



Agency Priority Goal Action Plan

Reduce Consumer Risk from Regulated Products through Modernization

Goal Leader:

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Overview

Goal Statement

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) will reduce consumer risk from FSIS-regulated products by systematically controlling and preventing hazards through the use of modernized systems, policies, and scientific approaches. By September 30, 2021, the Department intends to propose or implement eight modernization initiatives.

Challenges

Competing internal and external deadlines as these documents are reviewed during the clearance process

Opportunities

Leverage current processes to oversee performance, mitigate risk and monitor progress while continuing to ensure strategic alignment.

Leadership & Implementation Team

- The Agency leverages its Enterprise Governance process to achieve its APG. This process, formally documented in FSIS policy, has executive-level enterprise boards that align up to the Management Council for decision-making and implementation. This process involves all levels of leadership through to the Agency Administrator.
- FSIS collaborates with FDA and other Federal agencies, when applicable, to ensure new policies and initiatives are consistently promoting best practices for food safety. Several examples of this include the FSIS-FDA Dual-Jurisdiction Establishments Workgroup, the Interagency Collaboration on Genomics for Food and Feed Safety, and the Interagency Food Safety Analytics Collaboration, to name a few.

| Entity | Members | Responsibilities |
|--|--|--|
| Management Council | FSIS Executives | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Decision-making, prioritization and oversight of the Agency's public health mission, goals, priorities and resource management |
| Enterprise Governance Boards | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Enterprise Steering Board2. Enterprise Investment Board3. Enterprise Architecture Board | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recommending proposals and initiatives for decision-making and implementation |
| Office of Policy & Program Development | Issuances Staff | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Developing and delivering policy and regulations |
| Office of Field Operations | Regulatory Operations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementing policy and regulations. |

Goal Structure & Strategies

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| | <p>Goal: Reduce consumer risk from FSIS-regulated products by systematically controlling and preventing hazards using modernized systems, policies, and scientific approaches. By September 30, 2021, USDA intends to propose or implement eight modernization initiatives.</p> |
| Strategies | <p>Leverage current enterprise governance process for decision-making. This process streamlines the approval of new systems, policies, and scientific approaches by allowing governance boards to research details and identify issues early in the process.</p> |
| Connection (Strategic Outcome) | <p><i>USDA Goal 7: Provide All American Access to a Safe, Nutritious and Secure Food Supply</i></p> <p><i>FSIS Strategic Plan Goal 1: Prevent Foodborne Illness and Protect Public Health</i></p> <p><i>FSIS Strategic Plan Goal 2: Modernize Inspection Systems, Policies and the Use of Scientific Approaches</i></p> |
| Limitations | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Agency policy staff bandwidth○ Department clearance process○ OMB rulemaking process |

Summary of Progress – FY 20, Q3

- **Three modernization initiatives are in Agency Drafting**
 - These initiatives address performance standards for various FSIS-regulated products.
- **Three modernization initiatives are with the Office of General Counsel**
 - These initiatives address performance standards, inspection, and lab modernization.
- **One modernization initiative is with the Office of Management and Budget**
 - This initiative is related to Egg Products Inspection Regulations.
- **One modernization initiative has been published**
 - [Modernization of Swine Slaughter Inspection](#) – this Rule amends existing Federal meat inspection regulations to establish an optional new inspection system for market hog slaughter establishments that has been demonstrated to provide public health protection at least equivalent to the existing inspection system.

Key Milestones and Status for FY 2020

Key milestones are tracked internally via the Agency’s priority dashboard using the following progress criteria, as applicable:

| Key Milestone | Q1 Status | Q2 Status | Q3 Status | Q4 Status |
|---------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Workplan to OMB | | | | |
| Agency Drafting | 5 initiatives | 4 initiatives | 3 initiatives | |
| Office of General Council | 1 initiative | 3 initiatives | 3 initiatives | |
| Agency Clearance | | | | |
| Department Clearance | | | | |
| Office of Management and Budget | | | 1 initiative | |
| Office of Federal Register | | | | |
| Published | 2 initiatives | 1 initiative | 1 initiative | |

**The Agency tracks eight initiatives at any given time. Quarterly status represents the eight initiatives being tracked for that quarter.*

Additional Information

Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations

- During policy development, the Office of Policy and Program Development consults with the Office of Field Operations and other FSIS program areas, as needed.
- FSIS fulfills its obligation to notify the Union of changes in policy through the procedures in the collective bargaining agreement with the National Joint Council of Food Inspectors, which is the exclusive representative of the bargaining unit employees.
- Through the Federal Register process, FSIS will request comments before finalizing any of the initiatives. Potential stakeholders may include industry or consumer advocacy groups.