



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

USAID
**STRATEGIC
SUSTAINABILITY
PERFORMANCE PLAN
SUMMARY**

JUNE 2017

BUREAU FOR MANAGEMENT

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2016 USAID STRATEGIC SUSTAINABILITY PERFORMANCE PLAN

Executive Order (EO) 13693-Planning for Federal Sustainability in the Next Decade, continues the policy of the United States that federal agencies increase efficiency and improve their environmental performance. Improved environmental performance protects our planet for future generations and saves taxpayer dollars through avoided energy costs and increased efficiency, while also making Federal facilities more resilient.

Section 14 of the EO encourages federal agencies to submit an annual sustainability plan to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Contributing agencies, such as the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), need only prepare a summary of agency actions to meet the requirements of the Executive Order.

SECTION 1: POLICY STATEMENT

USAID is committed to fostering a clean energy economy and to sustaining the environment by conducting operations and programs in an environmentally responsible manner, complying with environmental laws and regulations, and leading by example.

USAID's programs operate globally and impact millions of people worldwide. USAID strives to improve the living conditions of people in developing countries while minimizing detrimental impacts to the environment. USAID helps these stakeholders generate prosperity in innovative and sustainable ways while conserving natural resources and minimizing contamination.

USAID's sustainability program includes the following areas of emphasis:

- Procuring energy efficient and environmentally preferable electronic products and utilizing sound environmental practices when disposing of those products
- Supporting green transportation and a reduction of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions from employee commuting
- Designing, constructing, and operating high performance facilities and using regional and site-specific green infrastructure practices
- Engaging employees, stakeholders, and the public in our environmental commitment
- Reducing consumption and reliance on nonrenewable energy by promoting renewable energy projects and programs
- Promoting water conservation through identification of water inefficiencies and implementation of water conservation projects
- Pursuing waste management strategies that include reducing, reusing, and recycling

SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE REVIEW

A. Agency Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

USAID only reports on scope 3 emissions as the Agency does not operate domestic facilities. Calculations for the USAID GHG inventory include: 1) Official air and ground travel originating from USAID/Washington calculated using the Council on Environmental Quality approved General Services Administration (GSA) Travel Trax System; 2) Employee commuting data

for Washington, DC based federal employees calculated from a GSA developed survey tool; and, 3) Wastewater emissions determined by the number of USAID employees located in USAID's Washington-occupied facilities.

For FY 2016, total USAID GHG emissions were calculated at 18,375.2 metric tons of carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent. This amount is down 3.5% from FY 2015 where total emissions were calculated at 19,040 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. USAID total emissions from baseline FY 2008 were 7,567 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent.

In 2016, air travel emissions was the greatest contributor of Agency GHG emissions at 8843.1 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. Washington-based employee commuting accounted for 8755.4 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. Ground travel accounted for 752.1 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent emissions. Wastewater treatment accounted for 24.6 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent.

USAID utilized the GSA commuter survey tool to calculate emissions from Washington employees' work commute and was based on a population of 5,165 employees. This number includes both direct hire and non-direct hire federal employees.

B. Facilities

USAID does not own or operate facilities within the United States. The Agency operates a small number of facilities overseas that include innovative energy saving features.

In 2016, USAID/South Africa building NOB2 received a 5-Green Star as-built certification from the Green Building Council of South Africa. This is the first USAID green rated overseas building. The NOB2 key green features include:

- A rainwater harvesting system for toilet and urinal flushing
- A stormwater attenuation pond with bio-filter designed for a 20 year storm event
- A large internal atrium and appropriate space planning to take advantage of natural lighting
- 90% of all steel used on the project has 60% recycled or re-used content.
- 20% of the total contract value is represented by locally sourced materials (within approximately 250 miles or 400 kilometers)
- Solar Power producing up to 300 KWs of power – close to 1/3 of the required usage
- Sound proofing of internal HVAC plant rooms

C. Fleet Management

USAID's domestic fleet quantity is below the reporting threshold of 20 vehicles. The Department of State manages most fleet vehicles at overseas locations.

D. Water Use Efficiency and Management

USAID does not purchase water utilities directly for domestic facilities. USAID-occupied facilities in Washington, DC are managed and operated by GSA and water is included as part of a full-service lease. USAID is undertaking a phased renovation of the Agency occupied portion of the Ronald Reagan Building, and as part of the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification process, the Agency will pursue credits for water use efficiency, which entails installing low-flow fixtures designed to more effectively manage water consumption.

E. Pollution Prevention and Waste Reduction

USAID maintains an active recycling program for paper, aluminum, and plastics.

USAID's Bureau for Economic Growth, Education, and Environment manages the Agency's Limited Excess Property Program (LEPP). The LEPP is authorized under sections 607 and 608 of the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) and gives USAID special authority to give approved Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs) access to government excess property under the U.S. General Services Administration and the Defense Logistics Agency's Disposition Services' excess property programs. The LEPP PVO partners, in turn, use the property to build the capacity and the speed and efficiency of their local in-country partners. Some of these local partners are community hospitals and medical clinics who receive medical supplies and equipment enabling them to provide higher quality service to a larger group of people. Other PVO program partners work closely with in-country schools and technical training facilities providing computer equipment, which enables a higher level of education and human resources development.

The program provides an innovative and cost effective means to dispose of excess government property in a way that supports and furthers overall U. S. Government development goals. Since the program's inception, it has transferred on average \$15-\$30 million of USG excess property annually.

Further reductions of waste at USAID include implementation of an electronic clearance program to facilitate approval of documentation while reducing paper waste.

F. Sustainable Acquisition

USAID produced a total of 3405 contract actions in FY2016. Of those actions, sustainable acquisition requirements could be applicable to 823 actions using the following criteria:

- Place of Performance = US
- Exclusion of of the following contact types:
 - original IDIQs
 - BPA Setups
 - Personal Services Contracts

USAID undertook an individual review of a 5% sample (40 of 823 total actions) to verify whether sustainable acquisition requirements were, in fact, necessary and included in accordance with federal policy. The suite of contract types in the sample included purchase orders to multiple distinct task orders under IDIQs. Extrapolating the applicable actions from the sample, USAID determined that sustainable acquisition requirements would be applicable in 391 of 823 contract actions.

Of the 391 where sustainable acquisition requirements could apply, 21 actions were confirmed having sustainable acquisition requirements written into the contract action for a total of 5%.

G. Electronic Stewardship and Data Centers

USAID has attained the goal of 95% of electronic products that are Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) designated, ENERGY Star qualified, or Electronic Product Energy Assessment Tool (EPEAT) registered as of 2015. Power management features of PCs, laptops, and monitors are currently included on 100% of devices.

Since FY 2011, most purchases by USAID of end user computers were laptops. USAID purchased Lenovo, Apple Mac Pro and Apple Mac Air laptops. All of these devices meet the Department of Energy's Energy Star standards and are also listed as EPEAT products. This focus on using laptops has resulted in significant energy savings since our current standard desktop uses 240 watts while our standard laptop uses only 65 watts, a drop in energy consumption of 73%.

Power management was implemented in USAID Washington (USAID/W) in FY 2012. This allows the laptop or desktop computer to be powered down approximately 15 hours of a work day. This change cuts energy consumption by 77% from non-power management devices.

USAID is in process of changing from a widespread distribution of personal and dedicated network printers, to Multi-Function Devices (MFDs) for the Agency's printing needs. USAID/W currently has 148 MFDs which have replaced USAID's printers, copiers, scanners and fax machines, and are providing the functionality of the single purpose peripheral devices to many of our staff, especially in two of our three largest buildings, Potomac Yard and SA-44.

USAID's Chief Information Office is not replacing existing single purpose devices and plans to phase out most of the existing inventory of these devices. Single purpose devices were cut 6% from 2012 to 2016. USAID's goal is to phase out most of these single purpose devices from our inventory.

Existing network devices have transitioned to default settings of black and white and double-sided printing to reduce paper consumption and supply costs.

Since the first Agency Sustainability Plan submitted in 2009, USAID has closed most of its data centers. USAID's HQ building's TCOC (Telecommunications & Computer Operations Center) was closed in 2012. The closure of the TCOC impacted approximately 90% of the agency's servers in the US.

USAID has significantly increased the capacity of its video conferencing infrastructure since 2013. These changes have enabled more multipoint video teleconferencing (VTC) calls. A total of 20,644 VTC calls were made in FY 2016 up from 15,070 calls in FY2015.

SECTION 3: OTHER ACTIONS

A. Environmental Compliance Procedures

Environmental sustainability is integral to USAID's Mission. USAID undertakes environmental impact assessment of nearly all program funded activities. USAID utilizes environmental procedures regulations (Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216) to evaluate the environmental impacts of proposed Agency activities. These USAID environmental procedures are intended to implement the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act for Agency actions authorized by the Foreign Assistance Act. Effective implementation of these procedures through environmental impact assessment ensures that the development activities USAID undertakes are not only economically sustainable but are protective of the world's environment on which we and future generations all depend.

The USAID environmental procedures must be concluded prior to obligating funds for proposed Agency activities. The integration of environmental considerations into activity design ensures that USAID funded activities do not unnecessarily harm the environment and may include mitigative measures to compensate for unavoidable environmental impacts. Conditions and mitigative measures established through the environmental procedures and impact analysis are integrated into the award instrument.

B. Insecticide bottle recycling-USAID/Mozambique

An example of how USAID environmental procedures leads to environmental sustainability is a solid waste management effort from the USAID-Mozambique supported Africa Indoor Residual Spraying (AIRS) component of the President's Malaria Initiative (PMI). In 2005, the PMI was launched with the goal to reduce malaria-related mortality by 50 percent across 15 high-burden countries in sub-Saharan Africa through a rapid scale-up of four proven and highly effective malaria prevention and treatment measures including indoor residual spraying. PMI is an interagency initiative led by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented together with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Malaria prevention and control remains a major U.S. foreign assistance objective and PMI's Strategy fully aligns with the U.S. Government's vision of ending preventable child and maternal deaths and ending extreme poverty.

USAID-Mozambique has participated in the AIRS component of PMI since 2012. The 2015 spray campaign resulted in 126,328 empty plastic Actellic insecticide bottles, and, in 2016, an estimated 400,000 bottles. The program, while successful in reducing the incidence of malaria in Mozambique, presented the challenge of finding an eco-friendly way to reduce the contaminated solid waste.

Recycling is neither well-known nor in common practice in any sector in Mozambique. However, PMI AIRS succeeded in identifying a privately owned factory that manufactures plastic dishware, buckets, basins and other plastic wares that had the capacity to handle once contaminated and hazardous materials.

PMI AIRS handles the collection and delivery of empty plastic bottles from districts to the central warehouse for sorting, cap and label removal, rinsing, and cutting in half prior to transporting the prepared bottles to the plastics plant. Bottles are thoroughly washed with liquid soap and water. Wastewater from the washing is discharged into a soak pit to prevent ground and surface water contamination.

The products that are produced from the recycled insecticide bottles may not be used for packaging, storage, transportation, preparation, or serving of food items or other items meant to be ingested by humans or other living organisms. The recycled bottles are used to produce items including plastic chairs, chemical drums, sewage pipes, trash bins, etc. The PMI recycling program reduces the production of solid waste and prevents the danger of empty pesticide bottles used for other purposes.

The environmental impact analysis in USAID's environmental procedures identified the waste disposal issue as a potential serious byproduct of the worthwhile goal of the malaria reduction program. Working with local partners, USAID implemented a successful recycling program of potentially hazardous materials epitomizing USAID's commitment to environmental sustainability.