



Media release

26 October 2022

University partnership to build government financial audit capabilities in the Pacific

Auckland, New Zealand: The Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) is collaborating with the University of the South Pacific (USP) to deliver a series of online workshops on accounting and reporting standards for government auditors, starting today.

Twenty participants (16 female, four male) from seven government audit offices (in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Tuvalu) will participate in seven online workshops on the International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) and the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The training aims to bring staff at public audit offices up to date with IPSAS and their applications to the government financial reporting framework.

The sessions will include discussions on the standards as well as practical exercises and case studies to illustrate their application. Additionally, consultation sessions of up to two hours will be available to each participating audit office on a needs basis throughout the workshop series which runs until 7 December 2022.

The facilitation team includes PASAI's Director (South Pacific), Meresimani Vosawale-Katuba, from the USP's School of Accounting, Finance and Economics, Dr Nacanieli Rika, Dr Folutoto Seve, Dr Ilimotama Cawi, and Professor Arvind Patel.

On an intended training outcome, Ms Vosawale-Katuba said, "When SAI staff conduct audits in accordance with international financial and auditing standards that helps to support the government in its decision-making through reliable and transparent financial reporting."

Building the capacity of its member SAIs to effectively audit financial statements is fundamental to PASAI's overarching goal of improving accountability and governance in the Pacific region.

PASAI acknowledges the support of the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

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