

## **13Q3 Supplemental Answers**

**Puerto Rico Governor's Office**

**Grant Number 72-50-M09040**

**Reporting Period End Date 09-30-13**

### **14 a Project Attachment Data Collection**

#### **2. Describe any additional project milestones that have been accomplished over this reporting period (Ex. Updates to state broadband maps and websites, map outreach activities)**

Program vendor, Connect Puerto Rico (CPR), continues to maintain an interactive mapping web application, called My ConnectView. The application is housed in a highly available, monitored, and managed environment. My ConnectView is publicly available on the program website (<http://www.connectpr.org/interactive-map>). There were a total of 216 visits to the interactive map between July 1, 2013 and September 30, 2013.

Users can request non-confidential mapping data produced for the State Broadband Initiative (SBI) grant program; 1 such data request was received between July 1, 2013 and September 30, 2013.

No field verification tests were conducted this reporting period. However, from program initiation through this reporting period, field validation testing has been completed against 12 companies (out of a universe of 22 viable providers) totaling 54.55% within the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Based on the release of information by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) related to the Connect America Fund (CAF), an island wide map was developed to visualize proposed areas for subsidized build-out under CAF Phase I, 2013. This map is available online at [www.connectednation.org/fcc-maps](http://www.connectednation.org/fcc-maps).

#### **4. Provide any other information or statistics that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses your broadband data collection, Validation and publication activities.**

Connect Puerto Rico submitted, on behalf of the commonwealth, the semi-annual broadband dataset update to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) required under the SBI grant program. The update included datasets for 91% of the Puerto Rico broadband provider community, or 20 of 22 total providers. Of the 20 participating providers, 9 supplied an update to their network or coverage areas, while 8 reported no change. The remaining 3 providers previously supplied data but were non-responsive in the recent update effort; therefore, their previous datasets were put forward as part of the compilation.

Program representatives discussed strategies to gain additional Community Anchor Institution (CAI) data with the Puerto Rico Department of Education. The Department of Education agreed to issue a message encouraging participation in the CAI survey to school administrators across the Island.

Outreach and awareness staff created and sent three monthly e-newsletters to subscribers and stakeholders providing updates on the progress to expand broadband access, adoption, and use across the commonwealth.

#### **14 b Project Attachment Original Planning Grant**

**2. Describe your progress meeting each major activity/milestone approved in the Project Plan for this project; any challenges or obstacles encountered and mitigation strategies you have employed; planned major activities for the next quarter; and any additional project milestones or information.**

##### Business Survey:

Our vendor negotiated a price with a local, third-party vendor (Estudios Technicos) for conducting the business and residential surveys in Puerto Rico. Connect Puerto Rico is in the process of finalizing the contract, at which time the data collection will commence. The business survey will be conducted in Q4 2013, but the finalization and distribution of the results will be conducted in Q1 2014.

##### Project Challenges or Obstacles:

Estudios Technicos, a third-party contractor to vendor, Connect Puerto Rico, that conducts surveys in Puerto Rico, significantly raised its pricing for survey work. Research staff worked diligently to find a means of completing the business survey without going over budget. A resolution was reached through a negotiation process with Estudios Technicos that includes packaging the remaining SBI survey work into one pricing model. This negotiation process delayed the start of the survey. The business survey will commence in Q4 2013 and a residential broadband survey will be conducted in 2014.

**4. Provide any other information that you think would be useful to NTIA as it assesses this project's progress.**

Connect Puerto Rico participated in the August 12 and September 16 meetings of the Puerto Rico Broadband Taskforce. Program Staff provided support to discussions on FCC programs and broadband policy and delivered an impact analysis on the FCC's Connect America Fund for the commonwealth.

Program staff created and delivered a policy brief to stakeholders on the reform of the FCC Schools and Libraries Universal Service Fund program, known as E-Rate.