

2007 CSREES Planning and Evaluation Mini-Conference
Held in conjunction with the CSREES Administrative Officers Meeting
Seattle, Washington

(The Administrative Officers Meeting registration fee will be reduced for those attending only the mini-conference)

Monday

Topic: Plan of Work 2007 Annual Report Requirements

Description: This session discuss an update of the Plan of Work and the review process with special emphasis given to the upcoming 2007 Annual Report structure, requirements, and a first look at the Annual Report software wire frames. Included will be a short discussion on how CSREES will use the data.

Topic: Best Practices for State Plans of Work

Description: In this session, State panelists will share their approach to the 5-Year rolling Plan of Work, including what Planned Programs were chosen and why. The Panelists will also discuss the outcome measures and how they expect to report on those outcomes.

Tuesday

Topic: Patterns and Directions Found in the 2007-2011 Plan of Work

Description: In part one, this session will present national patterns and directions found from analysis of the information submitted by states in the 2007-2011 Plan of Work. Part two will present a quick overview of the ways in which data from the State Plans of Work have been used to meet Federal planning and accountability requirements. These requirements include the President's Management Agenda (PMA), Budget-Performance Integration (BPI), the Portfolio Review Expert Process (PREP), and the requirements for the Office of Management and Budget Program Assessment Rating Tool (PART). This session also describes the inter-relationship of the PREP, PART, and BPI.

Topic: How CSREES Uses Your Reporting

Overview of the Budget-Performance Cycle

This session will provide an overview of CSREES implementation of evaluation, GPRA and the President's Management Agenda, especially as related to budget and performance integration and PART. The importance of reporting from the recipients of CSREES funding and how it is used within the agency for these purposes will be explained.

Portfolio Review Expert Process (PREP): Retrospective Reporting and Forward Planning

Description: CSREES developed the PREP to assess a portfolio of programs to identify its relevance, quality, and performance. Preeminent external expert judgments lend objectivity, credibility and rigor to portfolio review and assessment. Panelists review and assess portfolio programs administered by the agency to provide expert judgment of the degree to which outputs and outcomes/impact generated by funded projects in the portfolio have demonstrated accountability as defined by OMB. Panelists assess the portfolio to determine the extent to which it has contributed to achieving the agency's strategic goals and solving problems of major national concern. The panel also recommends ways to improve upon portfolio management and the agency's guidelines for portfolio assessment. Based on panel recommendations, program units and the agency adjust and/or improve upon portfolio management and programmatic future

directions. Scores from the PREP are used in the PART reporting and reported by OMB on ExpectMore.gov.

Topic: Performance Measures, Outcomes, and Impacts

Description: CSREES is required to demonstrate accountability for expending public funds in solving problems of national significance through its research, education, and extension programs and services. These programs and services are funded to develop and implement activities to provide program results or outputs. These results/outputs must lead to outcomes that eventually impact the lives of program participants or end users. Performance measures are developed to assess the value added by Agency programs to solving national problems and concerns based on program outcomes and the impacts they have on the Nation's agricultural landscape. This session describes how performance measures, outcomes, and impacts are identified, developed, and reported for CSREES programs.

Topic – Developing Consensus on Common Models and Standard Sets of Indicators: Family and Consumer Science and 4-H Experiences as Exemplars

Description: This session describes the efforts of CSREES staff and State partners to develop common models and sets of common indicators. Efforts involving Family and Consumer Sciences state leaders will be discussed. The 4-H Quality/Accountability Group proposed process includes gathering background data, including developing 'the mother of all logic models', reviewing the total compilation of indicators submitted by states for the 2006 Plans of Work, reviewing program quality standards, and specific state-level requirements (as applicable). After digesting this information, the group plans to convene a facilitated, 2-day indicators development meeting. Results from this process will be presented at the State 4-H Program Leaders Annual Meeting in April, 2007. The panel will describe the process (as planned and as carried out) and results from this session.