



Mississippi

Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP)

September 2015



OMB Control Number: 1670-0017

Date of Approval:

Date of Expiration:

Paperwork Reduction Act: the public reporting burden to complete this information collection is estimated at 10 hours per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collected information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number and expiration date. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to DHS/NPPD/OEC, Serena Maxey, (703)235 2822, ATTN: PRA1670-0017.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mississippi Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is a stakeholder-driven, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-disciplinary statewide strategic plan to enhance interoperable and emergency communications. The SCIP is a critical mid-range (two to five years) strategic planning tool to help Mississippi prioritize resources, strengthen governance, identify future investments, and address interoperability gaps.

The purpose of the Mississippi SCIP is to:

- Provide the strategic direction and alignment for those responsible for interoperable and emergency communications at the State, regional, local, and tribal levels.
- Explain to leadership and elected officials the vision for interoperable and emergency communications and demonstrate the need for funding.
- Serve as the operational blueprint for planning initiatives that expand and enhance the Mississippi Wireless Information Network (MSWIN) and articulate benchmarks and timelines upon which to measure progress toward achieving the highest practical level of interoperability within the state of Mississippi.

The following are Mississippi's Vision and Mission for improving emergency communications operability, interoperability, and continuity of communications statewide.

Vision: Interoperable public safety-related communications throughout the State of Mississippi

Mission: Provide the strategic framework for integrated local, State, Tribal, and Federal collaboration supporting all hazards communications

The following strategic goals represent the priorities for delivering Mississippi's vision for interoperable and emergency communications.

- Governance –
 - Statewide communications collaboration
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) –
 - MSWIN policies and procedures
- Technology –
 - Expand MSWIN user base by including public safety NGOs and provide value-added services
 - Leverage MSWIN Telecommunications Backbone Network (TBN)
- Training and Exercises –
 - Standardized communications training

- Communications-focused exercises
- Usage –
 - Portable coverage areas expanded
 - Ensure one dispatch center in every county has MSWIN communication capability
- Outreach and Information Sharing –
 - Outreach plan for all stakeholder groups
 - Marketing plan for MSWIN services

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	1
1. Introduction.....	4
2. Purpose.....	9
3. State’s Interoperable and Emergency Communications Overview	9
4. Vision and Mission	10
5. Strategic Goals And Initiatives	10
5.1 Governance.....	10
5.2 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)	12
5.3 Technology	13
5.4 Training and Exercises.....	14
5.5 Usage.....	15
5.6 Outreach and Information Sharing	16
6. Implementation	18
6.1 Measures of Success	18
6.2 Management of Success.....	20
6.3 Strategic Plan Review.....	20
7. Reference Materials.....	21
Appendix A: Major Systems	22
Appendix B: List of Acronyms	23

1. INTRODUCTION

The Mississippi Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is a stakeholder-driven, multi-jurisdictional, and multi-disciplinary statewide strategic plan to enhance interoperable and emergency communications. The SCIP is a critical mid-range (two to five years) strategic planning tool to help Mississippi prioritize resources, strengthen governance, identify future investments, and address interoperability gaps. This document contains the following planning components:

- Introduction – Provides the context necessary to understand what the SCIP is and how it was developed.
- Purpose – Explains the purpose/functions of the SCIP in Mississippi.
- State’s Interoperable and Emergency Communications Overview – Provides an overview of the State’s current and future emergency communications environment and defines ownership of the SCIP.
- Vision and Mission – Articulates the State’s two- to five-year vision and mission for improving emergency communications operability, interoperability, and continuity of communications at all levels of government.
- Strategic Goals and Initiatives – Outlines the strategic goals and initiatives aligned with the two- to five-year vision and mission of the SCIP and pertains to the following critical components: Governance, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), Technology, Training and Exercises, Usage, and Outreach and Information Sharing.
- Implementation – Describes the process to evaluate the success of the SCIP and to conduct SCIP reviews to ensure it is up-to-date and aligned with the changing internal and external environment.
- Reference Materials – Includes resources that provide additional background information on the SCIP or interoperable and emergency communications in Mississippi or directly support the SCIP.

Figure 1 provides additional information about how these components of the SCIP interrelate to develop a comprehensive plan for improving interoperable and emergency communications.

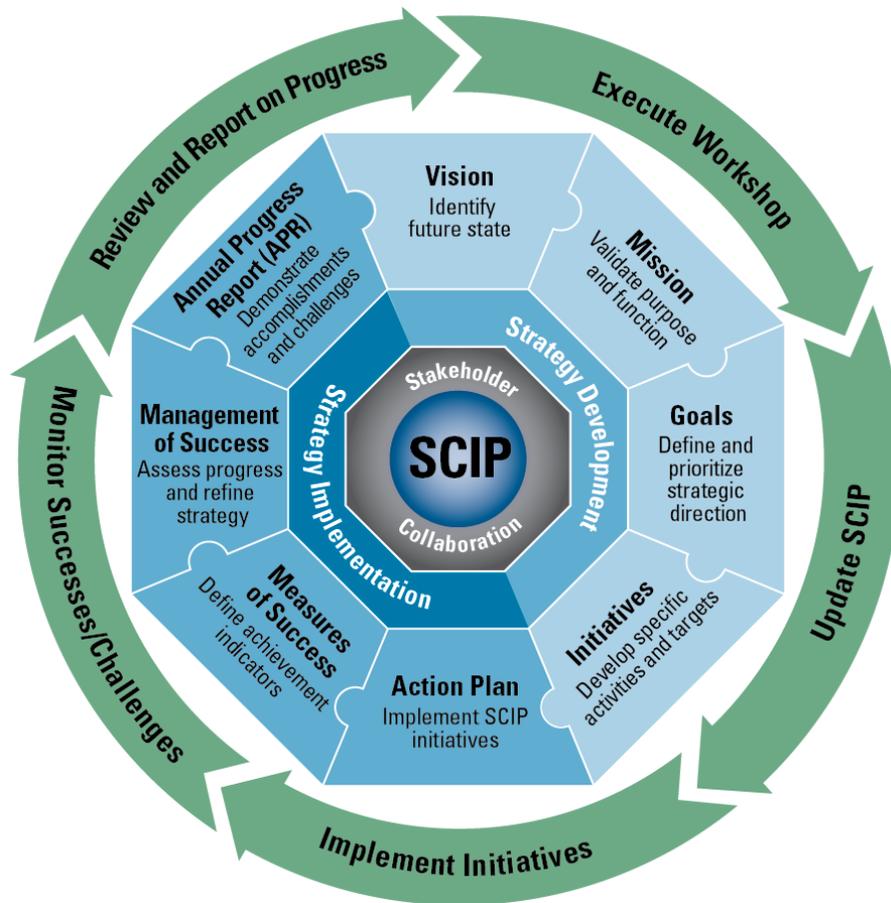


Figure 1: SCIP Strategic Plan and Implementation Components

The Mississippi SCIP is based on an understanding of the current and mid-range interoperable and emergency communications environment. Mississippi has taken significant steps towards enhancing interoperable and emergency communications, including the build out of a statewide interoperable communications network, strong coordination with users at all levels of government, and a strong governance structure led by the Wireless Communication Commission (WCC).

However, more remains to be done to achieve Mississippi's vision. It is also important to note that this work is part of a continuous cycle as Mississippi will always need to adapt to evolving technologies, operational tactics, and changes to key individuals (e.g., elected officials, project champions). In the next two to five years, Mississippi will encounter challenges relating to operability, interoperability, geography, aging equipment/systems, emerging technologies, changing project champions, and sustainable funding.

Wireless voice and data technology is evolving rapidly and efforts are underway to determine how to leverage these new technologies to meet the needs of public safety. For example, the enactment of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012

(the Act), specifically Title VI, related to Public Safety Communications, authorizes the deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN). The NPSBN is intended to be a wireless, interoperable nationwide communications network that will allow members of the public safety community to securely and reliably gain and share information with their counterparts in other locations and agencies. New policies and initiatives such as the NPSBN present additional changes and considerations for future planning efforts and require an informed strategic vision to properly account for these changes. Figure 2 illustrates a public safety communications evolution by describing the long-term transition toward a desired converged future.

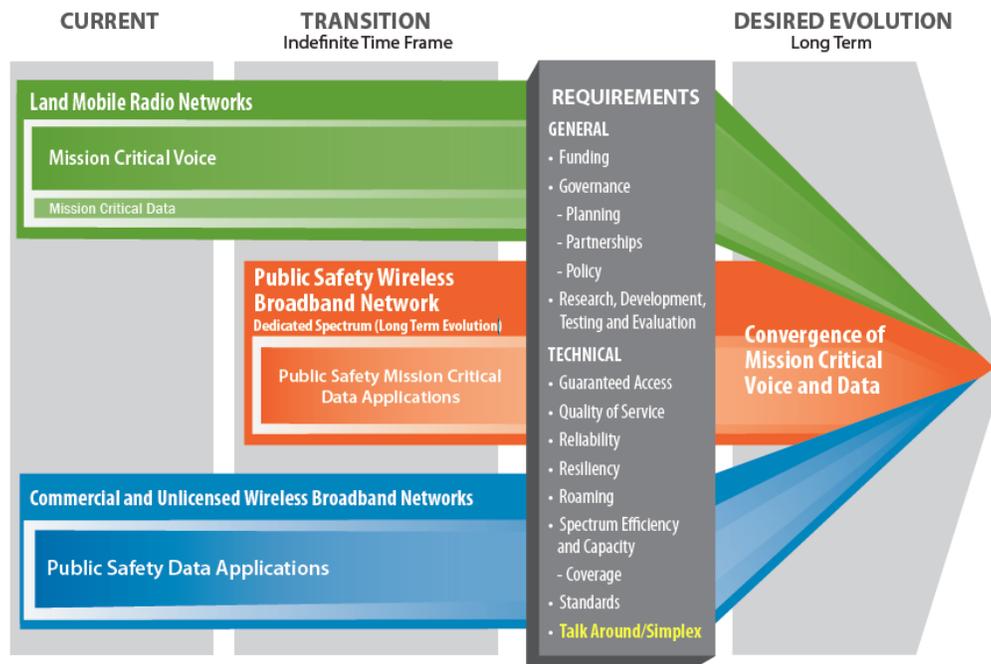


Figure 2: Public Safety Communications Evolution

Integrating capabilities such as broadband provide an unparalleled opportunity for the future of interoperable communications in Mississippi. It may result in a secure path for information-sharing initiatives, Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), and Next Generation 911 (NG911) integration. Broadband will not replace existing Land Mobile Radio (LMR) voice systems in the foreseeable future due to implementation factors associated with planning, deployment, technology, and cost. A cautious approach to this investment is needed. Therefore, robust requirements and innovative business practices must be developed for broadband initiatives prior to any implementation.

There is no defined timeline for the deployment of the NPSBN; however, Mississippi will keep up-to-date with the planning and build-out of the NPSBN in the near and long term. FirstNet is the independent authority within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and is responsible for developing the NPSBN, which will be a single, nationwide, interoperable public safety broadband network. The network build-out will require continuing education and commitment at all levels of government and across public safety disciplines to document network requirements and identify existing resources and assets that could potentially be used in the build-out of the

network. It will also be necessary to develop and maintain strategic partnerships with a variety of stakeholder agencies and organizations at the national, State, regional, local, and Tribal levels and design effective policy and governance structures that address new and emerging interoperable and emergency communications technologies. During this process, investments in LMR will continue to be necessary and in the near term, wireless data systems or commercial broadband will complement LMR. More information on the role of these two technologies in interoperable and emergency communications is available in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) Public Safety Communications Evolution brochure.¹

Additionally, achieving sustainable funding in the current fiscal climate is a priority for Mississippi. As State and Federal grant funding diminishes, States need to identify alternative funding sources to continue improving interoperable and emergency communications for voice and data systems. Key priorities for sustainable funding in Mississippi are:

- Continued engagement with local governments and agencies to build a multi-disciplinary user base across the State.
- Maintain existing quality of service while increasing the number of value-added services available to users and expand the existing user base to further public safety goals and reduce operating costs for the Mississippi Wireless Information Network (MSWIN) system.
- Expand in-State training capabilities to create a cadre of all-hazards response communications experts at all levels of government, including Tribal government.
- Continue to expand outreach and marketing within Mississippi to potential users, stakeholders, and legislators to show the value of MSWIN and proven abilities of the system.

More information on a typical emergency communications system life cycle, cost planning, and budgeting is available in OEC's System Life Cycle Planning Guide.²

The Interoperability Continuum, developed by SAFECOM and shown in Figure 3, serves as a framework to address all of these challenges and continue improving operable/interoperable and emergency communications. It is designed to assist emergency response agencies and policy makers with planning and implementing interoperability solutions for voice and data communications.

¹ OEC's Public Safety Communications Evolution brochure is available here:

http://publicsafetytools.info/oec_guidance/docs/Public_Safety_Communications_Evolution_Brochure.pdf

² OEC's System Life Cycle Planning Guide is available here:

http://publicsafetytools.info/oec_guidance/docs/OEC_System_Life_Cycle_Planning_Guide_Final.pdf

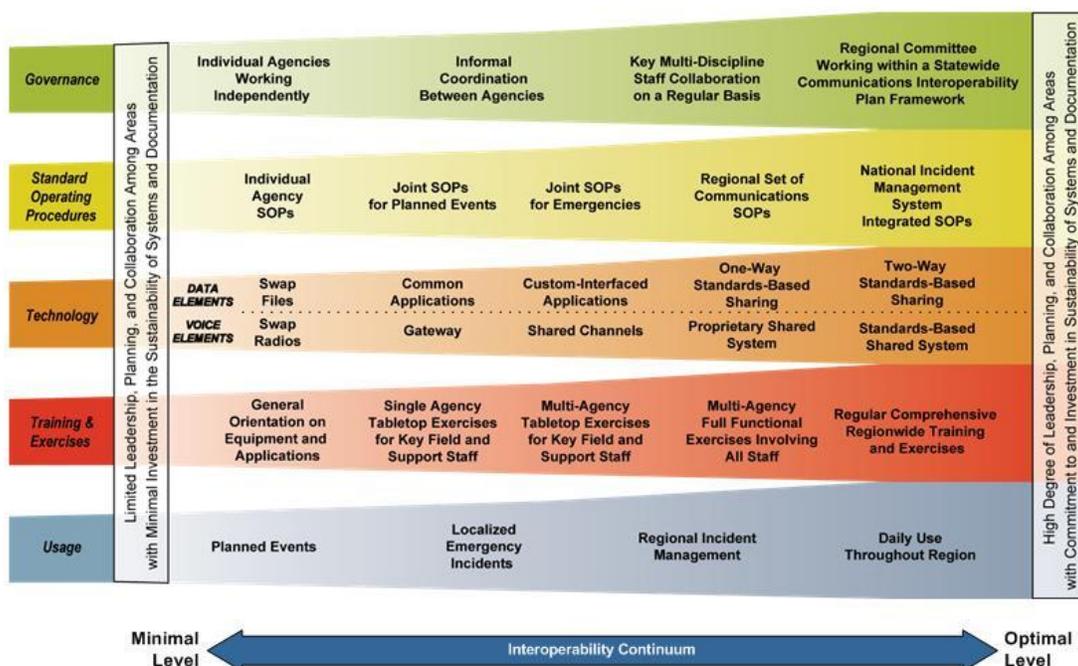


Figure 3: The Interoperability Continuum

The Continuum identifies five critical success elements that must be addressed to achieve a successful interoperable communications solution:

- **Governance** – Collaborative decision-making process that supports interoperability efforts to improve communication, coordination, and cooperation across disciplines and jurisdictions. Governance is the critical foundation of all of Mississippi efforts to address communications interoperability.
- **SOPs** – Policies, repetitive practices, and procedures that guide emergency responder interactions and the use of interoperable communications solutions.
- **Technology** – Systems and equipment that enable emergency responders to share voice and data information efficiently, reliably, and securely.
- **Training and Exercises** – Scenario-based practices used to enhance communications interoperability and familiarize the public safety community with equipment and procedures.
- **Usage** – Familiarity with interoperable communications technologies, systems, and operating procedures used by first responders to enhance interoperability.

More information on the Interoperability Continuum is available in OEC's Interoperability Continuum brochure.³ The following sections will further describe how the SCIP will be used in Mississippi and Mississippi's plans to enhance interoperable and emergency communications.

³ OEC's Interoperability Continuum is available here: <http://www.safecomprogram.gov/oecguidancedocuments/continuum/Default.aspx>

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Mississippi SCIP is to:

- Provide the strategic direction and alignment for those responsible for interoperable and emergency communications at the State, regional, local, and tribal levels.
- Explain to leadership and elected officials the vision for interoperable and emergency communications and demonstrate the need for funding.
- Serve as the operational blueprint for planning initiatives that expand and enhance MSWIN and articulate benchmarks and timelines upon which to measure progress toward achieving the highest practical level of interoperability within the state of Mississippi.

The development and execution of the SCIP assists Mississippi with addressing the results of the National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) Goals and the Federal government with fulfilling the Presidential Policy Directive 8 (PPD-8)⁴ National Preparedness Goal for Operational Communications.⁵

In addition to this SCIP, Mississippi will develop an Annual Progress Report (APR) that will be shared with OEC and other stakeholders to highlight recent accomplishments and demonstrate progress toward achieving the goals and initiatives identified in the SCIP.

This SCIP is owned and managed by Executive Officer of the Wireless Communication Commission (WCC), who also serves as the Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC). The Executive Officer has the authority to and is responsible for making decisions regarding this plan. The WCC Executive Officer/SWIC is also responsible for ensuring that this plan is implemented and maintained statewide. The WCC Executive Officer/SWIC receives strategic guidance from the 16 Commissioners of the WCC, which was created by law in 2005. In May 2014, the State hosted a SCIP Revision Workshop to bring together key decision makers to update the SCIP based on revised criteria, national-level objectives, emerging technologies, and lessons learned.

3. STATE'S INTEROPERABLE AND EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OVERVIEW

Mississippi's public safety communications governance is led by the WCC. The WCC is authorized by the State legislature, and is comprised of a variety of State and local

⁴ PPD-8 was signed in 2011 and is comprised of six elements: a National Preparedness Goal, the National Preparedness System, National Planning Frameworks and Federal Interagency Operational Plan, an annual National Preparedness Report, and ongoing national efforts to build and sustain preparedness. PPD-8 defines a series of national preparedness elements and emphasizes the need for the whole community to work together to achieve the National Preparedness Goal. <http://www.dhs.gov/presidential-policy-directive-8-national-preparedness>.

⁵ National Preparedness Goal – Mitigation and Response Mission Area Capabilities and Preliminary Targets – Operational Communications: Ensure the capacity for timely communications in support of security, situational awareness, and operations by any and all means available, among and between affected communities in the impact area and all response forces.

1. Ensure the capacity to communicate with the emergency response community and the affected populations and establish interoperable voice and data communications between Federal, State, and local first responders.
2. Re-establish sufficient communications infrastructure within the affected areas to support ongoing life-sustaining activities, provide basic human needs, and transition to recovery.

agencies involved in emergency communications. The structure of the WCC was established to ensure all disciplines share their expertise and support decision-making.

Mississippi has implemented MSWIN for intrastate mobile area coverage and can also be utilized up to 50 miles into the Gulf of Mexico. Additionally, neighboring states, such as Louisiana, can interface with MSWIN to coordinate contraflow lane reversal and other interstate emergency management activities. The system currently has over 20,000 users from roughly 400 local, State, and Federal agencies but can support over 128,000 users. MSWIN has proven its performance and resilience during several emergency events when remote tower facilities have successfully switched to back-up generators without loss of service. While the infrastructure has performed at high levels, work remains on training first responders on the capabilities available on MSWIN.

4. VISION AND MISSION

The Vision and Mission section describes the Mississippi vision and mission for improving emergency communications operability, interoperability, and continuity of communications statewide.

Mississippi Interoperable and Emergency Communications Vision:

Interoperable public safety-related communications throughout the State of Mississippi

Mississippi Interoperable and Emergency Communications Mission:

Provide the strategic framework for integrated local, State, Tribal, and Federal collaboration supporting all hazards communications

5. STRATEGIC GOALS AND INITIATIVES

The Strategic Goals and Initiatives section describes the statewide goals and initiatives for delivering the vision for interoperable and emergency communications. The goals and initiatives are grouped into seven sections, including Governance, SOPs, Technology, Training and Exercises, Usage, and Outreach and Information Sharing.

5.1 Governance

The Governance section of the SCIP outlines the future direction of the Mississippi governance structure for interoperable and emergency communications. The State's communications interoperability efforts are guided by the WCC, which is comprised of 16 Commissioners representing various emergency communications disciplines, including the following entities: Mississippi Emergency Management Agency; Mississippi

Association of Fire Chiefs; Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol; Mississippi National Guard; Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks; Mississippi Department of Corrections; Mississippi Association of Supervisors; Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality; Mississippi Department of Transportation; Mississippi Department of Public Health; Mississippi Municipal League; Mississippi Office of Homeland Security; Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services; Mississippi Sheriff's Association; Mississippi Department of Public Safety; and Mississippi Association of Police Chiefs. Commissioners serve on committees for Governance/Interoperability, Personnel, and Procurement. The WCC represents stakeholders from multiple public safety disciplines and jurisdictions, various public service groups, and all levels of government. For regional governance, Mississippi is divided into nine communications regions. The WCC conducts monthly meetings and has several working groups, which are focused on issues that affect the operations and governance of MSWIN.

Mississippi is actively examining possible efforts to streamline communications with local user entities in order to better communicate updates occurring throughout the state.

Table 1 outlines Mississippi's goals and initiatives related to governance.

Table 1: Governance Goals and Initiatives

Governance Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
1.	Statewide communications collaboration	1.1 Present the concept to the WCC	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC, WCC Governance Committee	August 2015
		1.2 Identify regional communications coordinators	WCC, County Emergency Management Agencies (EMA)	August 2016
		1.3 Conduct initial meeting of coordinators	WCC Governance Committee	February 2017
		1.4 Establish meeting cadence and priorities	Regional Communications Coordinators (RCC)	August 2017
		1.5 Provide an annual report to the WCC	RCCs, WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	December 2017, Annually

5.2 Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

The SOPs section of the SCIP identifies the framework and processes for developing and managing SOPs statewide. One of Mississippi's highest priorities is to ensure that every first responding agency is familiar with the State's approach to all-hazards scenarios. Mississippi's SOPs aim to be the unifying factor in any multi-jurisdictional/multi-disciplinary operation. The WCC maintains an SOP for access to MSWIN and acts as the final approver of procurement agreements for public safety entities.

While the law mandates that the WCC is the clearinghouse for public safety communications purchases, communications with local entities about technological and governance requirements have proved to be a challenge to implementing the law. The WCC is committed to increasing outreach and communications about SOPs and procurement procedures in order to ensure technology and equipment purchased at the local level has interoperable capabilities. Additionally, the WCC is actively developing SOPs that will clarify standards for MSWIN operations, maintenance, training, and partnerships for bandwidth usage.

Table 2 outlines Mississippi's goals and initiatives for SOPs.

Table 2: Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives

Standard Operating Procedures Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
2.	MSWIN policies and procedures	2.1 Evaluate and update current documents	WCC Governance Committee	June 2016
		2.2 Identify and draft needed policies	WCC, WCC Staff	September 2016
		2.3 Present comprehensive draft policies and procedures to Governance Committee for approval	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	November 2016
		2.4 Present comprehensive draft policies and procedures to WCC for approval	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	January 2017
		2.5 Complete State administrative and legal process	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC, WCC legal office	June 2017
		2.6 Conduct policies and procedures review	WCC Staff	June 2019

5.3 Technology

The Technology section of the SCIP outlines Mississippi’s plan to maintain and upgrade existing technology; the roadmap to identify, develop, and implement new and emerging technology solutions; and the approach to survey and disseminate information on current and future technology solutions to ensure user needs are met. The focus of Mississippi’s strategy to improve interoperability is to continue to provide a cost-effective network that offers dynamic solutions to its user base and to expand the existing user base to include public safety non-governmental organizations (NGOs)⁶. Mississippi actively works to maintain complete coverage within the state borders as well as out into coastal waters. Through robust training offerings, expanding and increasing the number of radio caches, providing value-added services, and increasing the user base to include public safety NGOs, Mississippi will enhance its connectivity and expand its response capabilities.

Table 3 outlines Mississippi’s goals and initiatives for technology.

Table 3: Technology Goals and Initiatives

Technology Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
3.	Expand MSWIN user base by including public safety NGOs and provide MSWIN value-added services	3.1 Evaluate, determine and prioritize end user needs	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC, WCC Staff	October 2016
		3.2 Present potential end users and value-added services to WCC	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	December 2016
		3.3 Issue requests for proposals (RFP) if required or market the service	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC, WCC Staff	March 2017
		3.4 Select vendor(s)	WCC Ad Hoc Committee	July 2017
		3.5 Implement services	Vendor, WCC staff	January 2018
		3.6 Evaluate emerging technologies	WCC, WCC Executive Officer/SWIC, WCC Staff	January 2019

⁶ The rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) allow the WCC to share use of MSWIN on a “non-profit, cost sharing” basis with entities, including NGOs, who (1) meet the FCC’s eligibility requirements under C.F.R. Section 90.523 and (2) its use of MSWIN is solely for the transmission of communication essential to providing services the sole or principle purpose of which is to protect the safety of life, health, or property (public safety purposes).

Technology Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
4.	Leverage MSWIN Telecommunications Backbone Network (TBN)	4.1 Identify TBN capabilities	WCC Staff, WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	October 2015
		4.2 Identify potential public safety-related applications	WCC, WCC Staff, End Users	January 2016
		4.3 Determine additional hardware needs	WCC Staff, End Users	June 2016
		4.4 Develop a business plan to show end user agency cost savings	WCC Staff, WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	June 2017
		4.5 Implement and market TBN services	WCC	June 2018
		4.6 Evaluate future needs and possibilities	WCC, WCC Staff, End Users	June 2019

5.4 Training and Exercises

The Training and Exercises section of the SCIP explains Mississippi's approach to ensure that emergency responders are familiar with interoperable and emergency communications equipment and procedures and are better prepared for responding to real-world events. Training remains a persistent challenge in Mississippi. The WCC has trained multiple people within the MSWIN subscriber base on the proper operation and maintenance of the system, but more people need to be trained in order to fully realize the advantages of the system. These goals and initiatives outline how Mississippi can utilize State and local agencies to train additional users in proper use of equipment and system access.

Mississippi actively works to identify user needs as technological improvements are made to MSWIN. One continuing challenge is ensuring proper training accompanies technology upgrades and expansions.

Table 4 outlines Mississippi's goals and initiatives for training and exercises.

Table 4: Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives

Training and Exercises Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
5.	Standardized communications training	5.1 Identify training needs and phases of implementation	WCC Governance Committee	December 2015
		5.2 Develop Phase 1 (basic) training curriculum	WCC Governance Committee, WCC Staff	June 2016
		5.3 Disseminate training curriculum	WCC Staff	June 2017
		5.4 Develop and disseminate Phase 2 curriculum and ongoing training	WCC Governance Committee, WCC Staff	June 2019
6.	Communications-focused exercises	6.1 Request technical assistance with OEC	WCC Executive Officer/SWIC	December 2015
		6.2 Develop a packaged exercise scenario for local use	WCC, MEMA	June 2017
		6.3 Promote participation with local agencies through collaboration with existing communications gatherings	WCC, MEMA	December 2017
		6.4 Schedule and conduct a statewide exercise	WCC, MEMA	December 2019

5.5 Usage

The Usage section of the SCIP outlines efforts to ensure responders adopt and familiarize themselves with interoperable and emergency communications technologies, systems, and operating procedures in the State. Regular usage ensures the maintenance of and familiarity with interoperability capabilities in case of an incident. Mississippi's users utilize MSWIN for all-hazards, multi-disciplinary responses that require continuous reliable service during events. The system has seen recent success when National Weather Service personnel were able to transmit real time data, via MSWIN, to State operations center officials during the May 2014 tornadoes.

While over 20,000 users currently utilize MSWIN, constrained budgets complicate the decision of local agencies to join or continue to use MSWIN services. Using MSWIN in its current free-voice capability form is often a local agencies only option for communications and enables the state to meet its interoperability goals. Additionally,

equipment upgrades have resulted in a depletion of skilled expertise in user ability, which needs to be addressed so that radios become an essential and widely used life safety tool.

Table 5 outlines Mississippi's goals and initiatives for usage.

Table 5: Usage Goals and Initiatives

Usage Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
7.	Portable coverage areas expanded	7.1 Establish and prioritize areas of need	WCC, WCC Staff,	October 2015
		7.2 Identify and leverage existing resources	WCC Staff	March 2016
		7.3 Develop a schedule of upgrades	WCC, WCC Staff	June 2016
		7.4 Initiate phased build-out as funding permits	WCC Staff, Contractor support	September 2016
		7.5 Reassess prioritized areas of need	WCC, WCC, Staff,	December 2017
8.	Ensure one dispatch center in every county has MSWIN communication capability	8.1 Determine equipment needs	WCC, WCC, staff,	June 2016
		8.2 Determine cost requirements and funding stream	WCC Staff, RCCs	June 2017
		8.3 Determine asset transfer process	WCC, WCC Staff, RCCs	June 2017
		8.4 Acquire and distribute equipment	WCC Staff	July 2019
		8.5 Update and replace equipment	WCC Staff	December 2019

5.6 Outreach and Information Sharing

The Outreach and Information Sharing section of the SCIP outlines Mississippi's approach for building a coalition of individuals and emergency response organizations statewide to support the SCIP vision and for promoting common emergency communications initiatives. MSWIN enables users to utilize talk groups to exchange information statewide to relevant responders and the State Emergency Operations Center. Mississippi also has strong connections with its neighboring states and has the capabilities in place to share information during multi-state events. Additionally, the WCC

website has recently been expanded and upgraded. Work is planned for online and standardized training and outreach tools to ensure that Federal, State, local, tribal, and neighbor states partners are given a consistent and helpful line of information.

Given the evolving nature of emergency communications, Mississippi has identified opportunities to share information and further educate stakeholders and end users about current operations and emerging technologies as outlined in the goals below.

Table 6 outlines Mississippi's goals and initiatives for outreach and information sharing.

Table 6: Outreach and Information Sharing Goals and Initiatives

Outreach and Information Sharing Goals and Initiatives				
Goal #	Goals	Initiatives	Owner	Completion Date
9.	Outreach plan for all stakeholder groups	9.1 Research and evaluate existing outreach plans	WCC, WCC Staff	August 2016
		9.2 Develop Mississippi-specific plan based on best practices	WCC, WCC Staff	March 2017
		9.3 Develop one-page informational sheet on MSWIN and interoperability basics for end users	WCC Staff	March 2017
		9.4 Expand and promote website content	WCC, WCC Staff	December 2017
		9.5 Establish and distribute newsletter	WCC, WCC Staff	December 2017
		9.6 Host booths at user organization conferences	WCC, WCC Staff	December 2017
		9.7 Evaluate effectiveness and update as needed	WCC Staff, RCCs, WCC	December 2019
10.	Marketing plan for MSWIN services	10.1 Identify services	WCC Staff	October 2015
		10.2 Develop marketing strategy and key audiences	WCC Staff, WCC Governance Committee	January 2016
		10.3 Implement and promote strategy	WCC Staff, WCC	December 2016, ongoing
		10.4 Evaluate effectiveness of strategy and implement modifications as needed	WCC, WCC Staff	December 2019

6. IMPLEMENTATION

The Action Plan section of the SCIP describes the process Mississippi will use to determine a plan to execute the initiatives in the SCIP. Ten new strategic goals and corresponding initiatives were developed through the most recent SCIP revision process. The WCC will recognize the revised SCIP as the statewide strategic plan and operational blueprint toward achieving the highest practical level of interoperability within the State of Mississippi. The WCC will use regularly scheduled monthly meetings to track and discuss progress completing the identified strategic goals and initiatives.

6.1 Measures of Success

The Measures of Success section of the SCIP defines the measures that Mississippi will use to monitor progress and indicate accomplishments toward achieving the vision for interoperable and emergency communications. Measures of success are used to meaningfully assess the outcomes and impacts of program functions and processes in meeting strategic goals.

Table 7 outlines these measures for Mississippi. More information on how these measures are managed is included in Section 6.2.

Table 7: SCIP Measures of Success

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target Measurement	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
1.	Statewide communications collaboration	Collaboration at State level, sporadic and in infancy stage regionally	RCCs identified in each region and meeting schedule established	August 2017	WCC Governance Committee
2.	MSWIN policies and procedures	Three policies and procedures ratified, remaining drafted or submitted for review	End users receive updated ratified policies and procedures	June 2017	WCC Governance Committee

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target Measurement	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
3.	Expand MSWIN user base by including public safety NGOs and provide value-added services	MSWIN user base is being expanded to include public safety NGOs whose sole or principal purpose is to protect life, health, or property. No value-added services currently being provided.	\$500,000 generated through services	January 2019	WCC
4.	Leverage MSWIN Telecommunications Backbone Network	Not currently leveraged	One local public safety-related agency utilizes TBN concurrently	December 2018	WCC
5.	Standardized communications training	No standardization, agencies provide training based on agency-specific standards	Standardized training package developed and available for end user implementation	December 2017	WCC
6.	Communications-focused statewide exercises	Conducted one communications-focused exercise in 2014 (not statewide)	Develop, schedule, and conduct a statewide communications exercise	December 2019	WCC Staff
7.	Portable coverage areas expanded	Five portable coverage areas identified for expansion, three remaining areas	Eight additional tower sites operational (co-located or new)	December 2017	WCC
8.	Ensure one dispatch center in every county has MSWIN communication capability	Not tracked	82 counties and 1 Tribe have at least one dispatch center with MSWIN communication capability	July 2019	WCC

Measures of Success					
Goal #	Strategic Goal(s) Supported	Initial State	Target Measurement	Measure Completion Date	Owner or Source
9.	Outreach plan for all stakeholder groups	No formal outreach plan established	Newsletter published and website updated with outreach information	December 2017	WCC
10.	Marketing plan for MSWIN services	No formal marketing plan established	Marketing plan established and implemented for MSWIN services	December 2016	WCC

6.2 Management of Success

The Management of Success section describes the iterative, repeatable method Mississippi will follow to add, update, and refine the measures of success. The WCC will task existing committees, as well as any new sub-committees that form, to manage the implementation of the SCIP and its corresponding goals and initiatives. The WCC will also conduct a semi-annual review and update of the identified measures of success in order to track progress. Based on these updates, the WCC will be able to evaluate the effectiveness of the SCIP and refine the measurement process to reshape Mississippi's interoperable communications strategy as needed.

6.3 Strategic Plan Review

The Strategic Plan Review section outlines the process Mississippi will use to conduct reviews of the SCIP to ensure it is up to date and aligned with the changing internal and external interoperable and emergency communications environment as well as to track and report progress against the defined initiatives and measures of success. A biannual SCIP review and update is essential to maintain Mississippi's statewide interoperable and emergency communications strategy. The WCC Executive Officer is primarily responsible for the SCIP's maintenance and revision, with guidance from the WCC.

7. REFERENCE MATERIALS

The Reference Materials section outlines resources that contribute additional background information on the SCIP and interoperable and emergency communications in Mississippi. Table 8 includes the links to these reference materials.

Table 8: SCIP Reference Materials

Title	Description	Source/Location
Section 25-53-171, Mississippi Code of 1972	Legislation Establishing the WCC	http://billstatus.ls.state.ms.us/documents/2013/html/SB/2100-2199/SB2177PS.htm
WCC Website	Latest information and updates from the WCC	http://www.wcc.ms.gov/Pages/home.aspx
WCC Rules and Regulations	Charter guiding WCC activities and structure	http://www.wcc.ms.gov/Pages/Rules-and-Regulations.aspx

APPENDIX A: MAJOR SYSTEMS

Table A-1: Major Systems, Updates, and New Systems

Major Systems Information						
System Type / Coverage Area	System Name	System Owner(s)	System Description	# Subscribers and Agencies	Users' Level of Government	Status and Changes/Updates
Shared statewide system -	Mississippi Wireless Information Network	Wireless Communication Commission	700MHz P25 Compliant Motorola, version 7.15 Digital Trunked	18,000 + subscriber units 400+ local, State, and Federal agencies	- Local - State - Federal	- Updated System Additional Information:
			Choose Primary Usage: Voice			
			Other: Number of Sites: 144			

APPENDIX B: LIST OF ACRONYMS

APR	Annual Progress Report
DHS	U.S. Department of Homeland Security
EMA	Emergency Management Agency
FCC	Federal Communications Commission
FirstNet	First Responder Network Authority
LMR	Land Mobile Radio
MHz	Megahertz
MSWIN	Mississippi Wireless Information Network
NECP	National Emergency Communications Plan
NG911	Next Generation 911
NPSBN	Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network
NTIA	National Telecommunications and Information Administration
OEC	Office of Emergency Communications
PPD	Presidential Policy Directive
PSAP	Public Safety Answering Point
RCC	Regional Communications Coordinator
RFP	Request for Proposal
SCIP	Statewide Communication Interoperability Plan
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWIC	Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
TBN	Telecommunications Backbone Network
WCC	Wireless Communication Commission