2020 PIO/CFO Summit

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OMB Circular A-123 History

• 1981 – OMB First Issued Circular No. A-123, Internal Control Systems
• 1982 – OMB Issued Internal Control Guidelines and the Federal Managers Financial Integrity Act was enacted
• 1983 – OMB Issued an Updated Circular No. A-123, Internal Control Systems
• 1986–OMB Updated A-123 to Require Management Control Plans to guide efforts
• 1995–OMB updated A-123, Management Accountability and Control to reflect GPRA, CFO Act, IG Act

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T103: Congress' Expectation for Evidence and Results

June 11 | 11:20 am – 12:10 PM | FOS: MGMT

Panelists

- **Satya Thallam**, Policy Advisor, U.S. Office of Management and Budget
- **Nichole Dunn**, Chief of Staff, Congressman Ben Adams
- **Christian Hoehner**, Deputy Policy Director, Minority Staff, House Committee on Oversight and Reform

**Moderator: Robert Shea**, Principal, Grant Thornton Public Sector
Satya Thallam
Policy Advisor
U.S. Office of Management and Budget

The Evidence Act:
Opportunities, Implementation, and Lessons for Evidence-Based Decisions

DRAFT

June 11, 2020
What is the Evidence Act?

**Background: 3 Big Ideas**

1. Evidence-Based Policymaking Requires Systematic Planning
2. Effective Federal Data Asset Use Requires High-Quality Data Governance
3. Safely Expanding Access to Protected Data for Evidence-building

Why Does the Evidence Act Matter?

- Builds on longstanding principles underlying Federal policies and data infrastructure
- Creates a new paradigm for agencies to rethink how they build and use data & evidence
- Focuses on leadership – three new senior officials responsible for Act’s requirements
- Emphasizes collaboration and coordination across functions within agencies
- Calls on agencies to strategically and methodically build evidence vs. ad hoc efforts
- Elevates program evaluation as a key agency function
Complementary Federal Efforts

• Accelerates, expands, or reinforces the implementation of other activities underway, including:
  – Federal Data Strategy
  – Government-wide reorganization proposals to strengthen Federal evaluation and reorganize the Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis to improve economic statistical data
  – Monitoring and evaluation guidelines for agencies that administer foreign assistance (FATAA, OMB M-18-04)
  – Ongoing open data policy related to open data laws like the DATA Act and Geospatial Data Act

• OMB working to ensure these efforts are complementary and aligned

OMB’s Implementation Approach
Implementation Approach

- Collaborative and coordinated implementation from OMB reflecting the Act’s intention for agencies to work in this way.

- Flexible approach that provides a framework for agencies wherever possible, while offering the ability to tailor the requirements to meet their specific needs (e.g., guard rails vs. a recipe).

- Approach seeks to make sure the activities are meaningful and driven by agencies (i.e., not a compliance exercise).

Opportunities on the Horizon

- Opportunity to provide input through learning agenda and evaluation plan development.

- Increased opportunities to access Federal data (Titles II and III).

- Elevation of program evaluation likely to result in increased demand for evaluation activities and possible partnerships.

- Transparency into Federal evidence-building and data management activities.

- Focus on building an evidence culture across government.

- Opportunities to share promising practices among agencies, different levels of government, and the private and non-profit sectors.
Nichole Dunn
Chief of Staff
Congressman Ben Adams

Elevating Evidence in Congress

The Bipartisan What Works Caucus

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Evidence as a Policy Tool to Drive Results

Finish Act

Evidence as a Guide for Oversight
Christian Hoehner
Deputy Policy Director, Minority Staff
House Committee on Oversight and Reform

Thank you for participating!