

**NSF PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK**

Per the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010, this chapter, together with the Overview, contains basic information about NSF’s mission and Strategic Plan, as well as NSF’s FY 2022 Annual Performance Plan (APP), Major Management Challenges, FY 2020 Annual Performance Report (APR), and Strategic Objective Progress Update. Information about NSF’s performance can also be found on the NSF website in the FY 2020 Performance and Financial Highlights Report.<sup>1</sup>

**FY 2022: A year of strategic transition**

While we present an APP for FY 2022 in this document, NSF will be releasing a new Strategic Plan in February 2022, and at that time this plan will be retired for a new APP aligned to the new Plan. The FY 2021-2023 APPR will therefore also contain targets for 2022 which will supersede those published here. While many of NSF’s measures may remain the same, we anticipate that the new performance framework, with its alignment to the Learning Agenda required by the Evidence Act, will be overhauled to be maximally responsive to the priorities of the Administration and the guidance provided by NSF’s Director, and the National Science Board .

**FY 2018-2022 Strategic Plan and Strategic Objectives**

In FY 2018, NSF released its Strategic Plan for FYs 2018-2022: *Building the Future: Investing in Discovery and Innovation*.<sup>1</sup> This Plan lays out two strategic goals that embody the dual nature of NSF’s mission to advance the progress of science while benefitting the Nation: *Expand knowledge in science, engineering, and learning* and *Advance the capability of the Nation to meet current and future challenges*. A third goal, *Enhance NSF’s performance of its mission*, directs NSF to hold itself accountable for achieving excellence in carrying out its mission. Each goal has two Strategic Objectives which together encompass all areas of agency activity. This goal structure enables NSF to link its investments to longer-term outcomes.

Strategic Goal	Strategic Objective
1 Expand knowledge in science, engineering, and learning.	<b>1.1 Knowledge</b> Advance knowledge through investments in ideas, people, and infrastructure.
	<b>1.2 Practice</b> Advance the practice of research.
2 Advance the capability of the Nation to meet current and future challenges.	<b>2.1 Societal Impacts</b> Support research and promote partnerships to accelerate innovation and to provide new capabilities to meet pressing societal needs.
	<b>2.2 STEM Workforce</b> Foster the growth of a more capable and diverse research workforce and advance the scientific and innovation skills of the Nation.
3 Enhance NSF’s performance of its mission.	<b>3.1 Human Capital</b> Attract, retain, and empower a talented and diverse workforce.
	<b>3.2 Processes and Operations</b> Continually improve agency operations.

<sup>1</sup> [www.nsf.gov/about/performance](http://www.nsf.gov/about/performance)