



Agency Priority Goal Action Plan

Category-Management

Goal Leaders:

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Fiscal Year 2020, Quarters 1 & 2

Overview

Goal Statement

- Leverage common contracts to maximize cost-efficiency and standardization. By September 30, 2021, meet or exceed Federal targets for managed spending as determined by the President’s Management Agenda.

Challenge

- The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is working to use taxpayer dollars more efficiently and effectively in our operations and procurements. To do so, the Agency is considering the U.S. Government-wide contracts for goods and services to use taxpayer resources more efficiently; avoid wasteful and redundant contracting actions, and free-up acquisition staff to accelerate the use of innovative procurements for high-priority mission work.

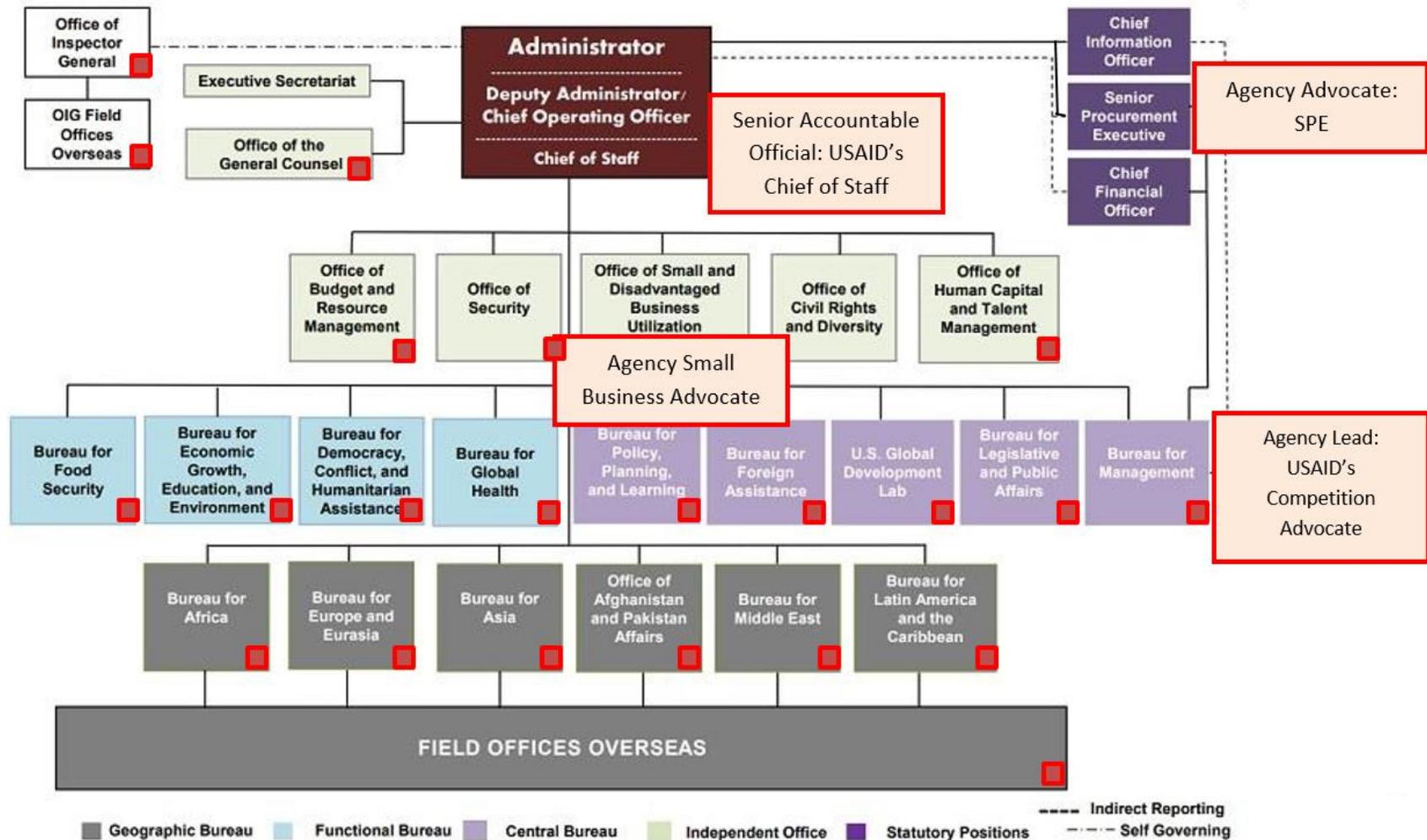
Opportunity

- By applying principles from Category-Management (CM) and the associated Best-in-Class (BIC) solutions, USAID can purchase goods and services more like a single enterprise. Application of BIC solutions and further adoption of Spend Under Management (SUM) principles, will enable the Federal Government to eliminate redundancies by avoiding multiple contracts, increase efficiency by streamlining administration costs, and deliver more value and savings from the U.S. Government’s acquisition programs.
- The specific targets for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 include the following (FY 2021 targets will be available later in FY 2020):
 - Increasing total spend under management (SUM) from the FY 2019 target of \$3.6 billion to \$3.8 billion of total spend; and
 - Increasing use of BIC solutions from the FY 2019 target of \$168.9 million to the FY 2020 target of \$185.8 million.

The graphic on the next page depicts both the key leadership team and the implementation team for CM. The Senior Accountable Official (SAO) is USAID’s Chief of Staff. The Agency Lead is USAID’s Competition Advocate, who is the Deputy Director of the Division for Accountability, Compliance, Transparency and System Support (ACTS) in the Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA) within the Bureau for Management. The Senior Procurement Executive serves as the general “Agency Advocate” and works with the Agency Lead and the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) to coordinate and ensure USAID is meeting its CM and small-business goals.

Stakeholders in the implementation of CM work across the entire Agency; the chart below depicts which organizations are likely to have, or can take advantage of, CM solutions.

Leadership and Implementation Team



A red box (■) indicates that the Bureau/Office is a stakeholder in the implementation of CM.

Goal Structure and Strategies

One of the overall goals of CM is to increase SUM. Three tiers of solutions fall under the broad umbrella of SUM: Tier 1, Tier 2, and BIC (Tier 3). SUM also can include those obligations transacted through contracts that meet defined criteria. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) deems Tiers 1–3 as “under management.” Spending on contracts not aligned to CM principles is rated Tier 0, as it represents opportunities for adopting higher-tier solutions.

USAID continues to build on progress we made in the APG cycle for FY 2018-2019. USAID’s FY 2018 SUM was \$3.5 billion, and our BIC spend was \$134.2 million. For FY 2019, USAID’s SUM was \$4.3 billion, and our BIC spend increased to \$147.8 million. USAID attributes success in advancing in both areas of “spend” (SUM and BIC) to a three-pronged approach. The first relates to greater training and an increase in resources to focus on CM and its implementation across USAID. The second prong relates to the internal steps USAID has taken to adopt additional SUM and BIC solutions to assist USAID in carrying out its mission. The final prong relates to USAID’s close coordination with both OMB and the General Services Administration (GSA) to leverage their talent and expertise, and to make accommodations to recognize the unique international environments in which USAID conducts contracting overseas.

OMB has designated BIC contracts as “preferred,” as they are U.S. Government-wide, and can provide the best savings and availability. The GSA has pre-vetted these contracts, which are mature and market-proven:

- Tier 3 is BIC Solutions;
- Tier 2 is Multi-Agency Solutions; and
- Tier 1 is Mandatory-Use, Agency-Wide Solutions or approved contracts created that strategically use small-businesses; and
- Tier 0 is all other contracts.

The tiering depends on ratings of the following attributes:

- Leadership;
- Strategy;
- Data;
- Tools; and
- Metrics.

Goal Structure and Strategies

To accomplish our SUM and BIC goals, USAID plans to engage as early as possible in planning and collaborate with Activity Planners and staff from technical programs across the Agency to accomplish the following:

1. Participate actively in the market-research stage;
2. Consider contract opportunities offered via CM, and, where appropriate, with small businesses;
3. Justify and document if the Agency opts for another contract method, and provide a plan to manage the contract we select:
 - a. If USAID does not select a BIC or SUM vehicle, the Agency must justify the choice in the Individual Acquisition Plan (written by the Activity Planner) and Negotiation Memo (written by the Contracting Officer).

USAID manages and attains these goals through a multi-phased process that systematically addresses these key attributes:

- Increasing awareness;
- Providing education and training;
- Managing advocacy;
- Encouraging engagement with internal and external stakeholders;
- Developing and applying SUM principles;
- Measuring and tracking results; and
- Evaluating and adapting to improve our SUM and use of BIC contracts.

Summary of Progress - First and Second Quarters (Q1 and Q2) of FY 2020

- In Q1 of FY 2020, USAID met our SUM target, but fell short of our BIC target. In Q2, USAID exceeded our SUM target, but again fell short of our BIC target. The Agency is still on track to meet our BIC total spend target because we make the majority of our overall obligations, including our BIC spend, in the fourth quarter of each Fiscal Year.
- The Agency achieved our milestone for Q1 by submitting the Agency's CM Plan for FY 2020 to OMB, in compliance with OMB Memorandum 19-13.
- The Agency will continue to emphasize the importance of CM as a tool set to reduce both contract costs and time-to-award.
- USAID will continue to incorporate presentations on CM, tailored to Missions, when our Evaluation Division travels to each Mission.
- USAID will follow up on our actions taken to support OMB Memorandum 19-13:
 - I. The Agency will issue a policy revision to codify the approach and implementation, which will include the following aspects:
 - Meeting target goals and objectives;
 - Assessing analyses of alternatives;
 - Improving vendor-management;
 - Refining demand-Management; and
 - Planning for implementation.
 - II. In Q3 of FY 2020, the Agency will publish a Procurement Executive Bulletin (PEB) to publicize this policy revision.
- The Agency will work to further implement and update its vendor-management effort via its "Industry Liaison External Communication Plan."
- M/OAA will continue to work collaboratively with the USAID Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) to ensure the Agency is meeting our targets for contracting with small businesses.
- USAID has conducted, and will continue to conduct, a number of engagements across the Agency to train, educate, and prepare our contracting staff and stakeholders on the opportunities and benefits associated with CM.

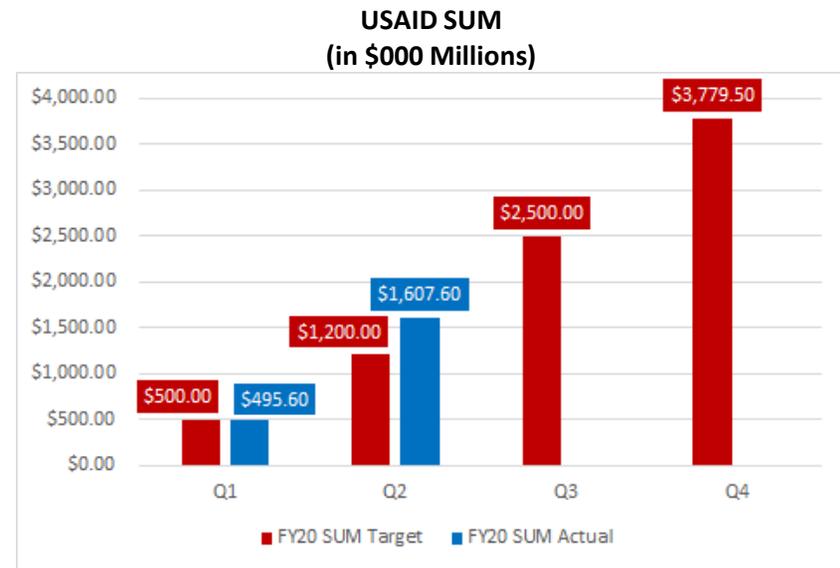
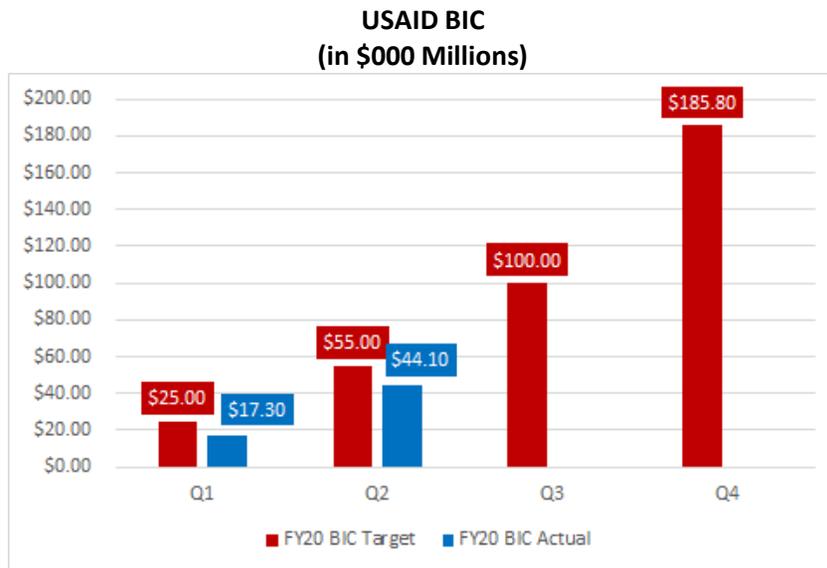
Summary of Progress - First and Second Quarters (Q1 and Q2) of FY 2020

- In January 2020, USAID's Competition Advocate briefed on CM and its capabilities to USAID's senior executives at the Management Operations Council (MOC), a regular meeting of senior leadership.
- In March 2020, USAID's Competition Advocate also briefed on CM and its capabilities at USAID's Small Business Conference in Frankfurt, Germany, and encouraged implementing partners to either become a prime implementer on BIC vehicles or to work with other primes to serve as a sub-awardee under the BIC vehicles.
- USAID will continue to work in collaboration with GSA, the Federal Acquisition Institute, and the Professional Development and Training Division (PDT) within M/OAA to provide training and workshops on CM periodically throughout the Fiscal Year.

Key Indicators and Milestones

USAID will leverage our successes to date and further refine our implementation strategy through FY 2020 and FY 2021 to meet our intended targets¹ and goals:

- USAID’s target for BIC spending in FY 2020 is \$185.8 million; USAID’s BIC spending in FY 2019 was \$147.8 million.
- USAID’s target for SUM in FY 2020 is \$3.8 billion; USAID’s SUM in FY 2019 was \$4.3 billion.
- USAID exceeded our SUM target for Q2, and trails slightly in our BIC target because our contracting early in every Fiscal Year involves “addressable spend” awards.



¹ The GSA and OMB have not yet established USAID’s BIC or SUM targets for FY 2021.

Key Indicators and Milestones

Key Category Management Milestone	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Comments
Submit USAID's CM Plan for FY 2020 to OMB (according to OMB Memo 19-13).	Q4 FY 2019 / Q1 FY 2020	Completed	USAID submitted our CM Plan to OMB.
Work with OMB to get feedback on our CM Plan for FY 2020 and make adjustments to it.	Q1 FY 2020	Completed	USAID addressed OMB's follow-up questions and feedback. USAID added detail regarding our CM Plan. OMB accepted the submission.
Identify, assess, and focus on programs applicable to CM solutions. Educate and train Contracting Officers (COs) in detail about CM, including background, policy, adoption methods, tools for leverage, and implementation.	Q1-Q3 FY 2020	In progress	This is an on-going effort, intended to affect the planning and execution for new and any "follow-on" awards planned for FY 2020.
Update fields in USAID's Global Acquisition and Assistance System (GLAAS) to identify the selection of CM solutions and the supporting rationale for their use/non-use.	Q2 FY2020	Completed	USAID implemented these fields on February 28, 2020.
Assess USAID's Acquisition and Assistance (A&A) Plan to identify future acquisitions over \$50 million and \$100 million to identify key opportunities to address SUM.	Q2 FY 2020	Completed	In addition to the assessment, USAID added more detailed data fields including the consideration of CM solutions as part of the assessment for future acquisitions.
Issue a PEB and subsequent update to Chapter 300 of the Automated Directives System (ADS) regarding the mandatory use of CM or SUM contracts.	Q3 FY2020	In progress	USAID wrote a PEB on CM, which is awaiting final clearance and publication. The PEB will give staff specific steps to take for CM.
Increase USAID's training and programmatic-engagement efforts related to the awareness and adoption of CM.	Q3 FY 2020	In progress	
Coordinate with OMB related to the attainment of our targets and goals (mid-term review).	Q3 FY 2020	Pending	
Engage with major acquisition organizations within USAID to increase awareness of CM for planning for FY 2021.	Q3 FY 2020	In progress	

Key Indicators and Milestones

Measure end-of-year data and assess status against our targets for FY 2020s.	Q4 FY 2020		
Submit USAID's CM Plan for FY 2021 to OMB, according to OMB Memo 19-13, or any other additional guidance provided in the interim.	Q4 FY 2020 / Q1 FY 2021		
Work with OMB to get feedback on our CM Plan for FY 2021 and make adjustments to it.	Q1 FY 2021		
Identify, assess, and focus on programs applicable to CM solutions. Educate and train COs teams in detail about CM, background, policy, adoption methods, tools for leverage, and implementation.	Q1-Q3 FY 2021		
Assess the A&A Plan to identify future acquisitions over \$50 million and \$100 million to identify key opportunities to address SUM.	Q1 FY 2021		
Make necessary adjustments and enhancements to USAID's training and programmatic-engagement efforts related to increasing the adoption of CM.	Q2 FY 2021		
Engage with major acquisition organizations within USAID to increase awareness of CM for planning for FY 2022.	Q2 FY 2021		
Coordinate with OMB related to the attainment of our targets and goals (mid-term review).	Q3 FY 2021		
Measure end-of-year data and assess status against our targets for FY 2021.	Q4 FY 2021		

Accuracy and Reliability of Data

- USAID reports data specific to this APG to OMB via the Federal Procurement Data System – Next Generation (FPDS-NG), and OMB updates and reports on these data monthly.
- As FPDS-NG is the authoritative source of all Federal data on CM, the Agency is able to mitigate and manage appropriately the risk related to the accuracy of our data on CM and BIC.
- The analysis of data will include a review of what USAID’s systems report into FPDS-NG. Periodic assessment and data “cross-walks” will ensure the accuracy and valid, timely recording and reporting of the data.
- USAID’s data-managers will make recommendations for adjustments based on the findings of these reviews.

Additional Information

Contributing Programs:

Organizations:

- USAID’s success against the APG on CM depends on contributions by all Missions, Bureaus, and Independent Offices to assess our business needs and align our planned activities with BIC.
- Regulations and Policies:
 - OMB Memorandum 19-13, “Category Management: Making Smarter Use of Common Contract Solutions and Practices,” is the guidance that identifies actions Federal Departments or Agencies should take to increase the capabilities and impact of CM.
 - OMB Memorandum 17-22, “Comprehensive Plan for Reforming the Federal Government and Reducing the Federal Civilian Workforce” is the guidance specific to describing and highlighting the need for CM.
 - OMB Memorandum 16-02, “Category Management Policy 15-1: Improving the Acquisition and Management of Common Information Technology: Laptops and Desktops” also emphasized CM.

Other Federal Activities:

- President’s Management Agenda; and
- Cross-Agency Priority Goal #7.

Stakeholder / Congressional Consultations:

To the greatest extent possible, USAID’s CM team will continue to work and coordinate with internal and external stakeholders, OMB, and Congress to ensure our CM program and BIC solutions meet the Agency’s requirements and APG.

Other Factor(s) That Affect the APG:

Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic:

- USAID is actively engaged in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, it is unclear the impact our activities to address COVID-19 will have on the APG and CM goals.