

Technology Innovation Program Performance Measures

Measuring performance allows TIP to:

- Track performance over time to assess if goals are being met;
- Link performance to budget decisions; and
- Address management challenges.

TIP measures outputs as short-run indicators of progress toward program goals. TIP measures outcomes in the longer run to assess impact of the program.

Each year, TIP estimates the following performance results as measures of key outputs and indicators of progress in meeting short-run program goals:

- Funding high-risk, high-reward R&D,
- Fostering research collaborations, and
- Accelerating the creation and dissemination of knowledge through patents, papers, and publications.

These performance measures are included in NIST's budget submissions to the U.S. Department of Commerce (DoC) and the Office of Management and Budget.

In addition to compiling actual performance results at the end of a given fiscal year, TIP forecasts results for the following three years. These forecasts are currently based on historic data from similar R&D programs. The ratio of actual total outputs for a given measure to the cumulative number of completed projects is calculated and applied to the anticipated number of completed TIP projects at each future date. The forecasts are used by the DoC as targets for annual performance.

The table below shows the TIP targets* for FY 2009 - 2012 that the DoC will use to assess actual performance and budgets. TIP measures are lagged and will not generate results until three or more years of project research are complete.

<i>Performance Measure</i>	Actual FY 2009	Actual FY 2010	Target FY 2011	Target FY 2012
Cumulative number of projects funded	9	29	38	60
Cumulative number of publications	0	0	0	21
Cumulative number of patents applications	0	0	0	7
Cumulative number of projects generating continued R&D	0	0	0	4
Cumulative number of projects with technologies under adoption	0	0	0	2

The results/targets shown in the table above are based primarily on:

- Survey data from TIP's Impact Assessment Reporting System,
- TIP portfolio of project participants, and
- Historic data from similar R&D programs.

* Targets were estimated by TIP in mid-FY 2011. Targets for FY 2011 include a 2010 competition and a projected 2011 competition. Targets are subject to change due to fluctuations in future budget projections. Actual results for a given year are compiled and become available for reporting purposes by the middle of the following year. With the exception of "cumulative number of projects funded", the measures are lagged and will not generate results until three or more years of project research are complete.