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| **Problem Solving (A3) Report** | **Topic:** Politicians information and record keeping | **Date: January 20, 2021** |
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| **1. Identify a Problem** | **PLAN** |  | **4. Propose & Implement Countermeasures** | **PLAN/DO** |
| People lead very hectic lives and don’t follow politics carefully during the four-year terms of politicians in Puerto Rico. They often arrive to the polls without enough information to make informed decisions or with just the publicity that candidates were able to promote during their campaigns. There is currently a platform developed so that voters can see who is in their ballot and can read about their work and stances (all written and approved by their them or their public relations representative). However, there is not a platform to track incumbents’ work in public service with impartiality and detail. Being informed in a democracy is a great tool to make impactful and informed decisions to push the change we want to see collectively as a nation. | |  | A web platform in which politicians have profiles with a history of their work (proposed projects, what they voted for, etc.) and public scandals (pertaining to their work and not their personal lives, scandals about corruption, wasteful spending, quotes, etc.). This information can be obtained by several reputable news sources and public government archives. This is a viable solution due to the widespread availability of internet connected devices among the voting population that can actually be persuaded to change their opinions when presented with new factual information. | |
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| **2. Set the Target** | **PLAN** |  | **5. Check/Evaluate** | **CHECK** |
| Voters can be quickly informed about what factual and concrete work the politicians in their ballots have accomplished and who are they serving when election time comes. The goal is to provide this information during the whole of the four-year term that politicians serve in Puerto Rico; when election time comes people will have the most thorough information at hand. | |  | There needs to be a filtering of information to evaluate the validity of the information published. It can’t be skewed to any third-party interest, only to inform facts. Having these factual sources doesn’t solve the problem alone. There are also decades of history and cultural aspects to voting patterns in the population. This is just another tool that new voters and open-minded voters can use to make the best decision according to their judgment, not just follow tradition or instructions. | |
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| **3. Analyze the Causes** | **PLAN** |  | **6. Act and/or Standardize** | **ACT** |
| Most people are not really informed and must rely on recent memory or just very memorable events in the las four years. Political ads can’t be trusted because they are obviously not impartial, not to mention superficial in the information they provide due to their short nature. Voter engagement is also very important, as a lot of voters seem to think change is not possible, leaving a select minority to choose their government for them. | |  | The evaluation of information and its importance needs to be standardized in order to provide impartiality for a long time. The way the information is presented and when are also important because voters need easy navigation and up to date information to make quick, informed decisions. The different ways information is displayed can send unintentional messages to the viewer (What is given importance, depth, and emphasis). The goal is just to present facts, not persuade readers. The only dialogue and analysis to be instigated is between the voter and their ballot. In order for this tool to work there needs to be voter interest in engaging with electing their government officials. Other tools must also be implemented in order to achieve the change the people want. | |

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