



FMMI in the NEWS

Financial Management Modernization Initiative

Issue #17 – July/August 2010



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Deployment 2 Agency-Specific Testing

In July and August, Solution Leads and representatives from several Deployment 2 Agencies traveled to Washington, D.C. to participate in preliminary testing activities using Agency-specific scenarios in a FMMI Test environment. Each Agency developed their own agenda for their visit, including FMMI functions they were interested in testing to further shape their Master Data such as Funds Center/Cost Center structure and Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) Elements.

Over the course of their visit, Agency personnel completed as many scenarios as possible using their previously submitted Mock 1 Master Data. In some cases Agencies worked to create additional Master Data in the Test environment to more closely reflect Master Data submitted for Mock 2 and Mock 3.

Scenarios Agencies chose to test included creating and approving budgets, completing the accounts receivable/accounts payable processes, and running reports. There were also a few ad-hoc demonstrations on IPAC and BI reporting conducted during these sessions.

Using existing test scripts created by the FMMI Core Team, Agency representatives worked with the FMMI Core Team members who provided support and guidance on how to use the FMMI system.

Deployment 3 Implementation Kickoff

The FMMI project held its Deployment 3 Implementation Kickoff on August 3rd and 4th in Washington, D.C. The FMMI Deployment 3 Agencies are Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Forest Service (FS). After a project overview, FMMI Core Team members provided overviews for the Agency Implementation teams. These overviews covered team roles, FMMI Core Team support, and key activities and tasks for go-live. The kickoff also gave Deployment 3 Agencies an opportunity to ask questions and discuss how the FMMI solution will apply to their Agency-specific business practices.

Solution Review Sessions were also held on Budget Processing (Funds Management), Accounts Payable, Purchasing, Reimbursables (Accounts Receivable), Cost Management, and Projects (WBS Elements).

As part of the planning efforts, the team will work with the Agencies to conduct planning meetings (e.g., Fit/Gap, Master Data, Data Cleansing, Role Mapping, etc.). During the Fit/Gap meetings, the teams will review the current FMMI solution and work to better understand each Agency's unique business processes. The Fit/Gap sessions are also a time to consider how Agencies can standardize business practices where possible. If a unique business process cannot be standardized, the FMMI Core Team works with FMMI Leadership to determine what changes to the current solution may be appropriate. Regular status meetings will be held to communicate information, discuss action items, and track status of implementation activities.

A FMMI Deployment 3 SharePoint site has been established to share information between the Deployment 3 Agency Implementation team members and the FMMI Core Team. The FMMI Deployment 3 SharePoint site hosts the presentation materials from the kickoff and corporate review sessions, and also includes more tactical materials such as reference materials and meeting agendas and summaries.

The FMMI Core Team will continue to provide updates on Deployment 3 activities and looks forward to the busy, exciting months to come. Lucy Luo and Ray Carlyle from the FMMI Core Team will work with FS and NRCS, respectively, as Solution Leads to provide support through Go-Live.

Spotlight on Risk Management Agency (RMA)

Risk Management Agency (RMA) is a USDA Agency who will begin using FMMI capabilities in Deployment 2. Created as a USDA Agency in 1996, the role of RMA is to help agricultural producers manage their business risks through effective, market-based risk management solutions. RMA's mission is to promote, support, and regulate sound risk management solutions to preserve and strengthen the economic stability of America's agricultural producers. As part of this mission, RMA operates and manages the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC).

To bring the RMA employees stationed across the country into the FMMI system, an Implementation team of 12 Agency personnel and two Solution Leads are working on implementation needs concerning functional and technical requirements, data conversion, security, reporting, and change management topics. RMA is scheduled to go live with FMMI in November 2010.

At present, RMA is reviewing current FFIS data and formulating Master Data for the FMMI system. This includes conducting multiple rounds of reviews and adjustments so the best possible source data is converted. In addition, RMA has completed user role mapping, which consisted of assigning personnel their roles for FMMI and the corresponding training for those roles. On the functional side, RMA is discussing several requirements and preparing for User Testing in the fall.



Several members of the RMA Implementation team attended FMMI 101 training in Kansas City on July 20th. Pictured above are (back row) Mark Harms, Michael Drewel, Solution Lead Dennis Garcia, and Amy Gibbs; (front row) Angela Conchola, DeNira Dedeaux, and Shanda Sander. Implementation team members not pictured include Margo Erny, Eric Baer, Helen Morris, Anne Newman, Dena Prindle, and Dennis Stephan, and Solution Lead Ray Carlyle.

Deployment 2 Training Delivery Update

FMMI 101 - Introduction to FMMI delivery concluded on July 29th. A recorded version is now available in AgLearn for users unable to attend live instructor-led or teleconference sessions. OCFO FMMI Leadership presented the FMMI 101 course in Kansas City, MO; St. Louis, MO; and Washington, DC; and by teleconference specifically for those who work elsewhere in the U.S. and abroad. All individuals who will use the FMMI system for Deployment 2 were required to attend this foundational course.

The 200 Level Process Overview online courses are self-paced and accessed via AgLearn. These courses began in July and are available through March 2011. For Deployment 2, 300 Level courses will be offered via AgLearn, similar to the 200 Level courses. Delivery of the 400 Level classroom training begins August 30th. Registration for 400 Level was launched in early August for RD, RMA, FNS and FSA. Registration for 400 Level for MRP agencies is targeted to begin in October 2010. To help Agencies track their user registrations and completions, the Customer Liaison and Training Branch (CLTB) sends regular user registration and completion reports to the Agency Implementation teams.

Deployment 2 Candidate Systems

One objective of the FMMI program is to conduct an analysis of the existing financial and program systems that may be replaced by or interfaced with the FMMI system, including Agency-specific interfaces. Systems being considered for replacement or interface are known as Candidate Systems. Replacement means the existing Candidate System will be subsumed by FMMI. Interfacing means the Candidate System will remain working with the new FMMI system and will either receive or send information from and to FMMI.

How are Candidate Systems evaluated?

Analysis of Candidate Systems has been a joint effort of the FMMI Core team working together with Agency stakeholders and subject matter experts (SMEs). The ongoing analysis and gathering of Agency-specific requirements determines how the current system process will operate in conjunction with FMMI. Together we are reviewing the Candidate Systems selected and confirming next steps on a system by system basis. This effort will provide a final determination of which systems will be subsumed by or interfaced with FMMI.

Current Systems under development to be integrated:

As part of Deployment 2, only Agency-specific administrative accounting systems are in scope. Agency-specific program accounting systems will be addressed in Deployment 4. Currently, the Deployment 2 systems identified to be integrated with FMMI are:

- TAOS (Agency-wide): master data extract to TAOS and transactional data extract to FMMI for GSA Network universal telecommunications
- AgLearn (Agency-wide): interfaces to record financial data from AgLearn
- AMS ASAP: interfaces for grant disbursement activity
- AMS BIIS: interface for processed products inspection billing
- AMS CAMS-LV: interface for livestock meat grading and certification inspection billing
- AMS CAMS-PY: interface for poultry inspection billing
- AMS DBIGS: interface for dairy inspection billing
- AMS FEIRS: interface for fresh products inspection billing
- APHIS ACMS: data extracts for financial commitment tracking, Status of Funds reporting and managing Agency Agreement Inventory
- APHIS ATF: cooperative trust fund process and account statement to be subsumed in FMMI
- APHIS VS UFS: interface for veterinary service user fee inspection billing
- RMA RAS-GLI: interface for vendor payments and customer collections related to reinsurance activity
- RMA ESCROW: interface for vendor payments and customer collections related to escrow activity
- WBSCM (AMS, FAS, FNS, and FSA): interfaces for commodity food operations

Please note that additional systems are presented to the FMMI Program Change Control Board on a regular basis.

Design Phase Concludes with Deployment 2 Solution Reviews

The design phase of Deployment 2 concluded with the completion of the D2 Solution Reviews, which were held between June 21st and July 16th. After conducting the Fit-Gap discussions in the spring to gather requirements, the FMMI Functional team analyzed the information and reviewed the functionality gaps with USDA Executive Leadership.

After receiving approval to proceed, the FMMI Functional team scheduled time with the D2 Agencies to review the solutions. The approved solutions included updates to the Funds Management, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, and Cost Management processes as well as new processes for FMMI Debt Management, Animal Quarantine Inspection (AQI), and RMA Re-Insurance. The processes were configured in the D2 system landscape and prepared for demonstration to the D2 Agencies.

The Deployment 2 Agency representatives will continue to be called upon to act as Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) during the Build & Test phases. Agencies play a critical role during each phase by validating the finalized configuration rationales, and defining the customization, integration, and data conversion designs with the FMMI Core team.



Key Messages for Your Agency/Staff Office

As leadership, or the FMMI Point of Contact (POC) for your Agency/Staff Office, we rely on you to take back key messages to the rest of your organization about FMMI. Key points to relay to your organizations:

- Solution leads and members of several Deployment 2 Agencies tested Agency-specific scenarios in a FMMI Test Environment in July and August.
- The FMMI Deployment 3 Implementation Kickoff was held August 3rd and 4th in Washington, DC. The Deployment 3 Agencies are Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Forest Service (FS).
- Risk Management Agency (RMA), whose mission is to promote, support, and regulate sound risk management solutions to preserve and strengthen the economic stability of America's agricultural producers, is a Deployment 2 Agency targeted to go live in November 2010.
- Deployment 2 FMMI 101 – Introduction to FMMI training was conducted between July 20th and July 29th and a recorded audio file is now available in AgLearn for those who could not attend a live offering.
- Deployment 2 FMMI 200 Level training is ongoing and available via AgLearn through March 2011.
- Deployment 2 FMMI 300 and 400 Level training registration is ongoing. FMMI 300 Level is now available in AgLearn. FMMI 400 Level delivery will begin August 30th. Refer to reports provided by the Customer Liaison and Training Branch for regular updates on the course registrations and completions for your Agency.
- Candidate Systems, systems being considered for replacement or interface with FMMI, are being evaluated and prepared for integration for future Deployments.
- The Deployment 2 Solution Reviews were completed between June 21st and July 16th.

FMMI in the News Objective

FMMI in the News serves as a central source of information to Agency and Staff Office leadership and POCs on all things related to the Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI).

To verify FMMI in the News is relevant to you and your Agency or Staff Office, please let us know what topics you would like to hear by sending feedback, comments, and suggestions to the FMMI mailbox at fmmi@cfo.usda.gov or give immediate feedback and tell us how we are doing.

FMMI Calendar (Deployment 2)

FMMI 101 Training Delivery	July 20-29
Mock Conversion #3	July 26 – August 20
Deployment 3 Kickoff	August 3-4
User Testing	September 13-October 15
FMMI 200 Level Training Delivery	July 2010 – March 2011
FMMI 300-400 Level Training Delivery	August 2010- March 2011

Questions or Comments?

If you have questions about the FMMI project or information in this newsletter, please send an email to fmmi@usda.gov and include a clear subject line to indicate what your question or concern is about.

For information, reference documents and frequently asked questions, visit the FMMI website: <http://info.fmmi.usda.gov>.

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