



Results Oriented Accountability for Grants

Goal Leaders

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Goal Statement

- Maximize the value of grant funding by applying a risk-based, data-driven framework that balances compliance requirements with demonstrating successful results for the American taxpayer.



Challenge

- The Federal government uses grants to invest approximately \$700 billion each year in mission-critical needs for American taxpayers, but managers report spending 40% of their time using antiquated processes to monitor compliance instead of analyzing data to improve results.



Opportunity

- Identify, open, standardize, and link critical data sets to power data analytics to enhance financial stewardship, performance management, and accountability. Use digital tools to modernize antiquated compliance processes. Leverage available data such as those produced by annual audits of recipients to drive a risk-based framework for performance management that drives results.



Leadership





Goal Structure

Strategy 1: Standardize Data

Identify, open, standardize, and link critical data sets to power analytics to enhance financial stewardship, performance management, and accountability. Validate data standards at touch points with stakeholders. Use data to identify opportunities to build standardized solutions that reduce burden and increase efficiency.

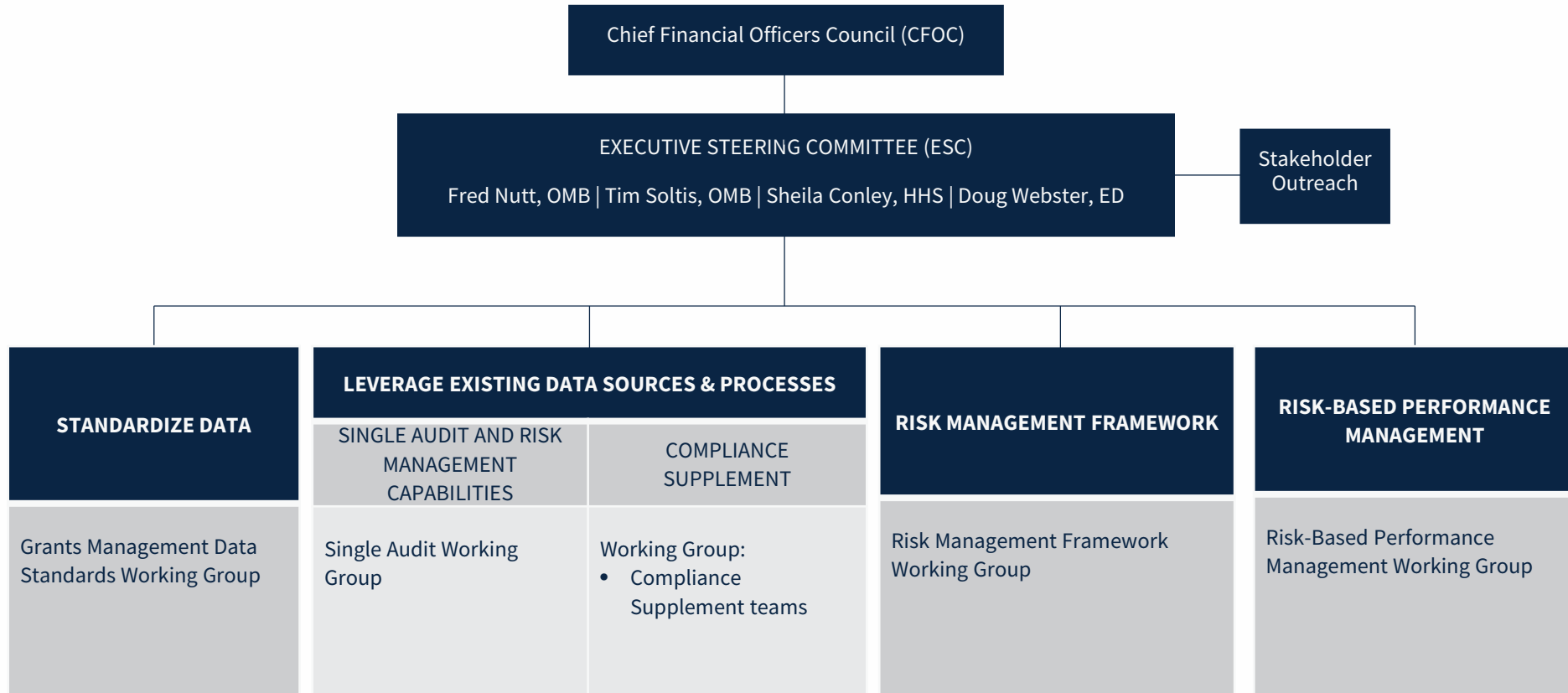
Strategy 2: Digital Tools to Manage Risk

Use digital tools to modernize antiquated form-based compliance processes to assess and manage risk.

Strategy 3: Risk-Based Performance Management

Leverage existing data such as those produced by annual audits of recipients to drive a risk-based framework for performance management that drives results.

**Better
Results**





Key Milestones for Quarter 3

- Issued OMB guidance directing agencies to plan for new data standards.
- Engaged agencies on the implementation of Appendix A to OMB Circular A-123 for financial assistance data.
- Engaged stakeholders to grow a Community of Practice to over 500 members.
- [Issued the 2018 'skinny' Single Audit Compliance Supplement.](#)
- Launched The Opportunity Project sprint which connects spending to performance.
- Developed a draft plan for stakeholder outreach.



Strategy 1: Standardize Data

This strategy recognizes that recipient burden (such as excessive compliance requirements) can be reduced if grant reporting data is standardized and access to and collection of data is digitized. Data standardization also supports faster and more transparent decision making. This work will leverage the Federal Integrated Business Framework (FIBF) model developed by the GSA Unified Shared Services Management office to develop a comprehensive taxonomy for core grants management data standards. This strategy supports the Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Administrative Services Across Government and Leveraging Data as a Strategic Asset CAP Goals.

Key Milestones	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Change from last quarter	Owner	Anticipated Barriers or other Issues Related to Milestone Completion
Leverage Federal Integrated Business Framework (FIBF) to develop comprehensive map of core capabilities for grants management	FY2018 Q3	Completed		CFOC	
Based on FIBF capabilities, standardize data elements to inform comprehensive taxonomy for core grants management data standards	FY2018 Q4	Completed		CFOC	
Develop a draft plan for stakeholder outreach	FY2018 Q4	Completed		CFOC	
Release of core grants management data standards	FY2018 Q4	In Progress		OMB	
Implement stakeholder outreach plan strategy	FY2019 Q1	In Progress		OMB, CFOC	
Solicit public feedback on the draft core data standards	FY2019 Q1			OMB	
Develop a draft plan for governance and maintenance of data taxonomy	FY2019 Q2	In Progress		CFOC	
Launch government-wide readiness assessment to evaluate agency system baselines against the core grants management data standards	FY2019 Q1			OMB	
Receive agency input on opportunities to implement standardized information collections for grants management	FY2019 Q2			CFOC	
Revise OMB Guidance, as needed	FY2020 Q4			OMB, CFOC	





Strategy 2: Digital Tools to Manage Risk

The Federal government has a tremendous amount of data that may be leveraged to identify opportunities and better manage risk, but that data is currently locked in an antiquated process, and driving burdensome compliance exercises. Using digital tools to modernize the process, unlocking the data to power enterprise-based risk management, and focusing in on high-risk compliance requirements could dramatically reduce burden for agencies and recipients. Powerful data and analytics based on risk could set the stage for a risk-based performance management framework in Strategy 3.

This strategy supports the Improving the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Administrative Services Across Government and Modernizing IT to Increase Productivity and Security CAP Goals.

Key Milestones	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Change from last quarter	Owner	Anticipated Barriers or other Issues Related to Milestone Completion
Draft Risk Management Framework	FY2018 Q3	Completed		CFOC	
Develop draft business capabilities for single audit resolution common solution	FY2018 Q4	Completed		CFOC	
Draft Risk Management Tool Business Capabilities	FY2018 Q4	In Progress		CFOC	
Release of Risk Management Framework	FY2018 Q4	In Progress		OMB	
Solicit public for information on opportunities to build a standardized solution for grants management	FY2019 Q1			CFOC	
Draft plan for implementation of standardized solution for grants management	FY2019 Q2			CFOC	
Collaborate with public and partners to assess input received for risk management framework	FY2019 Q4			OMB	
Deploy single audit resolution common solution prototype	FY2019 Q4			CFOC	
Iterate single audit resolution common tool prototype to include risk management tool	FY2020 Q1			CFOC	





Strategy 3: Risk-Based Performance Management

A comprehensive risk management tool for determining Federal funding awards that are low-risk and high value must include consideration of past performance results, financial risk, and an applicant's capabilities to deliver the proposed results. In order to do this, agencies need to have ready access to performance data and have the data infrastructure to include performance in risk modeling. The recent updated guidance on grants included requirements for performance reporting in grants, however there is much more that can be done to identify practices and data tools to enable agencies to incorporate performance into their grant award operations. This strategy includes an assessment of current capabilities, piloting promising strategies, and developing a framework so that other agencies can leverage these practices. This strategy also supports the Moving from Low-value to High-value Work CAP Goal.

Key Milestones	Milestone Due Date	Milestone Status	Change from last quarter	Owner	Anticipated Barriers or other Issues Related to Milestone Completion
Issue 2018 'skinny' Single Audit Compliance Supplement	FY2018 Q3	Completed		OMB	
Streamline 2019 Single Audit Compliance Supplement with an increased focus on compliance requirements that inform performance	FY2019 Q2	In progress		OMB	
Solicit information from agencies on current grants performance management practices	FY2019 Q1	In progress		OMB, CFOC	
Completion of sprint for The Opportunity Project which connects spending to performances	FY2019 Q1	In progress		Various Owners	
Identify emerging and innovative practices that are ripe for pilot testing	FY2019 Q2			OMB, CFOC	
Design pilot and the evaluation strategy	FY2019 Q3			OMB, CFOC	
Execute pilot and assess performance at key milestones	FY2019 Q3			OMB, CFOC	
Analyze pilot results and develop key recommendations	FY2020 Q3			OMB, CFOC	
Compile lessons learned to guide agency adoption	FY2020 Q4			OMB, CFOC	
Revise OMB guidance, as needed based on pilot results and recommendations	FY2022 Q2			OMB	





This initiative will require extensive engagement with key grants management stakeholders, including the following internal and external communities:

Federal Awarding
Agencies

Recipients

Taxpayers

Congress

Oversight
Community

Industry
Partners

Stakeholders are integral to the success of this effort. Goal leaders are reaching stakeholders through various events throughout the community to learn from best practices.



Results Oriented Accountability for Grants Community of Practice Website:

<https://digital.gov/communities/grants/>

Visit the community of practice website to:

- Join the listserv to learn about exciting updates to the CAP goal
- View the stakeholder outreach strategy
- Read and provide feedback to work products as they become available
- Stay up to date on the latest speaking engagements
- Much more!



Indicators will be developed to monitor progress towards standardizing data; leveraging digital tools and streamlining requirements to reduce recipient and agency burden; and improved risk-based performance management. Such as:

- Number of agency OMB approved information collection requests for grants reporting
- Number of recipient burden hours attributed to agency information collection requests
- Use of self-assessment data, such as percentage of Federal agency and recipient time dedicated to administrative and financial compliance requirements as compared to analyzing data to monitor results



The following organizations are supporting the accomplishment of the CAP goal:

- National Association of Public Administration (NAPA)
- Federal Demonstration Partnership (FDP)
- Association of Government Accountants (AGA)
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA)
- National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT)
- Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency (CIGIE)
- Data Foundation
- Center for Open Data Enterprise (CODE)
- Over 500 members of the Results-Oriented Accountability for Grants Community of Practice