

# Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Project Fact Sheet



## *Desarrollo Integral del Sur, Inc., Peñuelas and Guayanilla, PR*

### EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants to assess and clean up brownfield sites.

### Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program

EPA is piloting an area-wide planning approach to community brownfield challenges, which recognizes that revitalization of the area surrounding the brownfield site(s) is just as critical to the successful reuse of the property as assessment, cleanup, and redevelopment of an individual site. The pilot program will help further community-based partnership efforts within underserved or economically disadvantaged neighborhoods by confronting local environmental and public health challenges related to brownfields, while creating a planning framework to advance economic development and job creation.

### Pilot Project Description

EPA has selected Desarrollo Integral del Sur, Inc. (DISUR) as a Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Pilot Program recipient. DISUR is focusing this project on a 3,500-acre industrial corridor impacting nine neighborhoods in the rural Municipalities of Peñuelas and Guayanilla. There are 10,991 residents in the corridor, which has been the location of various petrochemical facilities since the 1950s. The corridor now contains mostly non-operating chemical production and petroleum refining facilities and former hazardous waste

### Pilot Program Description

EPA is awarding approximately \$4 million in total across 23 recipients. Recipients will each receive up to approximately \$175,000 in EPA cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance. Assistance will help recipients initiate development of an area-wide plan and identify next steps and resources needed to implement the plan.

### Contacts

For additional information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization  
(202) 566-0633

Assistance Recipient: Desarrollo Integral del Sur, Inc., PR  
(787) 557-6542

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the project proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement and/or direct technical assistance have not yet been negotiated. Activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

treatment units. The population within the corridor is declining, and unemployment is approximately 20 percent. DISUR plans to build upon previous land reuse planning efforts in the corridor and develop a brownfields area-wide plan by facilitating a community-oriented approach to prioritize blighted industrial properties, develop brownfields site reuse plans based on environmental site conditions, cleanup and community needs, and assess existing infrastructure.