

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM

2157 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6143

MAJORITY (202) 225-5051
MINORITY (202) 225-5074

<https://oversight.house.gov>

MEMORANDUM

December 12, 2022

To: Members of the Subcommittee on Government Operations

Fr: Committee Staff

Re: Hearing on “FITARA 15.0”

On **Thursday, December 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. ET in room 2154 of the Rayburn House Office Building and on the Zoom video platform**, the Subcommittee on Government Operations will hold a hybrid hearing. This hearing is the Subcommittee’s biannual assessment of the implementation of various information technology (IT) best practices, including requirements from the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA) and the Modernizing Government Technology Act (MGT).¹

I. SCORECARD RELEASE AND KEY ISSUES

Prior to the hearing, the Subcommittee will release its 15th biannual FITARA Scorecard (Scorecard). Since it was enacted, FITARA has empowered federal chief information officers (CIOs), improved how the federal government acquires and manages information technology (IT), and saved over \$30 billion of taxpayers’ money.² The Scorecard is a tool Congress, CIOs, agency heads, and outside stakeholders use to understand how federal agencies manage and secure their IT assets.³ The Scorecard also helps Congress hold federal agencies accountable for implementing fundamental and evolving best IT practices. The table below provides an overview of federal agencies’ averaged FITARA grades for Scorecards 14.0 and 15.0.

¹ Pub. L. No. 115-88 (2017); Pub. L. No. 115-129 (2017).

² Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations, *Hearing on FITARA 14.0* (July 28, 2022) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/legislation/hearings/fitara-140>); Pub. L. No. 115-88 (2017); Email from Government Accountability Office to Majority Staff, Committee on Oversight and Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations (Nov. 30, 2022).

³ Government Accountability Office, *Information Technology: Biannual Scorecards Have Evolved and Served as Effective Oversight Tools* (Jan. 2022) (GAO-22-105659) (online at www.gao.gov/products/gao-22-105659).

Overall Grades Compared			
Grade	Scorecard 14.0 (July 2022)	Scorecard 15.0 (Dec. 2022)	Change from Previous
A	1	1	0
B	7	10	3
C	14	13	(1)
D	2	0	(2)
F	0	0	0

Scorecard grades remained generally consistent in both 2022 reporting cycles, with slight upward movement for the most recent reporting period in December 2022 (see above): five agencies’ grades increased; zero decreased; and 19 remained unchanged.

Compared to overall grades reported in the 14.0 Scorecard, there is the same number of “A” grades, three more “B” grades, one fewer “C” grade, and two fewer “D” grades. The United States Agency for International Development’s grade remained an “A.” While no agency has received an “F” since May 2018, an “A” grade remains unusual—FITARA 13.0 was the last scorecard with two “A” grades.⁴

This hearing will facilitate a discussion focused on how the Subcommittee will continue to conduct oversight of federal IT management, acquisition, and cybersecurity into the 118th Congress. Themes include: (1) the inception, history, and evolution of the Scorecard; (2) lessons learned, and the Scorecard’s evolution and adaption to the modern IT landscape; and (3) a discussion regarding the future of federal IT oversight and zero-trust implementation.

II. WITNESSES

Jason Gray

Chief Information Officer
United States Agency for International Development

Chris DeRusha

Federal Chief Information Security Officer
Office of Management and Budget

Carol C. Harris

Director, Information Technology and Cybersecurity
Government Accountability Office

Jennifer Franks

Director, Information Technology and Cybersecurity
Government Accountability Office

⁴ Subcommittee on Government Operations, Committee on Oversight and Reform, *Hearing on FITARA 14.0* (July 28, 2022) (online at <https://oversight.house.gov/legislation/hearings/fitara-140>).

Staff contacts: Wendy Ginsberg, Annaliese Yukawa, Brian Maney, Aidan Miller, and Asher Moss at (202) 225-5051.