# Facilitation Guide for Partnership for Public Service Legacy IT Event

## Background

Of the roughly $80 billion in annual Federal IT spending, approximately 68% ($55 billion) is dedicated to maintaining legacy IT investments, which OMB defines as Operations and Maintenance (O&M) spending not related to provisioned services. This large share of IT spending dedicated to maintaining legacy systems poses efficiency and mission risk issues—such as crowding out the share of IT spending that can be dedicated to new development or modernization, and decreasing an agency’s ability to absorb unexpected budget changes—as well as cybersecurity risks (e.g. lack of encryption).

The Office of the Chief Information Officer (OFCIO) is currently in an information gathering phase to learn as much as we can from subject matter experts about how to define and approach this issue. We view the large percentage of legacy spending as a symptom of deeper problems, and we seek to understand the root causes, as well as their potential solutions. The goal of this initiative is to identify ways to reduce the ratio of Federal IT spending dedicated to legacy systems.

## Participants brought by Partnership for Public Service

4-5 Former CFO Act Federal and Component CIOs

2-3 CFO, CAO from the SAGE Program

1-2 Large IT Program Managers

1-2 CIOs from the Intel (e.g., CIA, NSA, Cyber Comm)

1-2 State Level CIOs (For their insights on how to innovate with a limited budget)

1-2 State Level CFO or CAO (If available)

## Topics

* **Introductions and Agenda Review**
  + Opening remarks from Tony Scott
* **Define the Scope and Goals**
  + What is legacy IT?
  + What are the implications of such a high percentage of legacy spending?
* **Identify Root Problems**
  + What are the biggest challenges to retiring or modernizing legacy systems (e.g. budgeting, personnel, culture)?
  + What disincentives are there to long-term thinking about IT?
* **Solutions**
  + What could agencies do on their own to address legacy spending?
  + What agencies have been successful in addressing legacy spending and how did they do it?
  + What are specific policies, strategies, or frameworks that OMB should develop?
* **Next Steps**
  + Who else should we talk to?
* **Summarize and Wrap Up** 
  + Recap themes and important points from the discussion
  + Confirm any action items, action owners and next steps