



Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs



Citizen-Centric Report: FY2021

ABOUT US

The Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs (CBMA) was created under **Executive Order 2019-09**, by Governor Ralph DLG. Torres on July 06, 2019.

CBMA is the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) central clearinghouse of all communication, documents, and information between the Department of Defense (DoD), and its various departments and commands. CBMA acts as the exclusive liaison between the DoD and the government of the CNMI and aids, assists, and coordinates the CNMI government in its engagements with the DoD.

CBMA seeks to promote economic opportunities and activities through engagement with the DoD creating stronger ties with the CNMI and its residents.

CBMA regularly monitors military related matters for the Governor and formulate plans and policies that create a comprehensive approach for coordinating programs and activities that result in an improved relationship between the CNMI and the U.S. Armed Forces.

In performing these functions, CBMA has established and maintains a Central Information Depository of over 30,000 documents, files, and reports to date.

WHO WE SERVE

CBMA supports to goals and vision for the entire CNMI population across Saipan, Tinian, Rota and the Northern Islands. We serve a total population of 53,000 residents and their desires for cooperation and benefits from military activities on their islands.



Proclamation signing with Governor Torres, Lt. Governor Palacios, House Speaker Villagomez, Representative Flores, CBMA employees and Military officials declaring May 15 as CNMI Armed Forces Day

WHO WE ENGAGE WITH

U.S. Department of Defense

The U.S. Department of Defense Armed Forces (U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army, and U.S. Coast Guard and various components assigned to the Indo-Pacific Theater, along with relevant federal agencies and contractors.



In the Marianas, CBMA works in close collaboration with Joint Region Marianas (JRM). The Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) and the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) serves as our most valuable support partners.

CNMI Government

Government departments, agencies, offices, other entities of the Executive Branch, heads of independent entities, government instrumentalities and government public corporations, the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature, Mayors of each respective municipality, Office of the Attorney General, and the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

MISSION

To improve communication, coordination and response of the CNMI government to the United States Military, facilitate the military's integration into the community, and to ensure the relationship between the military and the CNMI is one based on mutual respect and benefit.

VISION

A strong and mutually beneficial collaboration between the CNMI and the U.S. Department of Defense that recognizes and preserves the cultural values of the people.

LEADERSHIP

Ralph DLG. Torres
Governor

Arnold I. Palacios
Lt. Governor

Glenna Sakisat Palacios
Special Assistant for Military Affairs

SUPPORT STAFF

CBMA Central Office
Seven (7) Employees

CBMA Tinian Satellite Office
Two (2) Employees

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Our Progress



CNMI Procurement Technical Assistance Center Grand Opening

In Fiscal Year 2021, the leadership and staff of CBMA achieved the following under the mandates provided by Executive Order 2019-09:

ESTABLISHED THE CNMI'S FIRST PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER (CNMI PTAC)

In FY 2021, CBMA advanced its mandate to promote economic opportunities for CNMI residents through collaboration and partnership with the DoD. The establishment of the CNMI's first PTAC, housed within CBMA through funding provided by the U.S. Defense Logistics Agency.



In Fiscal Year 2021, since the launching of the CNMI PTAC, the center registered 204 active clients, who received 146 hours of counseling services, and were able to participate in CNMI PTAC's 21 hosted and provided training events, with 29 PTAC clients garnering an aggregate of \$35M in federal contracts.

NOTABLE PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Completion of Chiget Mortar Range Remediation Project
- ✓ Completion of Tinian Harbor top repairs project
- ✓ 40% of road improvements on Tinian's Road G - completion date schedule for June 22, 2022
- ✓ Conducted 1-month Pagan Field Characterization Survey with Northern Island Mayors Office and CNMI Government Agencies



Reopening of the Tinian Senior Center made possible through the Community Relations (COMREL) Partnership with the NMCB Seabees and the Marines 7th Engineer Support Battalion. Renovation included roof repair, painting and replaced kitchen sink to meet FDA/ADA requirements.

PLANNED AND EXECUTED CRITICAL COORDINATION EVENTS

The COVID-19 pandemic required adjustments and placed new obstacles on CBMA, still CBMA, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation and the CNMI COVID-19 Task Force successfully coordinated the safe arrival of over 600 military personnel to the CNMI in the Fiscal Year.

The following are CBMA coordination highlights during the Fiscal Year:

Industry Day (March 23-24, 2021)

Industry day assembled federal contract officers from the U.S. Navy and Air Force to engage in conversation of needs and future plans with CNMI businesses and service providers. The two day event was attended by 134 CNMI participants and was conducted via video conference due to COVID-19 travel restrictions

CNMI Joint Military Training Technical Working Group (July 6 - 15, 2021)

Coordinated and hosted a week long working session with U.S. Marine planners and CNMI stakeholders to discuss in-person concerns related to the proposed training activities on the islands of Tinian and Pagan. The meeting resulted in substantial progress toward better information sharing and mutual understanding of the range of concerns on military expansion in the region.

Section 106 Programmatic Agreement Working Session (February 2021)

Coordinated and Hosted a week long working session with Joint Region Marianas & Pacific Fleet for Mariana Islands Testing and Training Programmatic Agreement alongside CNMI State Historic Preservation Officer.

Coordinated Military Training with Community Activities

Through the course of the year and three major training activities in the Summer of 2021 CBMA supported community relations activities with U.S. Navy Naval Mobile Construction Battalion & the U.S. Marines 7th Engineer Support Battalion such as the renovation of the Tinian Senior Center, the Hero Fun Run, and community cleanup activities at public school campuses and around CNMI.

Progress by the Numbers

55 CNMI/DoD Meetings Coordinated	23 Community Relations Activities Organized	\$2.74 M In Military Spending*

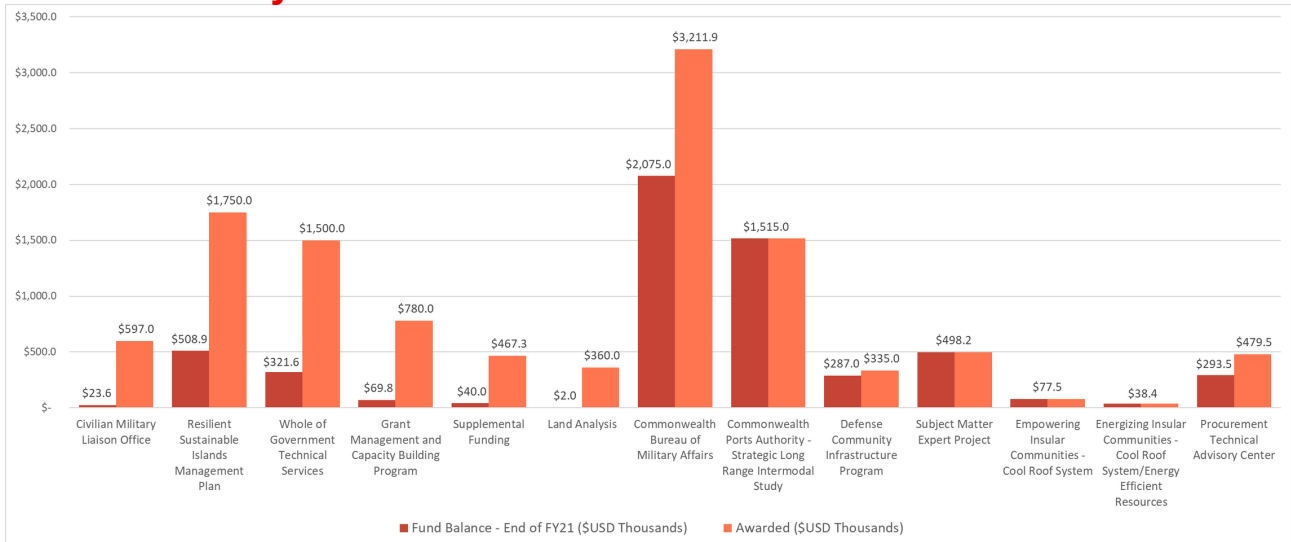
*Military spending is Prime and Sub Contract and Grant awards from the DoD in the CNMI for FY 2021. Source: USAspending.gov

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Our Finances

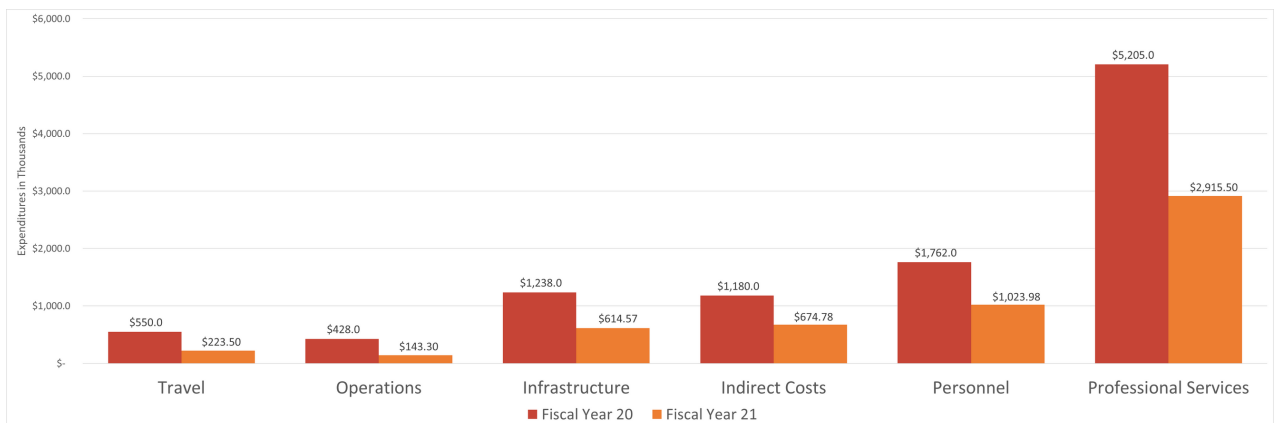


GRANT PROJECTS AND REMAINING BALANCES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021



CBMA manages and operates several multi-year grant awards from various federal agencies, including the Department of Interior Office of Insular Affairs, and the Department of Defense Office of Economic Adjustment. Funding for the multi-year program awards are shown in the "Awarded" columns for each project and total amount remaining following the end of Fiscal Year 2021 is shown in the "Fund Balance" columns in the above graph.

EXPENDITURES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2020 AND 2021



In managing the various programs assigned to CBMA, total expenditures for Fiscal Year 2021 amounted to \$5.6 million.

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Way Forward

KEY INITIATIVES FOR 2022

- Continue to build stable and lasting relationships with the U.S. Department of Defense and expand the benefits of U.S. Military activities in the region to the economy and residents of the CNMI.
- Increase clients and services available within the CNMI PTAC and secure substantial increases in federal government contracts awarded to CNMI businesses.
- Finalize permanent facilities to house CBMA and expand staffing to support greater levels of service to the CNMI population.
- Finalize the CNMI Resilient Sustainable Islands Management Plan and advance the CNMI's programmatic requirements in the U.S. Congress through the Department of Defense Economic Adjustment Committee.
- Finalizing the Chiget Beach Removal Action Report and reopening of community access to the beach front
- Launch Commonwealth Ports Authority Strategic Long Range Intermodal Study

CHALLENGES

The CNMI continue to face personnel and technical capacity constraints to adequately assessing and responding to the wide-ranging impacts proposed in voluminous Environmental Impact Statements and proposals provided by the U.S. Department of Defense.

The CNMI has limited technical staff to respond to the archaeological, biological, and environmental impacts associated with existing and proposed military training programs. Further, additional personnel is needed to provide for the necessary coordination and communication support that is central to the functions of CBMA.

CBMA will continue to seek more opportunities to expand the technical capacity of the CNMI government to adequately address concerns of the people and to seek benefits within the CNMI's partnership with our nation's military.



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A group photo with U.S. Military personnel and community members that participated in the Hero Fun Run on May 15, 2021



7th Engineer Support Battalion donating water to the Tinian Elementary and High School. Water was brought to support the Freedom Banner exercise which was cancelled due to weather conditions. CBMA aided in the coordination of the donation.