The SCARP© Difference: Why Organizational Capability Maturity Requires a Different Kind of Assessment

Sharper Insights
Stronger Outcomes

Global Capability Advisory
Strategic Corporate Functions Assessment Readiness Program

Most organizations today have controls. They have policies, process documentation, ownership maps, and often a platform to track all of it. In most cases, what is missing is an honest, structured, and independent answer to a more important question: are those controls actually working, and how capable is the organization that depends on them? SCARP was designed to address that specific distinction.

Compliance is not capability

A control that exists on paper and a control that is genuinely embedded in how an organization operates are two very different things. Compliance frameworks and the tools built around them are designed to track whether controls are present, certified, and assigned to an owner. They answer the question of coverage. SCARP answers the question of depth. It evaluates not just whether a control exists, but how mature the operating model behind it is, whether the people responsible for it understand and execute it consistently, and where the gap sits relative to where the organization needs to be. These are questions that most internal compliance programs, by design, are not built to ask.

The value of an external diagnostic

When an organization commissions a SCARP engagement, it is asking for an external, structured perspective on how its corporate functions actually perform against a defined maturity benchmark. That kind of assessment requires independence, a consistent methodology applied across functions and engagements, and the ability to translate findings into actionable, prioritized improvement priorities. An external advisor cannot deliver that using the client's own tools and the client's own definitions. The credibility of the output depends precisely on the fact that it was produced outside the organization, using a framework that relies on global industry standards.

Methodology as the product

SCARP is not a technology. It is a methodology that happens to be supported by purpose-built technology. The SCARP-I framework covers maturity across five levels, assessed at the subfunction level, across nine corporate functions, using a consistent scoring approach. The SCARP-II framework covers maturity across five levels, assessed at a much deeper, control level, using a similar scoring approach that makes findings comparable across engagements, industries, and time. That comparability is what allows GCA to assess and determine where a client sits, not just in absolute terms, but relative to what good looks like. The platform that supports SCARP exists to serve that methodology, to ensure that every assessment is run the same way, that evidence is captured consistently, that findings are traceable, and that the output is defensible.

What this means for organizations

For any organization going through a transformation, a regulatory change, a merger, or simply trying to understand where its operational risk sits, a SCARP assessment provides a clear, calibrated, and independent view of organizational capability, delivered by advisors who have no stake in the answer being a comfortable one. SCARP helps separate knowing that the right things are in place from knowing that they are working the way they need to.

