



WBSCM UPDATE

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FEATURE

WBSCM Readiness: USDA & USAID Cross Agency Collaborative Activities

The previous issues of the WBSCM update featured the agencies' Go-Live activities focused on getting the WBSCM internal and external user community ready and prepared to use WBSCM.

With the WBSCM program currently in the Test Phase, and only five months until WBSCM goes live, the WBSCM team (USDA, USAID and SRA) continues to execute WBSCM Go-Live readiness activities focused on getting the user community ready for WBSCM.

Many WBSCM readiness activities including identification of organizational changes, training preparation, system testing, and targeted communications are common across the agencies and may involve cross-agency collaboration. These activities and others were highlighted at the recent WBSCM Human Capital Transition (HCT) working session in July.

USDA/USAID Organizational Changes

USDA and USAID team members identified and assigned ownership of many WBSCM cross agency changes including the following:

- ❖ Identification of cross agency business process changes
- ❖ Identification of cross agency procedural changes
 - Funds management
 - Vendor master
 - Material master
 - Order changes
 - Vendor approval and registration
 - Invoice approval

- Payment certification
- User administration
- ❖ Identification of transition activities including emergency rollback and user help desk procedures

USDA/USAID Training Preparation

The USDA and USAID team of approximately **150 agency SMEs** will be participating in nine (9) WBSCM training courses conducted in August and then again in September.

Pilot course topics are as follows:

- ❖ Finance course
- ❖ Fulfillment courses for both internal and external, domestic and international audiences
- ❖ Procurement courses for both internal and external, domestic and international audiences

The 150 SMEs will be able to leverage their understanding of WBSCM and support the internal organizations during the WBSCM transition process and address WBSCM questions pre and post Go-Live.

SME responsibilities include the following:

- ❖ Support internal training sessions by providing USDA policy and/or process expertise
- ❖ Support external training as an instructor and/or in a support role
- ❖ Support the WBSCM internal system users post Go-Live
- ❖ Support and promote WBSCM to USDA/USAID employees

USDA/USAID Testing Activities

To date, each agency has accessed over 45 preliminary Systems Integration Testing (SIT) test scripts to review and execute. The feedback from the agency testers have helped improve the format and content of the test scripts, which is an important step to ensure “Gold Standard” test scripts are delivered for User Acceptance Testing (UAT).

User Acceptance Testing

USDA and USAID UAT of the WBSCM system kicks off in early September. UAT will begin once all high and critical defects of the WBSCM system have been resolved for a particular thread. UAT will be executed through approximately 25 test threads, and each thread contains multiple test scripts representing specific end-to-end processes.

Currently each agency has identified a test lead coordinator and testing resources. In total over **100 agency testers** have been identified to participate in the testing of WBSCM! The agency testers will be able to leverage their gained insight and understanding of WBSCM through these test activities to support internal users and external users during the WBSCM transition process and post Go-Live.

USDA and USAID testing activities include the following:

- ❖ Participate in the test process training (“how to test the WBSCM system”)
- ❖ Identify testing resources
- ❖ Participate in preliminary SIT
- ❖ Participate in UAT
- ❖ Perform data verification and validation
- ❖ Document, validate, and deliver test results to the WBSCM team

USDA/USAID Communications Activities

Each agency continues to develop and distribute targeted WBSCM communications for their internal users and external users. These communications are in the format of newsletters, memos, presentations, and system demonstrations.

WBSCM FAQs

FSA developed and published a WBSCM Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) guide. This guide helps address FSA specific and general WBSCM questions such as “What are my duties and responsibilities in WBSCM?”, “What is the WBSCM timeline?”, “Who will help me with WBSCM questions post Go-Live?”

The FAQs guide has been shared with other agencies and can be leveraged to address similar internal user questions.

External Newsletters

FSA launches a WBSCM external newsletter focused on raising awareness for the external vendor community! This newsletter is shared and can be leveraged by all the agencies’ external users as appropriate.

FNS continues to distribute external newsletters focused on raising awareness for the SDA, schools, and ITO external customer community.

New to WBSCM ?

If you are new to the WBSCM team, go online and view the **WBSCM Overview Course**. This course is available on AGNISX or other agency sites. Topics include WBSCM overview, technologies, basics of the SAP order process, and the program timeline.



What's My Role?

With only **five months** until WBSCM goes live, your role in WBSCM continues to be important! You can gain more insight and awareness into WBSCM functionality through viewing of online demonstrations (over 30 simulations available) and general WBSCM information in preparation for training. All WBSCM information is found on AGNISX or agency specified sites.

On The Road with WBSCM

The WBSCM team's final conferences prior to WBSCM going live were the School Nutrition Association Conference (SNA), and the National Association of Food Distribution Programs on Indian Reservations (NAFDPIR). All conference materials including simulations are available on AGNISX or other agency specified sites.

Positive feedback was received from the respective conference audience and key WBSCM functionality was demonstrated through simulations.

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The list of playbacks to date can be found in previous editions of the WBSCM Update on the WBSCM Program Website. Recent playbacks in the month of July include the following:

- ❖ Complaints, Reports, and User Creation/Modification
- ❖ Availability of Control (AVC) and Status of Funds Reports



DID YOU KNOW?

...FSA urges producers to learn about the new [Average Crop Revenue Election \(ACRE\) program](#). ACRE helps farmers manage risk associated with farming by calculating payments based on what farmers actually plant.

...Departments of Agriculture and Health and Human Services co-chair the [Food Safety Working Group \(FSWG\)](#) to collaborate on upgrading the food safety laws of the 21st century.

...Agricultural Secretary Vilsack names [Julie Paradis as Administrator for FNS](#).



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WBSCM Terms

Common WBSCM Test Terminology

Test Thread – A grouping of test scripts that represent end-to-end processes for the purposes of SIT and User Acceptance Testing (UAT).

Gold Standard Test Scripts – Industry term for test scripts that have gone through many levels of quality assurance and validation.

Systems Integration Testing (SIT) – The testing of the end-to-end business flows and processes including interfaces to other USDA/USAID systems and non-USDA/non-USAID systems.

User Acceptance Testing (UAT) – The testing of the WBSCM system in a controlled SIT environment by system users. UAT tests the business requirements, reporting capabilities, and system readiness to transition to production.



NEXT MONTH

We will feature the various agencies' activities focused on "WBSCM Go-Live Readiness".

ASK US



We'd appreciate your thoughts and feedback! Please email any WBSCM questions or suggestions you have to:

WBSCM@kcc.usda.gov

You can find more WBSCM information on the [WBSCM Program Web site](#).