

Strategic Management of Human Capital Workforce Planning & Deployment Summary

FARM SERVICE AGENCY Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services

FY 2007-2011

UPDATED Jan 08

Farm Service Agency



Executive Summary

- OMB/OPM Human Capital Standards for Success
- FFAS Workforce Demographics Summary
- Retirement Eligibility Forecast
- Skills Gap Analysis and Closure Strategies for:
 - Mission Critical Occupations with projected Skills Gaps
 - Leadership Positions with limited Bench Strength and Skills Gaps
- OPM Leadership Competency Chart
- FCAT-M FY07 Competency Assessment Summary
- Workforce Planning & Deployment Overview

FY08 OMB/OPM Standards for Success

CLOSING SKILLS GAPS - MCO

GREEN CRITERIA for Closing Mission Critical Occupations Competency Gaps

Met targets for closing competency gaps in mission critical occupations (MCO's) (i.e., human resources management (HRM), information technology (IT), and agency-specific occupations), significantly reduced the number of vacant positions in MCO's and used appropriate E-Gov solutions within the gap closure strategy; demonstrates how gap closure supports organizational objectives.

YELLOW CRITERIA for Closing Mission Critical Occupations Competency Gaps

Conducted a workforce analysis to identify competency gaps in mission-critical occupations (i.e., human resources management, information technology, acquisition, and agency-specific occupations); determine current and future human resource needs, sets targets to close gaps, including targeted employee development, recruitment and retention programs; and meets key milestones.

LEADERSHIP SUCCESSION MANAGEMENT

GREEN CRITERIA for Ensuring Leadership Bench Strength and Closing Competency Gaps

Succession strategies, including structured leadership development programs, result in adequate leadership bench strength; agency meets its targets for closing leadership competency gaps; and agency determined that bench strength and competency gap closure support organizational objectives.

YELLOW CRITERIA for Ensuring Leadership Bench Strength and Closing Competency Gaps

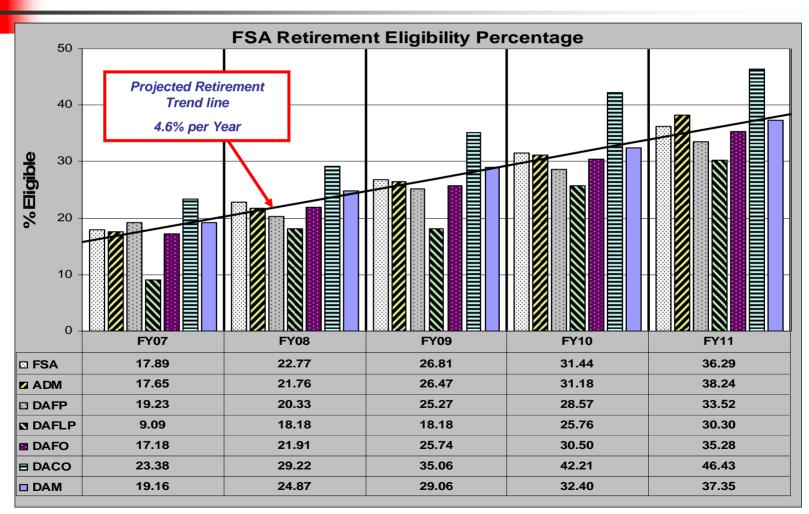
Implemented succession management strategies, including structured leadership development programs, to assure continuity of leadership; sets targets for closing leadership competency gaps (including those addressing gaps in performance management competencies): implements gap closure strategies, and meets key milestones outlined in succession management plan.



FFAS Workforce Demographics Summary (2006)

AGENCY / FACTOR (as of 11/06/06)	FSA		RMA		FAS				
Number of permanent Full Time Employees (PFT)	5169		467		645				
Number of other employees		288		19		209			
Average age of PFT employees (OPM = 46 GW)	47.4		48.4		45.4				
Percent of PFT employees over 50	41.6%		48.2%		33.5%		•		
Percent of PFT employees with 25 or more years of service (OPM says 38.1% GW)	28.9%		38.8%		25.1%				
PFT losses to hires ratio for 2004, 2005, 2006 (PFT)	FY04 326 to 366	FY05 271 to 395	FY06 296 to 511	FY04 12 to 30	FY05 18 to 43	FY06 24 to 43	FY04 40 to 54	FY05 16 to 67	FY06 44 to 41
Mission-critical occupations (updated JAN 08)	11		6		10				
Leadership Positions with Continuity Challenges (updated JAN 08)	5		3		4				
FY2008 Retirement Eligibility Projection (% and #)	36.5% (2108)		36.7% (185)		34.5% (278)				
FY 2006 Actual Retirements		5.7%		4.4%		2.4%			

FSA Retirement Eligibility Forecast



Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs

(DAFP)

Mission Critical Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	General Competencie	ncies/Skills GAP s are based off the OPM Chart. 1 for current outline.	GAP Closure Strategies
Agricultural Economist (0110)	75% FY03-FY07 75% FY04-FY08 ~50% FY07-FY11	TechnicalContemporary economic skills	GeneralFinancial ManagementProblem SolvingOral Communication	 Provide basic/first Level Leadership Training Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills, working with Ag Colleges, etc.
Agricultural Program Specialist (1145)	36.2% FY03-FY07 39.4% FY04-FY08 ~28.3% FY07-FY11	Technical ■ Program Management skills	 General Flexibility Integrity/Honesty Written Communication Problem Solving/Decisiveness 	 Provide basic/first Level Leadership Training Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills, working with Ag Colleges, etc.
Leadership Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	Competencies/Skills GAP General Competencies are based off the OPM Chart. See page 11 for current outline.		Leadership Continuity Strategies
Supervisory, Agricultural Economist (0110)	100% FY03-FY07 100% FY04-FY08 0% FY07-FY11	Technical ■ HR Management ■ Leadership skills	Leveraging Diversity Financial Management Conflict Management Public Service Motivation Problem Solving Oral/Written Communication	 Provide Mid/High Level Leadership Training Develop Knowledge Management process
Director, Production, Emergency and Compliance (1101)	100% FY03-FY07 100% FY04-FY08 0% FY07-FY11	TechnicalKnowledge of BankingEconomic SkillsLeadership Skills	GeneralIntegrity/HonestyOral/Written CommunicationInterpersonal Skills	 Provide Mid/High Level Leadership Training Develop Knowledge Management process Assess 'back up' pool

Deputy Administrator for Farm Loan Programs

(DAFLP)

Mission Critical Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	Competencies /Skills GAP General Competencies are based off the OPM Chart. See page 11 for current outline.		GAP Closure Strategies
Loan Officer / Specialist (1165)	25% FY03-FY07 28.2% FY04-FY08 ~27.0% FY07-FY11	 Technical Interviewing Skills Knowledge of Ag fundamentals Accounting principles skills Knowledge of Banking & Economic Skills HR Management People Skills 	 General Oral/Written Communication Interpersonal Skills Integrity/Honesty Problem Solving Decisiveness 	 Establish database for tracking emerging crops (Farm Equity Manager) Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills, working with Ag Colleges, etc. Provide Basic/First Level Leadership Training, including Intro to 'new markets', 'root crops' and emphasis on 'interviewing' skills See companion Field Operations Strategies
Leadership Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	Competencies /Skills GAP General Competencies are based off the OPM Chart. See page 11 for current outline.		Leadership Continuity Strategies
Farm Loan Manager (1165)	40% FY03-FY07 50% FY04-FY08 ~20% FY07-FY11	 Technical Knowledge of Ag Fundamentals Leadership skills Accounting principles knowledge HR Management 	 General Interpersonal Skills Leveraging Diversity Conflict Management Service Motivation Problem Solving Oral/ Written Communication Flexibility 	 Provide Mid/High Level Leadership Training Continue "Buddy System" orientation program as recruitment/retention strategy Use available flexibilities in recruitment and relocation See companion Field Operations Strategies

Deputy Administrator for Field Operations

(DAFO)

Mission Critical Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	General Competencies	cies /Skills GAP are based off the OPM Chart. for current outline.	GAP Closure Strategies
Loan Technician (1101)	40% FY03-FY07 50% FY04-FY08 ~16.7%FY07-FY11	Technical ■ Knowledge of banking and economic skills	General Integrity/Honesty Oral/Written Communication Interpersonal Skills	 Enhance In-House Training, orientation to 'new' environment Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills
Loan Specialist (1165)	25% FY03-FY07 30% FY04-FY08 ~25.8% FY07-FY11	Technical Knowledge of banking and economic skills Knowledge of Ag Fundamentals Accounting Principles Skills HR Management	General Interpersonal Skills Integrity/Honesty Oral/Written Communication Problem Solving/Decisiveness	 Enhance In-House Training, orientation to 'new' environment Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills
Program Technician (1101)	30% FY03-FY07 30% FY04-FY08 30.4% FY07-FY11	Technical ■ Knowledge of banking and economic skills	 General Resilience Integrity/Honesty Oral/Written communication Interpersonal Skills 	 Enhance In-House Training, orientation to 'new' environment Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills Sustain level of 'back up' pool
Leadership Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	General Competencies	cies /Skills GAP are based off the OPM Chart. for current outline.	Leadership Succession Strategies
COTS/CED (1101)	30% FY03-FY07 30% FY04-FY08 FY07-FY11	Technical Banking and economic skills Change Management skills HR Management	Ceneral Conflict Management Oral/Written Communication Problem Solving Technical Credibility	Enhance In-House Training, including orientation to 'new' environment Recruitment and Diversity Plans include critical skills Sustain 'pool' levels Implement CED Intern/Mentoring Program to enhance diversity representation in states
District Director (1101)	50% FY03-FY07 % FY04-FY08 62.4% FY07-FY11	TechnicalKnowledge of bankingChange Management skillsHR Management	Conflict Management Problem Solving Oral/Written Communication Technical Credibility	 Include in Recruitment and Diversity Plans; and Training Programs Orientation to 'new' environment OJT with Subject Matter Experts Consider certifications Provide Mid/High Level Leadership Training
Assistant to Deputy Administrator (0301)	0% FY07-FY11	Technical ■ Executive Leadership ■ HR Management	 General Conflict Management Problem Solving Oral/Written Communication Technical Credibility 	 Develop Knowledge Management Process to transfer incumbent knowledge

Deputy Administrator for Commodity Operations(DACO)

Mission Critical Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	General Competencies a	ies /Skills GAP re based off the OPM Chart. or current outline.	GAP Closure Strategies
Commodity Program Specialist (1101)	37.5% FY03-FY07 57.9% FY04-FY08 61.9% FY07-FY11	Technical ■ Technical Skills	GeneralIntegrity/HonestyOral/Written CommunicationInterpersonal Skills	 Identify technical skills Recruitment Plan to include critical skills Provide Basic/First Level Leadership Training
Agricultural Marketing Specialist (1146)	30% FY03-FY07 45% FY04-FY08 45.1% FY07-FY11	TechnicalKnowledge of grain & agriculture	 General Integrity/Honesty Oral/Written Communication Flexibility Decisiveness 	 Recruitment Plan to include Ag Colleges Provide Basic/First Level Leadership Training
Leadership Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	Competencies /Skills GAP General Competencies are based off the OPM Chart. See page 11 for current outline.		Leadership Continuity Strategies
Supervisory, Ag/Grain Specialist (1146)	25% FY03-FY07 60% FY04-FY08 57.1% FY07-FY11	TechnicalLeadership SkillsHR Management	 General Leveraging Diversity Conflict Management Public Service Motivation Oral/Written Communication Problem Solving Technical Credibility 	 Provide Mid/High Level Leadership Training Develop Knowledge Management Process to transfer incumbent knowledge

Deputy Administrator for Management

(DAM)

Mission Critical Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	General Competencies	ncies /Skills GAP are based off the OPM Chart. 1 for current outline.	GAP Closure Strategies
Contract Specialist (1102)	42.9% FY03-FY07 69.2% FY04-FY08 75.0% FY07-FY11	 Technical A-76 Knowledge Contract Formation & Administration IT Skills Analytical Report Analysis Problem-solving across functional areas Acquisition Planning 	 General Team Building Integrity/Honesty Customer Service Oral/Written Communication 	 Recruitment Plan to include focus on required skills Provide Basic/First Level Leadership Training Provide IT training, e.g., AgLearn.Gov Expand In-House Training Programs
Information Technology Specialist (2210)	30.0% FY03-FY07 42.0% FY04-FY08 ~34.8% FY07-FY11	TechnicalIT SuiteFinancial Management	General Integrity/Honesty Flexibility Written Communication Decisiveness/Interpersonal Skills	 Provide IT training, i.e, AgLearn.gov Upgrade current Training Programs
Budget Analyst (0560)	40% FY03-FY07 33.3% FY04-FY08 43.5% FY07-FY11	Technical Analytical skills Financial System Requirements Financial Controls Business Process Analysis Redesign	Financial Management Interpersonal Skills/Integrity/honesty Oral/Written Communication Technical Credibility Problem Solving/Flexibility	 Expand In-House Training Programs Recruitment Plan to include focus on required skills
Leadership Occupations	Occupational GAP (attrition)	General Competencies	ncies /Skills GAP are based off the OPM Chart. 1 for current outline.	Leadership Succession Strategies
Supervisory, Contract Specialist (1102)	50.0% FY03-FY07 50.0% FY04-FY08 50.0% FY07-FY11	 Technical A-76 Knowledge IT Skills Change Management skills HR Management 	 General Resilience/Conflict Management Leveraging Diversity Public Service Motivation Oral/Written Communication Problem Solving/Technical Credibility 	 Provide First/Mid Level Leadership Training Recruitment Plan to include focus on required skills Provide IT training, e.g., AgLearn.Gov Incorporate Knowledge Management process
Supervisory, Financial Analyst (0501)	0.0% FY07-FY11	 Technical Change Management skills Performance Management skills HR Management 	 General Resilience/Conflict Management Leveraging Diversity/Service Motivation Oral/Written Communication Problem Solving/Technical Credibility 	 Provide First/Mid Level Leadership Training Provide IT training, e.g., AgLearn.Gov Incorporate Knowledge Management process
Supervisory, IT Specialist (2210)	55.0% FY03-FY07 55.0% FY04-FY08 ~42.5% FY07-FY11	 Technical Change Management skills Performance Management skills Technical Credibility HR Management 	 General Conflict Management/Leveraging Diversity Public Service Motivation Oral/Written Communication Problem Solving 	 Provide First/Mid Level Leadership Training Provide IT training, e.g., AgLearn.Gov Incorporate Knowledge Management process

OPM Competency Chart

The Leadership Journey

Managing Self All Employees	Managing Projects Team Leader or Project Manager	Managing People Supervisor	Managing Programs Manager	Leading Organizations Executive	Managing Performance Supervisor, Manager, Executive
Integrity/Honesty Fundamental	Team Building ECQ 2	Human Capital Management ECQ 4	Technology Management ECQ 4	External Awareness ECQ 1	Building Performance Culture
Interpersonal Skills Fundamental	Customer Service ECQ 3	Leveraging Diversity ECQ 2	Financial Management ECQ 4	Vision ECQ 1	Differentiating Performance
Continual Learning Fundamental	Technical Credibility ECQ 3	Conflict Management ECQ 2	Creativity / Innovation ECQ 1	Strategic Thinking ECQ 1	Facilitating Performance
Resilience ECQ 1	Accountability ECQ 3	Public Service Motivation Fundamental	Partnering ECQ 5	Entrepreneurship ECQ 3	Goal Setting
Oral Communication Fundamental	Decisiveness ECQ 3	Developing Others ECQ 2	Political Savvy ECQ 5		Performance Coaching and Feedback
Written Communication Fundamental	Influencing / Negotiating ECQ 5			•	Understanding Performance Management Processes and Practices
Flexibility		•			

ECQ 1

Problem Solving ECQ 3

DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRESSION

Executive Core Qualifications (ECQ & Fundamental) are identified as they relate to the Leadership Journey

FSA FCAT-M Competency Assessment

FY07 Summary

FSA FCAT-M Results						
Highest Proficiency Competencies (HPC)	HPC Scores	Lowest Proficiency Competencies (LPC)	LPC Scores	Actual to Desired Competencies	GAP	
Integrity / Honesty	4.16	Entrepreneurship	3.25	Performance Coaching and Feedback	-0.43	
Interpersonal Skills	3.93	Political Savvy	3.29	Conflict Management	-0.39	
Public Service Motivation	3.82	Vision	3.33	Vision	-0.38	
Customer Service	3.82	Technology Management	3.34	Facilitating Performance	-0.38	
Accountability	3.80	Financial Management	3.36	Goal Setting	-0.37	

In addition, a department-wide work group analyzed the 2007 FCAT-M results; and USDA/OHCM identified two competencies to focus on and to close the skills gaps for - Facilitating Performance and Understanding Performance Management in FY08.



Workforce Planning & Deployment Overview

Objective for Workforce Planning

- Institutes and maintains an Agency practice of conducting workforce planning
- Timed with the Budget Cycle
- Enables the Agency to prevent skills gaps in Mission Critical Occupations
- Ensures continuity of Leadership or Leadership Bench Strength

Related Agency Performance Measures identified in the USDA Human Capital Plan

- Reduction of Skills Gaps of Mission Critical Occupations
- Increase Leadership Bench Strength

• Continual collaboration between HR and Management to develop:

- Annual Recruitment and Diversity Plans
- Annual Training & Development Plans
- Leadership/MCO Succession and Retention Strategies
- Knowledge Management Initiatives
- Human Capital Management Investments