



PASAI

SEPTEMBER 2016 UPDATE

Pacific Auditors working together

PASAI Workshops make a Significant Impact

by Bryan Dabugsiy

Pursuing its way forward with renewed efforts, a new management team, support staff, new ideas, and a commitment to delivering on its mission, "To make a difference in the lives of citizens by providing independent and credible assessments that promote accountability, transparency and excellence in operations and management of the Yap State Government", Yap SAI enthusiastically accepts and partakes in a variety of highly beneficial and timely training workshops offered by PASAI. The workshops have provided the participants with guidance in developing their SAI Strategic Plan and most recently, a Communications Strategy.

The recent PASAI-sponsored Communications Workshop has jump-started Yap SAI's efforts on developing its first ever Communications Strategy. With this strategy in place, YAP SAI aims to improve its communications with all stakeholders, addressing one of the desired outcomes of the office's Strategic Plan: "Effective Communications to Legislature and all Stakeholders". Subsequently, it will help achieve its set objectives and goals efficiently. The knowledge and skills acquired through this workshop is an added value to the SAI its staff.

Yap SAI would like to take this opportunity to express its appreciation to PASAI and its team for putting together this and other much needed workshops. Also, we would like to encourage other SAIs to take advantage of these training opportunities as they are proving to be very instrumental in the overall improvement of SAIs.

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Photo right: Bryan Dabugsiy with participants at the Regional Vanuatu Communications Workshop, 5-9 September.



Photo above: PASAI Consultant, Mr Craig Neil with KNAO Auditor-General, Ms Matereta Raiman

Independence Resource Kit – Pilot use

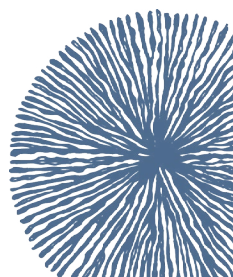
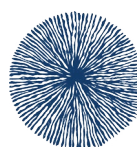
PASAI provided support to the Kiribati National Audit Office (KNAO) as pilot of applying its Independence Resource Kit. The support was provided by PASAI consultant Mr Craig Neil in working together with the Auditor General of Kiribati, Ms. Matereta Raiman. This support is in line with PASAI's Strategic Priority 1: Strengthen SAI Independence and hope that positive outcome will result.

The KNAO were grateful for the support from the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) and their consultant.

Regional Communications Workshop in Vanuatu

The Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) held its regional communication workshop in Port Vila, Vanuatu from 5-9 September, 2016, the first of several communications programmes planned for Pacific SAIs in the Region. Eighteen participants from 13 Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) attended the workshop, which was opened by the Auditor General of Vanuatu, Mr John Path. In his speech he stated the importance of communication in the work that auditors carry out. "We are called to make a difference to the lives of citizens," he said, "and we need to be able to effectively communicate the results of our work to stakeholders to achieve this".

This regional workshop is important for Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) as they need to demonstrate their ongoing relevance to citizens, Parliament and other stakeholders to achieve greater audit impact. SAIs can show their relevance by appropriately responding to the challenges of citizens, the expectations of different stakeholders and the emerging risks and changing environments in which audits are conducted. This can be achieved if SAIs have a meaningful and effective dialogue with stakeholders about how their work facilitates improvement in the public sector.



The participants spent the first two days discussing the value and benefits of SAIs as prescribed in the International Standards for Supreme Audit Institutions (ISSAI) 12: The value and benefits of SAIs – making a difference to the lives of citizens and how to effectively engage with stakeholders and developing a communication strategy for the SAI. In leading this part of the training, PASAI Director of Advocacy, Engagement and Financing, Ms Aolele Su'a Aloese reminded participants, "Right from the first day working as an auditor, we need to communicate effectively with auditees in order to obtain audit information". She emphasised the importance of communication at every level for auditors in the work they conduct, and provided practical examples that supported this.

The second part of the training focused on report writing skills, dealing with media and social media, public speaking and writing media releases. Participants engaged in this part of the training with enthusiasm. "These skills will not

only benefit the SAI but me personally," said one participant. Another participant testified, "This training gives me new ideas and methodologies in communication after many years working in government and 15 years in auditing". The participants' critical thinking, analytical skills and writing abilities were put to the test through the myriad of audit-related exercises that honed their communication skills in each session.

PASAI will be conducting further communications training in the Tonga and Fiji SAIs over the next couple of months.

The training was co-facilitated by PASAI's Director, Practice Development, Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo and Communications Advisor, Tina Vaka. The training was hosted by the Vanuatu National Audit Office and supported by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).



PASAI participates in the Association of Pacific Islands Public Auditors (APIPA) 27th Annual Conference



Photo above: APIPA Principals – Opening Day – FSM Pohnpei (Host), FSM National, FSM Chuuk, FSM Yap, FSM Kosrae, Guam, RMI, CNMI, Kiribati, American Samoa

In addition to this, on Day 2 PASAI joined the US-Department of Interior's Roundtable all day session which was attended by all the principals and senior audit staff. The aim of this Roundtable discussion was to identify and prioritise the needs of the SAIs, so that USDOT and PASAI can strategically synergize their efforts to provide the capacity building support required. Also during this week many discussions were held between USDOT and PASAI to build on forming a strong partnership that will service our PASAI members from the North Pacific. A draft MOU will be developed to formalise this partnership.

These collaborative relationships and joint efforts are aimed at strengthening the capabilities of the SAIs, to achieve impacting outcomes to make a difference to the lives of citizens.

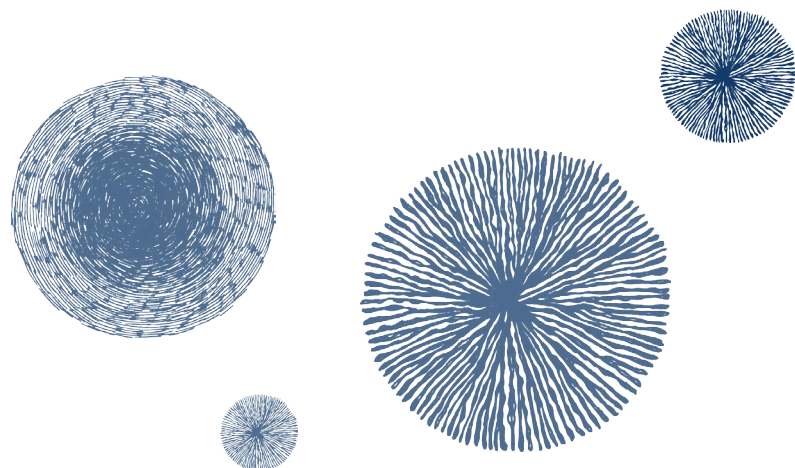
PASAI was invited to give a presentation about ISSAI 12 "Values and Benefits of SAIs – making a difference to the lives of citizens" during the opening plenary session at the 27th Annual APIPA Conference held in Pohnpei, Federated States of Micronesia from 25-29 July 2016. It was a good opportunity to advocate the work of PASAI and the importance of SAIs in the Pacific region.



Photo above: Roundtable Discussions DAY 2 – APIPA: US DOI Inspector-General Chief of Staff, Stephen Hardgrove with auditors from Republic of Marshall Islands Audit Office and Federated States of Micronesia Audit Office.



Photo above: L to R: US DOI Regional Supervisor, Elizabeth Schubert, US DOI Deputy Inspector-General, Mary Kendall, PASAI Director Technical Support, Agnes Aruwafu, US DOI Regional Supervisor, Audits, Inspections & Evaluations-Central Region, Stefani Levesque



Enhancing SAI Capacity and Capabilities - SAI Young Leaders Global Programme

Capacity development of human resources is a challenging task. But designing and developing a global leadership programme for potential young leaders within the INTOSAI community is even more challenging, because of the wider global coverage targeted by the programme.

PASAI's Director of Practice Development, Sinaroseta Palamo-Iosefo attended the design meeting for the global SAI Young Leaders Programme co-ordinated by IDI in Oslo, Norway on 15-23 September 2016. Meeting delegates included representatives from IDI, SAI Philippines, Swedish National Audit Office (SNAO) and GIZ, a German organisation that provides a range of services among other things, on governance and economic development and employment.

The main objectives of the meeting were to:

1. Agree on IDI's SAI Leaders Competency Framework
2. Determine a syllabus for the SAI Young Leaders Programme
3. Design a selection process and criteria
4. Design the programme and initiate development of courseware

The meeting drew on the idea of "changing hearts and minds" as the overall theme for the programme already developed during the leadership symposium held in Shimla, India in November 2015. The discussions were stimulating and appealing with the sharing of perspectives and experiences, which highlighted issues that need to be addressed when designing the programme. Defining the criterion for a young leader remains a challenge because of the need to consider what SAIs consider as "young" – whether it's young in age, years of experience with the SAI or years of experience in a leadership position within the SAI or elsewhere.

The overall structure of and approach for the programme were discussed comprehensively, taking into account the following:

- the expected participants' profile
- cultural diversity
- SAI readiness to provide an enabling environment for the potential young leader to flourish
- the extent to which consultants will be involved
- availability of potential mentors
- appropriate duration of the programme
- SAI commitment
- in-kind support available from developed SAIs
- funding availability

The meeting was valuable to PASAI because it is considering to develop a similar programme for the Pacific SAIs. The discussions identified critical issues that should be considered and clarified from a regional perspective, before efforts are expended.

PASAI looks forward to learning more from future activities in developing the global programme to inform the development of its own regional programme.

Photo right: Delegates (L-R): Tassilo Droste zu Huelshoff (GIZ), Lei Anne Cabuyadao (SAI Philippines), Sina Palamo-Iosefo (PASAI), Archana Shirsat (IDI), Ingela Ekblom (SNAO), Henry McGregor (IDI), Fatima Doghman (IDI)



PASAI CALENDAR

THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

- **3 - 6 October 2016** : INTOSAI Capacity Building Committee (CBC) Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa.
- **3 - 6 October 2016** : INTOSAI Donor Cooperation Steering Committee Meeting, Cape Town, South Africa
- **3 - 6 October 2016** : Samoa SAI PMF Peer Review, Apia, Samoa
- **3 – 7 October** : IDI Product Development meeting – audit of SDGs, New Delhi, India
- **10 – 14 October** : Communications Workshop for Tonga SAI, Nuku'alofa, Tonga
- **10 – 21 October** : IDI SAls Engagement with Stakeholders Program design meeting, Manila, Philippines
- **17 – 26 October** : Tuvalu SAI PMF Peer Review, Funafuti, Tuvalu
- **26 – 27 October**: ADB Pacific Talk, Manila, Philippines
- **21 – 25 November** : Regional workshop on Building Capacity to effectively audit the management of public assets , Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.
- **5 – 9 December** : Communications workshop for Fiji SAI, Suva, Fiji
- **5 – 9 December**: Tuvalu PAC Workshop, Funafuti, Tuvalu
- **5 – 9 December** : PASAI/PFTAC Regional workshop on Strengthening Oversight Functions of PFM through internal and external audits, Honiara, Solomon Islands
- **5 – 11 December** : INCOSAI, Abu Dhabi, UAE.
- **9 December** : International Anti-Corruption Day.
- **12 – 16 December** : Regional Cooperative Compliance Audit Procurement Reporting meeting, Apia, Samoa

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- **24 – 28 October** : Regional Performance Audit Project Team Meeting, Auckland, New Zealand.
- **7-11 November 2016** : SAI PMF Reporting Workshop, Nuku'alofa, Tonga
- **14 – 18 November** : IDI SAI Independence Guidance Meeting, Oslo, Norway
- **23 – 25 November**: Pacific Constitutional Conference, Port Vila, Vanuatu
- **19 – 25 January** : PAC Workshop & Awareness program, Apia, Samoa
- **23 – 27 January** : SAI PMF Lite Planning Meeting (North SAls), Guam.
- **23 – 24 February** : 16th Governing Board Meeting, Auckland, New Zealand
- **2 – 6 March**: SAI Young Leaders Symposium, Auckland, New Zealand