

February 4, 2020

Data Quality Record for Long-Term Performance Goal

Long-Term Performance Goal Text: By September 30, 2022, increase the number of grant commitments achieved by states, tribes, and local communities.

Goal Number/Objective: Goal 2: More Effective Partnerships/Objective 2.1: Enhance Shared Accountability

NPM Lead: Office of the Administrator (AO)/Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR)

1a. Purpose of Long-Term Performance Goal:

To develop a system the agency can use to track activities the grantee commits to, in its work plans with EPA.

1b. Performance Measure Term Definitions:

- Grant commitment: A task that is jointly negotiated by EPA and the grant recipient.
- Achieved: The task as described in the grant work plan is met or exceeded within the period of performance.

1c. Unit of Measure: Percentage (number of grant commitments achieved over total grant commitments).

2a. Data Source:

- Relevant information system: TBD – no comprehensive database currently exists
- Entity that reports data to the system: Regions, via grantees' annual/semi-annual reports
- Frequency of reporting primary data: Annual/semi-annual/quarterly (grantee-specific)
- Provide reference to QAPP: N/A

2b. Data needed for interpretation of (calculated) Performance Result:

- Baseline data: TBD
- Frequency for reporting result: Quarterly, beginning April 2020
- Universe for full scope of measure: TBD

3. Methodology

OCIR is working with program offices to identify a subset of grant programs to pilot a quarterly data collection effort. Meanwhile, OCIR is exploring technology solutions supportive of an agency-wide tracking system.

4. Data Limitations/Qualifications:

- The quantity of discrete commitments documented in EPA's assistance awards is vast and managed by hundreds of individuals throughout the Regions; HQ's ability to collect grant data is therefore attenuated and not supported by current grant administration systems.
- The proposed measure will add administrative and accounting burdens on EPA regional personnel and grant recipients. OCIR is aware of long-standing grant regulations and policies intended to minimize paperwork and reporting burden on grant recipients.
- "Core" program grants awarded to state, tribal, and local environmental programs support basic costs such as staff and overhead, which co-regulators argue are not meaningful metrics demonstrative of environmental outcomes.

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5. Technical Contact:

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6. Certification Statement/Signature

I certify the information in this DQR is complete and accurate.

DAA Signature Robin F. Lu 3/11/20