

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Performance Progress Report

2. Award Or Grant Number

78-50-M09055

4. Report Date (MM/DD/YYYY)

10-25-2011

1. Recipient Name

Virgin Islands Public Finance Authority

6. Designated Entity On Behalf Of:

n/a

3. Street Address

32-33 Kongens Gade,

8. Final Report?

Yes

No

9. Report Frequency

Quarterly

Semi Annual

Annual

Final

5. City, State, Zip Code

St. Thomas, VI 00802-0000

7. Project / Grant Period
Start Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

01-01-2010

7a. End Date: (MM/DD/YYYY)

12-31-2014

7b. Reporting Period End Date:

09-30-2011

9a. If Other, please describe:

n/a

10. Broadband Mapping

10a. Provider Table

Number of Providers Identified	Number of Providers Contacted	Number of Agreements Reached for Data Sharing	Number of Partial Data Sets Received	Number of Complete Data Sets	Number of Data Sets Verified
0	0	0	0	0	0

10b. Are you submitting the required PROVIDER DATA by using the Excel spreadsheet provided by the SBDD grants office? Yes No

10c. Have you encountered challenges with any providers that indicate they may refuse to participate in this project? Yes No

10d. If so, describe the discussions to date with each of these providers and the current status

WIRESLINE- Innovative Communications - The Territory's single wire line provider offered data during direct interviews in 2009. They provided broadband capacity available at remote switch locations but declined to provide middle mile information. They have been unresponsive since. New discussions with the provider promise better cooperation going forward.

WIRESLESS - The three fixed wireless providers offered data by direct interview in 2009. All provided transmitter locations, as well as service level data by location.

- Broadband VI - Continues to exchange data upon request.
- Smartnet (Alliance Data Services) - Has become unresponsive to requests for updates during this quarter.
- Choice Communications (Atlantic TeleNetwork) - Initially offered an RF coverage map. Since March 2011, they have declined to respond to new requests, objecting to repetitive (semi-annual) queries. They argue that their FCC reporting is sufficient. We continue to press them to reconsider.

WIRESLESS MOBILE - AT&T Mobility - Previously, local agency personnel were unable to provide technical detail. Using contact information provided by SBI, we succeeded in collecting information from the national offices of the provider. Coverage and performance assertions need to be verified.

- Sprint Nextel Corp - Previously, local agency personnel were unable to provide technical detail. Using contact information provided by SBI, we succeeded in collecting information from the national offices of the provider. Coverage and performance assertions need to be verified.

- Innovative Communications- The local wireline provider has begun advertising availability of mobile data service throughout the Territory. We have not succeeded in engaging them in the project to date but will continue to try.

SATELLITE - HughesNet and Starband market through local agents who provide ground station equipment. They have shared information. We have not held direct discussions with the satellite provider.

10e. If you are collecting data through other means (e.g. data extraction, extrapolation, etc), please describe your progress to date and the relevant activities to be undertaken in the future

- Using the analytic tool made available by the Utah team along with satellite identification provided by the local HughesNet and Starband dealers, we determined the possible effect of shadowing by the mountainous terrain and have reported coverage accordingly using service levels as advertised by the local dealers.

- The DSL coverage was plotted using a 12,000 foot radius of effectiveness from each remote switch facility location reported by the incumbent wire line carrier as opposed to using a direct measurement of individual loops for propagation quality.

- Because of limited provider data, the extrapolation of tower heights has been calculated trigonometrically, as opposed to by direct measurement.

- Data from anchor institutions comes from analysis of data received from the IT departments within the individual institutions. GPS location data was taken during the initial on-site verifications.

10f. Please describe the verification activities you plan to implement

- Verify Community Anchor Institution Service Levels: Direct inspection was used to establish Community Anchor Institution (CAI) GIS/GPS location data. Printed surveys will be distributed to collect broadband service data. These surveys will also be available on-line on the viNGN web site.

- Speed Testing: User initiated speed tests will be offered in conjunction with on-line end user surveys, based on the State Broadband Map. Test results will be keyed to each user location (by census tract or estate boundary precision) when each user locates its position with a mouse click on the State Broadband Map.

- Automated Performance Testing: Automated performance testing will be conducted on a 7 x 24 basis with a 200 user sample to determine the time-related traffic patterns and to benchmark actual versus advertised performance.

10g. Have you initiated verification activities? Yes No

10h. If yes, please describe the status of your activities

- Verify Community Anchor Institution Service Levels: The Governor of the U.S. Virgin Islands has hosted direct meetings with the major Community Anchor Tenants to highlight the benefits of the project and to further stimulate interest in the project. Printed surveys were distributed during these meetings. Participants were also contacted by phone as a follow up.

- Verification of User Experience: An on-line interactive survey is available on the viNGN web-site. A similar on-line survey is available as part of the State Broadband Map web site.

10i. If verification activities have not been initiated please provide a projected time line for beginning and completing such activities

Verification activities will be conducted by the vendor who will implement under Phase II of the U.S. Virgin Islands' SBDD program.

Staffing

10j. How many jobs have been created or retained as a result of this project?

0.67

10k. Is the project currently fully staffed? Yes No

10l. If no, please explain how any lack of staffing may impact the project's time line and when the project will be fully staffed

The project is staffed to adequate levels at this stage. However, Phase II activities will begin after the stop work order is lifted. The start of Phase II of the project will result in an increase in part-time positions.

10m. When fully staffed, how many full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs do you expect to create or retain as a result of this project?

1 FTE

10n. Staffing Table

Job Title	FTE %	Date of Hire
Project Manager	17	10/01/2010
GIS Team Leader/Analyst	17	10/01/2010
GIS Program/System Administrator	17	10/01/2010
Account/Compliance Staffer	17	10/01/2010

Add Row

Remove Row

Sub Contracts

10o. Subcontracts Table

Name of Subcontractor	Purpose of Subcontract	RFP Issued (Y/N)	Contract Executed (Y/N)	Start Date	End Date	Federal Funds	In-Kind Funds
Stratum Broadband	Initial Mapping and Planning Support	N	Y	07/28/2009	01/04/2012	1,294,854	288,144

Add Row

Remove Row

Funding

10p. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$1,294,854 10q. How much Remains? \$1,714,652

10r. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$288,144 10s. How much Remains? \$530,570

10t. Budget Worksheet

Mapping Budget Element	Federal Funds Granted	Proposed In-Kind	Total Budget	Federal Funds Expended	Matching Funds Expended	Total Funds Expended
Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$75,355	\$0	\$75,355	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$85,417	\$695,000	\$780,417	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$2,848,734	\$0	\$2,848,734	\$1,294,854	\$0	\$1,294,854
Subcontract #1	\$1,294,854	\$0	\$1,294,854	\$1,294,854	\$0	\$1,294,854
Subcontract #2	\$1,553,880	\$0	\$1,553,880	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$123,714	\$123,714	\$0	\$288,144	\$288,144
Total Direct Costs	\$3,009,506	\$818,714	\$3,828,220	\$1,294,854	\$288,144	\$1,582,998
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$3,009,506	\$818,714	\$3,828,220	\$1,294,854	\$288,144	\$1,582,998
% Of Total	79	21	100	82	18	100

Hardware / Software

10u. Has the project team purchased the software / hardware described in the application? Yes No

10v. If yes, please list

The contractor has purchased equipment and software to perform the Phase I Broadband Planning and Mapping tasks, as outlined below:

- Equipment: HP Z400 workstation with MS Windows OS and ESET NOD 32 AntiVirus
- Application Software: ESRI ArcEditor and ESRI ArcGIS Data Interoperability Single Use License

The contractor has also provided equipment for hosting the State's/Territory's website display, as outlined below:

- Equipment: HP DL 180 GS Server with RedHat Linux OS and Apache Server
- Application Software: contractor-developed software

Prior to Quarter 2, CY 2011, viNGN purchased the following hardware and software to bring the development and production environments for data mapping in-house:

Software:

ESRI ArcInfo.....\$11,382.00
 ESRI ArcGIS Data Interoperability Single Use License.....\$ 2,032.00
 2 ESRI ArcGis Server License Development.....\$ 32,520.00

These products are directly attributable to performing work on the project and providing a test and staging area for data before making it available to the NTIA and the public.

10w. Please note any software / hardware that has yet to be purchased and explain why it has not been purchased

The current site located at www.usvibi.com will be fully transitioned to the viNGN website, pending lifting of the stop work order.

The purchase of the following software and hardware was proposed to supplement provider verification activities:

- Equipment: Server for operating the Speed Test and Performance Probe
- Application Software for operating the Speed Test and Performance Probe: Visual Software - MyConnection Server and MySpeed module with 200 Probe agents for operating the verification probe

10x. Has the project team purchased or used any data sets? Yes No

10y. If yes, please list

The Google Earth and CAD data provided as In-Kind contributions from WAPA have all been received and used extensively during the identification and location of anchor tenants, towers, and other points of interest.

Avensa MAPdataUSA was purchased at the beginning of the project as an aid in Broadband Planning.

10z. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included? Yes No

10aa. If yes, please list

Performance Probe: The implementation of the performance probe for controlled verification has been deferred until viNGN completes purchase of the hardware and licensing of the software that is necessary to operate the probe and the stop work order is lifted. In the beginning of this process, we anticipate that the "busy hour" and the actual rates stratified throughout the region will be determined.

User Speed Tests: The State Broadband map website was launched in October 2010, excluding the user speed test facilities. Once viNGN completes purchase of the hardware and licensing of the software necessary to operate the speed test, installation can begin. Analysis of collected data will be used to verify performance levels advertised by providers.

10bb. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

Provider Data Privacy: All providers are uncomfortable with user and physical plant information being made available publicly, as this information is considered core to maintaining their competitive advantage and protecting customer data. They are also very concerned about the extent to which their service area data is made public due to competitive issues. To date, each has required that their respective data sets that are shared with our contractor be held off-island to avoid the risk of public disclosure due to the Territory's transparency policies. Ongoing engagement with the management of these businesses is critical to minimizing the commercial mistrust.

10cc. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

The indirect benefit of the SBDD program is quite noticeable. Since the program has been underway, consumers are paying more attention to the speed of the services offered. As a consequence, the advertised speeds of the last mile broadband service providers have doubled nearly across the board. Further, the consumer base is more educated.

We anticipate that the USVI will become more competitive with the expansion of broadband services. Any assurances that the NTIA can provide to the last mile service providers about the security of the data that they provide to the SBDD program and the importance of providing quality data would be very beneficial in supporting the Territory's efforts in becoming more competitive.

11. Broadband Planning

11a. Please describe progress made against all goals, objectives, and milestones detailed in the approved Project Plan. Be sure to include a description of each major activity / milestone that you plan to complete and your current status

The primary goal of the Broadband Planning activity was to establish the process for deploying a comprehensive broadband middle mile network in the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI). Funds awarded through the BTOP program supported the regional launch. The newly-established viNGN public-private partnership will oversee the deployment and operation of the middle mile network. Included amongst the key stakeholders are the anchor tenants and local service providers who have been brought together in the U.S. Virgin Islands Broadband Coalition.

Projects identified during the SBDD Phase II planning process are the following:

1. Smart Grid Support Analysis in coordination with the U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority;
2. Assessment of the use of broadband technology by the Public Safety/First Responders sector of the government;
3. Street addressing in coordination with the U.S. Virgin Islands' Office of the Lieutenant Governor (LGO); and,
4. Data collection, verification and probe activities.

Preliminary meetings have been convened with the U.S. Virgin Islands' Office of the Lieutenant Governor while the assigned Federal Program Officer (FPO) reviews procurement document to support the selection of a vendor to provide consulting services for Phase II of the program.

With the lifting of the stop work order and the new vendor in place, the program is expected to achieve the milestones proposed in the project plan, and work will be accomplished per the award's specifications.

11b. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the project team is employing

The absence of street address-based geographic data in the Territory has been a limiting factor. The need is being addressed by an on-going project in the Lieutenant Governor's Office, with support from the U.S. Geological Service (USGS). A data sharing arrangement with USGS has been established. In the interim, an effort is being made to use available LGO Estate boundary GIS data and overlay it with a Census Block data layer for positioning needs. Residents of the Territory identify their location by historic Estate boundaries. Thus, the layering described above can be used to accurately pinpoint their respective position. The U.S. Census Bureau entered into an agreement with the LGO to recognize these Estate boundaries and released a new Sub-Minor Civil District shapefile set in the Census 2010 TIGER/Line files during June 2011 .

11c. Does the Project Team anticipate any changes to the project plan for Broadband Planning? Yes No

11d. If yes, please describe these anticipated changes. Please note that NTIA will need to approve changes to the Project Plan before they can be implemented

Not applicable

Funding

11e. How much Federal funding has been expended as of the end of the last quarter? \$0

11f. How much Remains? \$0

11g. How much matching funds have been expended as of the end of last quarter? \$0

11h. How much Remains? \$0

11i. Planning Worksheet

Personal Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel Fringe Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials / Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontracts Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #1	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #2	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Subcontract #5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

11i. Planning Worksheet						
Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Direct Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
% Of Total	0	0	0	0	0	0

Additional Planning Information

11j. Are there any additional project milestones or information that has not been included?

Not to the best of our knowledge

11k. Please describe any challenge or obstacle that you have encountered and detail the mitigation strategies the Project Team is employing

One key obstacle is the U.S. Department of Commerce's imposition of the stop work order during late August, 2011. In an effort to address the U.S. Department of Commerce's concerns, the Virgin Islands Public Finance Authority is finalizing a Corrective Action Plan and has created a new operational management structure through a Business Operations Committee as apart of its Board of Directors and is hiring additional staff to ensure the successful implementation of all of the BTOP programs.

Once the stop work order is lifted, the data that has been collected through September 30, 2011 will be reviewed, verified and then uploaded.

The Project Team has addressed some of the other challenges that are noted in this report with the support of the U.S. Virgin Islands' Office of the Governor and the Office of the Lieutenant Governor. Further, active and ongoing program management and oversight have resulted in the Project Team sourcing the inputs required, including appropriate software and hardware, and producing the "deliverables" required, per the terms of the grant award.

11l. Please provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your Broadband Mapping Project

The SBDD Planning process and the information gathered during that process have been very beneficial to the development of a geographically diverse and competitively positioned Comprehensive Community Infrastructure proposal and construction plan.

The impact of the accomplishments achieved under Phase I of the SBDD project extends well beyond the program's direct goals. The planning and mapping activities will be part of an ongoing quality control program for the viNGN network.

12. Certification: I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that this report is correct and complete for performance of activities for the purpose set forth in the award documents.

12a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official

Vicky Johnson

12c. Telephone
(area code, number, and extension)

12d. Email Address

vjohnson@usvipfa.com

12b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official

Submitted Electronically

12e. Date Report Submitted
(Month, Day, Year)

12-29-2011