

Working Toward a Sustainable Future Fiscal Year 2015 Annual Action Plan

The Agency's work in the FY14 Sustainability Action Plan, particularly in sustainable products and purchasing, green infrastructure, sustainable materials management, and energy efficiency, laid the foundation for how to demonstrate sustainable principles in action. However, now we must go further to imbed the sustainability principles into all of our decisions and actions. To that end, the FY15 Action Plan focuses on helping EPA's workforce integrate sustainability principles into our core lines of business (e.g., permits, rules, site remediation, contracts, grants) and our facilities and operations, and enhancing our use of metrics, indicators, and analytical tools.

- 1. Educate and empower workforce to incorporate sustainability principles into their daily work by developing 25 short videos highlighting successful incorporation of sustainability principles into EPA's work. (Leads: R1, R9, OARM, OCSPP, OP, ORD)**
 - A. By January 23, 2015 – Ask each program and region to supply three success stories where sustainability principles were successfully incorporated into EPA's daily work.
 - B. By February 6, 2015 – Choose 25 of the 60 submitted to develop into videos.
 - C. By February 28, 2015 – Train this cadre of sustainability leaders to develop compelling, very short TED Talk style storytelling videos and engaging, longer Kahn Academy style training videos.
 - D. By September 30, 2015 – Produce videos highlighting 25 success stories that demonstrate the value of sustainability-oriented approaches, make those approaches as accessible as possible, and promote their replication. Videos will include information on broad impacts of action(s) taken, any tool(s) used by staff, and potential for replication.
 - E. By September 30, 2015 – Broadcast videos both internally and externally via SharePoint, the EPA intranet and internet sites, YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter.
 - F. By September 30, 2015 – Administrator to personally recognize contributions of sustainability leaders.
 - G. By September 30, 2015 – Develop metrics for success, considering factors such as the number of views, number of "likes," how many people indicated they learned something new as a result of the videos, and how many are taking new actions as a result of the videos.

- 2. Advance EPA's efforts to "walk the talk" by continuing to increase the sustainability of our own operations and facilities. (Leads: OARM and OCSPP)**
 - A. By September 30, 2015 – Complete implementation of projects selected from the Agency-wide Sustainability GreenSpark event: installation of filtered water dispensers, increased use of paperless correspondence, composting program in the William Jefferson Clinton buildings, in addition to regional activities.
 - B. By September 30, 2015 – Develop a composite view of facility performance under the EMS programs' 8-12 unique categories and identify opportunities to improve our performance/ratings.
 - C. By September 30, 2015 – Develop an agencywide paper reduction initiative: Identify the Agency's baseline paper consumption to enable measurement of reductions in paper use beginning in FY 2016. Develop and promote best practices for paper acquisition and use that will reduce paper consumption agencywide.

- 3. Enhance use of sustainability indicators, metrics, and tools by identifying and developing appropriate sustainability indicators and metrics, and design a strategy for capturing GHG co-benefits of the Agency's work. (Leads: ORD and OP)**
 - A. September 30, 2015 – Release the Agency's updated, web-based, Report on the Environment which incorporates sustainability as a common thread across the five agency themes: Air, Water, Land, Human Health and Ecosystems. The current sustainability indicators are focused on resource consumption. They are: energy use, freshwater withdrawals, hazardous waste, and municipal solid waste.
 - B. By September 30, 2015 – Work with federal and international partners to develop additional sustainability indicators and incorporate those indicators into the next Report on the Environment.
 - C. By September 30, 2015 – Emphasize the role of EPA's increasing community-based work as a source of GHG benefits and characterize impacts (including direction and magnitude) of decision alternatives for actions on-the-ground in communities.