

For: State and County Offices

OMB Survey for FSA Geographical Information System (GIS) Applications

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Management



1 Overview

A Background

FSA is required to measure the performance of information technology systems and investments as part of the Capital Planning Process. To successfully address the performance of GIS applications within FSA business operations, ITSD has designed a survey to be administered to County Office GIS users and State Office GIS support personnel, asking how FSA’s GIS software performs against their expectations and needs.

This information will be used in the annual Exhibit 300, which is submitted to OMB and is crucial to receiving ongoing budget support for GIS activities. The survey results will form the baseline for measuring our success at integrating GIS into FSA business operations in the future.

B Purpose

This notice informs State and County Offices of the OMB survey for FSA GIS applications.

2 OMB Survey Information

A Completing OMB Survey

The survey will consist of 10 questions and should take approximately 5 to 10 minutes to complete. It is hosted on a web-based application called Zoomerang, and can be accessed from the participant’s desktop. The link to the survey will be sent to each participant. Additionally, there are questions in the survey that present the option of providing further comments.

Disposal Date

November 1, 2007
9-20-07

Distribution

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

Notice IRM-396

2 OMB Survey Information (Continued)

A Completing OMB Survey (Continued)

Survey participants will come from the following FSA populations:

- County Office GIS users
- State Office GIS support personnel who support County Office GIS users.

A random selection of sites will be generated at the National Office and communicated to the State Office GIS support personnel, who will then communicate down to the Field Offices. The baseline for survey participants is set at 350 sites. Once the sites have been selected, the State Office GIS support personnel will be asked to identify a minimum of 1 user at the selected County Office sites who are engaged in using GIS. On average, there will be 7 sites per State selected with obvious limitations based on the number of County Offices to select. The time required for the State Office GIS support personnel to create the contact list for the GIS office should be minimal. The FSA State Office GIS support personnel, specialist, and/or coordinator will also be surveyed.

The survey needs to be completed by COB September 27, 2007, for the results to be analyzed and submitted as part of the OMB Exhibit 300 for the GIS Investment. Cooperation from the National Office is necessary for this activity to move forward. Provide quick attention to this request and prompt feedback to the Project Lead.

B Action

The National Office shall e-mail the FSA State Office GIS specialist and/or coordinator the following:

- a list of selected sites for the survey within each State
- a link for the survey.

State Offices shall notify each selected site that either CED, the program specialists, or the person who uses GIS applications the most to take the survey by accessing the survey over the Internet with the provided link.

County Offices shall take the survey once notified of the activity by the State Office within the given timeframe.

C Contact

Direct questions about this notice to Ted Payne 202-720-2178.