

## **Post Implementation Evaluation Report**

### **Statewide Financial Management System Project – Administration**

Project Dates: 5/2006 through 8/2010

Project Cost: \$37,101,817

#### Project Objectives:

A Needs Assessment project conducted in the fall of 2006 reported that the current STARS accounting system did not meet a number of State agency business needs and identified multiple agency “shadow” systems that resulted in duplication of effort and cost, fragmented data, and numerous manual or low value-added processes over what would be achieved through implementation of a modern financial management system. The study found the potential for continued proliferation of these problems and associated costs unless a new centralized system was implemented. The study also found that the benefits exceeded the costs of implementation. The existing system was more than 16 years old and was not supported by the vendor.

The Sunflower Project (aka Statewide Financial Management System Project) set forth the following objectives:

- Implement purchasing, accounting, asset management, data warehousing and reporting functions using a single integrated platform that will streamline core administrative functions.
- Strike a balance between central policies, business process standardization, best practices and decentralization – enabling agencies to configure some elements of the system specifically for their agencies, i.e. workflow routing, budget thresholds, and attempt to address the concerns and needs of large and small agencies alike.
- Move as many financial and administrative functions onto a single software platform and de-commission legacy systems, as appropriate, so that agencies can focus resources on the specialized systems and business processes that are germane to agencies’ missions.
- Gain efficiencies in central and programmatic agencies by:
  - Eliminating dual entry of data and the need for manual reconciliation;
  - Re-designing and automating business processes as appropriate;
  - Consolidating the number of central and agency systems.

- Provide the data and analysis tools for agencies to measure and improve internal performance, to improve management decision-making and to improve customer service.
- Minimize customizations to the software to reduce software lifecycle costs.
- Invest in the workforce by ensuring adequate training and two-way communication to generate acceptance of change in the workplace resulting from the Sunflower Project.
- Build upon the core financial system, in future phases, to integrate budget development and other functionality as needed to support agencies' missions.