

John K. Needham

John Needham is a Director in GAO's Acquisition and Sourcing Management (ASM) Team. His issues portfolio includes acquisition strategies and interagency contracting; acquisition workforce, agency insourcing, contractor ethics and integrity, and contractor management and contracting vehicles. He is also the lead GAO executive for the State of Mississippi for GAO's ongoing evaluation of the implementation of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act and is the program lead for crosscutting state and local procurement issues related to the Recovery Act. He has led reviews of acquisition/contracting practices at the Departments of Homeland Security and Defense. These reviews included the government's response to Hurricane Katrina and other issues, DHS' use of special authorities in acquiring advanced technology and DOD's procurement of commercial satellite services, and the government's implementation of competitive sourcing. In 2007 on assignment with the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee he contributed to its investigation on the readiness of the Iraqi Security Forces. Prior to joining ASM, he was project director for the design, development, and implementation of GAO's competency based performance management system and directed GAO's internal performance management and consulting unit. He also directed reviews covering the National Performance Review, competitive contracting practices and public-private partnerships. In the 1980's He headed the management audits function at the Tennessee Valley Authority's Office of Inspector General and was assigned as a staff member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs on detail from GAO. Prior to joining GAO as a presidential management fellow, he worked in local government in Arizona. He received his MPA degree from Arizona State University and a bachelor's from Manhattan College in New York City. He completed the Capstone General and Flag Officer Course at the National Defense University in 2007.