

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.

1. PASAI Secretariat

PASAI has appointed Mrs Sinaroseta Palamo Iosefo (Sina) as its Capacity Building Advisor (CBA). She takes over from Mr Allen Parker who has been appointed as Director of Audit of the Cook Islands.

Sina currently works as an Audit Manager with the Samoa Audit Office and is responsible for the new performance and IT audits section. She was a member of the working group that developed the PASAI Human Resources Management manual and a participant of two co-operative performance audits. Sina will assume the CBA position in early 2012.

PASAI Consultants' meeting

PASAI cannot run its programmes effectively without the contributions of its consultants. They have in-depth knowledge of PASAI and PRAI and have had considerable exposure working in the region.

The PASAI Secretariat hosted the meeting of its consultants on 14-15 November to discuss various matters regarding their programmes. It was also an opportunity for them to update PASAI's draft three-year plan, providing advice on linkages between programmes to ensure the PRAI objective is met.



Back left to right : Bruce Robertson, Matt Major , Hayden Everett, and Eroni Vatuloka.
Front: Claire Kelly and Linda Weeks.

In addition, the group considered and refined the PASAI performance measurement framework. The changes in the framework took into account the updated programme period in the Asian Development Bank technical assistance programme. The revised framework and the 3-year plan will be tabled in the 6th Governing Board meeting which will be held in Auckland, New Zealand on 1-2 February 2012.

2. Capacity building

PASAI undertook two capacity building programmes during the month – *Communicating Effectively* and *Tier 4 Management of Government Audits* pilot training.

The communications training was attended by 18 participants representing 13 SAs. The topics included: developing audit reports, dealing with the media and the public, delivering effective oral presentation and preparing other products.

The Tier 4 pilot training was attended by 16 participants and 3 co-ordinators from 10 SAls. The topics covered in the training include: leadership imperatives, expectations, roles and responsibilities of senior managers, quality control/assurance process, time management, managing poor performance and retention of employees.



3. Cooperative performance audit

Drafting of the regional report for the second cooperative performance audit on *Access to Safe Drinking Water* has been completed. The draft report is ready for presentation to the PASAI Governing Board at its meeting in February 2012. As with the audit on solid waste, preparation of this report is considered important in concluding the second round of cooperative performance audits and providing Pacific stakeholders with a region wide view derived through the cooperative performance audit approach. As at 1 December, five SAls have released their reports publicly within their respective jurisdictions, while one has presented the audit report to its over-sighting committee. It is anticipated that the remaining four reports will be in the public arena early in 2012.

Fieldwork for the third co-operative performance audit on sustainable fisheries management is almost completed in 11 of the 12 participating SAls. Individual audit reports are expected to be finalised following a reporting meeting at the end of March 2012.

4. Sub-regional audit support programme

The SAS team left Nauru on 9th November at the completion of the field work stage of the audits for the Nauru Utilities Corporation for 2008/09 and 2009/10 accounts. Reporting for these two audits is currently being completed out of the PASAI Secretariat in Auckland.

The Tuvalu phase of the program will start in early 2012 and end late March. The period will be busy for the office with the SAS program in country and the work on the co-operative performance audit - sustainable fisheries management. The SAS team is looking forward to Tuvalu phase of the programme.

5. Accountability and transparency project

The project has completed the fieldwork phase of the in-depth studies of 6 countries - Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, New Caledonia, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga. The reporting phase is underway and the first draft of the report will be ready for review by the project manager and sponsor in December 2011. The report will also be available for review by the project steering committee, comprising members of the PASAI Governing Board, and stakeholders later in December.

PASAI takes this opportunity to thank the 20 SAls (77% of members) who returned the completed accountability and transparency questionnaires. PASAI also appreciates the invaluable assistance provided by the 6 SAls covered in the fieldwork for the efficient organisation of meetings and completion of the in-depth studies.

7. PASAI Calendar

In the next three months, PASAI has planned the following activities:

- 23 January – 23 March 2012 – SAS Tuvalu phase audits;
- 1-2 February – Governing Board meeting, Auckland, New Zealand;
- 5-16 March – Tier 2 *Intermediate Government Auditing* training, Nadi, Fiji (to be confirmed (tbc));
- 26-30 March – Co-operative performance audit (sustainable fisheries) reporting meeting, Nadi, Fiji;
- 2-3 April – SAS Committee meeting, Suva, Fiji;
- 17-19 April – Pacific Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) meeting, Sydney, Australia;
- 30 April-11 May – Tier 3 *Supervisory Roles* training, Nadi, Fiji (tbc); and
- 21 May-1 June – Tier 1 *Fundamentals of Government Auditing training*, Nadi, Fiji (tbc).

The PASAI Secretariat closes for the festive season on 19 December 2011 – 3 January 2012.

For further information, please contact the PASAI Secretariat:

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