



E-Government - What It Means For Official Statistics

Geneva, Switzerland

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What is e-Government?

The Focus of e-Gov



ELECTRONIC GOVERNMENT (e-Gov)
focuses on the mission of Government and
on transforming the way Government
accomplishes this mission using enabling
tools of technology.

“It’s about changing the WAY we do business!”

The Essence of e-Gov



- Customer centric
- Enterprise focused
- Process efficient
- Leverages in-house technology
- Incorporates new technology and new ideas.

Expected Benefits of e-Gov



- Improved service
- Greater efficiencies
- Potential cost savings

Presentation Topics



NASS e-Gov experience

- Forces Driving e-Gov
- Framework for Change
- Implementing the NASS Plan
- Successes and Challenges

Presentation Goals



Sharing experiences for mutual gain.

Hopefully this presentation will be of value to persons who have a limited knowledge of e-Government or to persons with similar challenges.

National Agricultural Statistical Service (NASS)



- Is one of 29 agencies within USDA.
- Is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's statistical agency that produces official agricultural statistics for the United States.
- Disseminates 425 reports annually in hard copy and electronically.

NASS



- Collects data from farmers and rancher via sample surveys or the Census of Agriculture. Reporting is voluntary for surveys, mandatory for the census. Multi-modes of collection are used with minimal electronic reporting.

Individual's Reported data are confidential and protected under Federal Law.

The NASS e-Gov Journey...



FORCES DRIVING e-GOV

Forces Driving e-Gov..



- Citizen and industry expectations of service, accessibility, and efficiency
- The US Congress and the Bush Administration give e-Gov priority status resulting in mandates, management, and monitoring from the "TOP DOWN".

Forces Driving e-Gov..



Congressional Act:

Government Paperwork Elimination Act (GPEA) mandates that Federal agencies give customers the option of transacting business with them, electronically by October 2003 when practicable.

Forces Driving e-Gov...



From Bush Administration:

President's 2002 Management Agenda:

"Expanding Electronic Government" - a goal to be managed across the Federal Government.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) given oversight linking e-Gov with policy and funding decisions.

The NASS e-Gov Journey...



A Framework for Change...

A Framework for Change: OMB^D



For the Federal Government, OMB developed:

5 year US e-Gov Strategic Plan
with 24 "Presidential" Initiatives
(Build case, develop program and
implement initiative.)

High impact initiatives that broadly reached across the
Federal Government.

(Plan - Example for USDA and NASS to follow.)

A Framework for Change: OMB



OMB required USDA to...

- develop an e-Gov strategic plan.
- coordinate E-Gov, GPEA, and budget plans which are to be mutually supportive.
- Include an e-Gov strategy for any IT funding requests,

A Framework for Change: USDA



For USDA, the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) set up the e-Gov program:

The e-Gov Team:

- E-Gov executive manager (OCIO) & staff
 - E-Gov Executive council
 - E-Gov Working Group
 - Agency E-Gov steering Committees
-
- **Facilitate/organize:** private firm (Accenture)

A Framework for Change: USDA



Common guidelines to direct change

- Think big, start small, scale fast
- Build on current successes
- Innovate and transform
- Collaborate, partner
- Augment, do not replace
- Educate, market, advocate

A Framework for Change: USDA



For USDA, the USDA e-Gov team developed:

- **5 year e-Gov USDA Strategic Plan**
 - Support of Presidential Initiatives
 - 24 e-Gov Initiatives/"12 smart choices"
 - (agency Tactical Plans will be attached)
- Build business cases, develop, and implement smart choice initiatives

A Framework for Change: NASS



For NASS, NASS e-Gov Steering Committee developed:

- **5 year e-Gov NASS Tactical Plan**
 - Support of USDA Initiatives (Lead for NASS mission critical initiatives)
 - 22 NASS e-Gov opportunities
 - Committed to hiring a Director of NASS e-Gov Programs .
- Build business cases, develop, and implement two projects

Implementing the NASS Plan:



Director of e-Gov Programs

("strategic" planner, experienced in IT, data management, contracting, and in handling large difficult projects.)

Position attached to the Administrator

- Functionally crosses all of NASS
- Policy and budget decisions

Implementing the NASS Plan:



New NASS e-Gov Steering Committee -

Will oversee the prioritizing, developing, and implementing of "opportunities".

Members are Mid-level managers ensures "awareness" of e-Gov activities across functional areas.

Implementing the NASS Plan:



NASS e-Gov Strategy Team

A core group of e-Gov champions that discuss strategy, address hard issues, find solutions, stay informed, and keep the process of e-transforming NASS moving.

Implementing the NASS Plan:



Electronic Data Reporting (EDR)

(GPEA targets/ external impact)

EDR



Questionnaire Repository System-QRS

- One system for "all" modes
- Questions are built & stored in QRS.
- Designer accesses QRS & builds (in custom Word environment) properly formatted questionnaires for paper and Web.

EDR - Next Steps



- Integrate QRS into existing processing system
- Incorporate USDA's enterprise solution for e-authentication
- Put questions into system & build instruments by October 2003
- Determine Marketing Strategy

Implementing the NASS Plan:



Applications and Data Architecture

AS-IS system: applications developed as needed and fit into system

TO-BE system: produce an e-Gov streamlined integrated process with no redundancy

Application and Data Architecture



“Opportunity”

Demonstrate an e-Gov process

Develop conceptual vision of a new e-Gov architecture with an example on how components might work.

Application and Data Architecture



Involve staff

Use vision and example as starting point for discussions with staff.

Application and Data Architecture



Produce enterprise architecture
component

It will be the backbone for
development of other e-Gov
initiatives.

Successes



- Strong leadership / mandates
- E-Gov team - "champions" of e-Gov
- Organized and consistent process (USDA)
- Looked to skill set & experience
- Sponsors
- Keep informed-share experiences
- Strategic planning (Director/Core group)

Challenges



- Scope of process
- Competing priorities for interest, time, resources
- Organized and consistent process and communication (NASS)
- Converting staff to an e-Gov mentality
- Developing USDA enterprise business cases

To Reach e-NASS:



For all staff to embrace an
e-Government mentality
in all that they do.