation \$3,658,193

Description of the Method to Distribute HOME and HTF Funds for Construction and Rehabilitation of Rental Housing

As part of the joint efforts and on-going initiatives that relate to the 2020-2024 Puerto Rico State Housing Plan, the Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (PRHFA) will make available the Housing Trust Fund Activities of Rental Housing along the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Action Plan (AP). Funds will be awarded to eligible applicants following a competitive process. The competitive process will follow the criteria established in the HTF Allocation Plan.

The **PRHFA** will receive \$4,064,659 in HTF funds for PY 2022. Funds will be allocated to provide incentives for meeting developing and supporting affordable rental housing units. This will be achieved through new construction or rehabilitation of non-luxury housing with suitable amenities for rent.

Eligible Applicants

The **PRHFA** is not limiting the potential pool of applicants for the HTF program. Thus, **PRHFA** will allow developers, non-profits and other organizations to apply for HTF funds. However, applicants must be able to participate in **PRHFA** funding round (competitive process). Applicants must comply with the requirements established in 24 CFR 93.2. These requirements are integral to the basic threshold criteria described in the tables below. It is important to note that applications must demonstrate that participants understand the specific requirements of the HTF program and that even if HTF funds are combined in a project with multiple funding sources, HTF unit(s) must be assisted only via HTF eligible activities (24 CFR 93.200).

The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.

<p>Describe all of the criteria that will be used to select applications and the relative importance of these criteria.</p>	<p>Applications requesting HOME and HTF funds will be evaluated based on joint rating factors, once applicants have satisfied the basic threshold requirements. Those factors include local considerations and State HOME and HTF Program’s criteria, such as: Project location; project characteristics; project owner/developer characteristics; financing characteristics; special needs projects; Housing needs and additional criteria for rental housing projects.</p> <p>See the appendix for a description of the scoring method and selection criteria that was specifically developed for the HTF Program. The criteria is presented below to facilitate the description of the priority funding factors. The QAP and PRHFA NOFA will be used to determine the final scores and funding recommendations.</p> <p>The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.</p>
<p>If only summary criteria were described, how can potential applicants access application manuals or other state publications describing the application criteria? (CDBG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HTF Program- see CDBG section.</p>

<p>Describe the process for awarding funds to state recipients and how the state will make its allocation available to units of general local government, and non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations. (ESG only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HTF Program- see ESG section.</p>
<p>Identify the method of selecting project sponsors (including providing full access to grassroots faith-based and other community-based organizations). (HOPWA only)</p>	<p>Not applicable to the HTF Program- see HOPWA section.</p>
<p>Describe how resources will be allocated among funding categories.</p>	<p>The HTF Program funds will be distributed in the following categories: Distribution of HTF Funds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multifamily Rental New Construction or Rehabilitation \$3,658,193- 90% • Administration \$406,466- 10% • Total \$4,064,659 -100% <p>The HTF resources will be allocated for particular projects that serve HTF tenant population; these could include special needs population.</p>

<p>Describe threshold factors and grant size limits.</p>	<p>PRHFA will use the maximum per unit subsidy standards adopted by the State HOME Program. This will allow income eligible families to meet the eligibility requirements pursuant to 24 CFR 92.203. For rental projects, the proposal should allow renters to be eligible, through compliance of 24 CFR 92.216. For the PY 2022 an application or proposal will include the Basic Threshold Requirements and the additional requirements as outlined originally in the previous JANOFAs efforts.</p> <p>The initial basic qualifications will be evaluated by the State HOME program personnel. If the project does not meet requirements for completeness, the applications will not be received. If received, only those applications that meet the joint basic threshold requirements and qualifications would be further considered for evaluation under joint the Point Ranking System.</p> <p>The project location and the targeted population will be key factors in determining the grant size limit.</p>
<p>What are the outcome measures expected as a result of the method of distribution?</p>	<p>The following are the HTF Program Outcome Measures:</p> <p>Multifamily Rental Dev. \$3,658,193– A total of 22 housing units (including funds from previous years).</p>

Discussion:

The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section.

AP-35 Projects – (Optional)

Introduction:

Project-level detail will be included once subrecipients develop their activities.

For details on CDBG-DR goals: [https://cdbg-dr.pr.gov/en/download/action-plan-amendment-8-nonsubstantial-amendment-effective-on-february-25-2022/?ind=1645816302515&filename=ADM_POLI_Action%20Plan_Amendment%208%20-%20NON-SUBSTANTIAL%20\(EN\)_2%2010%202022.pdf&wpdmdl=25029&refresh=62ab941d987be1655411741](https://cdbg-dr.pr.gov/en/download/action-plan-amendment-8-nonsubstantial-amendment-effective-on-february-25-2022/?ind=1645816302515&filename=ADM_POLI_Action%20Plan_Amendment%208%20-%20NON-SUBSTANTIAL%20(EN)_2%2010%202022.pdf&wpdmdl=25029&refresh=62ab941d987be1655411741)

For details on CDBG-MIT: https://cdbg-dr.pr.gov/en/download/cdbg-mit-action-plan-effective-on-april-19th-2021/?ind=1619459603916&filename=CDBG_MIT_ACTION_PLAN_APPROVED_Apr%2019%202021_EN.pdf&wpdmdl=18594&refresh=62ab8e98349bf1655410328

#	Project Name

Table 9 – Project Information

Describe the reasons for allocation priorities and any obstacles to addressing underserved needs

As previously described, the reasons for allocation priorities during the PY 2022 Annual Action Plan are based on the information obtained through citizen participation and consultation process and the Consolidated Plan Needs Assessment analysis. The assessment resulted in the need of affordable housing activities to address the needs of the low- and moderate-income persons and in the investment of available funding in activities toward the needs of non-housing community improvement projects.

Also, homeless housing and supportive services actions and public service activities to address the needs of the special needs population groups were among the community priority needs resulted from the evaluation and analysis process undertaken.

In terms of any obstacles to addressing the needs of the underserved population still the lack of sufficient available resources to address the needs of the described population continues to be the main obstacle that the State and local government units face in a daily basis.

AP-38 Project Summary
Project Summary Information

AP-40 Section 108 Loan Guarantee – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)

Will the state help non-entitlement units of general local government to apply for Section 108 loan funds?

Yes

Available Grant Amounts

Loan Guarantees (LGA) under Section 108 of Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, is not subject to the method of distribution of funds as set forth for the CDBG program. Section 910, of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1991 (NAHA), as amended, extended the Section 108 Loan Guarantee program to non-entitlement communities nationwide. As required in Section 104(a) of the Act, we are including the guidelines, regarding the determination to assist non-entitlement municipalities, in applying for guaranteed loan fund under 24CFR Subpart M. Non-entitled municipalities will be eligible to apply for Section 108 Loans as long as they comply with all regulatory requirements and PRDOH program guidelines.

Estimated Availability of Funds for PY 2022- \$112,975,420

Section 108 provides the State CDBG Program with an additional source of financing, to meet housing and community development needs for the non-entitlement municipalities. The Act allows HUD to issue government bonds that would guarantee up to five times the current CDBG allocation to PRDOH. To secure the loans issued, PRDOH must ensure that any State CDBG funds that are pledged for a particular non-entitlement municipality does not affect prospective CDBG allocations for the remaining non-entitlement municipalities. To avoid payment default, PRDOH requires the municipal administration to present other collaterals, besides the required by HUD, in order to secure the re-payment of the loan. If PRDOH deems necessary a Memorandum of Collaboration could be executed with any governmental financing agencies, such as the Governmental Development Bank for Puerto Rico (GDB) and EDBPR. Further consultation could be made with the Tourism Company, the Industrial Development Corporation, the Puerto Rico Economic Development Administration and any other agency that could review the applications to determine risks factors. Specific requirements of feasibility, business plan and other supporting documents are required to make the financial assessment of the project in order to assure PRDOH the feasibility of the project.

Section 108 funds should be requested for economic development activities, or activities in support of economic development (24 CFR 570.703), including:

- Property acquisition
- Rehabilitation of publicly owned properties
- Housing rehabilitation eligible under the CDBG program

- Special economic development activities under the CDBG program,
- Payment of issuance costs associated financing loans 108
- Acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or installation of public facilities
- Reserves to pay debt service on the Section 108 loan
- Other related activities, including demolition and removal, relocation, interest payments, and insurance costs.

For the purposes of determining eligibility, the State CDBG rules and requirements should be observed in full compliance. PRDOH will evaluate the proposed activities on a case by case basis. The agency will also consider if the proposed project could generate income or has any other sources to assure debt repayment. Such measures will guarantee the long-term sustainability of the project.

Acceptance process of applications

Application Requirements

- The first requirement prior to the submission of a LGA application is the transmittal of a letter of intention to submit a 108 LGA Application to PRDOH. The Federal Programs Division at PRDOH will receive the letter of intent and commence the administrative requirement review first. Once the administrative review is completed, the non-entitlement municipality will be authorized to submit an application for Section 108 Loan Guarantee. Applications for the Section 108 Loan Guarantee Program may be submitted throughout PY 2022.
- The non-entitlement municipalities should comply with several administrative requirements, in order to receive the authorization to submit an application for participation in the LGA program.
- Requirements include: Status of monitoring reports, up to date Single Audit Reports, closing of previous program years (only last 5 PY can be open), no open findings, timeliness, among others.
- Municipalities can request up to a maximum of 5 times their CDBG allocation with a ceiling of \$2,000,000 per municipality.

For a more specific set of requirements and a detailed description of eligible activities, please see PRDOH Process Guideline for Section 108 Program.

AP-45 Community Revitalization Strategies – 91.320(k)(1)(ii)

Will the state allow units of general local government to carry out community revitalization strategies?

No

State’s Process and Criteria for approving local government revitalization strategies

AP-50 Geographic Distribution – 91.320(f)

Description of the geographic areas of the state (including areas of low-income and minority concentration) where assistance will be directed

As the PR-State Consolidated Plan leading agency, the PRDOH is responsible to address the non-housing community development needs of the Non-Entitlement municipalities within the State jurisdiction. Thus, PRDOH is responsible to oversee that all CDBG program investment related to non-housing community development are made in eligible economically low-income geographic areas.

By eligible low-income geographic areas, PRDOH defines those geographic areas where, at least fifty-one percent of the population (in accordance with HUD CPD's Updated LMISD or low-income surveys), are members of families whose incomes do not exceed 50 percent of the median family income for the area, as determined by HUD with adjustments for smaller and larger families. Exception could be made by HUD to establish income ceilings higher or lower than 50 percent of the median for the area on the basis of HUD's findings that such variations are necessary because of prevailing levels of construction costs or fair market rents, or unusually high or low family incomes.

As per the concentration of minorities within the State geographic areas, the 5-Yr. ACS Demographic and Housing Estimates (2016-2020) shows that 98.7% of the statewide population are from hispanic or latino origins and that from this percentage, 95.6% percentage are from Puerto Rican origins.

DISPROPORTIONATELY GREATER NEED

The Consolidated Plan identified that Low- and moderate-income Blacks and Asians have disproportionate greater needs. The percentage of Asians that have one or more of four housing problems is 68% among 0-30% AMI, 100% among 30%-50% AMI and 97% among 50%-80% AMI. In the jurisdiction as a whole households the percentages of those having one or more of four housing problems are much less (60% among 0-30% AMI, 53% among 30%-50% AMI and 47% among 50%-80% AMI). Among Blacks, 68% of those in the 0-30% AMI bracket has one or more of four housing problems, 81% among 30%-50% AMI and 58% among 50%-80% AMI. However, as previously stated the sizes of the Black and Asians populations with problems is very small (or in the hundreds). See (Discussion section below) for areas where assistance shall be directed.

Compliance with 70% Requirement

The regulations require the State to use no less than 70 percent of the CDBG funds received during a period specified by the state, not to exceed three years, will be used for activities that benefit persons of low- and moderate-income persons. The PRDOH will require to all Non-Entitlement municipalities that receive CDBG funds allocation during the PY 2022 to invest the non-housing community development funds in economically eligible low-income areas. Also, the PRDOH will require the municipalities to certify that not less than seventy percent of the individuals benefited with CDBG funded activities

complies with the low-income eligibility.

CDBG

In 2014 the Government of Puerto Rico enacted Law 137-2014 (later replaced by the Municipal Code of 2020). Under this act the central government determined the allocation for non-entitlement municipalities under the State CDBG Program. With this legislation all non-entitlement municipalities will receive the same share of CDBG funds, except for Vieques and Culebra, which will receive an additional 15%. The municipalities will continue to define the specific allocation of such funds. The ultimate geographic distribution of the CDBG funds is made by the non-entitlement municipalities once they complete their own citizen and consultation process.

ESG, HOME, HOPWA and HTF

The ESG, HOME, HOPWA and HTF programs accept proposals and provide funding for projects Island-wide.

For more details go to appendix section.

Geographic Distribution

Target Area	Percentage of Funds
CDBG- Non-entitlement communities	51
Statewide	49

Table 10 - Geographic Distribution

Rationale for the priorities for allocating investments geographically

As previously presented in the Annual Action Plan, the projects included for the PY 2022 are created to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the 5-Yr. Consolidated Plan. In addition, all projects are associated with one or more priority needs and one or more goals. Therefore, the priorities for the investment related with targeted geographic areas are related with non-housing community development activities that address the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan. The Non-Entitlement municipalities proposing this type of projects must invest the CDBG monies in eligible low-income areas, as defined by HUD.

Discussion

The overarching goal of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Planning and Development (CPD) programs covered by the Consolidated Plan is "to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities," principally for low- and moderate-income persons. In order to achieve the provision of suitable living environments within the low- and moderate-income communities, the PRDOH encourages non-

entitlement municipalities to undertake non-housing community development activities.

These activities are designed to create, expand and/or improve the physical conditions of community's public facilities located within the benefited low- and moderate-income communities. As previously stated, an eligible low-income community is a geographic area where, at least fifty-one percent of the population, are members of families whose incomes do not exceed 50 percent of the median family income for the area, as determined by HUD with adjustments for smaller and larger families.

The following Communities Municipalities has been identified by the states as priority areas with disproportionately greater need and minority concentration are included in the appendix.

Municipalities and subgrantees shall provide priority to the above areas when undertaking the eligible activities.

Affordable Housing

AP-55 Affordable Housing – 24 CFR 91.320(g)

Introduction:

The 2020-2024 5-Yr. Consolidated Plan of the PR-State includes the provision of decent housing as one of the main objectives to be achieved through the activities included in the referred plan. This particular objective includes a series of goals that at large includes the following:

- Housing activities directed to address the needs of the homeless persons.
- Housing activities directed to address the needs of the special needs populations.
- Promote activities directed to preserve and increase the stock of affordable housing units.
- Promote activities toward the ownership of low-income persons of their housing units.

To achieve these goals, the PR-State government propose a series of housing activities directed to address the housing and supportive services needs of the low-income population, which will comply with the PR-State responsibility of providing safe, decent and sanitary housing units that enable this population group to live with dignity and independence.

The following table includes a description of the number of households that will be benefited from the housing assistance activities proposed in this PY 2022 Annual Action Plan:

One Year Goals for the Number of Households to be Supported	
Homeless	2,560
Non-Homeless	2,000
Special-Needs	400
Total	4,960

Table 11 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Requirement

One Year Goals for the Number of Households Supported Through	
Rental Assistance	104
The Production of New Units	0
Rehab of Existing Units	24
Acquisition of Existing Units	36
Total	164

Table 12 - One Year Goals for Affordable Housing by Support Type

Discussion:

ESG will allocate funds for homeless prevention and rapid rehousing activities. NPOs and municipalities

may use ESG funds to provide housing relocation and stabilization services, and short- and/or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place allowed by federal regulations. ESG funds may also be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-and/or medium-term rental assistance, as necessary, to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing. Meanwhile, HOPWA will provide tenant based rental assistance (TBRA), transitional housing and short-term rent mortgage utility assistance (STRMU) for persons with special needs.

The HOME and CDBG Program provides the highest share of housing assistance, hence will provide the biggest outcomes for supported households during the year. Yet, the CDBG program can provide funding for infrastructure in support of housing, and public facilities. Such actions must be prioritized first in the local government. The ESG and HOPWA programs provides the largest assistance to the homeless and special needs population.

During the preparation of the 5-Yr. Consolidated Plan, the Needs Assessment and Market Analysis outline levels of relative need in the area of affordable housing for the low-income population in Puerto Rico. This level of need drive the State strategy created to address the immediate housing needs of the economically disadvantage persons in the Island. The main objective of this strategy is investing available resources in service activities that enhance access to affordable housing to the program's eligible low-income population groups. Via these efforts, low-income persons have the opportunities to stabilize their housing conditions and reduce the risk of homelessness.

To accomplish these objectives the PR-State Consolidated agencies determine to promote affordable housing service activities in the following way:

- CDBG funding will be invested in the creation of housing rehabilitation opportunities for owner occupied units or units to be occupied by low income persons;
- ESG funding will be invested in the creation of housing opportunities and supportive services for homeless population and individuals at risk of homelessness;
- HOME funding will be invested in the creation of homeownership opportunities as well as tenant based rental assistance opportunities for low-income persons;
- HOPWA funding will continue to be invested in the creation of rental assistance opportunities for HIV/AIDS individuals and their immediate families, as well as transitional housing and supportive services for low-income individuals with HIV/AIDS.
- HTF funding will be invested on Multifamily Rental New Construction/Rehabilitation.

These consolidated housing activities fully engage and leverage additional mainstream housing assistance available within the PR-State public service structure. The State Housing Choice Voucher Program, commonly known as Section 8 Program, allow very low-income families to choose and lease or purchase safe, decent, and affordable privately-owned rental housing. The State Public Housing Program

provides decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities.

As part of the State Government public policy and governmental vision, stable housing is an important tool in helping households achieve other life outcomes, and the PR-State Consolidated Plan Agencies are committed to work toward providing low-income families access to these opportunities.

AP-60 Public Housing - 24 CFR 91.320(j)

Introduction:

The public housing activities within the PR-State jurisdiction are funded through two (2) main funding streams of HUD Office of Public and Indian Housing. These funding streams are the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP) and the Public Housing Program.

The HCVP, also known as Section 8 Program, allows very low-income families to choose and lease or purchase safe, decent, and affordable privately-owned rental housing. In the other hand, the Public Housing Program provides decent and safe rental housing for eligible low-income families, the elderly, and persons with disabilities. Within the PR-State Government, both programs are administered and managed by the PR Public Housing Administration (PR-PHA), a subsidiary agency of the State Department of Housing. For the public housing complexes, the PR-PHA has management agreements with Private Sector Administrators Firm that are responsible of the daily operation of the projects.

Under the State Government current public policy, the funds allocated to the PR-State public housing initiatives becomes a high priority among the consolidated plan housing and community development strategy. Puerto Rico is facing the most critical economic recession in modern history that has resulted in structural problems, economic shocks, most recently the COVID-19 pandemic, and weak public finances. This scenario has yielded a decade of stagnation, outmigration and debt, which improved after Hurricane María with billions of both private and public reconstruction funds that circulated in the economy. COVID-19 represents another socioeconomic setback. Under these circumstances, the public policy seeks to promote initiatives toward aligning available resources into unified and targeted impact strategies. As part of the development of the institutional structure of the Consolidated Plan strategy, the Puerto Rico Department of Housing fully engage and leverage these mainstream housing assistance programs to the Consolidated Plan housing initiatives. This management vision allows the Department to align the available resources to a unified and targeted housing strategy that results in maximize the impact of the public funds invested in housing initiatives.

This section describes the actions that the PR-State will take to address the needs of the public housing population groups during the planned PY 2022.

Actions planned during the next year to address the needs to public housing

No CPD funded activity will exclusively serve any of the Public Housing projects located within the Municipality boundaries. Nevertheless, the local public policy service strategy includes the public housing population among the service delivery groups that benefits of the Municipality's public services and community development activities.

For details go to appendix section.

Actions to encourage public housing residents to become more involved in management and participate in homeownership

The State public housing strategy includes policies to promote social and economic self-sufficiency among the housing complexes residents. A key element within this strategy is achieve resident engagement and community leadership within the housing projects. Through the engagement of the residents, the PR-PHA and the Private Administrators Firm will be able to understand the residents views of their community, particularly the community needs and assets and how the residents view that socio-economic improvements can be achieved.

As previously stated, during the course of the PY 2022, the PR-PHA will undertake the *Tenant Participation Fund Program and the Servi Movil* initiative as part of the commitment that the State Government has with the public housing communities to improve their living conditions and engage them in the development of the management activities of their complexes and communities.

As per the participation of homeownership actions, the PR-PHA will promote *Casa Mía*, a concept that promotes homeownership within the low and moderate families in Puerto Rico. This housing initiative will engage the participation of the non-profit sector the mortgage business sector, among other components, to assure the acquisition and occupation of housing units by low-income persons and/or families.

If the PHA is designated as troubled, describe the manner in which financial assistance will be provided or other assistance

As of June 30, 2016, the PR-PHA performance was standard under the HUD-Public Housing standards. Although no problems are in sight that can cause a decrease in the level of performance of the Agency, if needed the State Government Consolidated Plan Agencies will be available to provide technical assistance, management and financial consultant activities, programmatic and operational advice and capacity building actions, toward the Agency managerial and performance improvement.

Discussion:

The State Public Housing strategy is a key element among the PR State Government housing and community development policy. The main responsibility of the public housing initiative falls under the PR-PHA, a subsidiary agency of the State Housing Department, one of the main components of the PR-State Consolidated Plan Institutional Structure.

Under the new State Government vision and the economic hardship and constraints affecting the overall economic system, the alignment and maximization in the use of available resources for common and unified strategies plays an important role in the Housing and Consolidated Plan Strategies and Initiatives.

As a special need population group, the State Government through the PR Department of Housing will be responsible to develop strategic actions to address a number of interrelated community challenges in the areas of education, health, human services, affordable housing job training and creation and other public service offerings. Only with the commitment of promoting the alignment of resources and the maximization of its use, the strategy could achieve positive changes among the public housing communities and improve the living conditions of their residents.

AP-65 Homeless and Other Special Needs Activities – 91.320(h)

Introduction

The PR-State strategy behind the homeless initiative consists of a network perspective in which collaboration, integration and partnerships will continue to be fostered to implement activities to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness. This collaborative effort will also have the intention of streamlining the funding sources within the partnered organizations in order to promote a more effective utilization of the community wide available resources to address the needs of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Describe the jurisdictions one-year goals and actions for reducing and ending homelessness including

Reaching out to homeless persons (especially unsheltered persons) and assessing their individual needs

According to the last Point in Time Census (PIT) 2019 there are 2,535 homeless persons in Puerto Rico; seventy-five percent (75%) are unsheltered, and twenty seven percent (27%) are considered chronic homeless. Seventy nine percent (79%) of the homeless population are men, while twenty one percent (21%) are women. Homeless individuals are mainly located within the municipalities of San Juan, Ponce, Arecibo, Caguas, Mayagüez, Guayama, Bayamón, Vega Baja, Guaynabo, Humacao, and Aguadilla. Based on the data from the Puerto Rico Department of the Family, PR Government ESG Grantee will continue supporting the outreach, engagement, intake and initial assessment services to unsheltered persons activities that local governments and nonprofit organizations undertake during the PY 2022. The financial support of these organizations will be provided through the allocation of the ESG Program funding.

Through this component, the Department will support the provision of essential services necessary to reach out to unsheltered homeless individuals; connect them with emergency shelter, housing, or critical services; and provide urgent, non-facility-based care to unsheltered homeless people who are unwilling or unable to access emergency shelter, housing, or an appropriate health facility.

Among the eligible activities that the Department will support are the following activities: engagement; case management; emergency and mental services; transportation services; housing search and placement, housing stability and case management; and services for special needs populations. To enforce within our subrecipients the need to reduce the number of homeless individuals and families, the ESG program established a standard stipulating that street outreach activities must include the case management component to assure that services are focused not only on satisfying the basic needs, but also on stabilizing the physical and emotional state of individuals and placing them in some type of housing modality. Also, Street Outreach Projects must provide outreach services at least three times a week and services will be provided based on the client's needs. The PRDF is very committed on

increasing the number of individuals served under this category and reducing the time that homeless individuals are on the streets.

The ESG program will continue supporting innovative special projects targeted to provide outreach services for chronic homeless and emergency shelters in municipalities with high demand for these services.

Finally, the PRDF will continue supporting low-barriers emergency shelters, particularly only projects with 65% or more of bed utilization rate, will be considered to receive funds. It is expected that subrecipients works towards to removing administrative, institutional and programmatic barriers that limit access to emergency shelters. As well, the Department continues encouraging its sub-recipients, the inclusion of permanent housing as a goal in the services plans since the first day a homeless person enters a shelter.

Addressing the emergency shelter and transitional housing needs of homeless persons

Local public policies on homeless, (Act Number 130) recognizes the need to foster, plan, and carry out services and facilities to attend the needs of homeless individuals, to enable their participation in the Puerto Rican community and allow them to lead a productive and social life. Services must be offered in an integrated manner, promoting the vision of a continuum of care system that guarantees the uninterrupted offering of services and housing, sharing responsibilities for such an important matter among the various sectors”.

As part of the responsibilities of the Department of the Family, the Agency supports the operation of Emergency Shelter facilities throughout the Island. These types of facilities provide a safe and decent alternative to the streets for a determined period of time for a family or individual who is homeless, in addition to providing access to case management, health care assessment and referral services. This emergency placement includes meals, sleeping arrangements, and access to phone and mail services. Before the conclusion of the period of time limitation, each family or individual will have completed an assessment to determine self-sufficiency goals and housing needs. A family can then be referred to transitional housing, move to permanent supportive housing, or move into other low-income housing. Each client agrees to the conditions of stay within the facility and agrees to work on a case plan designed to make self-sufficiency possible.

According to the last PIT 2019 only twenty-five (25%) of the homeless are sheltered. To increase the number of persons who are placed in emergency shelters, this PY2022 the Department of the Family will continue to support low barriers emergency shelters. It has been established in the ESG standards that emergency shelters admission’s procedures have to reflect a housing first approach. Also, the DF will support emergency shelters with sixty-five (65%) average rate utilization bed occupancy. ESG’s subrecipients will continue to be provided with plenty technical assistance to reduce the time of individuals in emergency shelters. Individual planning services are also set as requirements in the ESG standards and should focus placing individuals on some type of housing before ninety (90) days.

Funding for emergency shelters comes mainly from the State's ESG program. These funds also are made available through the RFP process previously described. Funds may be used for renovation of emergency shelter facilities and the operation of those facilities, as well as supportive services for the residents, which could include Case Management, Child Care, Education, Employment Assistance and Job Training Activities, Legal, Mental Health, Substance Abuse Treatment, Transportation, and Services for Special Populations.

Helping homeless persons (especially chronically homeless individuals and families, families with children, veterans and their families, and unaccompanied youth) make the transition to permanent housing and independent living, including shortening the period of time that individuals and families experience homelessness, facilitating access for homeless individuals and families to affordable housing units, and preventing individuals and families who were recently homeless from becoming homeless again

The Current Homelessness Strategy to end chronic homelessness in Puerto Rico includes the following strategies:

- Continued expansion of stakeholders involved in collaborative planning and service development within targeted areas with high prevalence of chronic homeless persons.
- Continued efforts to implement existing, and obtain new, commitments from Mayors to participate in planning processes to end chronic homelessness.
- Development and implementation of specific action steps with state and municipal governments that have established the elimination of chronic homelessness as a priority, outreach, such as supportive housing development, providing homeless family's public housing in municipalities that administer their own public housing projects, providing vouchers for permanent housing in those municipalities that administer voucher programs, coordinating supportive services to promote retention in permanent and supportive housing, including the development of mini-enterprises for homeless self-employment, etc.
- Implementation of specific action steps to improve access to services, reduce stigma and the criminalization of homelessness.
- Continued education and advocacy to increase the number of public and private funding sources for housing and supportive services for chronic homeless, emphasizing those with SA/MH conditions.
- Increased capacity building of municipal government representatives to partner with community-based organizations in the development, financing and delivery of services to chronic homeless.
- Continue with the implementation of the dedicated HMIS - currently under San Juan's Coalition and the Coalition of Coalitions - for uniform data collection to track populations served through the various systems to permit continuous monitoring of the number and quality of services provided, and outcomes in the homeless served.
- Collaborate with the San Juan's Coalition, the Coalition of Coalitions, and the entities that

comprise the CoCs in order to strengthen homelessness data gathering processes, and the consistency of information provided by organizations.

- Continued identification and work with public and private housing developers to target homeless in the development of permanent supportive housing. The current strategies include primarily work with state and non-profit sectors so that more efforts will be directed to local governments and the for-profit stakeholders to improve housing accessibility and service infrastructures for the chronic homeless.
- Monitoring of the development of formal protocols and the implementation of discharge policies from all child welfare, correctional, health and SA/MH agencies and institutions, as a means of preventing chronic homelessness.
- Promote the expansion of the amount of permanent housing units for homeless persons.

Helping low-income individuals and families avoid becoming homeless, especially extremely low-income individuals and families and those who are: being discharged from publicly funded institutions and systems of care (such as health care facilities, mental health facilities, foster care and other youth facilities, and corrections programs and institutions); or, receiving assistance from public or private agencies that address housing, health, social services, employment, education, or youth needs

The State is committed to provide the necessary assistance to quickly locate homeless individuals and families in permanent housing; and prevent individuals and families from becoming homeless. Based on that goal, funds will be allocated for homeless prevention and rapid rehousing activities. NPOs and municipalities may use ESG funds to provide housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-and/or medium-term rental assistance necessary to prevent an individual or family from moving into an emergency shelter or another place allowed per federal regulation. ESG funds may also be used to provide housing relocation and stabilization services, and short-and/or medium-term rental assistance, as necessary, to help a homeless individual or family move as quickly as possible into permanent housing and achieve stability in that housing.

Discussion

The provision of housing and supportive services to the homeless population is one of the main goals among the housing and community development strategies of the PR-State Government during this consolidated period. In leading this effort, the PR Department of Family administers the ESG Program allocation, which is used to make grants to Municipalities and Nonprofit Organizations for the rehabilitation or conversion of buildings for use as emergency shelter for the homeless, for the payment of certain expenses related to operating emergency shelters, for essential services related to emergency shelters and street outreach for the homeless, and for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing assistance. Through this initiative, the Department leads the role toward the goal of ending homelessness in the State jurisdiction.

AP-70 HOPWA Goals – 91.320(k)(4)

One year goals for the number of households to be provided housing through the use of HOPWA for:	
Short-term rent, mortgage, and utility assistance to prevent homelessness of the individual or family	70
Tenant-based rental assistance	120
Units provided in permanent housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	80
Units provided in transitional short-term housing facilities developed, leased, or operated with HOPWA funds	130
Total	400

AP-75 Barriers to affordable housing – 91.320(i)

Introduction:

The enactment of public statutes, ordinances, regulations, administrative procedures and/or processes could have a negative effect in the cost to produce and/or maintain an affordable housing stock in the local market. In its continuously public responsibility, the State must deal with taking actions to ameliorate the effects that existing policies could have in promoting affordable housing initiatives.

Among the common policies that have an effect as a barrier to affordable housing in the local housing market, we can describe land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment. Under the current Government structure, some of these policies are enacted at the local government level. Therefore, the State Government must deal with some jurisdictional level establishment in order to take care of the possible limitations that such policies represent to the affordable housing markets.

As previously stated in this plan, the State Government is currently putting in place a new public policy vision with the objective of promoting the sustainable development of Puerto Rico and addressing the deep economic and financial recession that had stall the Island economic development for the last decade. The *Plan para Puerto Rico* includes a series of strategies and initiative that promotes a change of vision in the form of managing the public sector and in the way the State Government conducts its public business.

Through the described plan, the State Government proposes to take actions that leads to the economic development of the Island in all business sectors including the housing markets. In this section, the PRDOH will present which of the proposed public policies address the needs of ameliorating the effect that enacted public policies have in the affordable housing market in Puerto Rico.

Actions it planned to remove or ameliorate the negative effects of public policies that serve as barriers to affordable housing such as land use controls, tax policies affecting land, zoning ordinances, building codes, fees and charges, growth limitations, and policies affecting the return on residential investment

Many of the common policies that have a direct effect in the production and development of affordable housing units are related with permits process and land use planning process. To address most of the practices that are considered barriers for the production and development of affordable housing units, the Government vision must be from a planning and land use management context.

It is well known that, in Puerto Rico, the permits process is one of the multiple reasons for the economic stagnation experienced by the Island. To address the policies that are considered barriers for affordable housing actions, PR State Government established the Single Business Portal that streamlined the

permits process and create a friendly and effective mechanism that assist in improving the business environment in the Island.

Another factor that the State Government is addressing through the new government vision is the land use policies. Through the creation and implementation of a Strategic Planning Program, the State Government is creating medium and long period plans relating to the land space ordainment within the Island. The State Land Use Plan is under its final revision to align it to the Municipalities Local Land Use and Ordainment Plans. This initiative will have the effect of eliminating existing confronting policies for land use and will promote flexibility in the establishment of polices concerning the use of the land and the promotion of project development throughout the Island, including housing related activities.

In addition, the State Government policy has established affordable housing policies to benefit low income and special needs population groups. Among the proposed policies is the *Casa Mía* initiative that promote the establishment of an incentive program to facilitate the acquisition of an existing housing unit to low income worker's families, the *Nuevo Comienzo* initiative that proposed the provision of rent subsidies to women who are victims of domestic and gender violence actions and the *Egida del Siglo 21* initiative, an activity proposing the rehabilitation and modernization of elders housing projects.

The first two (2) of the described affordable housing initiative are promoting the acquisition and occupation of existing housing units that currently are vacant and available within the housing market in Puerto Rico. The vacancy of housing units has been arising in the last years due to the significantly migration wave that the Island has been experiencing. With initiative like the described, the State Government purpose of stabilizing communities that have suffered from significantly vacancy in their housing units and will limit the probability of abandonment of the communities housing stock.

Discussion:

To tackle and ameliorate the effect of the actions that commonly are considered barriers for the development and establishment of affordable housing actions, the PR State Government is proposing pro-active initiatives that will foster activities to provide housing units to low income and special needs population groups. These actions consider planning and permits policies that will facilitate the undertaking of activities directed to address the housing needs of the economically disadvantaged individuals, as well as the creation of new initiatives toward the provision of incentives for acquisition, lease and/or rehabilitation purposes by low-income worker families and/or special needs population groups.

AP-85 Other Actions – 91.320(j)

Introduction:

In this Section of the Annual Action Plan for PY 2022, the PRDOH will include a description of the actions that the PR-State government it will undertake to foster and maintain a stable affordable housing stock; to reduce the risk of exposure to lead based paint hazards; to reduce the number of poverty-level families; to develop the institutional structure and to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies.

Actions planned to address obstacles to meeting underserved needs

As part of the State Government vision, the Action Plan Agencies will be providing economic assistance and incentives to address the housing and socioeconomic needs of the underserved population groups. Under Puerto Rico current economic scenario, the lack of resources among the low income and underserved population is the main reason to obstacle the socioeconomic stability of these groups within the general society.

The particular actions that will be taken by the Agencies are:

- The State Department of Housing will be responsible to provide rent financial assistance to eligible low-income families and/or individuals and rent assistance and the creation of economic development actions within the public housing projects to improve the economic and living conditions of this segment;
- The PRDOH will provide homeownership assistance to low-income persons interested to acquire an affordable housing units;
- Also the PRDOH will make available CDBG funds for housing rehabilitation actions of low income owner occupied units within the Non-Entitlement municipalities of the Island. This action will promote improve the physical conditions of the low-income housing stock in the Municipalities;
- The State Department of Health, through the Municipality of San Juan Housing and Community Development Department, will promote tenant based rental assistance activities for HIV/AIDS individuals and their families. In addition, transitional housing and supportive services will be made available for HIV/AIDS homeless individuals reach out by Nonprofit Organizations providing housing and supportive services to this population.
- The State Department of Family will make available ESG funds for the provision of housing activities services for homeless individuals and/or at-risk homelessness individuals. These assistances will be provided through Nonprofit Organizations and municipalities around the Island. In addition, the Department will strongly support the efforts of the Homeless Continuum of Care Coalitions operating within the Island jurisdiction and that are responsible to request and distribute Continuum of Care funding to address the basic and immediate needs of the homeless population in Puerto Rico.

Additional efforts, from administrative and planning management actions, will be taken in order to improve the permits process and land use policies that will allow the promotion of actions to facilitate affordable housing initiative around the Island.

Regarding CDBG, some of the most urgent needs of non-entitlement communities are infrastructure, housing rehabilitation and economic development. To expedite funding allocation and expenditure, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico assigned by Law an equal amount of CDBG funds to non-entitlement municipalities, except for Vieques and Culebra that are granted 15% in additional funding. Based on their local knowledge, these units of local government decide the activities they want to support.

Actions planned to foster and maintain affordable housing

As previously stated the provision of economic assistance to rehabilitate, acquisition and rent affordable housing units is the main action that the PR State Consolidated Plan Agencies will be undertaken to foster and maintain a healthy and stable affordable housing stock within the local housing market.

In addition, pro-active actions leading to promote the re-use and re-occupation of existing vacant housing units within the low-income communities of Puerto Rico, will promote the expansion of the low-income housing stock, will promote re-population actions in communities that has suffered of a high level of migration and will avoid the deterioration and abandonment of communities creating a public safety and health problems within the Municipalities.

The State Government is also proposing actions toward supporting the creation of housing activities under a cooperative business model. As part of the support that the new public policy will provide to the Puerto Rico Cooperative Movement, housing projects will be supported as part of this government economic development vision.

The main action of the Commonwealth is the use of a mechanism of a Unified NOFA. This strategy seeks leveraging expertise with funds and resources available for housing and community development from different programs to support the policies of the State Housing Plan.

The state will use HOME and HTF funds particularly through homebuyer assistance programs and single-family rehab to foster and maintain affordable housing. Moreover, the state plans to use HOME funds to leverage other state projects which will increase the affordable housing inventory. The use of HOME resale and recapture provisions will support the affordability of such projects in the long run.

Additionally, CDGB housing activities (Rehab, CDBG-DR Affordable rental housing, NSP) will serve to maintain the affordable housing stock in Puerto Rico.

Actions planned to reduce lead-based paint hazards

The PRDOH have a pro-active approach to reduce lead-based- paint hazards in residential projects

across the Island, such as:

- Professional assessment for deteriorated paint in units built before 1978
- Initial and annual HQS inspections
- Disclose information among residents of lead-based paint hazards
- Stabilization, removal and disposal of dangerous material. The State HOME Program has contracted companies to provide technical assistance for the evaluations, visual assessment, HQS inspections and paint testing (when necessary) for the housing units that will be rehabilitated with HOME funds in order to comply with lead-based paint requirements and other applicable federal environmental laws and regulations.

Housing providers funded through HUD provide decent, safe, and sanitary housing to their residents. Part of this responsibility is to protect these residents, particularly children under age six, from the health risks of lead-based paint. Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and landlords protect these families by complying with HUD's lead-based paint regulations.

With respect to the Housing Choice Voucher Program (HCVP), the Lead Safe Housing Rule (LSHR) applies only to units constructed prior to 1978 occupied (or intended to be occupied) by a child under age six, the common areas servicing those units and exterior painted surfaces associated with those units and common areas. The Lead Disclosure Rule (LDR) applies to disclosure of lead-based paint and lead-based paint hazards in most housing constructed prior to 1978 ("target housing") at sale or lease, whether or not they are or will be occupied by a child, and whether it is federally assisted or not.

Target Housing is generally, housing constructed before 1978. Housing for the elderly, and housing for persons with disabilities, are not target housing, unless a child under 6 years old resides or is expected to reside in that housing, in which case, the housing is target housing. All zero-bedroom dwellings are not target housing. In jurisdictions which banned the sale or use of lead-based paint before 1978, HUD may use an earlier date for determining target housing. Refer to Lead Compliance Toolkit, Housing Choice Voucher Program, HUD's Lead-Based Paint Regulations (24 CFR Part 35).

Actions planned to reduce the number of poverty-level families

In order to reduce the number of poverty-level families the PR-State Government will coordinate the following effort:

- Continue to create training and workforce development opportunities through the investment of funds of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA) Program. These funds are committed to assist low-income individuals in acquiring the technical knowledge and developing the work skills needed to effectively be transitioning to the job market;
- Continue educating regarding other opportunities and programs targeted to address poverty, such as the CDBG-DR Workforce Capacity Program which is intended to help unemployed and

underemployed residents find employment commensurate with their job training in skill areas related to recovery efforts.

- Continue to support the Universities and Technical College community in providing educational opportunities to low- and moderate-income students with the objective of improving their academic skills and achieved to be hire in the local and/or regional job market;
- Provide financial housing subsidies to low- and moderate-income households in order to alleviate the cost burden effect that housing has in the economic status of the families;
- Continue to support private investment in the development of affordable housing projects;
- Continue to provide Tenant Based Rent Assistance to HIV/AIDS individuals and family members;
- Continue to invest Section 8 funds in assisting eligible households in their rental needs;
- Promote the creation of Public-Private Alliances, as a business model to promote economic development activities, to create and maintain jobs opportunities and expand the business activities base around the Island;

Support the active participation of the Cooperatives Sector within strategic regional projects as a tool to create job opportunities, promote local investment and promote an increase in the regional business activities throughout the Island.

Actions planned to develop institutional structure

During the preparation of the Consolidated Plan the PRDOH, as Lead Agency, envisioned to carry out the designed housing, community, economic development, homeless and special population strategy from an inclusive and collaborative point of view through the Consolidated Stakeholders network. Using the leading role of the PRDOH, the PR State Government will continue to encourage the active participation of these entities in order to meet the needs of the very low to moderate income persons and their communities.

Strategic meetings, working meetings, oversight activities, among other follow-up activities, will be undertaken in order to continue strengthen and developing strategic and accountable partnerships among the Institutional Structure of the housing and community development activities within the State Government structure.

Actions planned to enhance coordination between public and private housing and social service agencies

During the preparation of the Consolidated Plan the PRDOH, as Lead Agency, envisioned to carry out the designed housing, community, economic development, homeless and special population strategy from an inclusive and collaborative point of view through the Consolidated Stakeholders network. Using the leading role of the PRDOH, the PR State Government will continue to encourage the active participation of these entities in order to meet the needs of the very low to moderate income persons and their communities.

Strategic meetings, working meetings, oversight activities, among other follow-up activities, will be undertaken in order to continue strengthen and developing strategic and accountable partnerships among the Institutional Structure of the housing and community development activities within the State Government structure.

Discussion:

The PR-State Government will continue to use CPD funds to achieve the goals and objectives of the Consolidated Plan. In achieving these goals and objectives, the State will integrate to the CPD allocated funds, additional public funding streams and will leverage communitywide available funding to maximize the resources toward the provision of services to the most in need population groups.

The maximization in the use of available funding within the community, will require the development of strategic and accountable partnerships with all Consolidated Plan Community Stakeholders as part of the institutional structure created toward delivering the basic and essential public services to address the needs of the low-income population segments.

Program Specific Requirements

AP-90 Program Specific Requirements – 91.320(k)(1,2,3)

Introduction:

Section 104(j) of the Act and Federal Register Vol. 77 No. 78, April 23rd, 2012 (Final rule) excludes from the definition of Program Income an amount of \$35,000 per year or less. Therefore, in compliance with federal laws and regulations, PRDOH does not require non-entitlement municipalities to return income up to \$35,000 provided that such revenue is counted as miscellaneous revenue. Nonetheless, PRDOH must be informed through quarterly financial reports issued to the agency of the nature and disposition of all revenues collected by the municipality, in order to determine compliance with the Program Income Rule.

Instructions regarding the reporting and expenditure of program income are available at PRDOH. The municipalities are required to send their program income estimates and reports through e-mail or fax.

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(1)

Projects planned with all CDBG funds expected to be available during the year are identified in the Projects Table. The following identifies program income that is available for use that is included in projects to be carried out.

1. The total amount of program income that will have been received before the start of the next program year and that has not yet been reprogrammed	475,000
2. The amount of proceeds from section 108 loan guarantees that will be used during the year to address the priority needs and specific objectives identified in the grantee's strategic plan.	0
3. The amount of surplus funds from urban renewal settlements	0
4. The amount of any grant funds returned to the line of credit for which the planned use has not been included in a prior statement or plan	0
5. The amount of income from float-funded activities	0
Total Program Income:	475,000

Other CDBG Requirements

1. The amount of urgent need activities	300,000
2. The estimated percentage of CDBG funds that will be used for activities that benefit persons of low and moderate income. Overall Benefit - A consecutive period of one, two or three years may be used to determine that a minimum overall benefit of 70% of CDBG funds is used to benefit persons of low and moderate income. Specify the years covered that include this Annual Action Plan.	70.00%

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**HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME)
Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(2)**

1. A description of other forms of investment being used beyond those identified in Section 92.205 is as follows:

N/A. The HOME program will use HUD-acceptable forms of investment described in 24 CFR Section 92.205(b)(1) for grants and loans. No alternative forms of investment will be used.

2. A description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HOME funds when used for homebuyer activities as required in 92.254, is as follows:

Resale and Recapture Provisions

The **HOME** Program will ensure that **HOME** rules regarding affordability will be observed, as stipulated at 24 CFR 92.254 for Homeownership. The assisted properties will meet affordable housing requirements. Thus, properties will provide modest housing, be acquired by a low-income family as its principal residence and meet affordability requirements for a specific period of time. Affordability restrictions for both Resale and Recapture provisions, as discussed below, will be included in the written agreements executed by the homebuyer and the **PRHFA** and will be enforced via deed restrictions separately recorded, and a soft second mortgage over the property.

The **PRHFA** will use both Resale and Recapture provisions. Resale provisions will only be used in cases in which HOME assistance has been awarded as development subsidy and will not be used to reduce the purchase price of the unit and in cases in which the permanent and primary financing for the acquisition would be affected due to the lender's policies regarding the treatment of the Recapture provisions. It has been the **PRHFA** experience that certain institutions equate subsidies awarded in lieu of Recapture provisions as payable loans and therefore must be considered when calculating the property's Loans to Value Ratio. Under these circumstances and when the Loans to Value Ratio exceeds the ratio authorized under the primary lender's policies, the developer or CHDO may request the sale of the HOME assisted unit under the Resale provisions. In any such case the developer or CHDO must seek the **PRHFA** prior written approval before selling the unit using Resale provisions.

Recapture provisions will not be used when a project receives only a development subsidy and is sold at fair market value, instead, resale provisions will be used.

Adequate controls are in place, particularly as revised deed restrictions and periodic inspections, to enforce **HOME** resale or recapture provisions. The abovementioned provisions and restrictions will also apply to CHDO's in the same manner. The **PRHFA** will determine which type of provision to use

with CHDO's. Such determination will be included in the written agreement with the CHDO's.

For more information go to Appendix.

3. A description of the guidelines for resale or recapture that ensures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds? See 24 CFR 92.254(a)(4) are as follows:

The Resale or Recapture Guidelines that assures the affordability of units acquired with HOME funds are included below.

4. Plans for using HOME funds to refinance existing debt secured by multifamily housing that is rehabilitated with HOME funds along with a description of the refinancing guidelines required that will be used under 24 CFR 92.206(b), are as follows:

HOME Program funds will not be used to refinance existing debts.

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Reference 91.320(k)(3)

1. Include written standards for providing ESG assistance (may include as attachment)

The ESG standards are included on the Appendix Section of this plan. The PRDF is in the process of revising its Written Standards.

2. If the Continuum of Care has established centralized or coordinated assessment system that meets HUD requirements, describe that centralized or coordinated assessment system.

Both PRCoC-502 and PRCoC-503 have established a Coordinated Entry System.

The PRCoC-502 Coordinated Entry System named "Derecho a Techo" is fully implemented in its geographic region. The PRCoC-502 uses a comprehensive coordination of the services available throughout the CoCPR502 community and other leaders within the geographic area, including 24 Municipalities. Through their outreach program they identify the most vulnerable homeless individuals and offer services conducive to obtaining housing. The CE is a hybrid since it has an easy-access office with the following hours of operation: Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 8:00PM, a toll-free number, a mobile case management office, and three access point partners. Participants' needs are prioritized considering crisis situations and conditions such as chronic homelessness, domestic violence, mental illness and substance abuse, resulting in a better match of services. Individuals are evaluated with a standardized intake assessment form in order to ensure equal access and confirm the immediate needs of the individual.

The PRCoC-503 Coordinated Entry System (CES) named “Sistema Coordinado de Entrada” is also implemented. The CES uses a comprehensive coordination of the services available throughout the CoCPR-503 community, network of homeless and mainstream housing and supportive service providers and other leaders within the geographic area, including of 54 municipalities. By implementing a comprehensive “Housing First-Assertive Community Treatment Intervention”, which includes outreach workers, community advocates, housing navigators, a community “Alternative Integrated Clinic” with primary, behavioral and substance abuse services, and case management. The CES identify the most vulnerable homeless individuals and offers services conducive to obtaining housing. The CES operates an emergency hotline available 24 hours a day 7 days a week, case management office and two access points located in Caguas and Ponce. Participants’ needs are prioritized considering their level of prioritization based on chronicity and urgency, crisis situations and conditions such as chronic homelessness, domestic violence, mental illness and substance abuse, resulting in a better match of services and housing options. Individuals are evaluated with a standardized intake assessment form in order to ensure equal access and confirm the immediate needs of the individual.

3. Identify the process for making sub-awards and describe how the ESG allocation available to private nonprofit organizations (including community and faith-based organizations).

Please refer to Section AP-30, Method of Distribution, of this Plan for a complete description of how ESG Program funds are distributed among eligible Entities.

4. If the jurisdiction is unable to meet the homeless participation requirement in 24 CFR 576.405(a), the jurisdiction must specify its plan for reaching out to and consulting with homeless or formerly homeless individuals in considering policies and funding decisions regarding facilities and services funded under ESG.

The State Department of Family complies with 24 CFR Section 576.405 requirements. The required homeless representation is met through the following actions:

As required by federal regulations, the PR-502 CoC has one chair on its board reserved for representatives of the homeless population, or individuals who have experienced homelessness. In addition, the CoC has a separate committee formed by formerly homeless individuals.

The PR-503 CoC has two chairs for at least two (2) representatives of the homeless population, who are or have experienced homelessness.

5. Describe performance standards for evaluating ESG.

See Appendix for written standards.

Housing Trust Fund (HTF)
Reference 24 CFR 91.320(k)(5)

1. How will the grantee distribute its HTF funds? Select all that apply:

Applications submitted by eligible recipients

2. If distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees, describe the method for distributing HTF funds through grants to subgrantees and how those funds will be made available to state agencies and/or units of general local government. If not distributing funds through grants to subgrantees, enter "N/A".

N/A

3. If distributing HTF funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients,

a. Describe the eligibility requirements for recipients of HTF funds (as defined in 24 CFR § 93.2). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

The Puerto Rico Housing Finance Authority (Authority) will make available the Housing Trust Fund Activities of Rental Housing along the HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME) Action Plan (AP). Funds will be awarded to eligible applicants following a competitive process. The competitive process will follow the criteria established in the HTF Allocation Plan. Funds will be allocated to provide incentives for meeting developing and supporting affordable rental housing units. This will be achieved through new construction or rehabilitation of non-luxury housing with suitable amenities for rent.

Eligible Applicants: The PRHFA is not limiting the potential pool of applicants for the HTF program. Thus, PRHFA will allow developers, non-profits and other organizations to apply for HTF funds. However, applicants must be able to participate in PRHFA funding round (NOFA). Applicants must comply with the requirements established in 24 CFR 93.2. These requirements are integral to the basic threshold criteria described in the tables below. It is important to note that applications must demonstrate that participants understand the specific requirements of the HTF program and that even if HTF funds are combined in a project with multiple funding sources, HTF unit(s) must be assisted only via HTF eligible activities (24 CFR 93.200).

Please note that it should be at PRHFA's sole discretion to award HTF funds to any Participant (which has requested or not HTF funds), based on the merits of the project, available funds, specific needs of the

cycle, economic conditions, in order to promote the new construction/rehabilitation of low-income housing projects.

b. Describe the grantee's application requirements for eligible recipients to apply for HTF funds. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

Applications requesting HOME and HTF funds will be evaluated based on joint rating factors, once applicants have satisfied the basic threshold requirements. Those factors include local considerations and State HOME and HTF Program's criteria, such as: Project location; project characteristics; project owner/developer characteristics; financing characteristics; special needs projects; Housing needs and additional criteria for rental housing projects. See the appendix for a description of the scoring method and selection criteria that was specifically developed for the HTF Program. The criteria is presented below to facilitate the description of the priority funding factors. The QAP and PRHFA NOFA will be used to determine the final scores and funding recommendations. The full explanation of the Method of Distribution of funds to be used during this program year is included in the Appendix Section (HTF Selection Criteria). Also, Section (e) below provides additional requirements for eligible recipients.

c. Describe the selection criteria that the grantee will use to select applications submitted by eligible recipients. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

See Appendix. HTF Selection Criteria.

d. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on geographic diversity (as defined by the grantee in the consolidated plan). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

The PRHFA will distribute funds through a competitive process and cannot predict the ultimate geographic distribution of the HTF funds. The method of distribution does not include an allocation of resources based on geographic areas, so target areas are not earmarked. Yet, the HTF Program will consider the housing needs for eligible income families in non-metropolitan areas, by taking into account the upcoming new census figures by Municipalities. The merits of the proposal will be evaluated taking into consideration the needs in any particular location. The PRHFA will comply with regulations (24 CFR 92.201 (b)(1)) requiring that resources be allocated in non-metropolitan areas. The final distribution will be based on the criteria established in the method of distribution.

The HTF allocation for PY 2022 will be distributed to benefit very low and extremely low income families (see HTF Funding Priorities 91.320(k)(5)(i) for the definition).

See Appendix [HTF Selection Criteria] for additional geographic considerations in the scoring system.

e. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the applicant's ability to obligate HTF funds and undertake eligible activities in a timely manner. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

The PRHFA will consider applications from potential recipients that “have demonstrated experience and capacity to conduct other Tax Credit/HOME projects as evidenced by its ability to: (i) Own, construct, or rehabilitate, and manage and operate an affordable multifamily rental housing development” (24 CFR 93.2 – Definition). The term “full compliance and successful record” provides sufficient basis to determine the applicants capacity to obligate HTF funds and undertake activities in a timely matter.

Due to the limited amount of HTF funds, is not viable for the HTF allocation to be distributed via a stand-alone funding round. Thus, the State will distribute HTF funds via its regular funding round, which includes other federal funding sources such as HOME, LIHCT, among others. Under the abovementioned funding round, applicants will have to demonstrate with evidence that they have fulfilled the initial basic requirements established in the “Basic Threshold”. The PRHFA has created an specific set of requirements that HTF potential applicants must satisfy. Not complying with such requirements causes applicants to be disqualified. If applicants demonstrate fulfillment of basic threshold requirements, then the specific point ranking evaluation criteria will be applied to the proposed projects.

The basic threshold for the HTF establishes that applicant must demonstrate experience. “If proposing to use o of HOME or NHTF Developer, General Partner or Managing Partner must demonstrate successful record and full compliance participating in same capacity in the development of HOME /NHTF projects in Puerto Rico.” To validate such assertion the applicant must submit “Relevant project documentation to support experience in particular project.” And “Certification issued by the Authority's Audit and Compliance Office, or the Department's Housing Subsidies and Community Development Division, as applicable.”

See Appendix [HTF Selection Criteria] for the specifics of the scoring system. (Section IV of the NOFA Ranking Self-Evaluation).

f. Describe the grantee’s required priority for funding based on the extent to which the rental project has Federal, State, or local project-based rental assistance so that rents are affordable to extremely low-income families. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

Section IV of the scoring method provides additional points for applicants that combine LIHTC or HOME projects that are specifically destined for long-term rental assistance. “If proposing to use only LIHTC or HOME, project demonstrating utilization of the respective LIHTC or HOME program, or in combination with other programs; if proposing to use LIHTC and HOME combined, or in combination with any other federal or state program, project utilization of similar program mix subsidizing development costs, long-term operations or providing long-term rental assistance.” (See above, Section IV Scoring Method)

It is important to note that HTF units will include the 30 year restrictive covenants. These combined multifamily projects will provide for the preservation of affordable rental housing, particularly for

extremely low families since HTF units will be required to comply with such income levels. Thus, projects which seek to increase the affordable rental housing stock will be scored favorably. Due to the limited amount of funds under HTF, leveraged funds will be the biggest portion of funds under these multifamily projects.

See Appendix [HTF Selection Criteria] for additional details.

g. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the financial feasibility of the project beyond the required 30-year period. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

All projects funded with HTF will be required to comply with a minimum of 30 years affordability restrictions. Additional points are given to projects which provide an affordability period beyond the 30 years. Proponents will be required to sign a Land Use Restrictive Covenant Agreement. (See Section III.4 of the Scoring method)

“If requesting NHTF, a project might earn up to 3 points for extending the term of affordability beyond the extended use period of thirty years” (Section III.4 of the Scoring method)

The specific priority funding factors established for the HTF program are described in Section IV of the NOFA Ranking Self-Evaluation. This section establishes a specific priority funding factor for developers or the applicant’s capacity to undertake tax credit/HOME projects.

The following documents will be required to demonstrate the applicant’s capacity to undertake an HTF project:

- Copy of HAP, IRS form 8609 for each project, as applicable.
- Relevant project documentation to support experience in particular project.
- Certification issued by the Authority's Audit and Compliance Office, or the Department's Housing Subsidies and Community Development Division, as applicable. Moreover the NOFA Ranking Self-evaluation scoring system provides additional points for applicants who have financial capacity to undertake projects. Point ranking system requires a certain amount of liquid assets.

The required documents include:

- Compiled or revised financial statements certified by a licensed accountant.
- Sources and Uses

Also, recipients must comply with PRHFA selection requirements as established in the HOME program/LIHTC QAP. Again, it is important to emphasize that entities must demonstrate organizational ability, financial capacity and knowledge of Federal, State and local housing program requirements. Recipient must demonstrate capacity to manage and operate an affordable rental housing program.

See Appendix.

h. Describe the grantee’s required priority for funding based on the merits of the application in meeting the priority housing needs of the grantee (such as housing that is accessible to transit or employment centers, housing that includes green building and sustainable development features, or housing that serves special needs populations). If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter “N/A”.

See Appendix.

i. Describe the grantee's required priority for funding based on the extent to which the application makes use of non-federal funding sources. If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, enter "N/A".

See Appendix. HTF Selection Criteria.

4. Does the grantee's application require the applicant to include a description of the eligible activities to be conducted with HTF funds? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes

5. Does the grantee's application require that each eligible recipient certify that housing units assisted with HTF funds will comply with HTF requirements? If not distributing funds by selecting applications submitted by eligible recipients, select "N/A".

Yes

6. Performance Goals and Benchmarks. The grantee has met the requirement to provide for performance goals and benchmarks against which the grantee will measure its progress, consistent with the grantee's goals established under 24 CFR 91.315(b)(2), by including HTF in its housing goals in the housing table on the SP-45 Goals and AP-20 Annual Goals and Objectives screens.

Yes

7. Maximum Per-unit Development Subsidy Amount for Housing Assisted with HTF Funds.

Enter or attach the grantee's maximum per-unit development subsidy limits for housing assisted with HTF funds.

The limits must be adjusted for the number of bedrooms and the geographic location of the project. The limits must also be reasonable and based on actual costs of developing non-luxury housing in the area.

If the grantee will use existing limits developed for other federal programs such as the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) per unit cost limits, HOME's maximum per-unit subsidy amounts, and/or Public Housing Development Cost Limits (TDCs), it must include a description of how the HTF maximum per-unit development subsidy limits were established or a

description of how existing limits developed for another program and being adopted for HTF meet the HTF requirements specified above.

See Appendix for details of HTF Selection Criteria.

8. Rehabilitation Standards. The grantee must establish rehabilitation standards for all HTF-assisted housing rehabilitation activities that set forth the requirements that the housing must meet upon project completion. The grantee's description of its standards must be in sufficient detail to determine the required rehabilitation work including methods and materials. The standards may refer to applicable codes or they may establish requirements that exceed the minimum requirements of the codes. The grantee must attach its rehabilitation standards below.

In addition, the rehabilitation standards must address each of the following: health and safety; major systems; lead-based paint; accessibility; disaster mitigation (where relevant); state and local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements; Uniform Physical Condition Standards; Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable); and broadband infrastructure (if applicable).

In addition, the rehabilitation standards must address each of the following: health and safety; major systems; lead-based paint; accessibility; disaster mitigation (where relevant); state and local codes, ordinances, and zoning requirements; Uniform Physical Condition Standards; and Capital Needs Assessments (if applicable).

See Appendix.

9. Resale or Recapture Guidelines. Below, the grantee must enter (or attach) a description of the guidelines that will be used for resale or recapture of HTF funds when used to assist first-time homebuyers. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter "N/A".

See Appendix.

10. HTF Affordable Homeownership Limits. If the grantee intends to use HTF funds for homebuyer assistance and does not use the HTF affordable homeownership limits for the area provided by HUD, it must determine 95 percent of the median area purchase price and set forth the information in accordance with §93.305. If the grantee will not use HTF funds to assist first-time homebuyers, enter “N/A”.

Existing Housing: The HTF homeownership value limit for existing HTF units is 95 percent of the median purchase price for the area based on Federal FHA single family mortgage program data for existing housing and other appropriate data that are available nation-wide for sale of existing housing in standard condition. Nationwide, HUD has established a minimum limit, or floor, based on 95 percent of the state-wide nonmetropolitan area median purchase price using this data. HUD has used the greater of these two figures as their HTF homeownership value limits for existing housing in each area.

The PRHFA will use the limits published by HUD that can be found at:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/4982/housing-trust-fund-homeownership-value-limits/>

The recapture provisions are included as attachment appendix of this Plan.

See Appendix.

11. Grantee Limited Beneficiaries or Preferences. Describe how the grantee will limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population to serve unmet needs identified in its consolidated plan or annual action plan. If the grantee will not limit the beneficiaries or give preferences to a particular segment of the extremely low- or very low-income population, enter “N/A.”

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the grantee must not limit or give preferences to students. The grantee may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303(d)(3) only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

Any limitation or preference must not violate nondiscrimination requirements in § 93.350, and the grantee must not limit or give preferences to students. The grantee may permit rental housing owners to limit tenants or give a preference in accordance with § 93.303(d)(3) only if such limitation or preference is described in the action plan.

The State will not limit beneficiaries and/or give preferences to any segments of the extremely low-income population.

12. Refinancing of Existing Debt. Enter or attach the grantee’s refinancing guidelines below. The guidelines describe the conditions under which the grantee will refinance existing debt. The grantee’s refinancing guidelines must, at minimum, demonstrate that rehabilitation is the primary eligible activity and ensure that this requirement is met by establishing a minimum level of rehabilitation per unit or a required ratio between rehabilitation and refinancing. If the grantee will not refinance existing debt, enter “N/A.”

The PRHFA will not refinance existing debt with the HTF funds.

Discussion:

The performance standards of the program will evolve over the next few years as the ESG Rule is fully implemented and as ESG sub-grantees improve their program outcomes through the evaluation of HMIS data and through integration of ESG services into their local Continuum of Care.

