

# IRL Restoration and Recovery

## *Making progress together*

Indian River Lagoon  
National Estuary Program



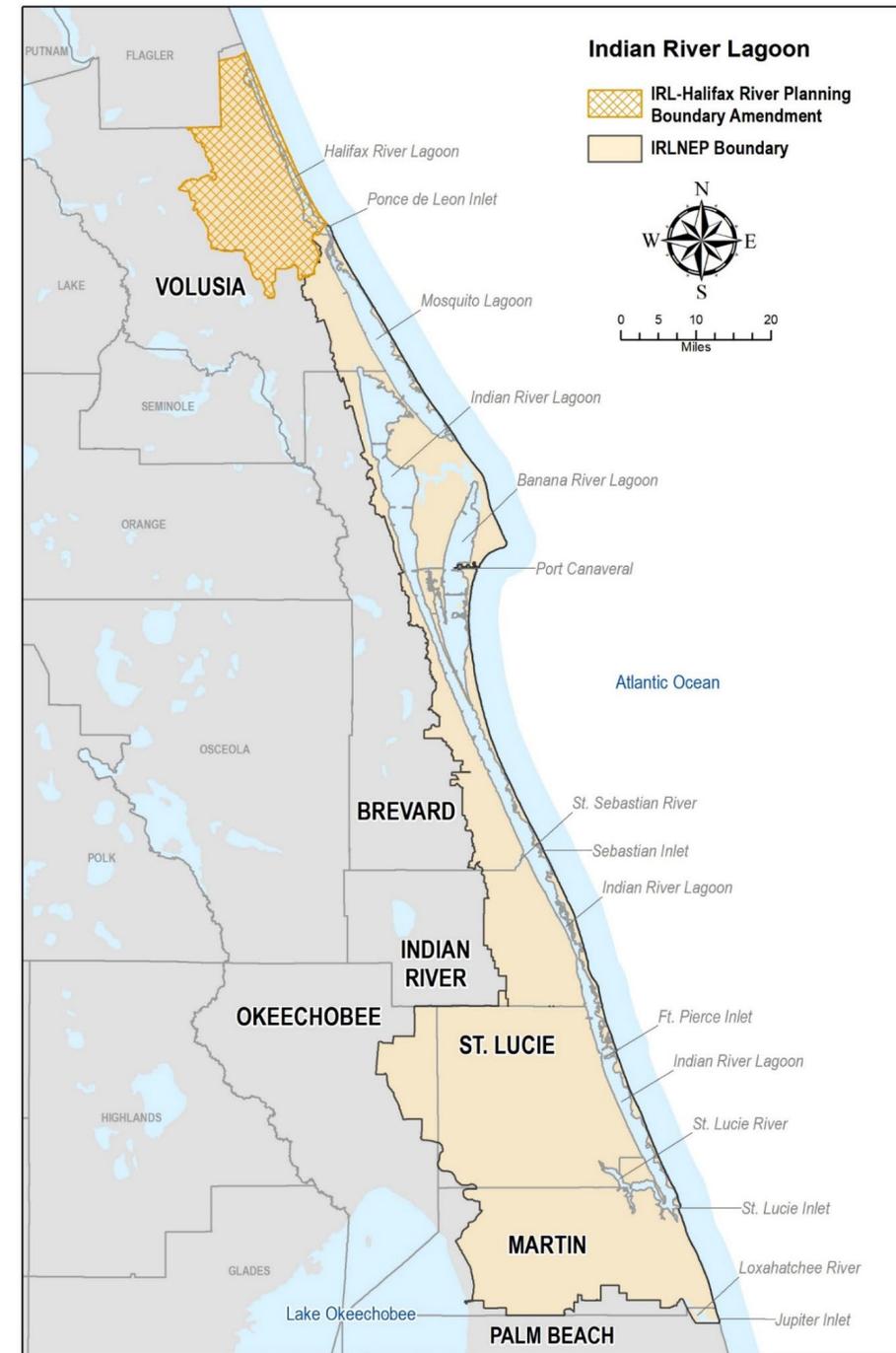
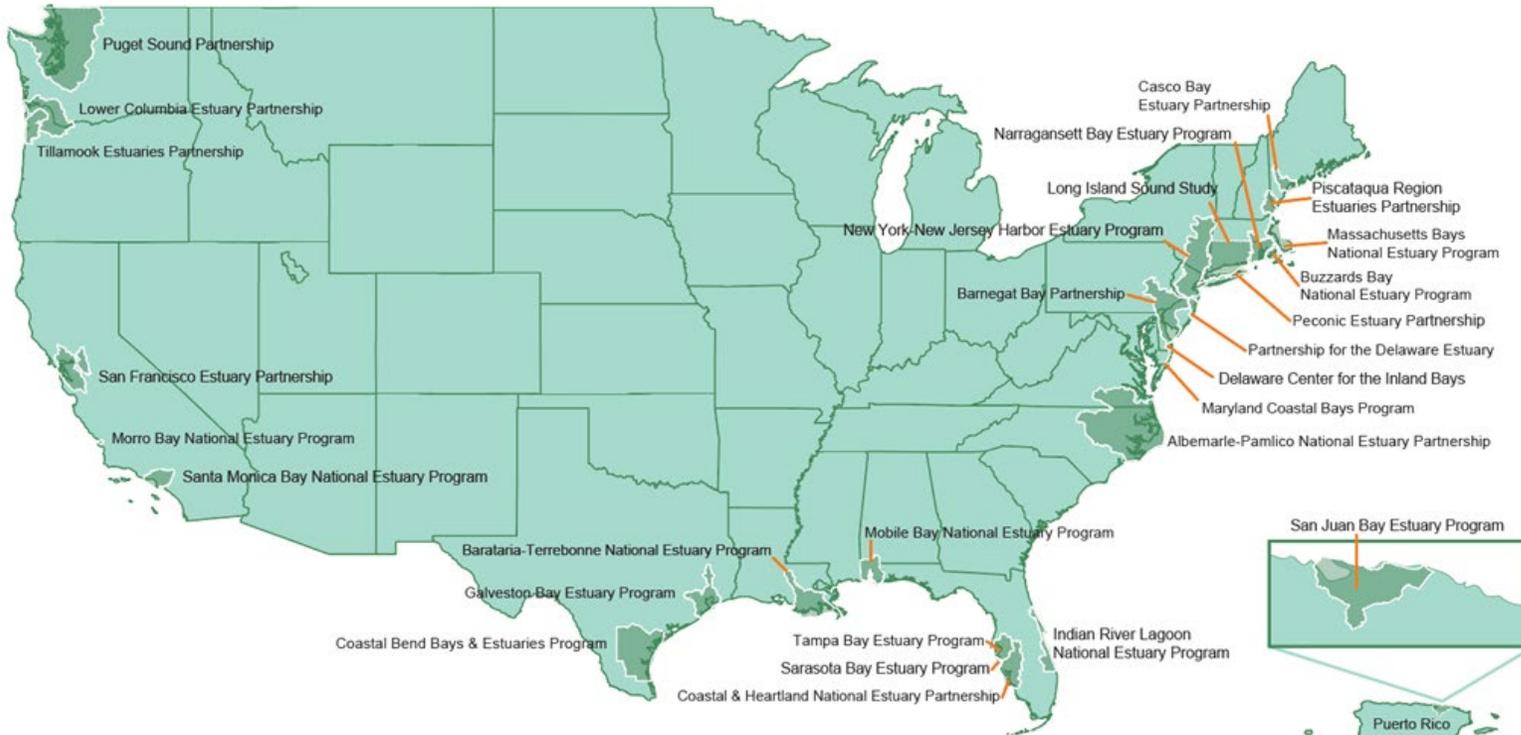
**ONE LAGOON**<sup>™</sup>  
ONE COMMUNITY • ONE VOICE

<https://onelagoon.org/>

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# Indian River Lagoon

## *An estuary of national significance*



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 INDIAN RIVER LAGOON  
 NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM



THE ASSOCIATION OF  
**NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAMS**



# Responding to an estuary in crisis

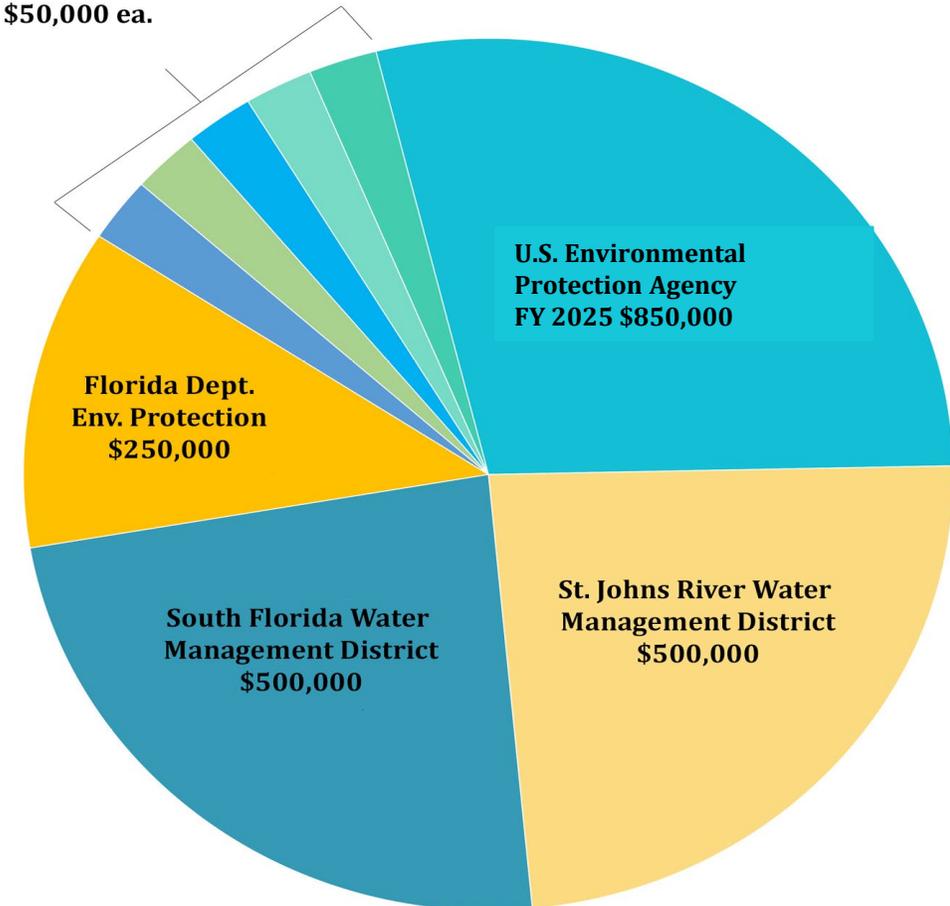
2015 Creation of the IRL Council by interlocal agreement

Convene a Management Conference of scientists, resource managers, community leaders, industry representatives, and citizens

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Annual IRLNEP Funding From IRL Council Partners

Volusia, Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie and Martin Counties  
\$50,000 ea.

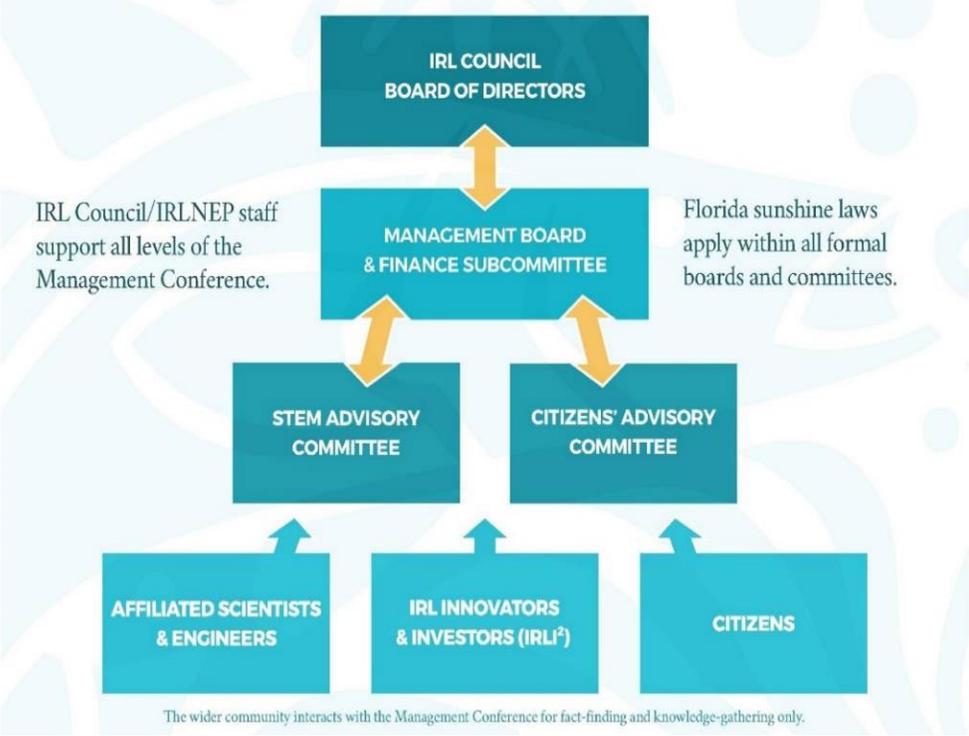




# IRLNEP Management Conference

## IRLNEP MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

*A Collaborative Approach To Network Governance*



## 8 IRL Council Board of Directors

FDEP, SJRWMD, SFWMD, Volusia, **Brevard**, Indian River, St. Lucie, and Martin Counties

*U.S. EPA serves in advisory, non-voting role*

## IRLNEP Management Conference

32 Science Technology Engineering and Modeling Advisory Committee Organizations (1 member each)

53 Management Board and Finance Subcommittee Members

20 Citizen Advisory Committee Members (5 counties)

FY 2026 8 full-time staff; 1 contracted grants manager

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No single entity possesses all the required knowledge, skills, and resources to restore a large, complex ecosystem.



# ONE LAGOON

ONE COMMUNITY · ONE VOICE

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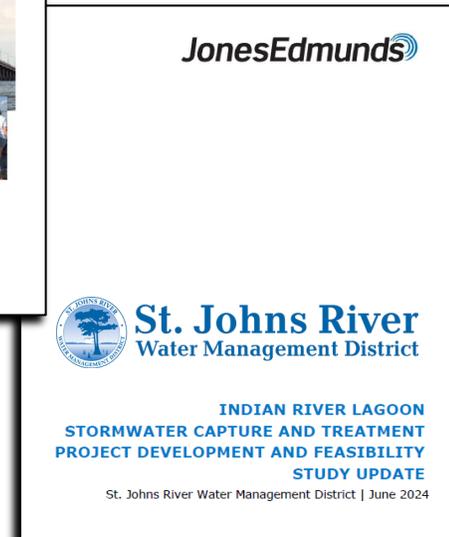
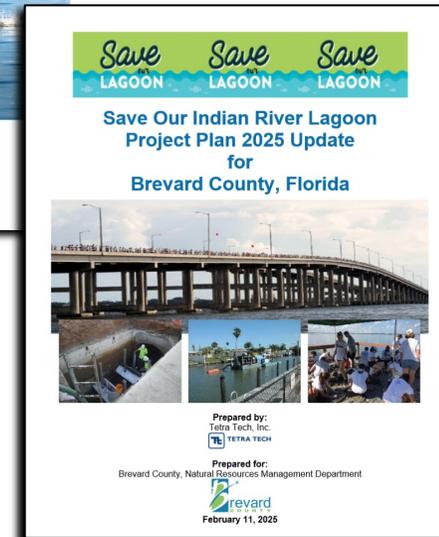
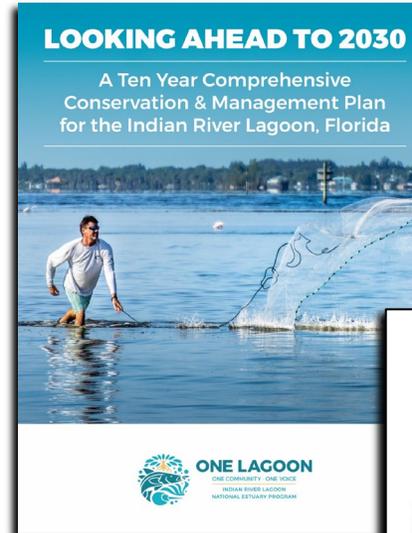
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# Importance of science-based strategic planning

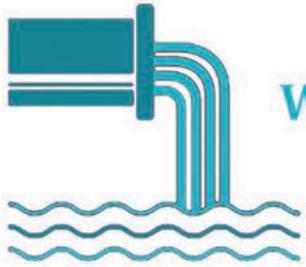
- Understand root causes and pollution sources.
- Identify and prioritize projects
- Convene partners.
- Allocate resources.
- Set clear and measurable project outcomes.
- Consider return-on-investment.
- Adapt to changing conditions.
- Respond to emerging opportunities.





# IRL Council/IRLNEP investment outcomes

## IRLNEP Projects Fiscal Year 2016-2025 248 Projects, \$24,899,815



### NUTRIENT REDUCTION & WATER QUALITY RESTORATION

39 Projects  
\$5,756,948



### COMMUNITY-BASED RESTORATION AND ENGAGEMENT

84 Projects  
\$5,083,625

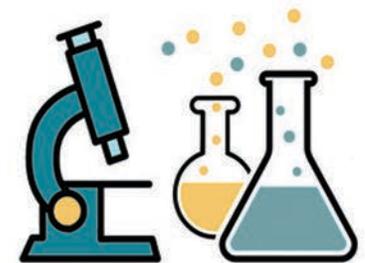
### HABITAT RESTORATION

74 Projects  
\$10,538,162



### SCIENCE, MONITORING AND INNOVATION

51 Projects  
\$3,521,080





# IRL Council/IRLNEP investment outcomes by county

## Investments by County

|              |              |             |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| Volusia      | 24 projects  | \$2,794,541 |
| Brevard      | 37 projects  | \$5,092,379 |
| Indian River | 21 projects  | \$2,656,835 |
| St. Lucie    | 28 projects  | \$3,577,421 |
| Martin       | 28 projects  | \$3,445,871 |
| Lagoonwide   | 110 projects | \$7,332,769 |

# Historic levels of federal and state investments in the IRL

## Federal

- IRLNEP annual EPA funding
- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Bill
- Competitive grants (NOAA)



## State of Florida

- Clean Waterways Act (2020)
- Resilient Florida Program (2021)
- IRL Protection Program (2023)



<https://protectingfloridatogether.gov/state-action/grants-submissions>



# A healthy IRL is a good investment

<https://onelagoon.org/>

**\$28.3 BILLION**  
in spending  
generates



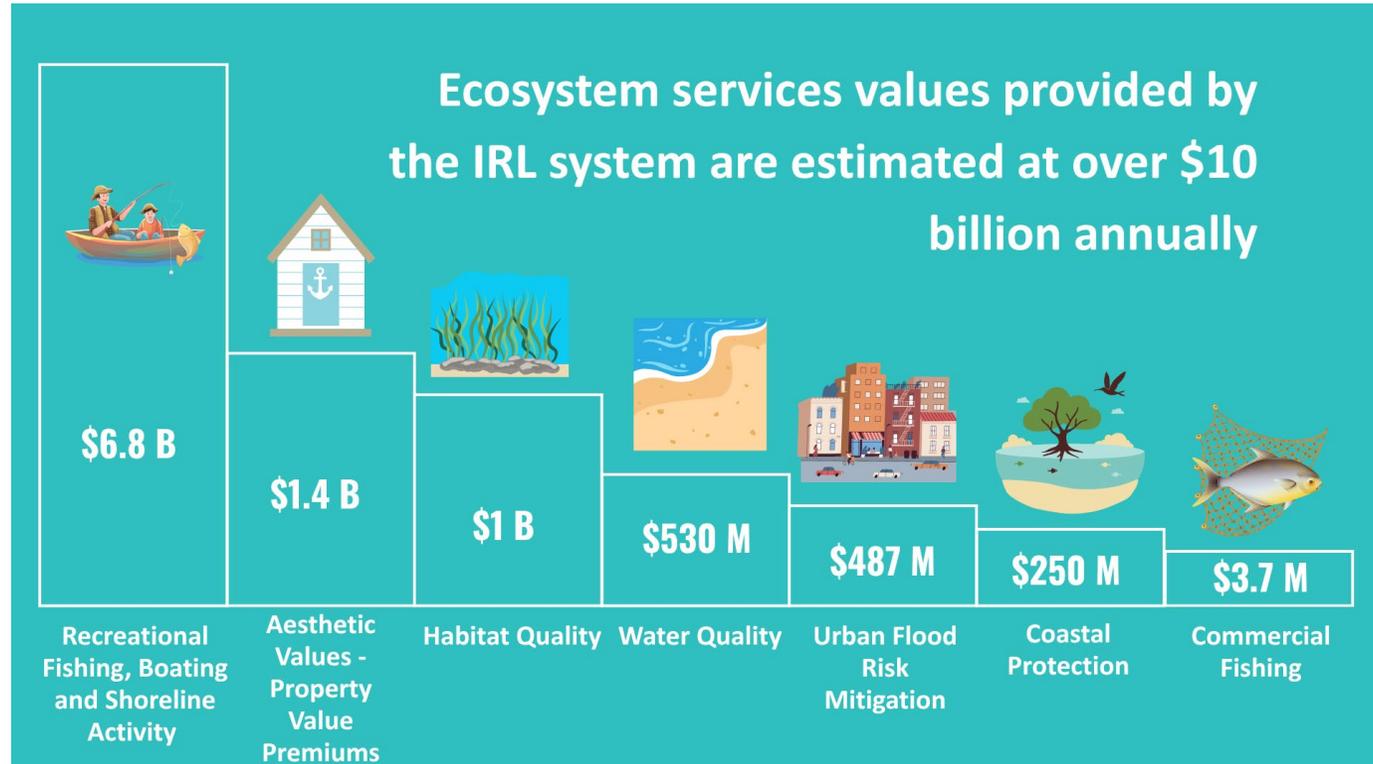
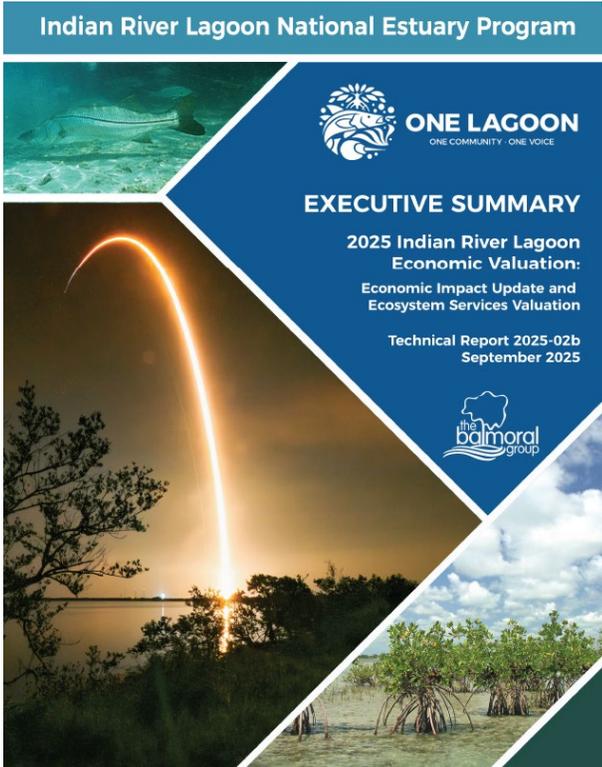
**\$14 BILLION**  
in value added  
to local GDP



**\$8.3 BILLION**  
in wages



**128,400**  
jobs



Reports available online at [www.onelagoon.org](http://www.onelagoon.org)

\*To estimate overall economic impacts TBG used IMPLAN (IMPact analysis for PLANning, an input-output modeling system).



*Brevard County is leading the way*  
**HEALTHY LAGOON – HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**

*Every project is progress  
There are no “silver bullets”  
Ecosystem restoration takes time, resolve, and investments*

CONTACT

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