



## **Chairman's Message**

September 13, 2012

I am pleased to present FCSIC's Annual Performance Plan for fiscal year 2013-2014, which was approved by the Board of Directors on September 13, 2012. The Annual Performance Plan is derived from FCSIC's five-year Strategic Plan (FY 2010-2015), which was approved by the Board of Directors on June 10, 2010 and can be found on our website.

The Annual Performance Plan has been updated in accordance with the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget's Circular No. A-11. The Plan is organized by program area and provides goals, performance measures, and objectives used to evaluate FCSIC's activities during the current fiscal year. FCSIC reports on its progress against the performance goals in its annual reports.

The continuing economic uncertainty reminds us of the importance of access to the capital markets for Farm Credit System debt issuances. Maintaining investor confidence is critical and FCSIC's strategic goal of protecting investors from loss without recourse to a joint and several liability call is as relevant today as it was when FCSIC was created in the aftermath of agricultural crisis of the eighties.

**Kenneth A. Spearman**  
**Chairman**

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**ANNUAL  
PERFORMANCE  
PLAN  
FY 2013-2014**

**September 13, 2012**

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The Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation (Corporation or FCSIC) was established by the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 (1987 Act) as an independent U.S. Government-controlled corporation. The 1987 Act provided for all Farm Credit System (System or FCS) banks to be insured. The Corporation's primary purpose is to ensure the timely payment of principal and interest on insured notes, bonds, and other obligations issued on behalf of FCS banks. The System is a privately owned, nationwide financial cooperative that lends to agriculture and rural America. By ensuring the repayment of System debt securities to investors, the Corporation helps to maintain a dependable source of funds for the farmers, ranchers, and other borrowers of the System.

The Corporation operates with no appropriated funds. The Corporation collects insurance premiums from each System bank that issues insured obligations. These premiums and the income from the Corporation's investments provide the necessary funds to fulfill its mission.

Since 1993, the Corporation's business model has been to operate with a small core staff and use the assistance of private and public sector contractors to leverage its efforts. The Corporation's Board of Directors (Board) and management have adopted this model as a cost-effective and efficient way to use available expertise, services and resources to accomplish its mission.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

As an independent entity, the Corporation shall:

- Protect investors in insured System obligations and taxpayers through sound administration of the Farm Credit Insurance Fund (FCIF or Insurance Fund);
- Exercise its authorities to minimize loss to the Insurance Fund; and
- Help ensure the future of a permanent system for delivery of credit to agricultural borrowers.

## ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN

The Corporation's Annual Performance Plan (Performance Plan) is derived from its five-year Strategic Plan (FY 2010–2015). The Performance Plan is organized by program area and provides focus to the goals, objectives and performance measures used to evaluate the Corporation's activities during the current year. As with the Strategic Plan, the Corporation's mission and key assumptions guide development of the Performance Plan. Progress towards program goals is periodically reported to the Board (at least quarterly) and is summarized in the Corporation's Annual Report, which is delivered to Congress and placed on the Corporation's website after the calendar year ends.

Strategic Goal	Strategic Objectives	High Priority Performance Goals
Investors in insured debt are protected from loss without recourse to a joint and several liability call.	The FCIF remains strong and adequately financed.	Maintain the FCIF at the statutory 2 percent secure base amount (SBA).
	The FCSIC promptly identifies and responds to potential risks to the FCIF.	Identify and address risks to the FCIF.
		Disseminate data and analyses on issues to the Board, the public, and other stakeholders.
		Effectively administer temporary financial assistance programs subject to the statutory least-cost requirements.
	The FCSIC resolves failure of FCS institutions in the manner least costly to the FCIF.	Market failing institutions to qualified and interested potential bidders.
	The public, insured investors and FCS institutions have access to accurate and easily understood information about the FCSIC insurance program.	Using the FCSIC website, Annual Report and other opportunities, provide educational information to insured institutions and their investors to help them understand the benefits of the insurance program.

## CORE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

On a continual basis, the Corporation performs a number of core activities that are essential to the achievement of its mission. The following is a summary of these activities categorized by program area:

- **Insurance Fund Management** -- The Corporation helps maintain public confidence in the System by insuring the banks' debt obligations. The Corporation:
  - Sets premium rates, collects and audits insurance premiums;

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- Manages the Corporation's \$3.2 billion investment portfolio to maintain the Insurance Fund at the 2 percent SBA;
  - Consults with the Federal Farm Credit Banks Funding Corporation (Funding Corporation) regarding the disclosure of System financial information;
  - Oversees the Corporation's accounting and financial reporting function; and
  - Manages Corporation payments that support program operations.
- **Risk Management** -- The Corporation evaluates risk to the Insurance Fund. The Corporation:
    - Uses monitoring systems, financial models and special examinations to analyze the performance and condition of System institutions and report risk trends regularly to the Board and external auditor;
    - Monitors conditions in the general economy, capital markets, and agricultural and financial sectors that can adversely impact System banks and their affiliated associations;
    - Reviews Farm Credit Administration (FCA) examination reports of System banks, larger, more complex associations, and/or institutions that have deteriorating FIRS ratings, and participates on the FCA enforcement committee;
    - Evaluates the adequacy of the allowance for the Insurance Fund quarterly;
    - Consults with FCA regarding risks resulting from mergers; and
    - Reviews funding requests of undercapitalized System banks and regulatory corporate approvals.
  - **Receivership and Conservatorship** -- If a System bank or association fails, the Corporation would be appointed conservator or receiver. As conservator, it would operate the institution as a going concern. As receiver, it would marshal the receivership estate's assets and recover the maximum amount possible under the law for the receivership's creditors. Currently, there are no conservatorships or receiverships. The Corporation:
    - Maintains the capability to manage receiverships and conservatorships;
    - Plans and trains for potential receiver or conservator actions;
    - Monitors legislation, regulations, legal cases, appraisal and environmental issues; and
    - Consults with other Federal insurers that serve as conservator or receiver of banks, thrifts and credit unions.
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## PROGRAM EVALUATION

The Board provides policy direction and oversight of the Corporation's operations. An independent accounting firm evaluates financial results annually. This includes a review of the Corporation's financial statements and the effectiveness of internal controls. To evaluate program activities, periodic operational reviews are performed. In addition, the General Accountability Office (GAO) performs a separate annual review of the Corporation's financial results and, at their discretion, program performance. These reviews are communicated to the Board. Recommendations arising from the annual audit and periodic operational reviews are integrated into the planning process.

## INSURANCE FUND MANAGEMENT

*GOAL: Manage the Insurance Fund to maintain the SBA at the level necessary to provide adequate protection for investors and taxpayers against identified risks.*

Congress established a statutory requirement for the Insurance Fund to be maintained at a SBA equal to 2 percent of adjusted insured obligations. Maintaining this goal may be affected by events beyond the control of the Corporation such as insurance losses that arise from troubled System institutions. The Corporation assesses its performance in achieving this goal by the following performance measures:

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

- Adjusting the insurance premiums semi-annually in order to maintain the Insurance Fund at the statutory SBA. Historic performance to the 2 percent SBA target is reported to the Board and the public quarterly.
- Tracking the investment portfolio yield and benchmarking performance with similarly structured public and private sector funds quarterly. Reporting the results to the Board and to the public in the Annual Report.
- Managing the investments in accordance with the Board's policy to provide sufficient liquidity to protect investors in the System's insured obligations. Reporting the composition of the portfolio to the Board and the public quarterly.
  - At least 20 percent of the Insurance Fund is to be invested in a liquidity pool of securities with a maximum of 2 years to maturity.
  - No more than 25 percent of the remaining investment pool may be invested in securities with maturities of 5 years or greater.

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**ACTIONS:**

1. Manage the insurance program through premium collections, refunds, and determination of the Insurance Fund's SBA. Execute the Board's Policy Statement Concerning Adjustments to the Insurance Premiums:

- Monitor System growth and periodically calculate the 2 percent SBA.

**Monthly**

- Report to the Board on the level of the Insurance Fund monthly, or more frequently, if required.

**At Least Monthly**

- Report on insured and other obligations at scheduled Board meetings by providing the Board with:
  - Rolling 12-month insured obligation report;
  - Rolling 12-month SBA calculation;
  - Rolling 10-year historical Insurance Fund relative to the 2 percent SBA; and
  - Year-to-date Insurance Fund relative to the 2 percent SBA.

**Quarterly**

- Review other Federal insurance agencies' programs regarding premium rates and studies.

**Ongoing**

- Perform an annual review of a sample of the System banks' premium certified statements.

**Annually**

2. Manage the investment program to meet the requirements of the Board's policy statement and ensure adequate liquidity while optimizing investment returns.

- Report results to the Board quarterly using defined metrics.

**Quarterly**

3. Enhance the Corporation's investment program and modify as necessary.

- Utilize investment intelligence sources such as Bloomberg and other tools.
- Test performance benchmarks.
- Promote training opportunities.
- Enrich reporting to Investment Committee by refining analysis of investment alternatives.
- Evaluate and review the cost effectiveness of alternative investments consistent with the program goal and the Board's investment policy.

**Ongoing**

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- Engage a firm with investment management expertise to review the investment program.  
**October 2013**
  - Report results to the Board.  
**December 2013**
4. Continue to pursue initiatives (including a legislative option) to ensure that System banks have adequate temporary liquidity in situations where external market forces make normal debt market access difficult or impossible.  
**2013**
5. Monitor trends in financial disclosure including those of the other GSEs and regulated financial institutions.
- Monitor the statutory and regulatory initiatives for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, and any changes for the Federal Housing Finance Administration (FHFA).  
**Ongoing**
  - Continue consultation with the Funding Corporation regarding the presentation of the Insurance Fund in the combined financial statements of System banks.  
**Quarterly**
  - Monitor the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's regulation development and other actions.  
**Quarterly**
6. Maintain the Farm Credit System Financial Assistance Corporation (FAC) shareholder list.  
**Annually**
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## RISK MANAGEMENT

*GOAL: Monitor, evaluate, and report risks that could generate losses to the Insurance Fund or result in a resolution.*

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

**Protecting the Insurance Fund from Losses:** Program effectiveness is measured by the extent that problems are promptly detected and insurance losses are minimized. Since the Corporation became operational in 1993, there have been no System institution failures that caused a loss to the Insurance Fund. However, losses may occur in the future. Timely evaluation and mitigation of the Insurance Fund's risk exposure is critical to minimizing losses.

In periods of probable or actual insurance claims, the ratio of estimated losses as a percentage of actual losses is the measure of the Corporation's ability to assess prospective loss exposure. Management uses criteria specified in its Allowance for Insurance Fund Loss procedure and Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) as guidance for determining when and how much to record for estimated insurance loss reserves.

Risk is identified by a quarterly review and analysis of all System institutions using the benchmarks and criteria adopted by the Board in the Allowance for Insurance Fund Loss procedures. Other sources to assist identification of risk are:

- Published System reports to stockholders and bond investors;
- System institution actions approved by FCA's enforcement committee;
- Reports of examination, FIRS reports, and other documents prepared by FCA's Office of Examination (OE);
- Special examinations conducted to assess insurance risk posed by weaker System institutions; and
- Government entities, news agencies, and other sources that supply information on the general economy, capital markets, and agricultural and financial sectors.

**Assistance Authority:** The Corporation is authorized to provide assistance to a troubled System institution to prevent default, restore it to normal operations, or to facilitate a merger or consolidation with one or more other System institutions. The Corporation may also provide assistance to reduce risk to the Insurance Fund when severe financial conditions threaten the stability of one or more banks or banks possessing significant financial resources. All assistance must pass the statutory least-cost test. In making a least-cost determination, the Corporation, through its special examination authority, would collect any information as is necessary to perform the least-cost test. Moreover, in regards to stand-alone assistance, the Corporation must evaluate the adequacy of the institution's management and approve the continued service of any director or senior officer. There are presently no active assistance agreements.

**Periodic Reporting:** A confidential System Performance Report is prepared for the Board on a quarterly basis. The report advises the Board on the condition and performance (including emerging risks) at:

- Each insured bank;
- Largest associations; and
- Specific institutions posing higher risk to the Insurance Fund.

The Corporation reports annually results of Insurance Fund solvency modeling. Reports on specialized topics are prepared as needed.

## **ACTIONS:**

1. Report to the Board on FCS conditions and trends that could impact insurance risk.  
**Quarterly**
2. Produce Allowance for Insurance Fund Loss Reports to evaluate the adequacy of the allowance for the Insurance Fund in accordance with the Corporation's policies and procedures. Recommend allowances to the Board if needed.  
**Quarterly**
3. Update the current insurance risk model at least annually and revalidate assumptions.
  - Evaluate fixed income market and liquidity of investments  
**July 2013**
  - Evaluate alternatives for incorporating risk from investment assets  
**July 2014**
4. Evaluate future modeling alternatives to assess Insurance Fund adequacy, System liquidity risk and institution viability analysis.  
**May 2014**
5. Consult with FCA regarding funding requests from undercapitalized System banks and restructuring requests from banks and large associations.  
**As Required**
6. Evaluate the effect of alternative forms of System financing and capital instruments (e.g., preferred stock, subordinated debt) on the Insurance Fund. Review offering circulars for appropriateness of disclosures concerning the Insurance Fund.  
**Ongoing**
7. Monitor the budget debate and development of the next Farm Bill and assess the impact of any Government payment cuts to agriculture on System institutions.  
**2013-2014**

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8. Work with FCA to maintain access to and share information to support the monitoring and evaluation of risk to the Insurance Fund. Access to information collected by FCA, including the examination staff, is a critical element of detecting the potential for Insurance Fund loss. FCA documents are protected under the interagency information sharing agreement between FCSIC and the FCA. The scope of information collected includes but isn't limited to:
- Periodic meetings with OE divisions and staff to discuss condition and performance of System institutions;
  - Examination reports, FIRS reports, System institution documents (e.g. business plans, general financing agreements, etc.);
  - Communications between System institutions and the FCA regarding the examination and ongoing monitoring of the performance and condition of institutions;
  - Regulatory Enforcement Committee documents;
  - Reports regarding liquidity, collateral, counterparty exposure, Contractual Interbank Performance Agreement, rating agency actions; and
  - Agency information databases including the Consolidated Reporting System (CRS), Loan Account Reporting System (LARS), and developing Loan Database
- Ongoing**
9. Maintain contacts with other financial regulators to share information on emerging risks and risk management processes.
- Ongoing**
10. Provide analysis and input to semi-annual rate review for Board insurance premium decision.
- May/December**
11. Work with the System to improve the data available to estimate the liquidation value of an institution in relation to the Corporation's financial assistance authority.
- Evaluate and test feasible options to pass statutory cost test requirements and other resolution needs.
- June 2014**
12. Monitor and evaluate prospective changes in Systemwide agreements that establish uniform standards of performance (e.g., CIPA and MAA).
- Ongoing**
13. Review the risk management program (including the Allowance for Loss Procedure) to determine whether additional tools will improve assessment of Insurance Fund adequacy.
- December 2013**
14. Participate in FCA workgroups and review and provide timely feedback to capital markets-related regulations (e.g., investments, capital and liquidity) that could impact the Insurance Fund.
- Ongoing**
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## RECEIVERSHIP AND CONSERVATORSHIP

*GOAL: Maintain the capability to effectively manage receiverships or conservatorships.*

### RECEIVERSHIP CAPABILITY

The Corporation has a statutory responsibility to serve as receiver or conservator when appointed by the FCA. This goal requires that corporate readiness be maintained, through periodic staff training and evaluation of contractors' capabilities, to ensure that qualified resources can be employed should the need arise.

### PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The effectiveness of receivership operations will be measured by completing the initial notice to creditors promptly and processing of all insured claims in accordance with regulations. Completion will be defined as the processing of 90 percent of all claims. Other performance measures include operating costs as a percentage of total assets and actual asset recovery return as a percentage of net realizable asset values using FDIC comparable metrics. These metrics will be tracked and reported to the Board.

Currently, there are no receiverships or conservatorships in the Farm Credit System.

### ACTIONS:

1. Continue pursuing a legislative initiative to update FCSIC resolution authorities with the assistance of a law firm.
 

**September 2013**
2. Develop and submit to the Board of Directors a new policy statement creating a FCSIC Resolution Oversight Committee.
 

**June 2013**
3. Evaluate the need for FCSIC rulemaking concerning receiverships and resolutions (including, e.g., treatment of qualified financial contracts). If the legislative initiative to update resolution authorities is enacted into law, develop and submit to the Board of Directors a new rulemaking policy statement.
 

**2014**
4. Use contractors to develop model legal documents for alternative resolution scenarios, including receiverships, conservatorships, and creation of a bridge bank (if statutory authority is obtained), addressing issues such as indemnification and governance.
 

**2013**
5. Continue to plan for potential conservator/receivership activity. Use contractors to evaluate resolution options for a large system bank.
 

**September 2014**
6. Monitor legislation, regulations, legal cases, and environmental issues that could affect receivership and conservatorship operations.
 

**Ongoing**
7. Monitor developments at other Federal insurers in conservator/receivership management.
 

**Ongoing**

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## CORPORATE MISSION SUPPORT

The Corporation recognizes that it must effectively manage its resources to achieve its strategic and performance goals. Resource management facilitates all mission critical activities. It includes effective communication, cooperation with FCA and other agencies and responding to external legislative and regulatory initiatives affecting the Corporation. The Corporation's most important resource is its core staff of 11. It strives to attract and retain highly motivated and skilled employees. It leverages its resources by purchasing support services from the FCA and other contractors to ensure the cost-effective administration of its programs. Purchased services include examination support, Congressional and public affairs support, personnel, financial and operational audit, accounting, network management, and consulting services.

## PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Effective management of corporate resources is measured by the Corporation's success in achieving its performance goals. Additional specific measures of resource management include:

- Operating within the Board-approved budget. The Corporation's expenses are paid from the investment earnings on the Insurance Fund. The Corporation's operating budget for 2013 totals \$4.0 million (59 percent for personnel costs and 17 percent for public and private contract services).
- Obtaining an unqualified audit opinion from the independent public accounting firm hired by the Corporation's Audit Committee and a favorable review from the GAO on internal controls and financial reporting for the combined Government financial statements.
- Achieving positive results from the Corporation's Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey which measures employee satisfaction with their work experiences and their leadership.

## ACTIONS:

1. In cooperation with the Funding Corporation, communicate the benefits of the insurance program to stakeholders.
  - Continue to identify and implement methods to reach out to selling group members and investors;
  - Continue to identify and pursue dialogue with System leadership on issues of mutual concern; and
  - Seek additional opportunities to expand contacts and information sharing with other organizations that have knowledge in areas that can benefit the Corporation.

**Ongoing**
2. Review progress reports on the Performance Plan and report to the Board at least quarterly.

**Quarterly**

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3. At year-end, submit the Corporation's Annual Report to Congress that compares actual performance to annual performance goals.
 

**Annually**
  4. Monitor and evaluate FCA initiatives that affect the Corporation and provide input during their development. (For example, regulations governing investments, capital, and lending authority.)
 

**As Necessary**
  5. Review and update corporate policies during the strategic planning cycle. The review should include: (a) the continued need for the policy; (b) the impact of the policy on stakeholders; and (c) whether the policy is written in "plain English." Policies to be reviewed in FY 2013-2014 are:
    - Sale of Assets Policy; **December 2012**
    - Assistance Policy (**Note: Comment period extended to October 2012**) **2013**
  6. Monitor legislative initiatives that affect the System, FCA, and the Corporation.
 

**As Necessary**
  7. Promote continuous learning and staff development, including staff cross-training and team building to ensure adequate backup in key corporate programs.
 

**Annually**
  8. Evaluate results of the Corporation's Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey to improve our workplace where appropriate.
 

**Annually**
  9. Enhance digital communications by updating the design and content of the FCSIC website to modernize and incorporate recommendations resulting from development of the FCSIC Crisis Communication Plan.
 

**Annually**
  10. Maintain the Corporation's electronic and paper files and records to:
    - Ensure the organizational structure in use continues to be effective; and
    - Update electronic files and procedures so they are consistent with paper files and provide guidance to staff on using the electronic filing system.

**Ongoing**
  11. Prepare required financial reports and monitor changes to Federal reporting requirements for significant agencies as specified by Treasury and OMB, including:
    - SF-224 Statement of Transactions – Reports monthly deposit and disbursement transactions to Treasury. **Monthly**
    - Annual Audit **January**
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- Intragovernmental Fiduciary Confirmation System (IFCS) **Quarterly**
  - Intragovernmental Reporting and Analysis System (IRAS) - Combines quarterly intragovernmental trial balance data extracts and GFRS data. **Quarterly**
  - The Treasury Report on Receivables (TROR) **Quarterly**
  - Federal Agencies' Centralized Trial-Balanced System (FACTS) II - Collects the preclosing adjusted trial balance using the standard general ledger accounts. **Quarterly**
  - GAO Annual Audit **August**
  - Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act - Reviews the Corporation's internal controls to give assurance that the management systems in place conform to the standards pursuant to the FMFIA. **September-October**
  - Government-wide Financial Report System (GFRS) - Collects the Corporation's closing package information and links its audited financial statements to the Financial Report of the United States. **November**
  - Perform Agreed-Upon Procedures Required by OMB - Related to fiscal yearend budgetary reporting. **November**
  - Federal Agencies' Centralized Trial-Balanced System (FACTS) I **November**
  - MAX A-11 - Forwards the Corporation's financial data to the Office of Management and Budget for inclusion in the President's Budget. **December**
- 12. Evaluate contractor performance and services obtained.**
- Receivership/Conservatorship Resources **As Needed**
  - Legal Service **As Needed**
  - Prompt Payment Report **Monthly**
  - Bureau of Public Debt Administrative Resource Center (ARC) for financial management services support **July**
  - Audit Services **September**

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- Solicit a Request for Proposal for the annual audit services of the FCSIC.  
**February 2013**
  - Select a new Auditor for the annual audit of the FCSIC.  
**June 2013**
  - SAS 70 Report – ARC and Federal Investment for the investment program Branch review external audits of organizations that provide contracted services.  
**August**
- 13. Monitor and review travel and purchase card programs.**
- Annual Charge Card Management Plan  
**January**
  - Annual credit card usage (narrative and data reports)  
**February**
- 14. Update the Corporation’s Disaster Recovery Plan to ensure effective continuity of operations, including a devolution plan.**  
**2013**
- 15. Review and update the Corporation’s Strategic Plan.**  
**September 2013**