2.2 Framework Profile

A Framework Profile ("Profile") is a tool to enable organizations to establish a roadmap for reducing cybersecurity risk that is well aligned with organization and sector goals, considers legal/regulatory requirements and industry best practices, and reflects risk management priorities. A Framework Profile can be used to describe both the current state and the desired target state of specific cybersecurity activities, thus revealing gaps that can be addressed to meet cybersecurity risk management objectives. **Figure 2** shows the two types of Profiles: Current and Target. The Current Profile indicates the cybersecurity outcomes that are currently being achieved. The Target Profile indicates the outcomes needed to achieve the desired cybersecurity risk management goals. The Target Profile is built to support critical infrastructure requirements and aid in the communication of risk within and between organizations.

The Profile is the alignment of the Functions, Categories, Subcategories and industry standards with the business requirements, risk tolerance, and resources of the organization. The prioritization of the gaps is driven by the selection of the Framework Tier and organization's Risk Management Processes which can serve as an essential part for resource and time estimates needed that are critical to prioritization decisions.

Figure 2: Profile Comparisons

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This allows our sector to utilize our own documents such as the C2M2 and RMP.

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The Framework provides a mechanism for critical infrastructure organizations, sectors, and other entities to create their own Target Profiles. It does not provide Target Profile templates; rather, sectors and organizations should identify existing Target Profiles based on their risk determinations and needs.

2.3 Coordination of Framework Implementation

2.4 Framework Implementation Tiers

The Framework Implementation Tiers ("Tiers") describe how an organization manages its implementation of the Framework Functions and critical infrastructure cybersecurity risk management practices. The Tiers range from Not Initiated (Tier 0) to Adaptive (Tier 4) and describe an increasing degree of rigor and institutionalization of cybersecurity risk management practices and the extent to which cybersecurity risk management is integrated into an organization's overall risk management practices. The Tier selection process considers an organization's current risk management practices, threat environment, legal and regulatory requirements, critical infrastructure business/mission objectives, and organizational constraints. Organizations should determine the desired Tier, ensuring that the selected levels meet the organizational goals, reduce cybersecurity risk to critical infrastructure, and are feasible and cost-effective to implement. The Tier definitions are as follows:

- Tier 0: Not Initiated
  - Risk Management Process – The Framework Functions and critical infrastructure cybersecurity risk management practices do not exist.
  - Integrated Program – There is no approach to managing cybersecurity risk in the organization.
  - Information Sharing – The organization has not established internal or external cybersecurity information sharing.
- **Tier 1: Initiated**
  - Risk Management Process – The Framework Functions and critical infrastructure cybersecurity risk management practices are not formalized and risk is managed in an ad hoc, irregular and sometimes reactive manner. Prioritization of cybersecurity activities may not be directly informed by organizational risk objectives, the threat environment, or business/mission requirements essential for critical infrastructure.
  - Integrated Program – There is a limited awareness of cybersecurity risk at the organizational level. The organization implements cybersecurity risk management on an irregular, case-by-case basis due to varied experience or inadequate resources.
  - Information Sharing – The organization may not have processes that enable cybersecurity information to be shared within the organization. An organization may not have the processes in place to participate in coordination or collaboration with other entities.

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Figure 3 describes the notional flow of information and decisions within an organization: at the senior executive level, at the business/process level, and at the implementation/operations level.

The senior executive level communicates the mission priorities, available resources, and overall risk tolerance to the business/process level. The business/process level uses the information as inputs into their risk management process, and then collaborates with the implementation/operations level to create a Profile. The implementation/operation level communicates the Profile implementation to the business/process level. The business/process level uses this information to perform an impact assessment. The outcomes of that impact assessment are reported to the senior executive level to inform the organization's overall risk management process.

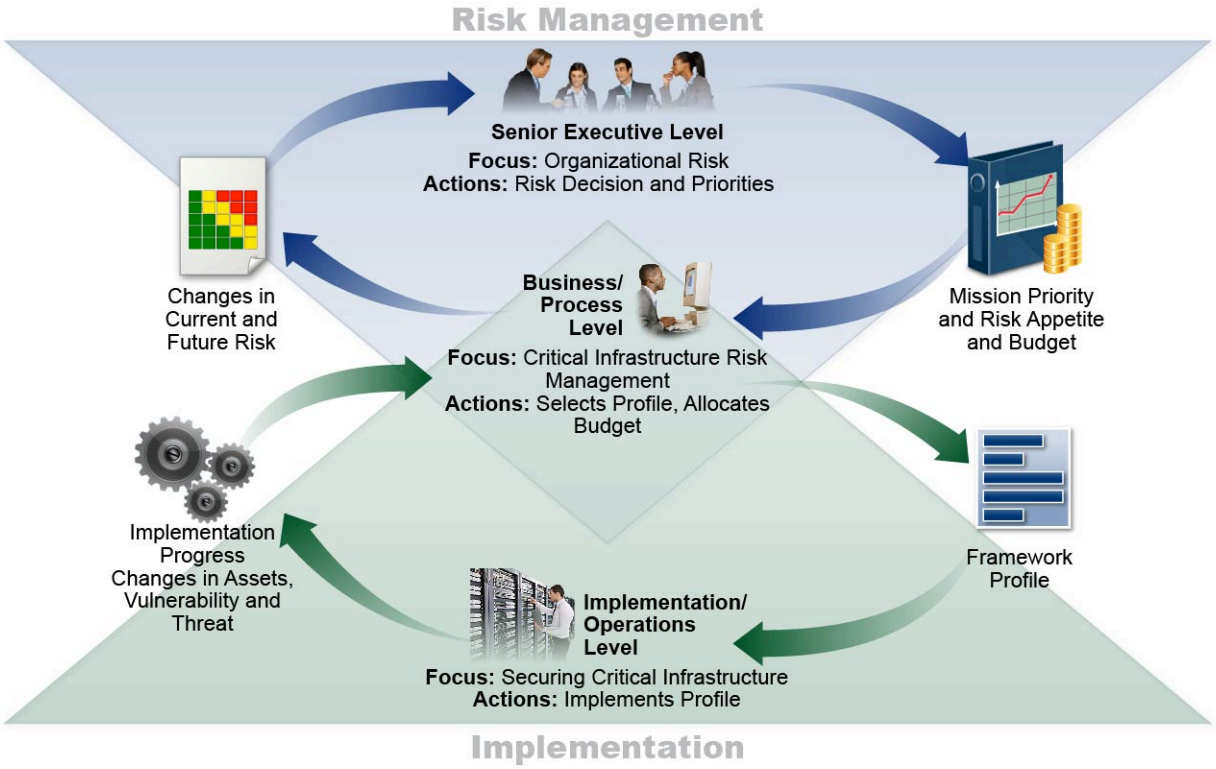

Figure 3: Notional Information and Decision Flows within an Organization