

OEPR Strategic Plan Fiscal Years 2021-2025

Director's Message

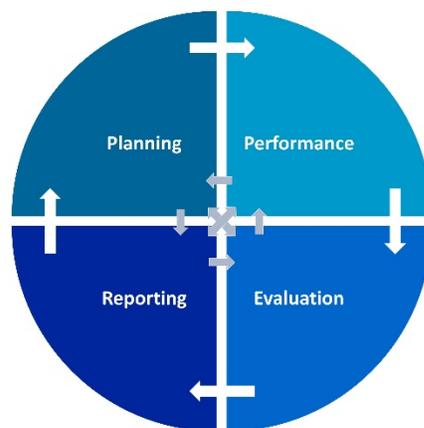
Mission

The Office of Evaluation, Performance, and Reporting (OEPR) provides leadership, coordination, and capacity building to strengthen NIH efforts to capture, communicate and enhance the value of NIH research through stewardship activities including strategic planning, progress monitoring, evaluation, and reporting.

Overarching Goal

To support NIH's mission by strengthening stewardship through collaboration and coordination to build capacity across NIH and within the Institutes, Centers, and Offices to better:

- Establish goals and priorities;
- Measure progress towards goals and priorities;
- Assess the value of NIH programs, policies, and operations; and,
- Communicate that value to NIH's numerous stakeholders.



Goal 1: Enhancing and Harmonizing Strategic Planning at NIH

Objective: To strengthen and harmonize strategic plan development, implementation and tracking across NIH through coordination and resource development.

Strategies:

1. Lead and collaborate across NIH to develop and track progress on the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan.
2. Provide a framework and tools that NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices can utilize in developing their own strategic plans and strategic plans that address cross-cutting NIH topics.
3. Increase awareness and understanding throughout NIH of the many strategic plans developed by the agency, where congruency in priorities may lie, and how each contributes to the overall mission of NIH.

Goal 2: Optimizing Progress Monitoring at NIH

Objective: To strengthen NIH's decision-making by enhancing and expanding progress tracking towards strategic goals and priorities

Strategies:

1. Work across NIH to develop and disseminate resources for progress tracking toward specified goals and priorities, such as those identified in NIH strategic plans and action plans.
2. Support the progress monitoring efforts of Institutes, Centers, and Offices by advising on quantitative and qualitative methods and developing a shared understanding of metrics for tracking different types of progress.
3. Foster the development and use of quantitative and qualitative measures that can inform internal management decisions as well as help satisfy legislative and departmental mandates.

Goal 3: Strengthening Assessment of NIH Activities and Impacts

Objective: To lead a coordinated and systematic effort encompassing all Institutes, Centers, and Offices to strengthen NIH's ability to gather evidence about the effectiveness of its programs, policies, and operations.

Strategies:

1. Work across NIH to better understand the capacity of Institutes, Centers, and Offices to generate evidence on its programs, policies, and operations, including the questions asked, the approaches and tools needed to answer those questions, and the use of the evidence gathered in order to identify needs and requirements for the Agency as a whole.
2. Based on an understanding of NIH assessment capacity, seek opportunities to strengthen expertise at NIH on the design and conduct of evaluations and other assessments, including creating training curriculums.
3. Manage the creation of a process and repository to share information that will help NIH staff better formulate questions, identify data needs, work with data sources and tool providers, and improve collaboration and coordination of evidence-building activities across NIH.
4. Work across NIH and with its many partners to better capture the impact of NIH's programs, policies, and operations on health, society, and the scientific enterprise by linking NIH results to their implementation in health and influence on scientific practices, leading to eventual societal outcomes.

Goal 4: Communicating the Value of NIH

Objective: To strengthen approaches and capacity to communicate the value of NIH programs, policies, and operations beyond immediate research findings to its impact on improving health and bringing benefits to society.

Strategies:

1. Lead and coordinate mandated reporting exercises in such a way as to minimize burden to NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices while maximizing the usefulness of the information gathered.
2. Work with the NIH Planning and Evaluation Officers to create communication strategies and tools that allow NIH to make better use of the evidence gathered through progress monitoring, evaluations, and other assessments, to enhance the demonstration of NIH value to its stakeholders.
3. Work with the NIH Communications community to develop strategies to effectively communicate to the public how NIH research advances health, furthers large-scale scientific achievement, and improves society.