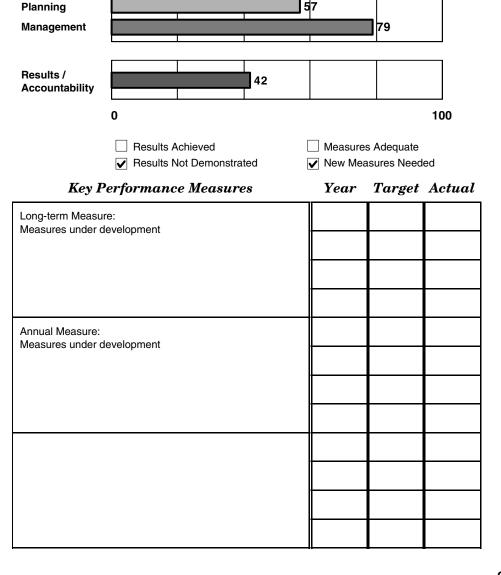
Program: Food Aid Programs

Agency: Department of Agriculture **Bureau:** Foreign Agricultural Service

Purpose



80

Rating: Results Not Demonstrated

Program Type: Mixed Program Summary:

The United States continues to be the largest donor nation to food relief organizations worldwide. USDA food assistance programs help to feed over 10 million people in 50-80 countries each year in an effort to avert famine and offset food deficiencies. These programs include: P.L. 480 Title I, 416(b), Food for Progress (FFP), and the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust. Global Food for Education was not covered in this PART.

The assessment found that USDA needs to develop performance measures that link to the long-term outcome goals of food security. While this assessment was based largely on existing measures, these measures do not adequately demonstrate results. New measures will be developed. Other findings include:

- 1. USDA is unique in administering food aid on credit terms and focusing on government to government donations.
- 2. USDA has made investments and implemented improvements in their business practices and food aid delivery systems. USDA has planned additional management process improvements that will improve database integration, training, monitoring and prescreening processes.
- 3. Performance measures need to be developed that are tied to strategic goals and linked to the budget. Current performance measures, such as the number of food aid agreements signed annually, and the level of funding, are inadequate to measure progress towards achieving strategic goals.
- 4. Coordination is lacking with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) for common performance measures since the programs have similar goals.

To address these findings, USDA will administer the food aid programs in a manner that will:

- 1. Limit duplication and inconsistent program implementation between USDA and USAID and make more efficient use of US food aid resources through implementation of the President's Management Agenda. The PART affirmed the need for USDA and USAID to coordinate on program performance measures, program evaluation and monitoring, and eligibility criteria.
- 2. Fund the programs at a level that is consistent with the 2003 Budget, reflecting the Administration's management reform goals. The PART helped identify the need to develop a strategy to replenish the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust to ensure the long-term availability of commodities for emergency food assistance.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

2002 Actual	2003 Estimate	2004 Estimate	
124	160	160	