Maximizing SAI cooperation in support of capacity development

4 October
Discussion questions

• How can the methods/approaches described be applied in your SAI?
• What can you bring home as inspiration on concrete suggestions?
• Do you know of materials (i.e. guidance, good practice etc.) available which can be useful to others?
Feedback from discussion on peer evaluations

• Consider the cost factor
• Keep open-minded and do not be too polite
• Be conscious of the scope
• Consider partnering with non-SAI partners (such as regional audit organizations of another country)
• Take seriously the gaps identified and take appropriate action
• Consider value of partnering with SAIs with similar model, same language etc.
• Be brave! Be open for feedback and get out of the complacency box.
• How do you get impact for citizens? What are your intended results and what are you regularly assessing? (They need to match!)
• Peer reviews answer the question of who audits the auditor – and the auditor’s professionalism.
• Cross-germination of experiences is the hidden advantage of reviews
Feedback from discussion on peer evaluations (2)

• Ensure good balance between objectivity and subjectivity of evaluation of peers.
• How do you make sure that evaluations feed into broader aspects of PFM reforms and connected evaluations (PEFA etc.)?
• To what extent can peer reviews be accessed by external stakeholders?
• Inspiring when momentum is created within a region – leads to more SAIs being peer reviewed.
• Lessons can be learned from one another during the peer review.
Feedback from discussions on joint training

- Consider advantages of on-line v. in-person training.
- Be mindful of language differences.
- Challenge to better-endowed SAIs to invest in training centres. (Echoed by ARABOSAI ambitions.)
- Reminder that joint-training can be done in-country as well.
- Make sure there is buy-in from management for training initiatives.
- Make sure there is a critical mass of participants.
- Keep in mind need for continuous professional development, also for top levels of organization.
- Training academy in China hosting INTOSAI and ASOSAI training events.
- AFROSAI-E training interventions for subject matter experts, based on regional manuals, to be brought home to the national level.
- Technical updates can be provided on a regional basis (new ISSAIs etc.)
- Emphasize cost-effectiveness of training of trainers.
Feedback from discussion on cooperative audits

• Cooperative audits may have a real effect on capacity development and impact in each country
• Peer-to-peer cooperation on audits enhances quality
• Small SAIs have much to gain from working together
• Joint training early on in the process is a key to success
• May be only way to address common projects across national borders
• Networking supports continued development and cross-fertilization
• Value in joint reporting
• Useful approach for SAIs at all development levels
• Effective tool in certain areas: SDG cross-cutting themes
• Varying mandates may present a challenge between SAIs in joint audit
• Encourage doing a risk analysis of potential issues in audit process
• Motivating for members of parliament that it is a cooperative audit
Feedback from discussion on cooperative audits

• A coordinated approach and joint effort put focus on issues in a region
• Bilateral development programs may benefit from this approach