



CHARTER  
of the  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES TEAM  
COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY  
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

**A. Official Designation**

The Subcommittee on the Social and Behavioral Sciences Team (SBST) is hereby established by action of the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) as a Subcommittee under the Committee on Technology (CoT).

**B. Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of SBST is to coordinate the application of cutting-edge social and behavioral science research to help Federal agencies advance their policy and program goals and better serve the Nation. SBST will build upon the ongoing efforts of a team of social and behavioral scientists based at the General Services Administration<sup>1</sup> and expand membership to more agencies across the Federal government.

**C. Functions**

The main functions of the SBST are:

1. Identify opportunities for Federal agencies to leverage social and behavioral science insights to advance the goals of their policies and programs;
2. Demonstrate the impact of these applications on program outcomes by coordinating the capabilities to design and implement rigorous empirical tests, where relevant;
3. Report to the parent body on the results of these applications to Federal programs and implications for policy design;
4. Identify opportunities to build capacity for applications of social and behavioral science across Federal agencies;

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2016/assets/fact\\_sheets/building-and-using-evidence-to-improve-results.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2016/assets/fact_sheets/building-and-using-evidence-to-improve-results.pdf); <http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2015/assets/management.pdf>; [http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/full\\_2014\\_economic\\_report\\_of\\_the\\_president.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/docs/full_2014_economic_report_of_the_president.pdf)

5. Coordinate with, and, as appropriate, provide expert information to the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and NSTC committees. SBST will coordinate closely with the NSTC Subcommittee on the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences (SBE) under the Committee on Science, and will seek its guidance and expertise on matters related to social, behavioral and economic science research across the Federal government.

#### **D. Membership**

The following NSTC departments and agencies are represented on the SBST:

Department of Agriculture;  
Department of Education;  
Department of Energy;  
Department of Health and Human Services;  
Department of Housing and Urban Development;  
Department of Justice;  
Department of Labor;  
Department of the Treasury;  
Department of Veterans Affairs;  
General Services Administration;  
National Science Foundation; and  
United States Agency for International Development.

The following components of the Executive Office of the President shall also be represented:

Council of Economic Advisors;  
Domestic Policy Council;  
National Economic Council;  
Office of Management and Budget; and  
Office of Science and Technology Policy (Chair).

Cooperating departments and agencies shall include other such Executive Branch organizations, departments, and agencies as the Chair may, from time to time, designate.

#### **E. Private-Sector Interface**

The SBST may work with the President's Committee on Advisors on Science and Technology to secure appropriate private sector advice and will recommend to the CoT and/or Assistant to the President for Science and Technology the nature of any additional private-sector advice<sup>2</sup> needed to accomplish its missions. The SBST may also interact with and receive *ad hoc* advice from various academic, non-profit, state and local government, and private-sector groups as consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

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\*\* The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App., as amended, does not explicitly define "private sector," but the phrase is generally understood to include individuals or entities outside the Federal government such as, but not limited to, the following: non-Federal sources, academia, State, local or Tribal governments, individual citizens, the public, non-governmental organizations, industry associations, and international bodies.

**F. Termination Date**

Unless renewed by the Chair of CoT prior to its expiration, the SBST shall terminate no later than May 31, 2017.

**G. Determination**

I hereby determine that the formation of the SBST is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Executive Branch by law, and that such duties can best be performed through the advice and counsel of such a group.

Approved:



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Thomas Kalil  
Chair of the Committee on Technology

March 16, 2015

Date