

PASAI Mandate and Objectives

PASAI promotes transparent, accountable, effective, and efficient use of public sector resources in the Pacific.

PASAI contributes to that goal by helping its member SAs improve the quality of public sector auditing in the Pacific to uniformly high standards.

To that objective, PASAI's mandate is to strengthen understanding, co-operation and coordination between its members by advocating the interest in good governance and build and sustain auditing capacity while assisting its members to perform their auditing functions. It also serves as a regional working group of INTOSAI and encourage co-operation with other regional working groups.

PRAI

The Pacific Regional Audit Initiative (PRAI) is a Pacific Plan initiative.

The PRAI's overarching objective is to raise Pacific public auditing to uniformly-high standards.

This in turn is expected to improve transparency and accountability in managing and using public resources.

Capacity Development Program

The development of the audit manuals and training materials are progressing well with only one of the 5 working groups yet to hold its midpoint meeting as at 30 September 2010. The midpoint meeting is essentially a timeline to consolidate the contributions of each member in a group and produce a first draft of the manuals and guidelines.

Four working groups are at different stages of completion of the first drafts. The Human Resources Management working group is scheduled to provide its draft to the manual's champion Mr Pohiva Tuionetoa, Auditor General of Tonga for review in early October 2010 and prepare for endorsement by the Governing Board. The working groups for Financial Audit Manual, Tier 2 and Tier 3 training materials are close to completing their first drafts.

The Secretariat takes this opportunity to acknowledge the contributions of members of the working groups who committed their time and effort in this work. The Secretariat also acknowledges the members of the Governing Board for accepting the roles of champions of these manuals, and heads of SAs for facilitating the work of the groups.

Cooperative Performance Audit

All 10 SAs that participated in the cooperative performance audit on the management of solid waste have signed off their reports. Six reports have been tabled in the legislatures and/or made public.

The planning meeting of the second cooperative performance audit on Access to safe drinking water was completed on 4 September 2010 through the kind financial assistance of the INTOSAI Development Initiative (IDI), the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and AusAID. The Pacific Islands Applied Geo-science Commission (SOPAC) is providing technical support for this audit. The audit plans of 8 of the 10 participant SAs have been signed off by the heads of SAs and audit conduct should have already commenced by these SAs.



Regional Cooperative Performance Audit - Access to safe drinking water
Planning Meeting—30 August – 4 September, Nadi, Fiji

Sub-regional Audit Support (SAS) Program

ADB intends to provide a technical assistance grant to enable the second round of the SAS round to commence. PASAI is grateful for the bank's on-going support for this important PRAI initiative. ADB is working to finalise funding arrangements with its stakeholders to enable the employment of consultants and the commencement of the program. Currently PASAI aims to start this with a planning meeting of the experts in Auckland on 6-8 December 2010 before the audits of Nauru Central Utilities and Ronphos Corporation in February 2011.

Accountability and Transparency in the Pacific Region - 2010

The PASAI Secretariat scoping paper on the 2010 accountability and transparency work is being drafted and will be circulated to the members of the Governing Board for comments and endorsement. The aim of the 2010 survey is to explore the accountability mechanisms that exist in the region. The approach to be adopted will be to consult partners and consider opportunities for linking this work with other governance initiatives in the Pacific. The survey will also focus on all or some of the matters of concern identified in the 2009 report, namely parliamentary scrutiny of audit reports, SAI mandate and independence; and maximize opportunities to identify good practice on these matters.

Secretariat

Project Management Framework - The PASAI Secretariat is currently considering the Project Management Framework report by Stantons International. The report provided a review and assurance to the 3-year Workplan and budget, and proposes a management framework for managing the delivery of activities identified in the 3-year Workplan.

PASAI Website - A revamped website will be launched on 15 October 2010 and readers may view this on www.pasai.org. The website is now easier to navigate, more informative and relevant. It features information about PASAI organisation and membership, charter and governance, programmes, reports and publications. Over the coming months, the Secretariat will be adding new pages, images and links to relevant websites.

Annual SAI Stocktake - SAls will soon be receiving the annual SAI Stocktake survey which heads of SAls are required to complete and return to the Secretariat by 12 November 2010.

Funding - The World Bank fund has arrived with the first advance of US\$50,000. The fund will be used specifically for expenses relating to the development of PASAI audit manuals and training materials.

ADB has extended the term of the current Technical Assistance for PRAI to June 2011 and use the balance of the fund to cover the cost of consultants.

PASAI Secretariat

The dates for the various activities over the next 3 months are as follows:

- 4-5 November 2010 - Australian Council of Auditors General meeting, Brisbane;
- 8-12 November 2010 - Performance Audit Manual Working Group meeting, Nadi;
- 15-19 November 2010 - 2nd Capacity Building "Kick-off" Conference, Nadi;
- 22-27 November 2010 - XX INCOSAI Johannesburg, South Africa;
- 6-8 December 2010 - Sub-regional Audit Support (SAS) Team Planning, Auckland;
- 20 Dec to 4 Jan 2011 - PASAI Secretariat Office closed.

For any clarification of any of the items in this update, please do not hesitate to contact the PASAI Secretariat by

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