

Notices

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains documents other than rules or proposed rules that are applicable to the public. Notices of hearings and investigations, committee meetings, agency decisions and rulings, delegations of authority, filing of petitions and applications and agency statements of organization and functions are examples of documents appearing in this section.

AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Notice of Meeting; Board for International Food and Agricultural Development

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, notice is hereby given of the public meeting of the Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The meeting will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, September 12, 2018, at the Murrow/White/Lisagor Room, 13th Floor, National Press Club, 529 14th Street NW, Washington, DC. Participants may attend in person or join via livestream. The link to the global live stream as well as registration information can be found on BIFAD's home page and online at <http://www.aplu.org/projects-and-initiatives/international-programs/bifad/bifad-meetings.html>.

The central theme of this public meeting will be the new *Feed the Future Learning Agenda* which builds on the first Feed the Future Learning Agenda launched in 2012. Dr. Mark Keenum, BIFAD Chair, will preside over the public business meeting, which will begin promptly at 9:30 a.m. EDT with opening remarks. At this meeting the Board will address old and new business. Old business will include an update on a study commissioned by BIFAD and USAID on U.S. benefits and capabilities leveraged from strategic USAID investments in developing country agriculture and food security by Dr. Joseph Glauber, Senior Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). After this, the Board will then engage in a dialogue and provide feedback on the *Feed the Future Learning Agenda*.

Through the Learning Agenda, the U.S. Government seeks to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Feed the Future initiative by generating, synthesizing, communicating and

applying evidence related to key questions. Evidence from the Learning Agenda will inform the design of Feed the Future-related strategies, programs, projects and activities. The Learning Agenda will also serve to address requirements laid out in section 8(a)(14) of the Global Food Security Act on sharing lessons learned from implementation of the Global Food Security Strategy.

This Feed the Future Learning Agenda will focus on eight areas: (1) Gender and women's empowerment, (2) Market systems, (3) Policy systems, (4) Nutrition, (5) Risk and resilience, (6) Youth, (7) Water and Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and (8) Scaling technologies and practices. These areas reflect work and research being carried out under the Feed the Future initiative. Analytical outputs from the work in these areas will feed into the answering Learning Agenda questions. BIFAD is taking this opportunity to welcome public input on these focus areas, the types of questions to be examined, and research under way that might help contribute.

Beginning at 12:30 p.m. EDT, Chairman Keenum will moderate a half-hour public comment period. The public meeting will adjourn at 1:00 p.m. EDT with Dr. Keenum's closing remarks.

Those wishing to attend the meeting or obtain additional information about BIFAD should contact Clara Cohen, Designated Federal Officer for BIFAD in the Bureau for Food Security at USAID. Interested persons may write to her in care of the U.S. Agency for International Development, Ronald Reagan Building, Bureau for Food Security, 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20523-2110 or telephone her at (202) 712-0119.

Clara Cohen,

Designated Federal Officer, BIFAD, Bureau for Food Security, U.S. Agency for International Development.

[FR Doc. 2018-18084 Filed 8-21-18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

[Docket No. APHIS-2018-0052]

Notice of Request for an Extension of Approval of an Information Collection; Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery

AGENCY: Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA.

ACTION: Extension of approval of an information collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's intention to request an extension of approval of an information collection associated with qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback on service delivery by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

DATES: We will consider all comments that we receive on or before October 22, 2018.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by either of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to <http://www.regulations.gov#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2018-0052>.

- *Postal Mail/Commercial Delivery:* Send your comment to Docket No. APHIS-2018-0052, Regulatory Analysis and Development, PPD, APHIS, Station 3A-03.8, 4700 River Road Unit 118, Riverdale, MD 20737-1238.

Supporting documents and any comments we receive on this docket may be viewed at <http://www.regulations.gov#!docketDetail;D=APHIS-2018-0052> or in our reading room, which is located in Room 1141 of the USDA South Building, 14th Street and Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC. Normal reading room hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 7997039 before coming.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For more detailed information on this information collection, contact Ms. Kimberly Hardy, APHIS' Information Collection Coordinator, MRPBS, APHIS, 4700 River Road Unit 123, Riverdale, MD 20737; (301) 851-2483.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.

OMB Control Number: 0579–0377.

Type of Request: Extension of approval of an information collection.

Abstract: This information collection activity provides a means for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to garner qualitative customer and stakeholder feedback in an efficient, timely manner, in accordance with APHIS' commitment to improving service delivery.

By qualitative feedback, we mean information that provides useful insights on perceptions and opinions, but not statistical surveys that yield quantitative results that can be generalized to the population of study. This feedback will provide insights into customer or stakeholder perceptions, experiences, and expectations; provide an early warning of issues with service; or focus attention on areas where communication, training, or changes in operations might improve delivery of products or services. This collection will allow for ongoing, generic collaborative and actionable communications between APHIS and its customers and stakeholders. It will also allow feedback to contribute directly to the improvement of program management.

The solicitation of feedback will target areas such as: Timeliness, appropriateness, accuracy of information, courtesy, efficiency of service delivery, and resolution of issues with service delivery. Responses will be assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on APHIS' services will be unavailable.

APHIS will only submit a collection for approval under this generic clearance if it meets the following conditions:

- The collection is voluntary;
- The collection is low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden hours per respondent) and is low cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collection is non-controversial and does not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- The collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future;

• Personally identifiable information is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained;

• Information gathered is intended to be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of APHIS (if released, APHIS must indicate the qualitative nature of the information);

• Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions; and

• Information gathered will yield qualitative information (*i.e.* the collection will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study).

As a general matter, this information collection will not result in any new system of records containing privacy information and will not ask questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private.

We are asking the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to approve our use of these information collection activities for 3 years.

The purpose of this notice is to solicit comments from the public (as well as affected agencies) concerning our information collection. These comments will help us:

- (1) Evaluate whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;
- (2) Evaluate the accuracy of our estimate of the burden of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;
- (3) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and
- (4) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, through use, as appropriate, of automated, electronic, mechanical, and other collection technologies; *e.g.*, permitting electronic submission of responses.

Estimate of burden: The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 0.25 hours per response.

Respondents: Individuals and households; businesses and organizations; State, local, or Tribal governments; and foreign federal governments.

Estimated annual number of respondents: 70,000.

Estimated annual number of responses per respondent: 1.

Estimated annual number of responses: 70,000.

Estimated total annual burden on respondents: 17,500 hours. (Due to averaging, the total annual burden hours may not equal the product of the annual number of responses multiplied by the reporting burden per response.)

All responses to this notice will be summarized and included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will also become a matter of public record.

Done in Washington, DC, this 16th day of August 2018.

Kevin Shea,

Administrator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service.

[FR Doc. 2018–18137 Filed 8–21–18; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–34–P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Rural Utilities Service

Information Collection Activity; Comment Request

AGENCY: Rural Utilities Service, USDA.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Rural Utilities Service, an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), invites comments on this information collection for which approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) will be requested.

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received by October 22, 2018.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michele Brooks, Team Lead, Rural Development Innovation Center—Regulatory Team, USDA, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, STOP 1522, Room 5162 South Building, Washington, DC 20250–1522. Telephone: (202) 690–1078. Email: Michele.Brooks@wdc.usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) regulation (5 CFR 1320) implementing provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104–13) requires that interested members of the public and affected agencies have an opportunity to comment on information collection and recordkeeping activities (see 5 CFR 1320.8(d)). This notice identifies an information collection that will be submitted to OMB for approval.

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including