Chesapeake Bay Program
Science. Restoration. Partnership.

WATERSHED HEALTH, STRESSORS, LAND USE CHANGE AND RESOURCES

AN OVERVIEW AND DEMONSTRATION OF THE "CHESAPEAKE HEALTHY WATERSHEDS ASSESSMENT" AND OTHER RESOURCES TO INFORM LOCAL DECISION MAKING

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USGS

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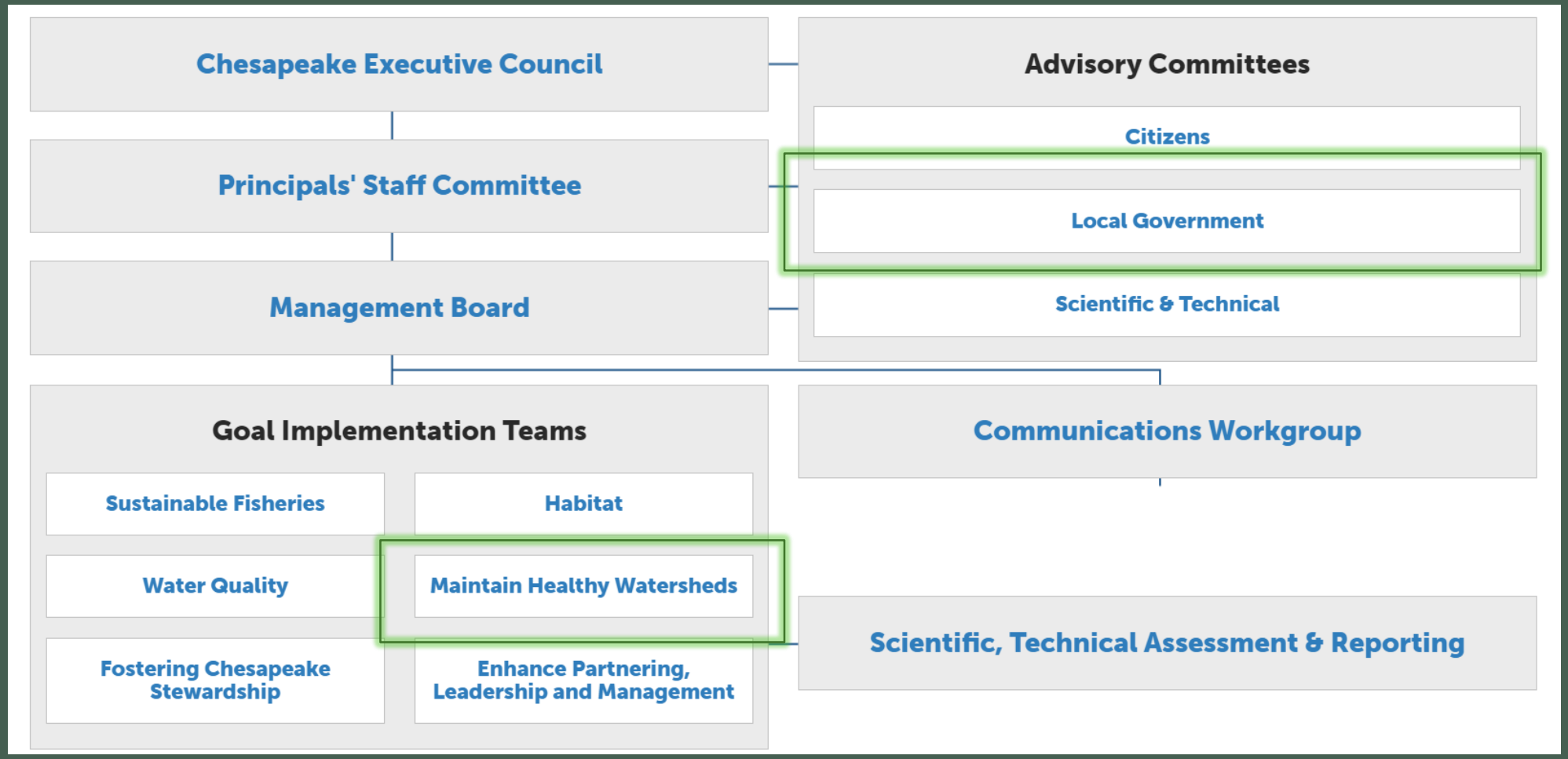
The Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1983	The 1987 Chesapeake Bay Agreement	Chesapeake 2000
Chesapeake Bay Executive Order and Two-year Milestones	Chesapeake Bay TMDL and Watershed Implementation Plans	The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement

Chesapeake Bay Program Organization



HEALTHY WATERSHEDS GOAL

Goal: Sustain state-identified healthy waters and watersheds recognized for their high quality and/or high ecological value

Outcome: 100 percent of state-identified healthy waters and watersheds remain healthy.

HEALTHY WATERSHEDS VISION

Sustain watershed health where it is ***high, exceptional and/or outstanding…***

to ***increase the number of healthy watersheds*** in the future…

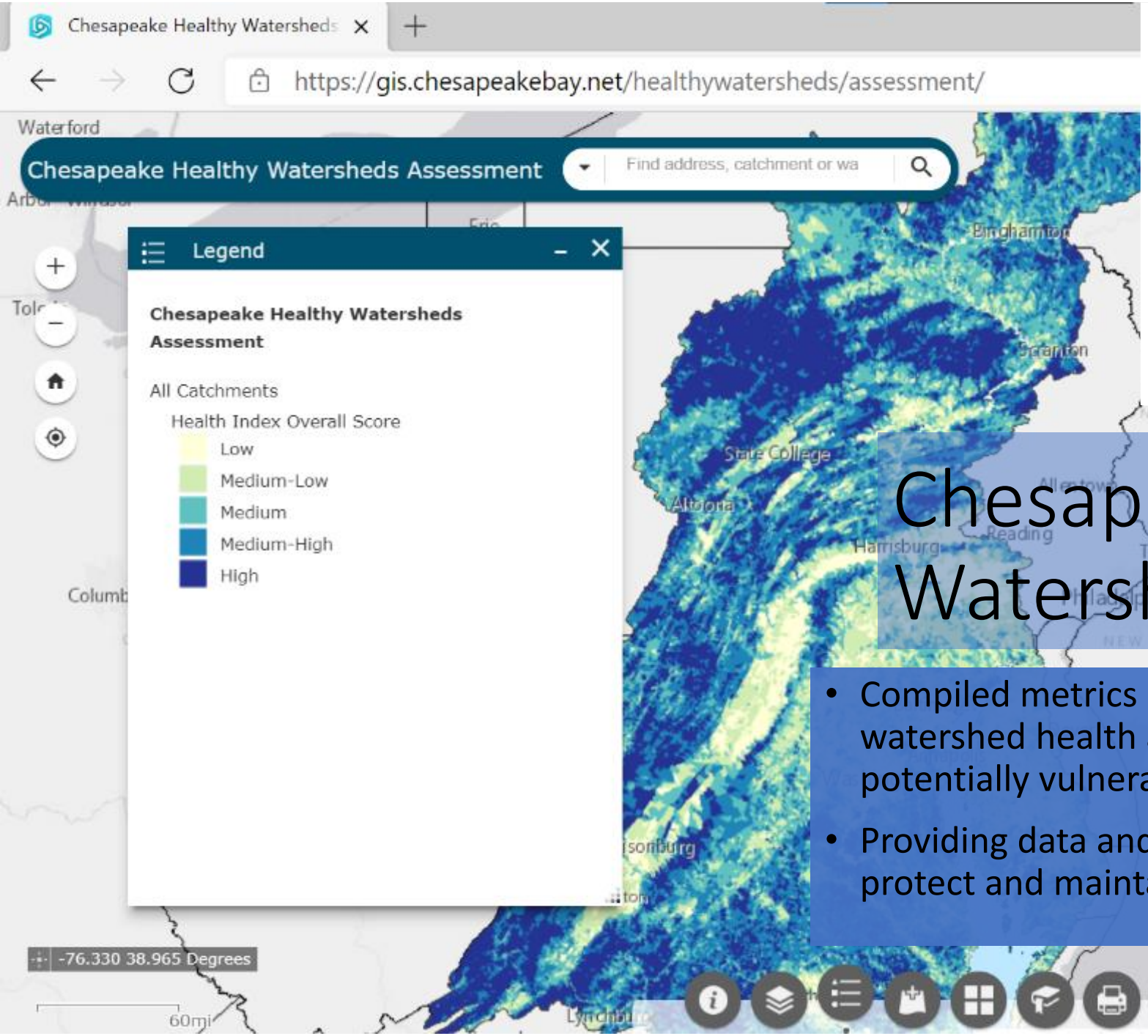
Provide the forum for mutual shared learning…

Develop information resources…

Promote the science…

And

Coordination, Integration and Collaboration.



Chesapeake Healthy Watersheds Assessment

- Compiled metrics characterizing multiple aspects of watershed health and landscape stressors to inform potentially vulnerable and/or resilient catchments.
- Providing data and information to support strategies to protect and maintain healthy watersheds.

Land Use Options Evaluation Outcome:

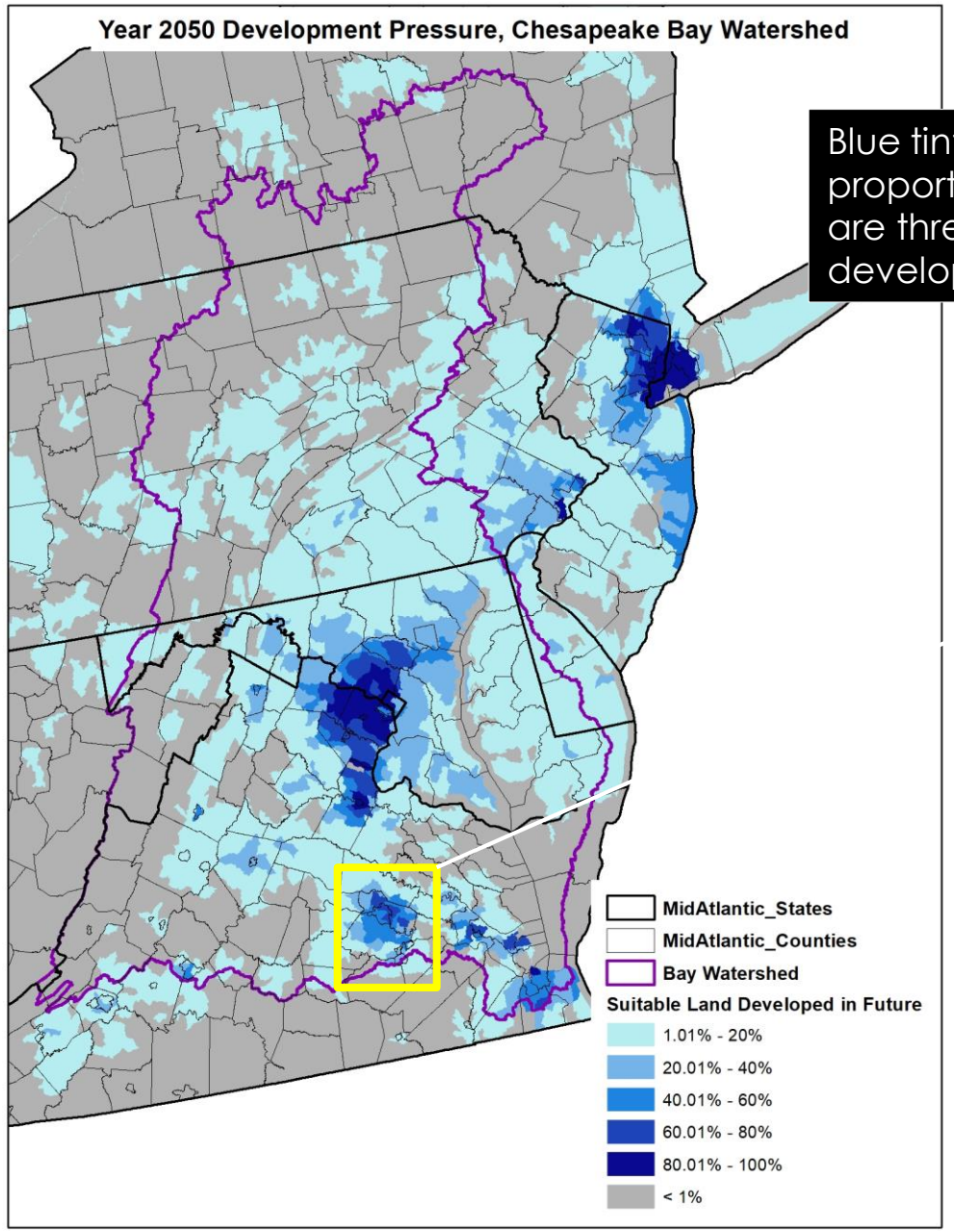
- *policy options, incentives and planning tools* for local governments reduce the rate of conversion of agricultural lands, forests and wetlands
- Development of *strategies* to support local government efforts in *reducing land conversion*

Land Use Methods and Metrics Outcome:

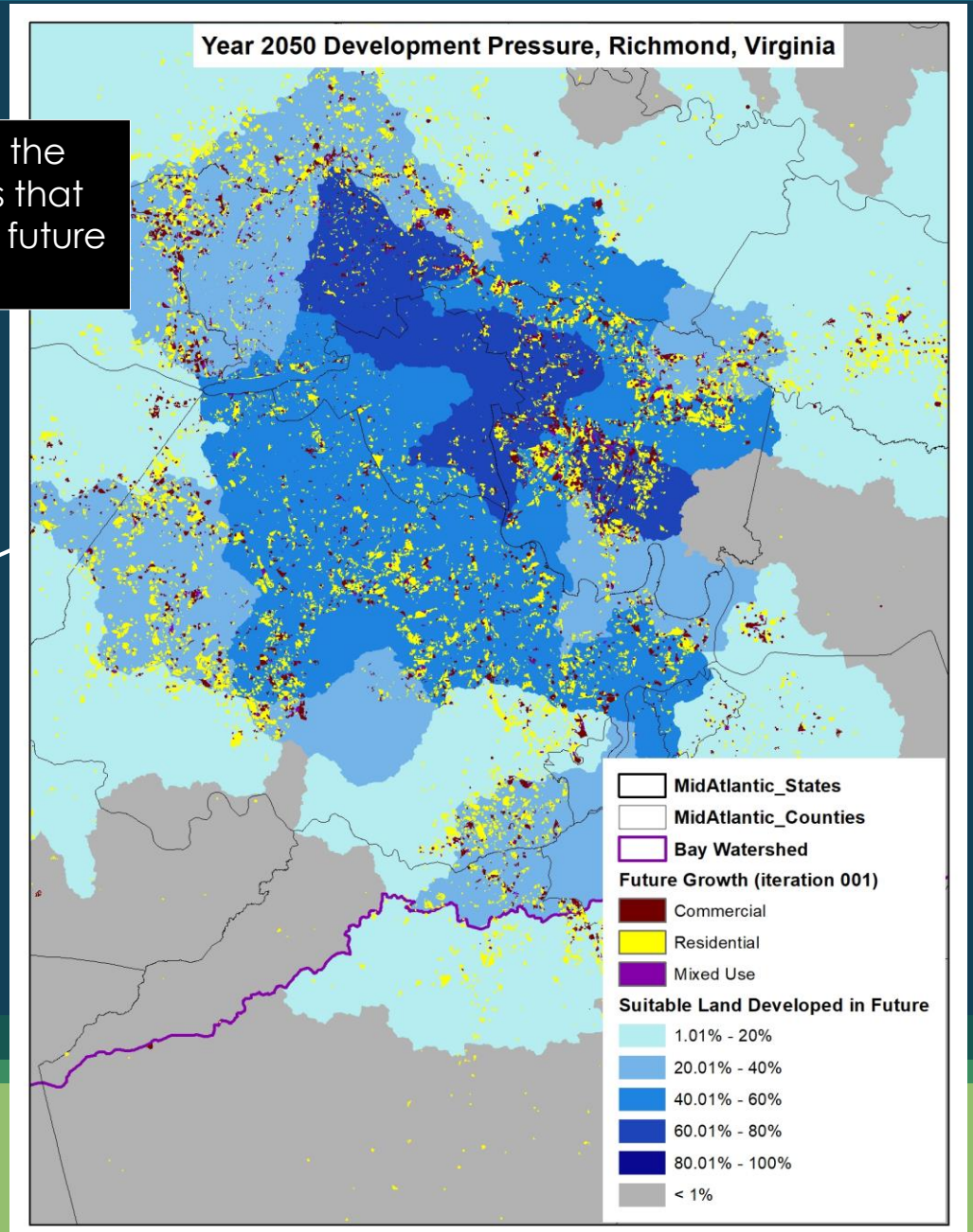
- *improve the knowledge of land conversion and impacts throughout the watershed.*
- *methodology and local level metrics for rate of farmland, forest and wetland conversion, ….impervious surface*
- *public awareness campaign to citizens, local governments, elected officials and stakeholders.*

What's in the "Toolboxes"?

Vulnerability to Land Conversion



Blue tints represent the proportion of lands that are threatened by future development

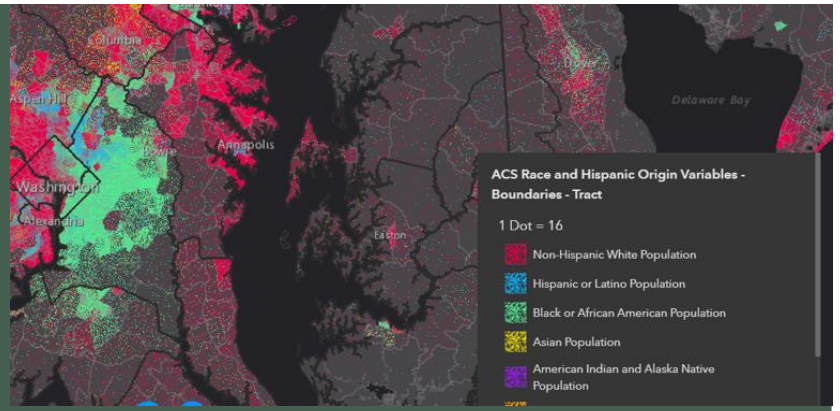


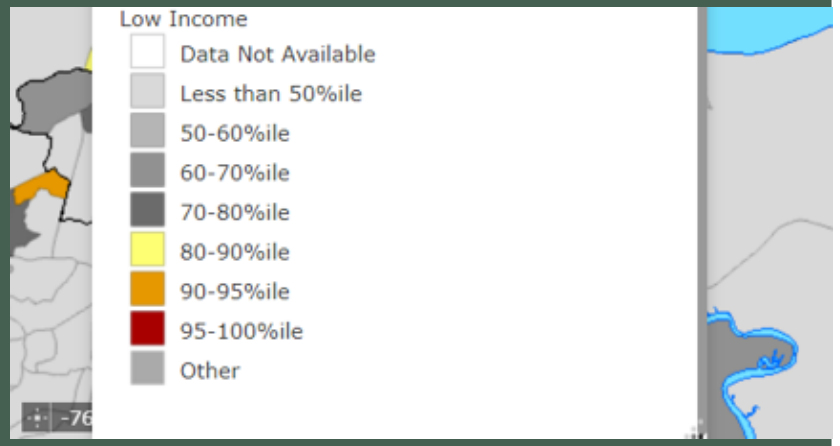
Chesapeake Bay Environmental Justice and Equity Dashboard
What can you do with the information?

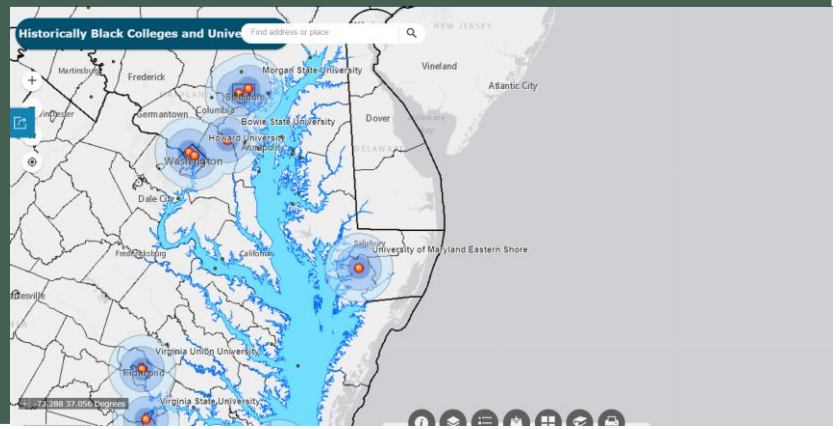
Contains Demographic, Environmental Programmatic content

Examples of application include:

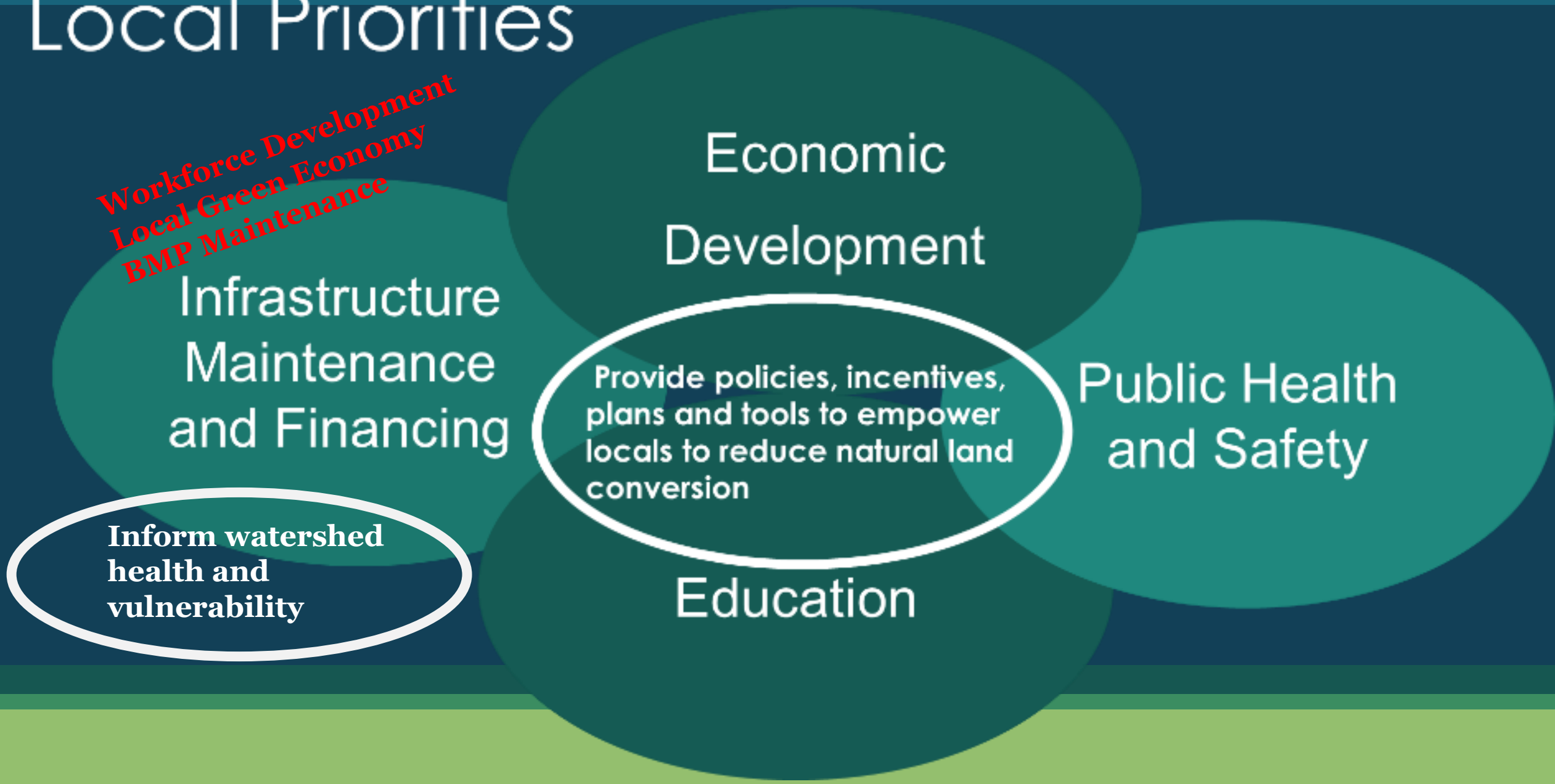
- Locate Historically Black Colleges and Understand where and what types of conservation and restoration projects have been funded in underrepresented communities.
- Understand the geographic distribution of underrepresented populations within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed
- Identify locations where environmental justice issues may be of particular concern







Local Priorities



Trusted Sources

State level associations

Maryland Association of Counties

Virginia Municipal League

Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors

Council of Governments

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments

State Universities

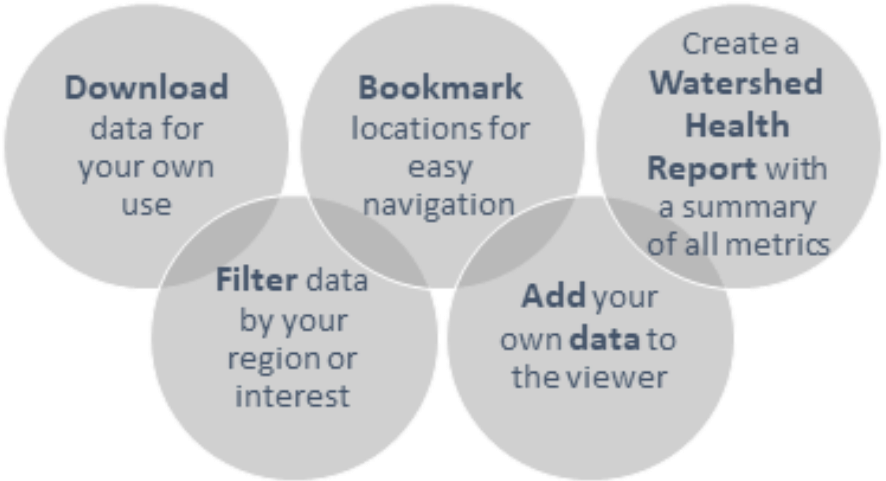
Maryland Sea Grant

Virginia Water Resources Center

Penn State Extension Service

Conservation Districts and Planning Districts

River Basin Commissions

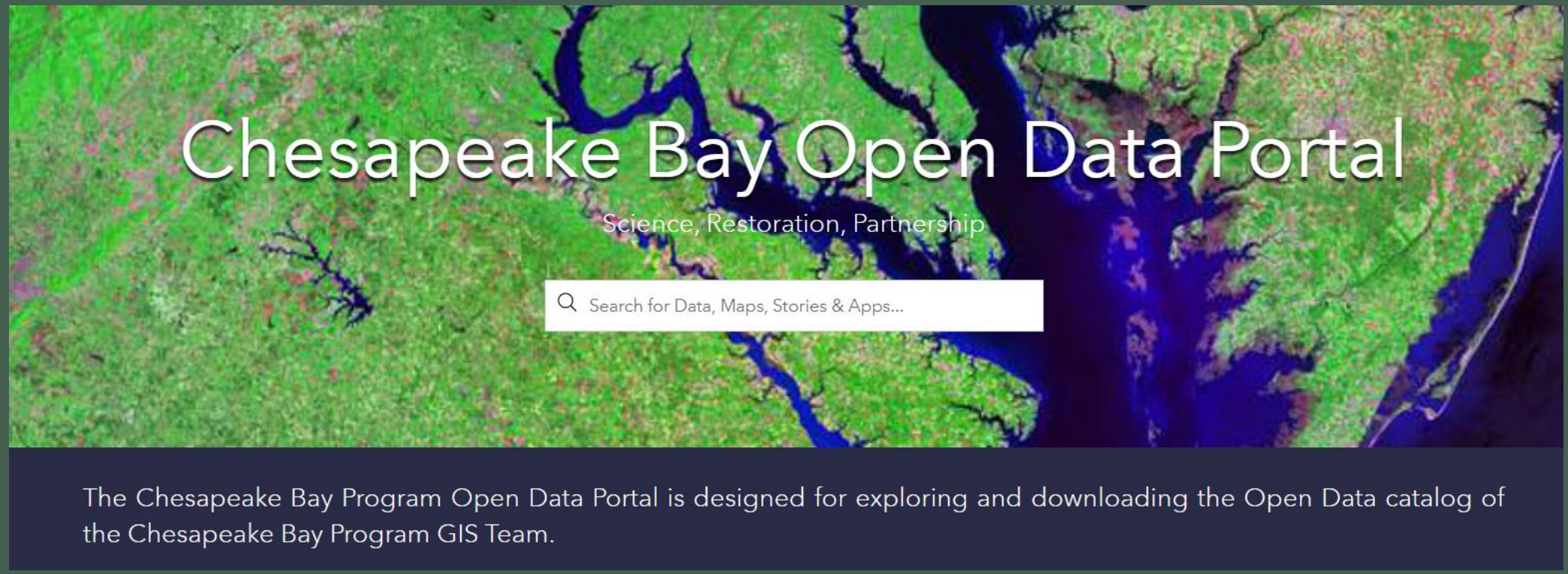


Chesapeake Healthy Watersheds Assessment Demo!

Beyond Watershed Health….

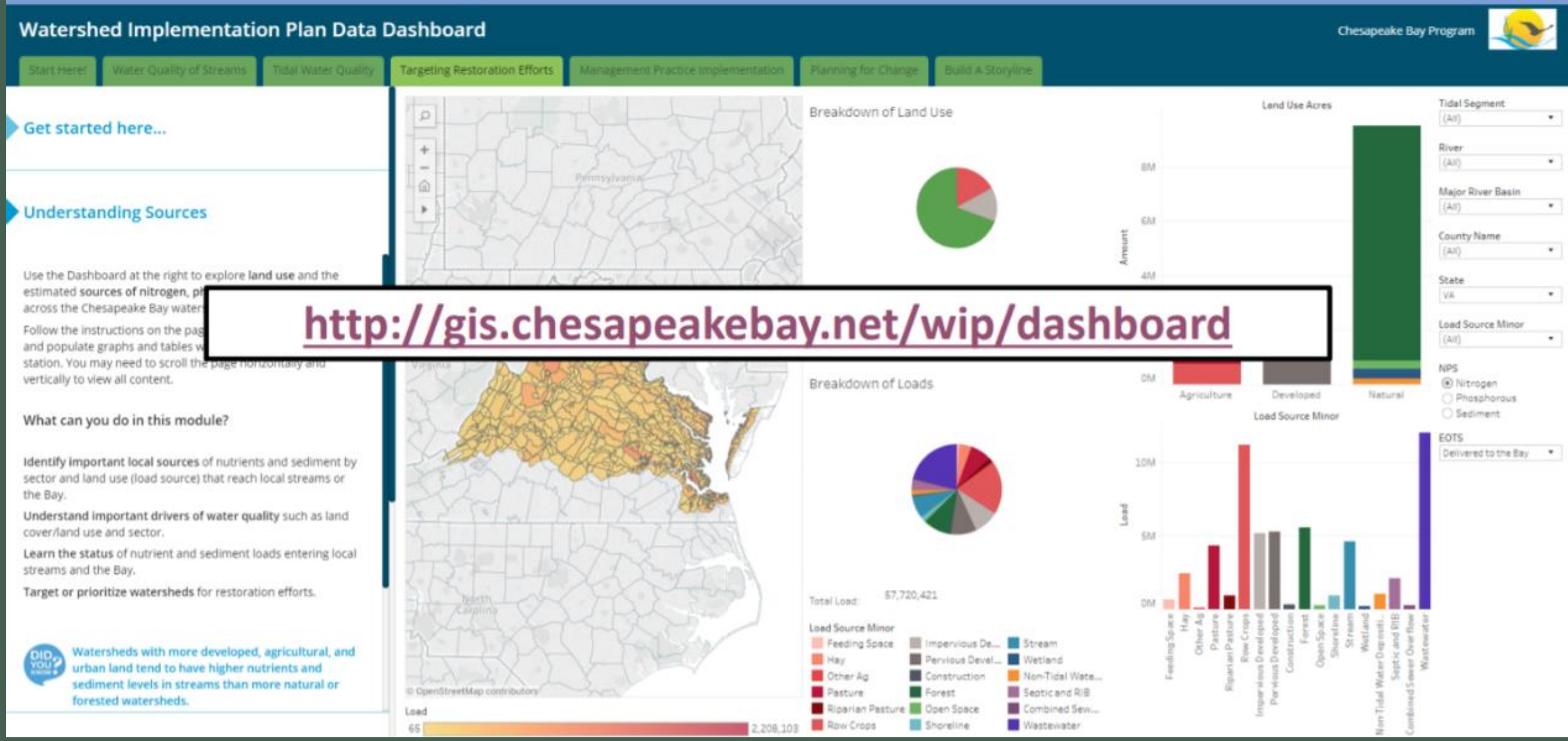
- cross-connections
- stream health
- fish habitat assessment
- water quality
- climate change
- land use change
- local engagement.

Support of interrelated programs for protection and restoration.



http://data-chesbay.opendata.arcgis.com/

Watershed Implementation Plan Data Dashboard



http://gis.chesapeakebay.net/wip/dashboard

Thank you!

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