

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 Public Information Collections Being Reviewed by the U.S. Agency for International Development; Comments Requested

SUMMARY: U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is making efforts to reduce the paperwork burden. USAID invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on the following proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act for 1995. Comments are requested concerning: (a) Whether the proposed or continuing collections of information are necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the burden estimates; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information the respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

DATES: Submit comments on or before July 15, 2005.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Johnson, Bureau for Management, Office of Administrative Services, Information and Records Division, U.S. Agency for International Development, Room 2.07-106, RRB, Washington, DC, 20523, (202) 715-1365 or via e-mail bjohnson@usaid.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

OMB NO: OMB 0412-0552.

Form No.: N/A

Title: Financial Status Report or Equivalent.

Type of Review: Renewal of Information Collection.

Purpose: In its appropriations act, Congress always requests country level

financial expenditure data in order to determine whether funds appropriated to the Agency are being used for their intended purpose and are not used to support activities that are not in the U.S. National Interest. Generally, this has been fairly straightforward for assistance recipients who work specifically in one country, but harder to capture in the cases where recipients operate at a regional scale. Therefore, for each country where USAID spends money, careful review is necessary in order to be able to certify that funds expended do not go into programs where funding is prohibited, restricted or limited. Financial expenditure data by country is used by the agency to meet several reporting requirements for Congress. Country specific financial expenditure data is also used to determine whether the agency is meeting Congressional ceilings and earmarks. In addition, Congressional notification is required for activities in certain countries (Burma, Cambodia, Colombia, Democratic Republic of Congo, etc.), as well as activities covering certain subject matter such as activities promoting country participation in the Kyoto Protocol, use of notwithstanding authority for supporting energy programs aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions. In each case, Congress requests to know the amount of taxpayer dollars that is expended by the program or in the specific country. USAID currently requires grant and cooperative agreement recipients who work in multiple countries to provide expenditure reports by country. The purpose of this notice is to extend the class deviation to the statute from the Office of Management and Budget in accordance with 22 CFR 226.4. The information is being collected so that USAID can ensure programs do not fund activities in countries where the United States Congress has prohibited or fund programs where Congress has limited the types of activities that may be funded.

Annual Reporting Burden:

Respondents: 80.

Total annual responses: 320.

Total annual hours requested: 800.

Dated: May 5, 2005.

Joanne Paskar,

Chief, Information and Records Division,
Office of Administrative Services, Bureau for
Management.

[FR Doc. 05-9633 Filed 5-13-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6116-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

May 10, 2005.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13. Comments regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), OIRA_Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8681.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Farm Service Agency

Title: Verification of Debts and Assets.
OMB Control Number: 0560-0166.

Summary of Collection: The Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (CONACT) Sections 311 (7 U.S.C. 1941), 302 (7 U.S.C. 1922) and 321 (7 U.S.C. 1961), authorize the Farm Service Agency to determine an applicant's eligibility for Operating, Farm Ownership or Emergency loans. Additionally, Section 353 (7 U.S.C. 2001) requires FSA to collect financial data to verify debts and assets of borrowers that requested primary and preservation loan servicing or debt settlement. FSA will collect information using FSA form 440-32, Verification of Debts and Assets.

Need and Use of the Information: FSA will collect information to determine whether an applicant is eligible for a loan or the appropriateness of a servicing or debt settlement action. The data collected is then used to determine feasibility of the loan request. If the data were not collected FSA would be forced to use outdated financial information, which would result in much higher losses to the Government.

Description of Respondents: Business or other for-profit; Individuals or households; Farms; Federal Government.

Number of Respondents: 24,031.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting; On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 18,024.

Charlene Parker,

Departmental Information Collection Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 05-9645 Filed 5-13-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request**

May 10, 2005.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction act of 1995, Pub. L. 104-13. Comments regarding (a) 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; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of

information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB), *OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov* or fax (202) 395-5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250-7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720-8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a current valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: Food Stamp Program Employment and Training (E&T) Program.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0339.

Summary of Collection: The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Pub. L. 105-33), enacted on August 5, 1997, provided additional Federal Employment and Training funds for fiscal years 1998 through 2002, and targeted 80 percent of all Federal E&T funds to qualifying work activities for able bodied adults without dependents (ABAWDs). Section 6(d) of the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended (the Act), and the food stamp regulations at 7 CFR 273.7 require, as a condition of eligibility, that each non-exempt food stamp household member age 16 to 60 be work registered by the State agency at the time of application and once every twelve months thereafter. Each State agency must screen each work registrant to determine whether to refer the individual to its E&T Program. Both the Food Stamp Act and regulations require States to file quarterly reports about their E&T Programs so that the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) can monitor their performance.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will collect information using Form FNS-583, E&T Program Activity Report to ensure that the E&T Program is being efficiently and economically operated. If FNS were unable to collect, on a

quarterly basis, the data necessary to oversee program operations, FNS could not fulfill this mandate, nor could it initiate timely, effective corrective measures to assure successful State agency program operations.

Description of Respondents: State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 53.

Frequency of Responses: Recordkeeping; Reporting: Quarterly; Annually.

Total Burden Hours: 31,721.

Food and Nutrition Service

Title: WIC Financial Management and Participation Report with Addendum.

OMB Control Number: 0584-0045.

Summary of Collection: The Women, Infants and Children Program (WIC) is authorized by Section 17 of the Child Nutrition Act (CNA) of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786), as amended. The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of USDA administers the WIC Program by awarding cash grants to State agencies (generally State health department). The State agencies award subgrants to local agencies to deliver program benefits and services to eligible participants. State agencies complete the FNS-798 to comply with two separate legislative requirements. The FNS-798 captures the required data and serves as an operational plan for State agencies. FNS must continuously forecast and reevaluate State agencies' funding needs, make timely funding and other management decisions, and assist State agencies with caseload and funds management. FNS needs the FNS-798A to determine if each State agency has met the statutory nutrition education and breastfeeding promotion and support minimum expenditure requirements found in 42 U.S.C. 1786(h)(3). The FNS-798A shows how much of each State agency's total nutrition services and administration (NSA) expenditures were made for nutrition education and for breastfeeding promotion and support activities.

Need and Use of the Information: FNS will use the information reported each month for program monitoring, funds allocation and management, budget projections, monitoring caseload, policy development, and responding to requests from Congress and the interested public. FNS also uses the data to determine if the State has met the 97 percent performance standard for food and 10 percent performance standard for Nutrition Services Administration.

Description of Respondents: State, local, or tribal government.

Number of Respondents: 88.