

2009 Current Fiscal Year Report: Federal Advisory Committee for the Expert Review of Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3

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1. Department or Agency	2. Fiscal Year
Department of Agriculture	2009
3. Committee or Subcommittee	3b. GSA Committee No.
Federal Advisory Committee for the Expert Review of Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3	31918

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?	5. Current Charter	6. Expected Renewal Date	7. Expected Term Date
No	03/08/2007	03/08/2009	05/27/2009

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?	8b. Specific Termination Authority	8c. Actual Term Date
Yes	Charter	10/01/2008

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year	10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?	10b. Legislation Pending?
Terminate	No	Enacted

11. Establishment Authority	Agency Authority
12. Specific Establishment Authority	13. Effective Date
Agency	03/08/2007
14. Committee Type	14c. Presidential?
Continuing	No

15. Description of Committee Other Committee

16a. Total Number of Reports No Reports for this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 0 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

CERSAP provides advice to the Secretary of Agriculture on the conduct of the study titled The Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land Resources, Water Resources, and Biodiversity, being conducted as part of the U.S. Climate Change Science Program. CERSAP provides advice on the specific issues to be addressed, appropriate technical approaches, the nature of information relevant to decision makers, the content of the final report, compliance with the Information Quality Act, and other matters important to the successful achievement of the

study objectives. CERSAP generates a list of comments and suggestions to increase the merit of SAP 4.3. After SAP 4.3's authors have responded to those comments, CERSAP will review those responses to ensure that their review comments have been adequately considered and addressed. The duties of the CERSAP are solely advisory in nature.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

As required by the OMB's Information Quality Act Guidelines and the USDA's Peer Review Implementation Guidelines, the selection of CERSAP members was based upon their demonstrated expertise in the ecosystems and ecosystem services related to agriculture, land resources, water resources, and biodiversity, which comprise SAP 4.3. Advertising for membership was conducted widely, including an announcement in the Federal Register and through USDA and report websites. All applicants to the CERSAP were appointed.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Estimated Number of Meetings per Year - 1

Estimated Total Meetings - 2

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Through the U.S. Climate Change Science Program (CCSP), chaired by the U.S. Department of Commerce, twenty-one national peer-reviewed Synthesis and Assessment Products (SAPs) will be completed to assess global climate change, as required within the 1990 Global Change Research Act (GCRA). The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is the lead Government agency for a SAP

entitled The Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land Resources, Water Resources, and Biodiversity, with the USDA Global Change Program Office coordinating the assessment. The GCRA requires that an assessment of the impacts of climate change be conducted every four years. Each SAP is designated under OMB's Information Quality Act Guidelines as a Highly Influential Scientific Assessment. Among the requirements for the production of this report is that it undergo review by an independent body of subject area experts. The report review constitutes de facto advice to the Department because the reviewers will make a recommendation to the Government regarding the report's acceptance. As such, it was necessary to form this expert review panel through a committee formed under the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

N/A

21. Remarks

By charter, the Committee for the Expert Review of Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3 (CERSAP) expired upon final publication of the report. The report was published on May 27, 2008. Therefore, the CERSAP expired at that time. No renewal will be sought.

Designated Federal Officer

Margaret Walsh Ecologist

Narrative Description

CERSAP was established in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) to support the USDA in its

participation in the interagency U.S. Climate Change Science Program, specifically in implementation of Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3 (SAP 4.3), The Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land Resources, Water Resources, and Biodiversity. The Secretary of Agriculture determined that CERSAP is in the public interest and will support USDA in performing its duties and responsibilities.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

1

Number of Recommendations Comments

Committee made comments on individual aspects of SAP 4-3 to the report's authors. Those comments numbered in the hundreds. They advised regarding the disposition of the end report.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

100%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

All comments generated by CERSAP were considered by SAP 4.3's author team. Those identified as improvements to the report that were implemented. An explanation was given as to non-implementation when it was not possible to do so, and was approved by the CERSAP.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

0%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

All comments generated by CERSAP were considered by SAP 4.3's author team. Improvements to the report were incorporated. Explanation was given in all other cases, with CERSAP approval.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

The committee received a full listing of their comments and all detailed responses made to the report.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

NA

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

DFO Contact Info is given in all Federal Register notices and on all applicable websites. Agency Website: http://www.usda.gov/oce/global_change/index.htm Report Website: <http://www.sap43.ucar.edu/Publication> of SAP 4.3 is anticipated both online and in print following CCSP and NSTC clearance processes.