



NSF's NOIRLab / Rolling Forecast

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What is Rolling Forecast

Rolling Forecast is a methodology that integrates business assumptions into financial plans to project spending, headcount, and funding requirements. This process empowers managers to enhance budgeting accuracy and decision-making usefulness of forecasts.

Why Rolling Forecast

The Rolling Forecast process provides budget flexibility for managers to adapt to unforeseen changes in plans and costs throughout the year. It enables adjustments of resources to meet Observatory needs and optimize resource allocation within the budget year and beyond.

Scope and Applicability

The Rolling Forecast process spans all NOIRLab Programs, allowing resources to be allocated where they can best support NSF's NOIRLab Science Mission.

Value contributed by Rolling Forecast

Makes possible to adjust financial plans for:

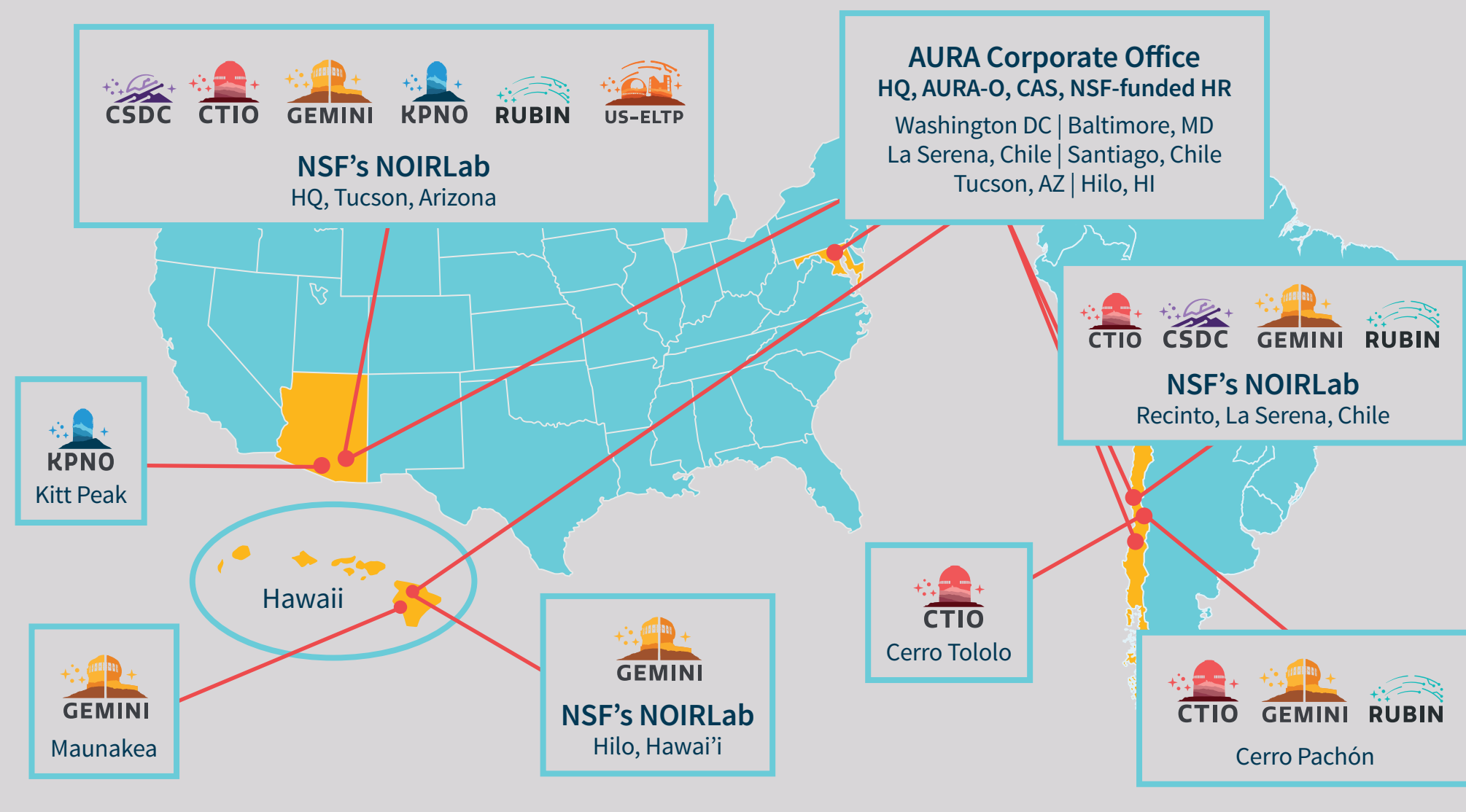
- Urgent unforeseen expenditures.
- Unexpected higher expenses on already planned activities or purchases.
- Operational changes resulting in higher or lower than forecasted expenditures.
- Lower cost of purchased items, or cancelled projects, purchases, travel and training.

Rolling Forecast Goals

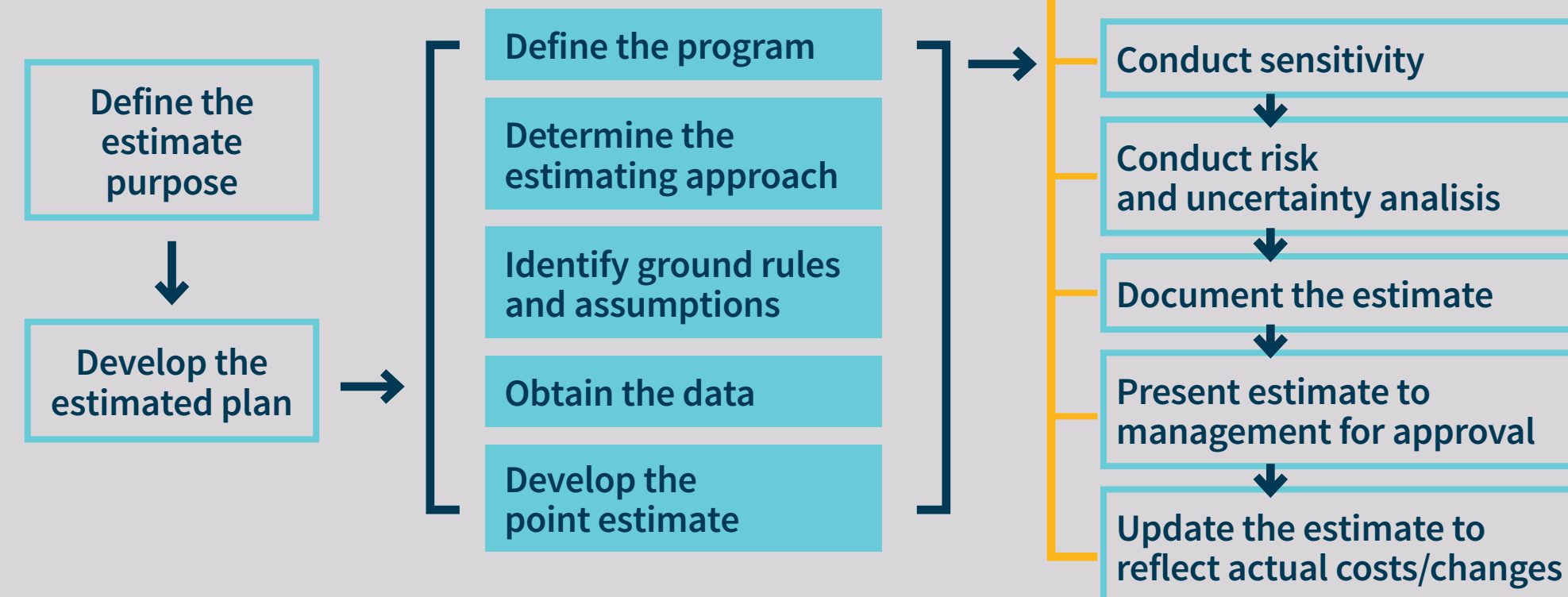
- Enable agile budget reallocation to respond to opportunities and risks.
- Implement compliant best practices for reallocating budget funds.
- Make strategic decisions based on accurate financial data and forecasts.
- Timely implementation of budget decisions in financial systems.
- Provide forward-looking budget resources for programs and services.

AURA - NOIRLab Background

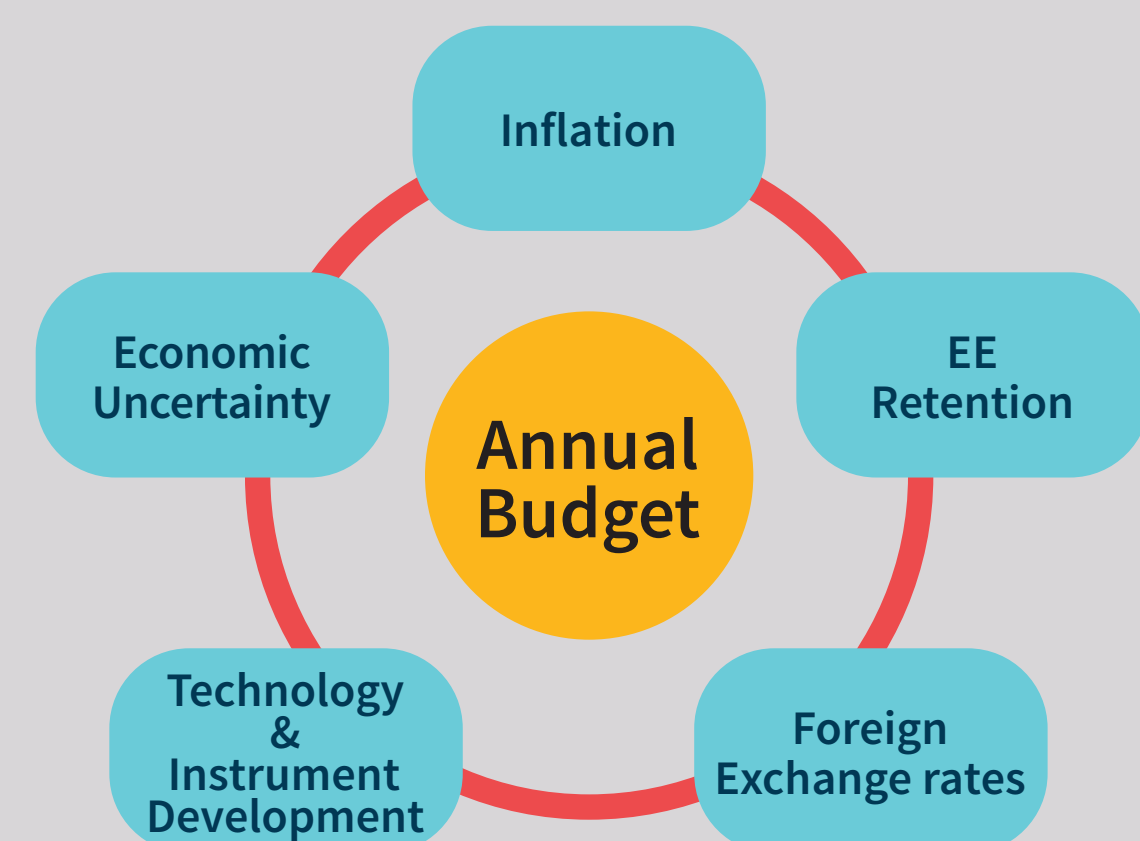
The Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy (AURA) is a consortium of 47 US institutions and 3 international affiliates that operates world-class astronomical observatories for NSF and NASA. AURA manages three centers: NOIRLab, NSO, and STScI.



GAO Cost Principles Steps



Rolling Forecast as a Financial Risk Mitigation tool



Quarterly Planning Process

The Rolling Forecast Quarterly Planning Cycle addresses key requirements:

- Current year Forecasts
- Budget Update for next years

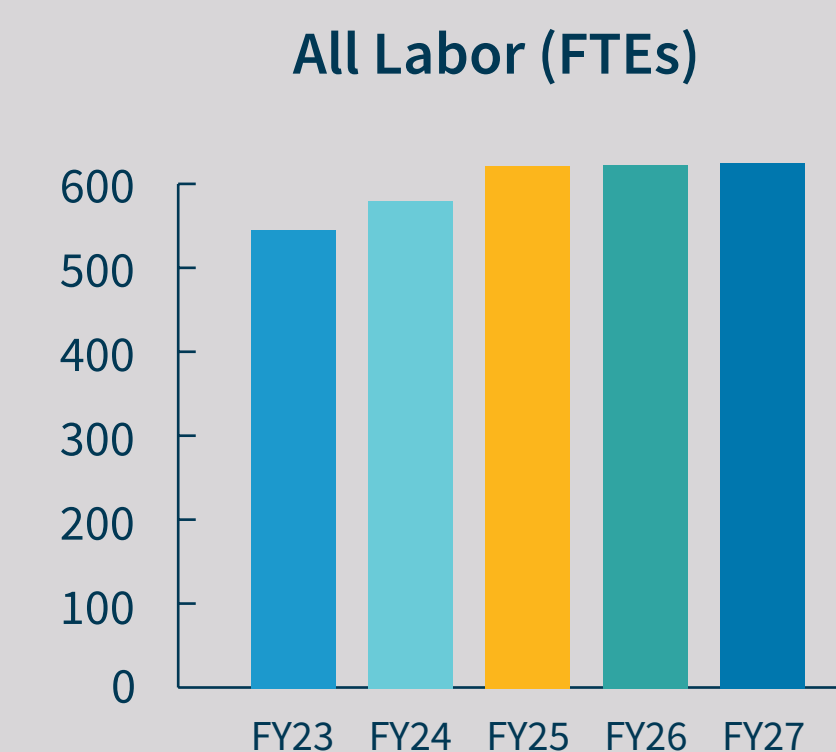


Estimate at Completion process for Budget re-baselining

- Budget Managers submit change requests via Quarterly Budget Reports.
- Analysts compile all requests into a secure document with summaries and justifications.
- Program Directors or Delegates review and approve requests below \$25k.
- Leadership decides approval or disapproval based on strategic priorities.
- Analysts prepare a report for change requests above \$25k.
- Analysts update the Estimate at Completion module and notify Budget Managers.

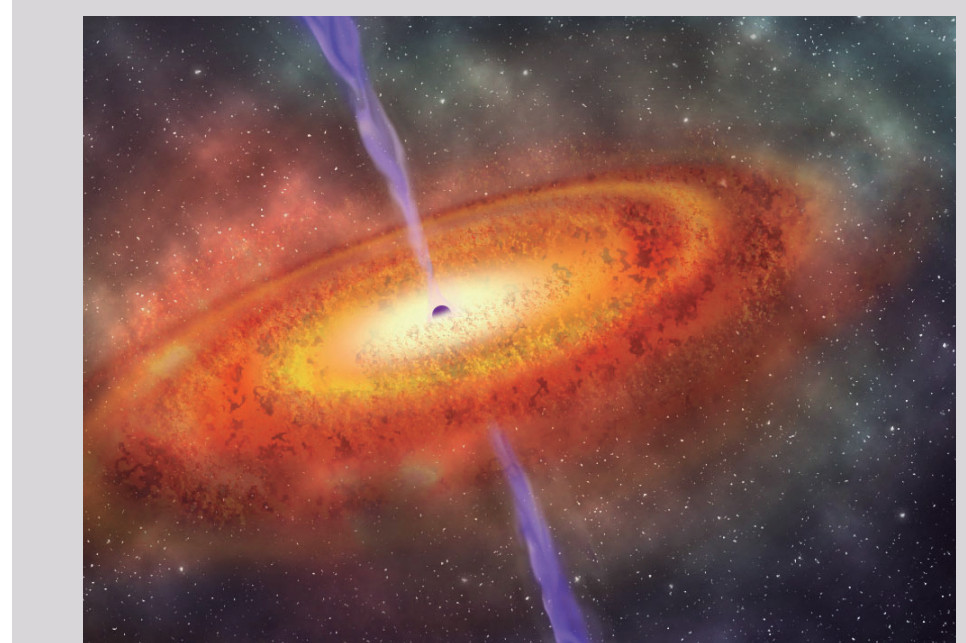
Workforce Updates

- Analysts update the Workforce Budgeting App for FTE and labor cost changes.
- Labor cost information is updated quarterly for the labor forecast.
- The net labor cost change may impact the Rolling Forecast.



A Few Use Cases

The Rolling Forecast supports allocation of resources to high-value projects that align with NSF's NOIRLab Science Mission.



Revitalizing Adaptive Optics
Supplemental funding for GEMMA GNAO project



GN & GS Solar Panel systems \$2M



Support Diverse Science Operations - Implementation of Remote Base Facilities Operations

