

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20250

DEPARTMENTAL REGULATION	NUMBER: DR 3130-008
SUBJECT: Definition of Major Information Technology Investments	DATE: August 13, 2020
OPI: Office of the Chief Information Officer, Information Resource Management Center	EXPIRATION DATE: August 13, 2025

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1. PURPOSE

- a. This Departmental Regulation (DR) establishes the definition for major information technology (IT) investments within the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- b. This DR is consistent with the following Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance documents that address major IT investments:
 - (1) OMB Circular [A-11](#), *Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget*;
 - (2) OMB Circular [A-130](#), *Managing Information as a Strategic Resource*;
 - (3) OMB Memorandum [M-10-27](#), *Information Technology Investment Baseline Management Policy*;
 - (4) OMB Memorandum [M-15-14](#), *Management and Oversight of Federal Information Technology*; and

- (5) OMB Memorandum [M-16-17](#), *OMB Circular No. A-123, Management's Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control*.

2. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS/CANCELLATIONS

This policy supersedes DR 3130-008, *Definition of Major Information Technology Investments*, dated February 27, 2015.

3. SCOPE

This DR applies to all USDA Mission Areas, agencies, and staff offices.

4. POLICY

An investment will be considered a major IT investment if it falls within either 4a or 4b, below:

- a. OMB defines a major IT investment (also known as a major acquisition) as an IT investment requiring:
 - (1) Special management attention because of its importance to the mission or function to the Government;
 - (2) Significant program or policy implications;
 - (3) High executive visibility;
 - (4) High development, operating, or maintenance costs; or
 - (5) Unusual funding mechanism(s).
- b. The USDA capital planning investment control (CPIC) process defines an IT investment as major if it meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - (1) The total lifecycle Development, Modernization, and Enhancement (DME) IT investment costs are greater than \$20 million;
 - (2) The total operations and maintenance costs for the following 7-year period are in excess of \$200 million: beginning 2 prior years (PY) from the budget year (PY-1 and PY), through the budget year (BY) plus 4 additional years (BY+1, BY+2, BY+3, BY+4); and

- (3) The USDA Secretary, Deputy Secretary, or Chief Information Officer identifies the investment as critical. This may include investments that have one or more of the following attributes:
- (a) Is mandated by legislation or Executive order;
 - (b) Requires a common infrastructure investment (e.g., has shared basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for the operation);
 - (c) Is considered to be a strategic or mandatory use investment;
 - (d) Differs from or greatly impacts the Department's infrastructure, enterprise architecture, or standards guidance;
 - (e) Involves multiple Mission Area's, agency's, and staff office's funding (e.g., enterprise and shared services);
 - (f) Is identified as a High Value Asset in accordance with OMB Memorandum [M-17-09](#), *Management of Federal High Value Assets* and [DR 3530-006](#), *Scanning and Remediation of Configuration and Patch Vulnerabilities*;
 - (g) Is a cybersecurity investment; or
 - (h) Is a mission critical information system, application, project, or program.

5. INQUIRIES

Questions about this DR should be directed to the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO), Information Resource Management Center (IRMC), Capital Planning IT Governance Division (CPITGD) at Capitalplanningdivision@usda.gov.

-END-

APPENDIX A

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BY	Budget Year
CPIC	Capital Planning Investment Control
DME	Development, Modernization, and Enhancement
DR	Departmental Regulation
IRMC	Information Resource Management Center
IT	Information Technology
OCIO	Office of the Chief Information Officer
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
PY	Prior Year
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture

APPENDIX B

AUTHORITIES AND REFERENCES

Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Circular [A-11](#), *Preparation, Submission, and Execution of the Budget*, July 10, 2020

OMB, Circular [A-130](#), *Managing Information as a Strategic Resource*, July 28, 2016

OMB, Memorandum [M-10-27](#), *Information Technology Investment Baseline Management Policy*, June 28, 2010

OMB, Memorandum [M-15-14](#), *Management and Oversight of Federal Information Technology*, June 10, 2015

OMB, Memorandum [M-16-17](#), *OMB Circular No. A-123, Management's Responsibility for Enterprise Risk Management and Internal Control*, July 15, 2016

OMB, Memorandum [M-17-09](#), *Management of Federal High Value Assets*, December 9, 2016

USDA, Departmental Regulation [\(DR\) 3530-006](#), *Scanning and Remediation of Configuration and Patch Vulnerabilities*, June 5, 2019