



CONSERVATION TRUST
OF PUERTO RICO

PEOPLE FOR NATURE NATURE FOR PEOPLE

2011 ANNUAL REPORT



Our Mission:

To secure functional and healthy ecological systems for the islands of Puerto Rico and to inspire its people to be stewards of nature so that we may together reach our shared social, economic and quality-of-life goals.

We can only achieve our full potential – both individually and collectively– if we can sustain the ecosystem services of the islands of Puerto Rico and respect all forms of life with which we share our natural environment.

The Conservation Trust of Puerto Rico, a non-profit, non-governmental organization, is the oldest and largest conservation organization in Puerto Rico. Since its founding in 1970 the Trust has protected over 24,000 acres of land (over 1% of the islands' territory) and has rescued and restored important historical landmarks throughout the island. As part of its mission, the Conservation Trust engages over 70,000 participants every year through diverse nature immersion activities, educational programs and active conservation efforts, promoting individual actions that protect and preserve the islands' remarkable natural wealth. The Trust also operates a tree nursery program to produce, distribute and plant Puerto Rico's native species to help conserve biodiversity in our islands.

The sole beneficiaries of the Conservation Trust are the people of Puerto Rico...and nature.

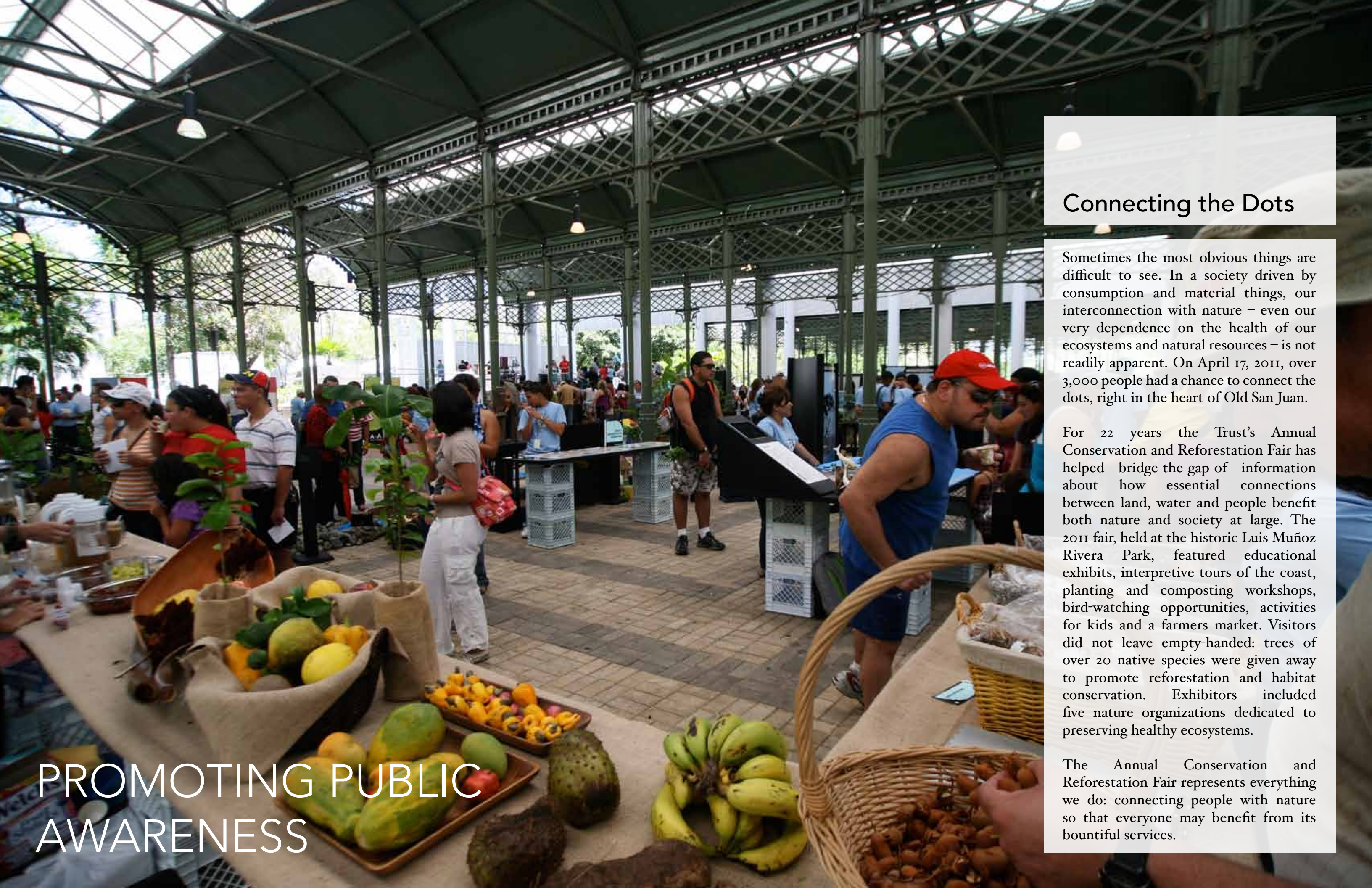


PEOPLE IN CONSERVATION

Inspired to Take Action

She left her house all dressed up to attend what she expected would be a lovely, yet routine cocktail reception. Carmen Ana Casal de Unanue left inspired by the work of the Trust and immediately decided to contribute to the conservation efforts in Puerto Rico... and pledged a 300-acre piece of land worth \$1.6 million.

And it wasn't just any piece of land. The property lies within the habitat range of the endangered 'Coquí Guajón' (*Eleutherodactylus cooki*). Puerto Rico's largest river, Río Grande de Loíza, is born here. And lying next door is one of the island's ecological treasures: the Carite State Forest. Land donations such as the Unanue-Casal family's allow the Trust to protect and enhance the island's natural resources and the ecosystems we all depend on. With her selfless deed she honored her parents' enduring love of nature. At the same time, she made a significant contribution to protecting the Río Grande de Loíza headwaters, the adjacent forest and the treasured 'Coquí Guajón'. Cheers!



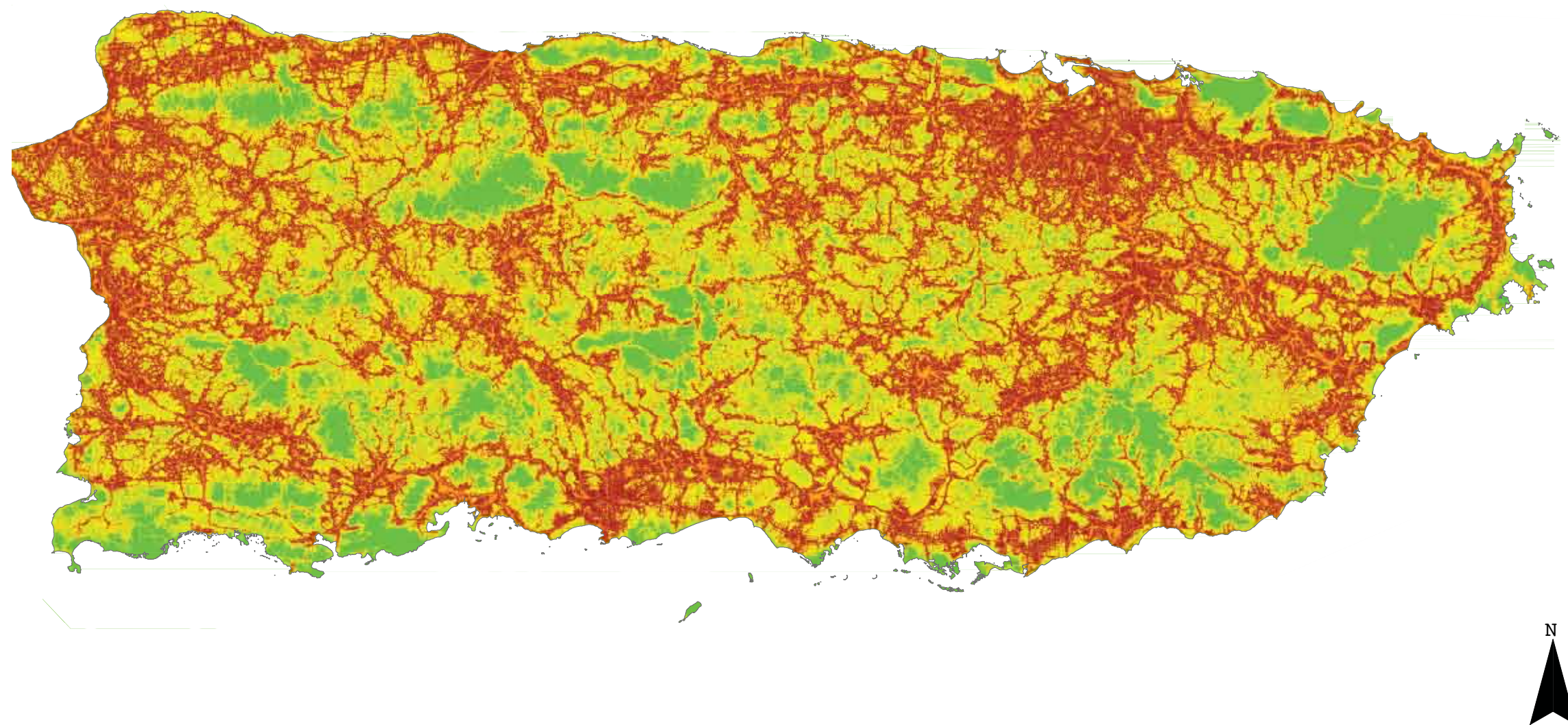
Connecting the Dots

Sometimes the most obvious things are difficult to see. In a society driven by consumption and material things, our interconnection with nature – even our very dependence on the health of our ecosystems and natural resources – is not readily apparent. On April 17, 2011, over 3,000 people had a chance to connect the dots, right in the heart of Old San Juan.

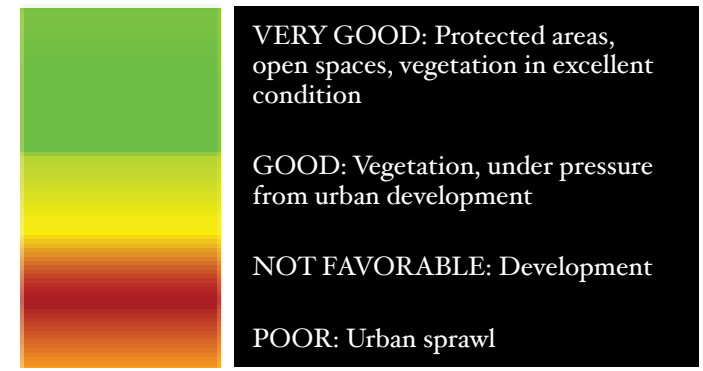
For 22 years the Trust's Annual Conservation and Reforestation Fair has helped bridge the gap of information about how essential connections between land, water and people benefit both nature and society at large. The 2011 fair, held at the historic Luis Muñoz Rivera Park, featured educational exhibits, interpretive tours of the coast, planting and composting workshops, bird-watching opportunities, activities for kids and a farmers market. Visitors did not leave empty-handed: trees of over 20 native species were given away to promote reforestation and habitat conservation. Exhibitors included five nature organizations dedicated to preserving healthy ecosystems.

The Annual Conservation and Reforestation Fair represents everything we do: connecting people with nature so that everyone may benefit from its bountiful services.

PROMOTING PUBLIC
AWARENESS

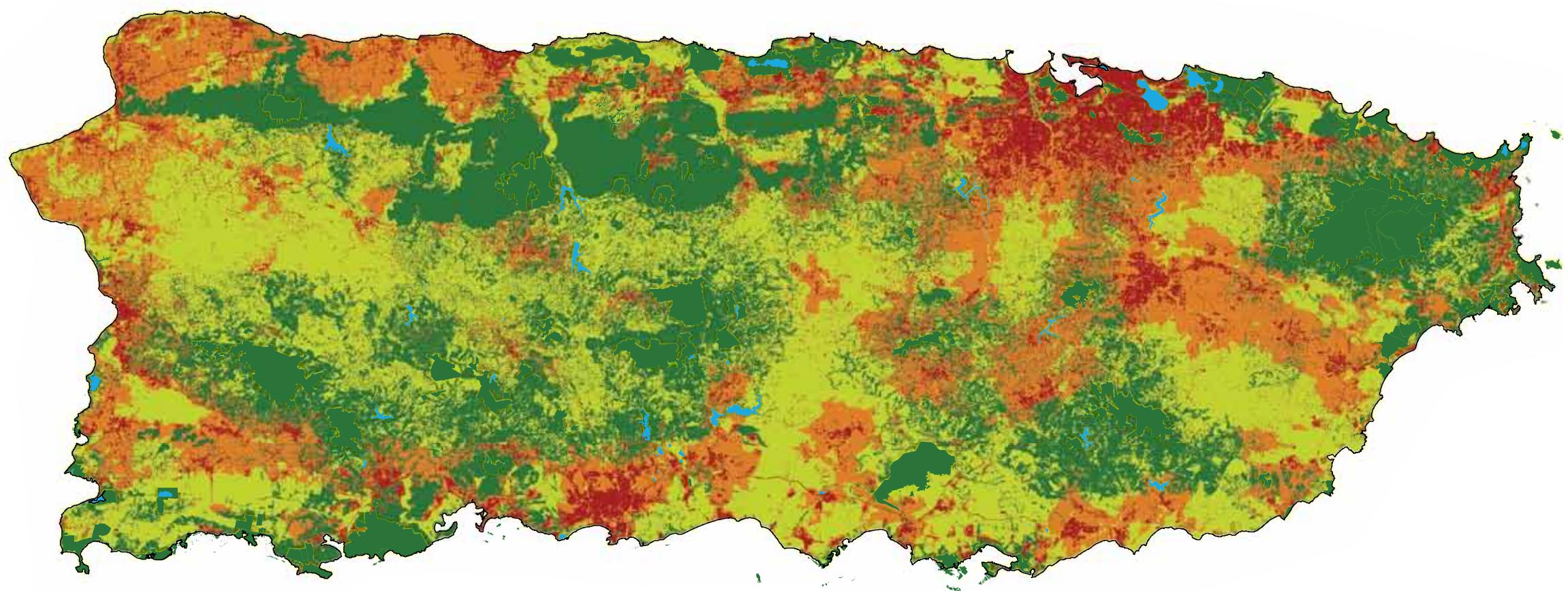


ENVISIONING A NEW MAP



A Map Worth Redrawing

8% land protected. 54% urbanized. 80% food imported. The map Puerto Ricans have created is an MRI of our ecosystem. The Trust aspires to recast that image with a Map of Life program that transforms how we treat our vital resources by protecting 33% of our lands, seeking a balance between conservation, urban development and agriculture. On December 19 and 20, 2011, the Map of Life decision-support system – developed in cooperation with local and federal agencies – was discussed with scientists, planners, environmentalists, architects and other professionals from local and federal government agencies, academia and non-profit organizations. The workshops allowed the Trust to gather vital expert feedback, evaluate the instrument's effectiveness and further alliances with sister organizations. It was one more step in advancing the Map of Life and developing a common message about conservation policies for Puerto Rico.



CONTINUING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

CONSERVATION

OPEN SPACES

BUILT AREAS

ADEQUATE AREAS FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT

A Map Worth Sharing

For years TED Talks and TEDx have been sharing innovative ideas with the world. The Trust joined in sharing one of its great ideas when Puerto Rico held its first TEDx ever in San Juan.

On December 9, 2011 the Trust’s Executive Director joined other local visionaries, explaining the Map of Life program and its ambitious goals to a worldwide audience. Over 10,000 live Internet followers saw how the Trust is changing perceptions on ecosystem conservation and showing people a new way to connect with nature –key to reaching our Map of Life goals. Aside from the privilege of being selected for this pioneering effort, TEDx San Juan gave the Trust an opportunity to reach out to a diverse, highly cognizant audience in a worldwide communication outlet that’s well recognized for innovation, great ideas and trustworthy speakers. The event was streamed live all over the world, and continues attracting viewers –over 125,000– at the TEDx website.



Students for Trees

Just another day at school. Teachers giving lessons. Students planting seeds and taking inventory of the plantlets they've cared for throughout the school year. Oh, yes, the classroom is a tree nursery.

Thanks to generous donations from the Angel Ramos Foundation and the Banco Popular Foundation, six schools across the island became native tree producers and suppliers for their school and surrounding communities. All in a year's time, the Trust installed tree nurseries in each school and trained teachers and students in plant production and maintenance. The outcome? Six teachers and 357 students changed the way Spanish, Social Studies, Math and Science are taught and learned, by adopting the nurseries as a hands-on learning space.

Teachers and students raved at this new approach to learning. Their enthusiasm has spread to the rest of the school and taken the project to new levels: the students have even added the production and sale of herbs and spices, reaping sustainable ecologic and economic success, while furthering ties to neighboring communities. Not a small feat for grade-, middle- and high-schoolers. All in all, the Native Tree School Nurseries or Biocomisos—as dubbed by the students—have helped the Trust in its reforestation efforts, which in turn provide habitats for numerous species delivering important services that contribute to our quality of life.

INSPIRING STEWARDS OF NATURE



Teaching in Swamps

If you listen closely at night near the wetlands, with some luck you may be able to discern a distinct whistling sound. It may surprise you to learn that it comes from a duck.

The West Indian Whistling Duck ('chiriría') is the only endemic waterfowl to the Caribbean. Unlike most ducks, it is frequently seen standing erect, its long whitish neck proudly announcing its presence. Also unlike most ducks it can be found atop trees and palms –especially the Royal palm– whose fruit and seeds it prefers to feed on. It is a lovely nocturnal bird that depends on wetlands for its survival. It is also a vulnerable species.

In an effort to foster awareness of this once widespread species, the Trust is offering a teacher workshop, The West Indian Whistling Duck and Wetlands in the Caribbean, in a joint effort with the Society for the Conservation and Study of Caribbean Birds. It is one of three teacher workshops designed to focus attention on endangered species and habitats. Another teacher module, The Puerto Rican Parrot and the Karst Region, is in its second printing thanks to a grant from the Banco Popular Foundation. This year 480 science and social studies teachers attended the workshops and took the teacher's modules to their classrooms, communicating vital information to thousands of children.

EDUCATING FOR
CONSERVATION



ENGAGING
PEOPLE

Empowering Hidden Talents

Willy Burgos is passionate about land crabs. For the past two-and-a-half years, he has spent his free time helping to document the dynamics of the coastal land crab population (*Cardisoma guanhumí*) at Hacienda La Esperanza Nature Reserve, as part of the island's first large-scale Citizen Science project. For him, it's about seeking relief from the daily burdens of life and helping preserve nature for future generations. Assisting lead biologist Dr. Concepción Rodríguez in the project entitled Ecology and Population of Coastal Land Crabs, he designed, built and managed the traps that helped catch, measure, mark and release land crabs at eight locations within the Reserve. He even accompanied Dr. Rodríguez in presenting the project at the American Ecological Society's annual conference.

Thanks to a grant from the National Science Foundation, in 2008 the Trust launched a Citizen Science program at the Nature Reserve to engage volunteers in conducting scientific research on six projects: archaeology, seed dispersion by bats and birds, bird wetland habitats, botany, coastal and shoreline processes, and, of course, land crabs. Exceeding everyone's expectations, 2,322 volunteers donated over 24,700 volunteer hours. The information gathered is helping the Trust develop management plans to adopt at the Reserve's eight distinct management zones.

The success of the Citizen Science Program has led to two new volunteer initiatives, one of them seeking to reintroduce the critically endangered Puerto Rican Crested Toad ('sapo concho') in the northern region. Willy Burgos has already signed up.



EMPOWERED FOR LAND CONSERVATION

People in Front

It used to be that land and ecosystem conservation was the province of the government and a handful of non-profit organizations. This model, while effective, lacks what conservation most needs: foot soldiers. The Trust has worked tirelessly to instill in ordinary people the kind of respect for nature that turns passive love into committed stewardship. And now we have a new tool: the Conservation Easement Law of Puerto Rico. The Trust stood guard to ensure the continuation of tax credit provisions for conservation easements, helping to increase voluntary conservation in hard economic times. It's a forward-looking approach: Puerto Rico is only the 17th federal jurisdiction to implement this kind of initiative.



Watershed Cleanup in Guánica

Twenty five teenagers were pumped with a competitive streak and eager for the bus driver to get on his way. You see, word was that 8th graders from Teresita Nazario School collected over 400 pounds of garbage at the last beach cleanup. And no way were a bunch of 8th graders going to beat this group of sophomores in keeping their community's river and beaches free of debris.

What started out as an education and beach clean-up project funded by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation turned into a reason for local schools, NGOs, and businesses to come together with the Trust to steward the Guánica Río Loco Watershed – which, by the way, serves as a main tourist and recreational attraction at the southern part of the Island. Stats so far? More than 350 students, teachers, and community and business members have rolled up their sleeves to engage in over 30 educational and cleanup activities, where they've freed the watershed and protected the nearby coral reefs from 6,000 pounds of garbage.

REDUCING OUR
FOOTPRINT



CONNECTING PEOPLE
WITH NATURE

Chasing Waterfalls

‘Eyes closed shut’. ‘Jaw clenched’. ‘Heart pounding’. ‘Totally AWESOME!’

These are some of the comments made by those who dare to rappel at El Cañón San Cristóbal and amaze at the splendorous waterfall. Once a clandestine dump, the pristine El Cañón San Cristóbal comprises three rivers (Río Usabón, Río Piñonas or Barranquitas and Río Aibonito), over 100 animal species and close to 700 plant species. And thanks to a grant from L’Oreal Caribe through Walmart, the Trust was able to create this new offering for daredevils to enjoy. Gaining instant popularity, this attraction has hauled in 150 intrepid nature lovers from all walks of life, helping the Trust connect people to nature and adventure.



DONORS

GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS, FOUNDATIONS, CORPORATIONS, ORGANIZATIONS & GOVERNMENT

\$1,000-\$4,999
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Fiddler González & Rodríguez, P.S.C.
Fundación Plaza Las Américas
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Real Legacy Assurance Company, Inc.
Scherrer Hernández & Co.
V. Suárez & Company, Inc.
Villa Los Santos Management

\$5,000-\$9,999
AT&T, Inc.
Borschow Hospital & Medical Supplies, Inc.
Industrial Fittings & Valves, Inc.
MillerCoors, LLC
Plaza Provision Company
SC Johnson de Puerto Rico
UBS Financial Services
Walmart/LOreal Caribe

\$10,000 - \$24,000
Fundación Banco Popular de Puerto Rico
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999
Sears/Citibank

\$50,000-\$99,999
USDA Forest Service

\$100,000 and up
National Science Foundation
US Fish & Wildlife Service

IN-KIND GIFTS

\$1,000-\$4,999
El Nuevo Día
Fiddler González & Rodríguez, P.S.C.

\$10,000 - 24,000
Model Offset Printing

LAND DONATIONS

\$100,000 and over
Carmen Ana Unanue

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the year ended December 31, 2011, with comparative totals for 2010

REVENUE SOURCES



Income from Notes and Preferred Securities			Income from Portfolio			Income from Short Term Assets			Grants and other Income		
2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▼	2010	2011	▲
4,047	4,051	0%	2,265	3,045	34%	277	208	-25%	1,628	3,045	87%

General income for the Trust increased during 2011, from \$8.2 million to 10.3 million, a 26% increase. Investments from short term assets (936 funds) continued to decrease as expected, while portfolio income increased 34% mainly due to the market's increase. Meanwhile, income from grants and other income increased significantly due to the reinforcement given to the Resources Development department.

OPERATING EXPENSES

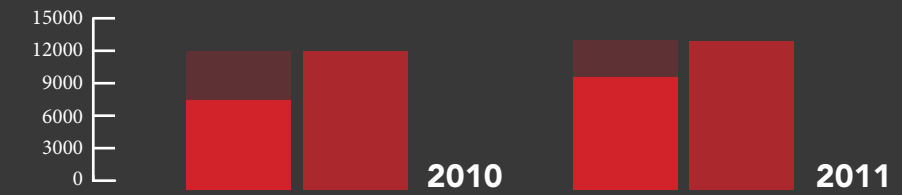


Finance & Development			Land Acquisition Support			Management and Support			Education, Science & Public Policy		
2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲
1,097	1,279	17%	310	396	28%	2,534	2,870	13%	0	268	100%

For the year ending on December 31, 2011, the Trust has a total of \$13.7 million in operating expenditures, representing an increase of 7% from the prior year, which reported \$12.7 million. In particular, management of Natural Protected Areas represented 59% of total operating expenditures for the year 2011, an increase of 6%, when compared to 2010.

Natural Protected Areas		
2010	2011	▲
7,631	8,066	6%

ALLOCATION OF REVENUE SOURCES



Revenue			Expenditures			Excess Funds		
2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲
8,217	10,349	26%	12,749	13,687	7%	(4,532)	(3,338)	26%

Allocation of Funds before Capital Expenditures resulted in a deficit of \$3.3 million for the year ending December 31, 2011, due mainly to the loss of \$2.1 million from the secured notes program related to the banking crisis. This amount was absorbed by our reserve fund.

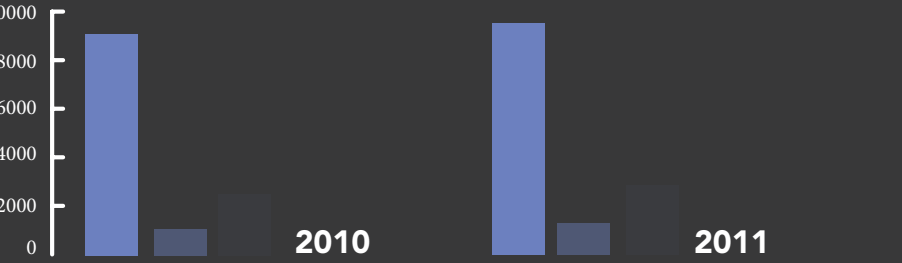
CAPITAL EXPENDITURES



Land Acquisition			Furniture & Equipment			Site Development & Improvements		
2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▼
2,692	3,338	24%	44	171	289%	1,993	1,259	-37%

During the year ending on December 31, 2011, the Trust had a total of \$4.8 million in capital expenditures, representing almost no change from the prior year, which reported \$4.7 million. The Trust made Land Acquisitions totaling \$3.3 million during 2011 compared with \$2.7 in 2010. Capital expenditures excluding Land Acquisitions represented \$1.4 million during 2011, a reduction of 30% from the \$2.0 million reported in 2010.

TOTAL EXPENSES



Program Expenses			Fundraising			Finance and Administration		
2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲	2010	2011	▲
9,118	9,538	5%	1,097	1,279	17%	2,534	2,870	13%

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