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Working hand-in-hand with our PASAI partners

By Tiofilusi Tiueti, PASAI Chief Executive

Welcome to Issue 18 of the PASAI newsletter.

This issue focusses on a number of our strategic imperatives to help our member SAIs in their mission to do the right thing, the right way, with the right people.

We look at the introduction of the IntoSAINT tool in two Pacific SAIs, testing integrity risks and making recommendations for improvement in audit offices and ministries alike. We feature the activities of SAIs Nauru, Pohnpei and Kosrae in raising public awareness of the role of the SAI, and of fraud and corruption. We focus on the need to establish full measurement of SAI performance through our comprehensive SPMR programme combined with the targeted assessment provided by the SAI PMF process.

Mostly, however, this issue emphasises our partnerships – the PACs who strive for fine-tuned understanding of Public Financial Management; the youth groups and other citizen communities who join with us to shape their own futures, and of course the SAIs, INTOSAI regions and development partners who work alongside us to enable us to deliver our strategic plan. The right people, in the right way.

PASAI has long enjoyed a strong partnership with IDI, MFAT and DFAT in delivering our core support to SAIs. A significant development in 2019 has been the new donor partnership established between PASAI and the EU-UNDP through the '**Strengthening of public Finance Management and Governance in the Pacific Project**'. The project aims to strengthen oversight over public financial management in the Pacific region, through improving the budgetary scrutiny, public financial oversight and accountability capacities of parliaments, supreme audit institutions and civil society within the region, aligning with international public financial oversight and accountability standards, and fostering citizen engagement and oversight. Strengthening of Public Financial Management and Governance in the Pacific Project is funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The first activity funded under the Project was the SAI PMF planning workshop in April 2019 which features later in the newsletter. PASAI and IDI were honoured to welcome UNDP representatives, Marine Destrez and Manjeet Singh, to the first day of the workshop.



In her opening remarks, Ms Destrez explained that this workshop is part of a whole spectrum of activities included in a new pool of funding created by the EU that is dedicated to strengthening public financial management (PFM). Funding programs such as these are essential to strong governance, she went on. Public financial management covers frameworks, institutions and tools and brings together diverse stakeholders at the different stages of the Public Finance cycle. Audit Institutions play an important role in the oversight of PFM plans, processes and results and are an essential part of the transparency and accountability landscape of PFM.



(Marine Destrez, UNDP PFM Project Manager)

Both PASAI and EU-UNDP anticipate great collaborations on these important issues, and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them and all our other partners for empowering PASAI to meet its vision and goals. Together, we can make a difference.

Nauru Audit Office's public service day - and employee of the year!

Nauru's Audit Office celebrated their work and their employees at the UN appointed 'Public Service Day' on 5 July 2019.

"The UN General Assembly, in its resolution [57/277](#), designated 23 June as Public Service Day ... (It) celebrates the value and virtue of public service to the community; highlights the contribution of public service in the development process; recognizes the work of public servants, and encourages young people to pursue careers in the public sector." (www.un.org)

Since 23 June 2019 fell on a Sunday, the celebration of Public Service Day on Nauru was to be held on Monday 24 June. However, at the request of His Excellency the President, Baron Waqa, it was again moved to Friday 5 July when he would be back on the island.

The Nauru Audit Office was among those who set up stalls to display their work. The theme chosen for the Audit stall was "SAIs Making A Difference To The Lives Of Citizens" focussing in particular on Principle 6 of the "12 Principles of the value and benefits of SAIs" under the 3 objectives; "Communicating Effectively With Stakeholders".

Along with the display of a variety of audit documents, including the PASAI posters and map, a pamphlet designed by staff was distributed to the public, containing basic information about auditors and what they do.

The highlight of Public Service Day came with the announcement of the "Employee of the Year" award. This was presented by His Excellency the President, Baron Waqa, to Audit staff member Gillian Itsimaera. Nauru's Auditor-General, Mr. Manoharan Nair congratulated Gillian for winning the prestigious award from the President of Nauru. He also commended all the SAI staff for their many efforts to improve capacity, transparency and stakeholder engagement with activities such as Public Service Day and the creation of SAI material for citizens and others.



EMPOWERED

Gillian Itsimaera



PUBLIC SERVANT OF THE YEAR
NAURU PUBLIC SERVICE 2019

Pohnpei: Partnering with future leaders and current presidents

As Sihna Lawrence, Madam Secretary of the FSM Department of Finance & Administration stated, *“Fraud and corruption are under-reported. People need to be aware and know what is fraud and corruption and be more vigilant in reporting it.”*

A great way to prevent fraud and corruption is through public awareness and public education. On behalf of Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor (POPA), Sophia Pretrick has done many talks and public speeches about good governance, integrity and anti-corruption over the past ten years. The latest one, which was attended by more than 200 delegates from the four FSM States, was at the FSM 2019 Annual Finance & Budget Conference from March 11-14, 2019.

Pohnpei’s Public Auditor Iso Ihlen K. Joseph attended the conference on the third day, when ‘Youth-4-Change’ presented their music video about corruption and showcased songs of their own composition to delegates. Pohnpei OPA are partnering with Youth-4-Change as ambassadors for anti-corruption, to promote the future leaders of Pohnpei.

‘Franklin Roosevelt once said, “We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future.” Young people are some of the most important agents of change in the fight against corruption,’ says the Public Auditor. ‘If our youth can invest their time for the good of our Island Pohnpei, let’s also support and invest in our youth.’



On June 14, 2019, Pohnpei State Public Auditor Ihlen K. Joseph paid a courtesy call to His Excellency, President David W. Panuelo. In the meeting, the Public Auditor and the President discussed transparency and accountability and the status of FSM Trust Fund. The Public Auditor explained the role of Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) or Office of the Public Auditor in promoting transparency and accountability in the public service, sharing how Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor (POPA) received technical assistance grants from United States Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs for staff training and a capacity development program. As one of Board of Trustee, the Public Auditor also shared the status of FSM Trust Fund.

President Panuelo assured the Office that his administration supports transparency and accountability to build trust and confidence in all citizens and different stakeholders of the FSM. He briefly discussed the importance of monitoring the Trust Fund for the future of Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). The President also shared the importance of identifying donor within and outside FSM to support Trust Fund.

The Public Auditor and the POPA team were very pleased with the outcome of the visit to FSM President.



Public Auditor with his Excellency, President Panuelo



POPA team with President David W. Panuelo



Attendees of the PAC workshop 4-5 June 2019

Fiji Workshop Enhanced Accountability and Transparency in the PAC

“I cannot emphasise enough the importance of capacity building for you honourable members of the public accounts committee, (and other committees of Parliament for that matter), to equip yourselves with technical skills and the knowledge to enhance your oversight roles and perform them effectively and efficiently.”

So said the Speaker for the Parliament of the Republic of Fiji, Honourable Ratu Epeli Nailatikau in his opening address at the Fiji PAC training event held in Nadi in June 2019, where members of the Fiji Public Accounts Committee (PAC) participated in a second series of workshops to build a better understanding of their financial oversight role within the legislative process.

The role of the PAC is important in that it ensures public funds are spent effectively, efficiently and economically for the benefit of citizens. During the workshop, PAC members learned about Parliament’s accountability and reporting framework and the impact Parliament has on the PAC oversight role on public expenditure, compared to PAC roles in other countries and regions around the world.

They were also introduced to the Fiji budget process and budget documents, the regional Public Financial Management (PFM) and Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability (PEFA) review as well as the accounting and reporting framework.

The two-day workshop was facilitated by PASAI’s consultant Eroni Vatuloka, in collaboration with the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) in Fiji, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Pacific Technical Assistance Centre (PFTAC) on 4 - 5 of June 2019, as part of the activities of the *Strengthening Public Finance Management and Governance in the Pacific Project* funded by the EU and implemented by UNDP.

In his closing remarks, the EU Programme Officer, Mr Miroslav

Honorable speaker of Parliament, Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, who opened the workshop



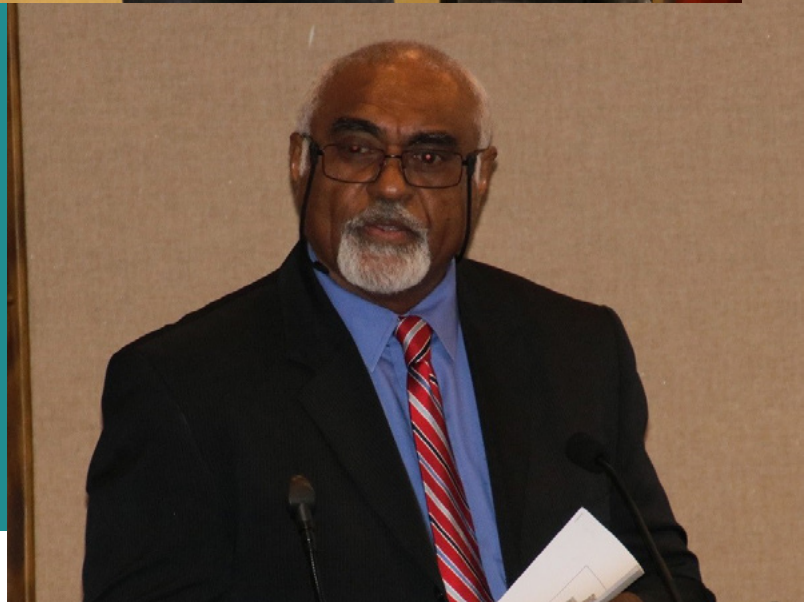
Skriecka, highlighted EU support in this area. ‘The EU is committed to support PFM reforms in the Region. EUR 11 million has been allocated to this end through the EDF11th regional project *Strengthening Public Finance Management and Governance in the Pacific* which has also facilitated this important workshop.’

‘An essential component of the PFM EU regional project supports UNDP’s and PASAI’s contribution to improving the budgetary scrutiny, PFM oversight and accountability capacities of parliaments, supreme audit institutions, to align them with international standards and foster citizen engagement and oversight.’ Mr Skriecka added, ‘In order to achieve a holistic approach, the project also provides some funding to PFTAC and contributes to USP’s capacity building work in PFM area.’

The workshop for PAC Members was followed by a similar workshop for senior officials and management, including members of boards of government companies, commercial statutory authorities and other government agencies, on Thursday 6 June 2019.



Fiji Auditor-General, Ajay Nand, with the Chairman of the PAC Alvick Majaraj and EU Programme Officer, Miroslav Skriecka



PASAI’s Eroni Vatuloka



Pacific Audit Institutions Team Up To Establish Monitoring and Reporting Mechanisms

Measuring the performance of SAIs ensures that government audit offices have the capacity and resources to conduct quality audits that contribute to good governance and make a difference in the lives of citizens.

PASAI has been extremely busy in recent months on the latter phases of a major drive to establish a strong performance measurement culture across the region, in a three-pronged approach that has combined the roll-out of the full SPMR programme and the focussed introduction of the SAI PMF assessment tool in a number of PASAI SAIs.

1. SPMR training

Activities for 2019 began on 8-12 April 2019, when PASAI and IDI joined forces once more to deliver a Monitoring and Reporting workshop in Nadi, Fiji. PASAI is one of only two INTOSAI regions piloting this global programme, with the objective of ensuring that audit institutions are strategically managed leading to better performance.

The third workshop for the Strategy, Performance Measurement and Reporting (SPMR) programme, this built on the foundations already established in the audit institutions' strategic and operational workshops held in Tonga and Cook Islands last year.

Twenty-one participants from Cook Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia – National Office and the state audit offices of Kosrae and Yap, Papua New Guinea, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, and Tuvalu attended the workshop, which was facilitated by Freddy Yves Ndjemba, Dafina Dimitrova, and Nils Voesgen from the INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI), assisted by Tiofilusi Tiueti and Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo from the PASAI Secretariat.

The main goal of the workshop was to develop performance measurement systems to enable the supreme audit institutions (SAIs) to monitor the implementation of their strategic and operational plans, and to capture the relevant information required for reporting on their operations. Participants learned the rationale for using performance information in strategic decision-making, and discussed why they need to develop a measurement system to monitor SAI performance and provide assurance that the SAIs have achieved their goals.

After identifying the key elements of a good monitoring system such as indicators, baselines, milestones and targets, the group enjoyed ample opportunity to practice developing them for their own strategic and operational plans. There was also an in-depth discussion into the challenges for SAIs in preparing different types of reports,

both internal and external, for various audiences. Furthermore, performance reporting – the case for SAIs reporting on their performance and the key characteristics of a good performance report - was covered at length.

Participants appreciated the important lessons learnt about monitoring and reporting on their operations. Of particular note was the significance of SAIs feeding back on their own performance, demonstrating their support for the improved public service accountability and transparency for which they should be role models.

Following the successful SPMR pilots, the programme will roll out globally to empower SAIs to implement their plans and monitor performance against the outputs and outcomes defined in their organisational plans.

The SPMR programme is generously supported by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). PASAI acknowledges the financial support of IDI, Australia Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, and the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs to conduct this programme for SAIs in the Pacific region.



Photo: Workshop participants and the facilitators



2. SAI PMF Planning workshop

Use of the SAI PMF tool was piloted in the Pacific region and implemented in other INTOSAI regions. In May 2019, PASAI and IDI facilitated a planning workshop on measuring the performance of public audit offices in Nadi, Fiji on 6-10 May 2019. Fourteen participants from six government audit offices (State Chuuk of the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Pohnpei, Tonga and Vanuatu), as well as the facilitators and PASAI Secretariat, gathered to learn how to build the capability of public auditors in using the SAI Performance Measurement Framework to peer review each other's performance.

The SAI PMF assessment provides a true and clear baseline of performance built around six core organisational areas. Without this baseline, SAs find it difficult to measure improvement against key performance indicators.

Facilitated by Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo, PASAI's Director Practice Development and Irina Sprenglewski, IDI's SAI PMF Advisor, the workshop provided much more than just an overview of the importance of measuring and reporting on performance. Delegates were able to run through a number of realistic scenarios to strengthen their learning which will be useful when they conduct these assessments in the future.

Several PASAI SAs established this baseline information as a result of Phase 1 of the SAI PMF roll-out. In a slight change of tack for Phase 2, an assessment of the Offices of the SAs participating in this workshop would be conducted during the year by teams made up of these trained assessors. Future SAI PMF assessments can then map performance change over a period of time to feed into the SAI's strategic planning activities.

Says Meresimani from the Fiji Auditor General's Office, 'It has been very illuminating to see how SAI PMF can be used to highlight areas of weakness and potential within each SAI. As it is an evidence-based tool, we learned first-hand how to use the tool by asking the right questions, obtaining proper evidence and finally by recording our responses in an effective and meaningful manner.'



Photo: Workshop participants and facilitators with UNDP and IDI representatives

3. SAI PMF assessment visits

Utilising the training received at the SAI PMF planning workshop in May, a matrix of assessor teams have already begun to implement 'expert' assessments in four SAIs, beginning with Vanuatu and Fiji.

According to the INTOSAI Development Initiative, the SAI PMF provides SAIs with a framework for voluntary assessments of their performance against the International Standards for Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAIs) and other established international good practices for external public auditing. SAI PMF is a multi-purpose, universal framework, and can be applied in all types of SAIs regardless of governance structure, mandate, national context and development level.

An assessment of the public financial management (PFM) system of SAI Vanuatu was conducted in early June under the umbrella of the EU 'Strengthening of Public Finance Management and Governance in the Pacific Project' and with additional core funding from PASAI development partners DFAT and MFAT.

The Review team (comprised of the PASAI Director of Technical Support, A'eau Agnes Aruwafu, the SAI Fiji-QA Team Leader, Meresimani Katuba, the Senior Auditor for SAI Kiribati, Tokanikai Tiira, and SAI Kiribati Senior Auditor, Mr Ioteke Teweti) developed terms of reference with the Vanuatu OAG as the SAI PMF implementation began.

Following the two-week assessment, the Vanuatu Auditor General, Caleb Sandy, and the Office of the Auditor General underlined how helpful this exercise was in setting benchmarks for their work.

"This assessment will be very useful for Vanuatu SAI to understand where we can improve and also highlight where the office is performing well," said Sandy. "In particular, this will help me implement the audit mandate more effectively and make a difference to the lives of Vanuatu citizens and residents."

PASAI Chief Executive Mr Tiofilusi Tiueti added, "*The SAI PMF assessments are not only going to help strengthen our SAIs in the Region, but will also provide excellent baseline information for PASAI to determine appropriate interventions for our members.*"



SAI PMF Assessment Team

In July, it was SAI Fiji's turn to experience a two-week SAI PMF assessment. The review team, made up of PASAI Performance Audit Consultant Claire Kelly; PASAI Director of Practice Development, Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo and SAI Tonga Assistant Auditor General, Kelepi Makakaufaki, carried out an assessment which included interviews with members of the Executive Management, a questionnaire on SAI management practices to all non-management staff members and a series of evidence-based enquiries and documentary reviews.

As the manager of the SAI PMF initiative across the whole PASAI region, Sina Palamo-Iosefo added, *'While the SAI PMF assessments provide excellent baseline information, they also enable us to monitor the progress of SAI performance over time and continue to identify and provide appropriate support to SAIs where needed. SAI Fiji's commitment to the process and openness in sharing information with the assessment team in order to do this has been exemplary.'*

In turn, Fiji's Auditor-General, Ajay Nand, commended the SAI PMF assessment process and team for its ability to deliver stronger governance, adding, *'We have committed to submit the final report on the findings of assessment to Parliament for transparency.'*

The SAIs of Kiribati, CNMI and Chuuk will also experience the SAI PMF process over the coming months, with trained assessment teams visiting each SAI for a two-week period to enable the SAI performance management process to be rolled out with maximum efficiency and impact.





IntoSAINT
Moderator Training in PASAI
First edition

January-February 2019

From Mexico to the Pacific: IntoSAINT rolls out throughout the PASAI region

By Sarah Markley

IntoSAINT is a self-assessment tool that all SAIs and other public entities can use for analysing integrity risks and assessing the maturity of their integrity control systems. The self-assessment is conducted during a structured workshop. Moderated by a trained facilitator, the workshop evaluates the perceptions and experiences of a cross-section of staff related to integrity systems of the organisation. At the end, the facilitator provides management recommendations developed by the workshop participants for better supporting the integrity of the organisation in question. The organisation gets a great base on which to further develop and refine its integrity policy, while, at the same time, staff benefit as their awareness of the impacts of integrity is increased.

The IntoSAINT tool fits with the SAI Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) assessment, referred to in SAI 4(i). If you use the IntoSAINT tool, your SAI PMF score will improve. It is also compatible with the INTOSAI Development Initiative '*SAIs fighting corruption*' programme that is already underway in the PASAI region. In addition, the IntoSAINT tool provides a way to carry out the assessment of integrity that is now required, so that a SAI can assert that it is fully compliant with the ISSAI 30 Code of Ethics for SAIs.

The tool was originally developed by the Netherlands Court of Audit about eight years ago, to enable public sector entities to evaluate the integrity risks and the maturity of integrity systems and controls. It has been used in SAIs across the globe, in both developing and developed countries, and OLACAFs and the SAI of Mexico have also had a good level of uptake in public sector organisations. I was fortunate to be able to attend a Working Group meeting in Mexico in 2018, which left me very eager to ensure that we capitalised fully on the tool and its supporting processes, in as much of the PASAI region as possible.

It's with great pleasure that I'm able to report that this particular wish has come true. Earlier in 2019 with the approval of the PASAI Governing Board to conduct a pilot (and thanks to [Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#) (MFAT) funding to our Office for PASAI support), we held a PASAI-specific training week to equip a cohort of staff to pilot the

tool across the region. IntoSAINT manager and facilitator Francisco Parral-Pineda, from SAI Mexico, ran an intensive week of training and assessment with a dual purpose: firstly, to train facilitators to run these workshops themselves, and secondly, to apply and test the process by performing a self-assessment workshop assessing the SAI of New Zealand. As a self-assessment tool, it raised some hard questions, prompted spirited discussions, and identified some challenging situations which were reflected in the findings of the self-assessment workshop at ANAO in Canberra, which I ran soon after the Wellington training.

As part of the pilot programme, it was agreed that the tool would be trialled in New Zealand's two twinning partners – Cook Islands and Samoa. In late May, in Rarotonga, eight staff from the Cook Islands Audit Office were guided by three facilitators from the Office of the Auditor-General of New Zealand through the IntoSAINT assessment process, to evaluate the risks faced by their office and the maturity of their integrity control systems.

The following week, the assessment team (led by Allen Parker, Cook Islands Director of Audit and Anne McMahon Office Manager at Cook Islands Audit Office, and supported by Jonathan Keate and myself from SAI of New Zealand) completed a 'SAINT' - or self-assessment of integrity - at the Cook Islands Ministry of Agriculture. The Ministry of Agriculture is a critical part of the Cook Islands public sector due to the importance of agricultural activities to this small island nation's economy, so it was very encouraging to be able to provide useful recommendations to strengthen integrity systems and also to encourage the eleven staff involved in the assessment to be integrity ambassadors within the Ministry and in their interactions with the community.

This process was then repeated in SAI Samoa. From 24th to 28th of June 2019, external moderators Jane Rogers (Sector Manager for Schools), Belinda Rynhart (a Senior Solicitor) and I worked with ten SAI staff members to identify and evaluate Samoa Audit Office's vulnerability against integrity risks. As certified moderators, Norris Mitchell and Fetu Lagaaia explained the tool and its components to their colleagues before the actual assessment was carried out, in line with one of SAI Samoa's Strategic Key Goals - to effectively manage and develop our human resources. At the end of the assessment, a report underlining integrity risks along with recommendations for improvement was given to management for the improvement of the Office, before the integrity tool was rolled out into the public sector for greater transparency, accountability and integrity, beginning with the Ministry of Finance.

It has been a year-long initiative that's taken us from first learning about the tool in Mexico to applying it 'for real' in two state ministries of PASAI member SAIs, but the pilot programme concluded on time and according to the project goals. With a full suite of experienced assessors with practical applications under their belt, PASAI is perfectly poised to introduce this incredibly valuable tool to other SAIs and public entities in the region.





Environmental auditing - more training opportunities ahead!

By Jonathan Keate

The 2018 Regional Working Group on Environmental Auditing (RWGEA) meeting held in Brisbane recommended that PASAI/ACAG and the RWGEA consider jointly developing an environmental audit capacity building program for the region, so we've been gathering together as many training opportunities for our region as possible.

1 - Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs)

RWGEA and PASAI have been encouraging members to participate in the online training courses run by the SAI of Estonia and the University of Tartu. The course materials have been developed as a collective effort by several SAIs in Europe and beyond, and are offered free of charge to everyone interested.

We have had very strong uptake and success with this, with PASAI and ACAG members participating enthusiastically (with record-breaking attendance from some PASAI SAIs!) in three online training courses:

- Introduction to Environmental Audit (27 participants);
- Auditing Water issues (28 participants)
- Environmental impacts of infrastructure (23 participants)

Two more open online training courses will run later in 2019:

- 'Auditing Water Issues' from 4 November to 9 December 2019.
- INTOSAI WGEA 'Auditing Waste Management' (a new course) from 9 September to 13 October 2019; and

Auditing waste is a good topic for those SAIs that have not previously done an environmental audit, so participation in this particular online training course is highly recommended for 'beginner' SAIs.

For information or registration details for the next courses *please contact Ms Kaire Kesküla at the EWGA Secretariat at kaire.keskula@riigikontroll.ee*

2 - Other training opportunities in the year ahead:

The **6th INTOSAI WGEA International Training on Forestry Audit** takes place from 16 - 20 September 2019, in SAI of Indonesia's Training Institute Jakarta, Indonesia. This training has attracted participants from many SAIs since it began in 2014. This year, the training will use the concept of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in assessing social benefits of forestry for society. Participants must meet their own travel costs, and there is a \$450 USD training fee that covers accommodation and meals.

The **7th International Training Programme on "Introduction to Environmental Auditing"** and an **International Workshop on "Sustainable Development: Concept and Audit"**, a joint collaboration between the SAI of India and INTOSAI WGEA will be held from **25th November to 07th December, 2019 and 24th to 28th February, 2020** respectively at International Centre for Environment Audit and Sustainable Development (iced), Jaipur, India. Participants must meet their own travel costs, and there is a fee for accommodation and meals at the training centre. The last date for sending nominations for participation in these courses **15th September, 2019** (for 7th ITP on Introduction to Environmental Auditing) and **15th December, 2019** (for International Workshop on Sustainable Development: Concept and Audit) respectively. For information please contact iced@cag.gov.in or see the website www.iced.cag.gov.in.

3 - Looking ahead: the 2020 RWGEA meeting

We are starting to plan for the 2020 RWGEA meeting, due to be held in May 2020. This meeting is likely to include a training component, and we would welcome contact from ACAG and PASAI members about any specific training needs.

Please contact the RWGEA coordinator jonathan.keate@oag.govt.nz with any ideas or suggestions, for the 2020 RWGEA meeting or any other related matters. We're enjoying a very productive series of collaborations, and look forward to seeing them progress even further in the coming months and years.



Jonathan presenting at WGEA

PASAI & RWGEA

| | Introductory MOOC (Oct 18) | Water MOOC (Jan 19) |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Samoa Audit Office | 5 | 8 |
| Office of the Auditor General, Fiji | 3 | 7 |
| Tonga Office of the Auditor General | 5 | 4 |
| Office of the Auditor General, Western Australia | 7 | 3 |
| Vanuatu National Audit Office | 2 | 2 |
| Solomon Islands, Office of the Auditor General | 2 | 1 |
| NZ Office of the Auditor-General | 1 | 1 |
| Audit Office of New South Wales | 1 | 1 |
| Office of the Public Auditor, Micronesia | 1 | 1 |



SAI Samoa who achieved record uptake of the MOOCs.



A sneak peak of PASAI's upcoming 22nd Congress

The venue is set up and the presentations are prepared for the 22nd Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) Congress from the 13th – 16th of August, 2019.

The Congress is PASAI's supreme authority and consists of all PASAI members, but operates above the systems of oversight and management. It endorses PASAI's strategic direction, appoints the Governing Board, designates the Secretary-General, and decides where the Secretariat is to be located. The Congress provides guidance to the Governing Board on attaining PASAI's objective.

Every year the Congress is hosted by one of our members, and is the calendar highlight of the year as members get together in both formal and informal settings to share ideas and resources.

This year's Congress will be hosted by the Office of the Auditor General for the Republic of Fiji. Together with the 21st Governing Board meeting, PASAI's 22nd Congress will be held at the InterContinental Fiji Golf Resort & Spa. Bringing together more than 55 delegates from around the world and PASAI member countries, it will be officially opened by the Speaker of Parliament Honourable Ratu Epeli Nailatikau on the 13th of August.

The theme for the 22nd PASAI Congress is 'SAIs' Contribution to Sustainable Development Goals' (SDGs). Several of PASAI's 27 members have been greatly involved in the IDI/KSC-designed Cooperative Audit on Preparedness for the Implementation of the SDGs, the results of which were presented to the UN in New York City in July 2019. This year's Congress will be a platform to further these discussions and identify priorities for the region as the UN's 2030 Agenda approaches.

It will also enable other PASAI stakeholders, including new and established Development Partners such as the EU/UNDP, DFAT, MFAT and IDI, to learn about PASAI's progress while also contributing to the discussions.

As Fiji's Auditor-General, Mr. Ajay Nand, says: 'The 22nd PASAI Congress will provide a good opportunity for delegates to share knowledge and ideas on their approaches to the Sustainable Development Goals.'

'The 22nd PASAI Congress will provide a good opportunity for delegates to share knowledge and ideas on their approaches to the Sustainable Development Goals.'



Ajay Nand, Auditor-General of Fiji

In addition to hosting dinners and events to introduce attendees to Fiji's unique culture, Mr Nand will also chair the 22nd PASAI Congress as Mr. Grant Hehir, the Auditor-General for Australia and Chairperson for the 21st PASAI Congress, hands over to him.

Having recently hosted several large events in Fiji, including PASAI's PAC workshop mentioned earlier in this newsletter and the global WGITA conference in April 2019, the Auditor-General's Office is confident that this will be a PASAI Congress to remember.

Registrations will close shortly, so if you need more information, please go to SAI Fiji's website at www.events.oag.gov.fj/.

Grant Hehir, Auditor-General
for Australia



Calendar of Events



22-23 JULY UN-IDI meeting on SAIs making a difference, Auditing the Implementation of the SDGs, New York, UN



22 AUG - 31 SEPT SAI PMF assessment Kiribati



5-9 AUG Technical support in SAI Fiji - Strengthening SAIs' independence for effective and credible system of public accountability



26-10 AUG APIPA 2019, Guam



12-13 AUG PASAI's 21st Governing Board Meeting, Natadola Fiji



9-20 SEPT SAI PMF Assessment CNMI



13-15 AUG PASAI 22nd Congress, Natadola Fiji



9-20 SEPT SAI PMF Assessment Chuuk



23-19 SEPT XXIII INCOSAI, Moscow, Russia



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