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In just over 11 weeks, we will be hosting our 17th Technical Conference. After two years of virtual Conferences, we greatly look forward to meeting participants in person again. The Conference will be held at The Maslow Times Square Hotel in Pretoria, South Africa, from 18 to 20 October 2022. Look out for the official invitation we will send to SAIs, partners and stakeholders in the coming days.

This issue of the Bulletin features our first ever PFM Transversal Risk Report, which is available to download. In other PFM news, the next instalment of our series, PFM on the Couch @AROSAI-E, is out now. This two-part episode features the AG of Kenya, Ms Nancy Gathungu. We also have news of an exciting new partnership with the African Development

Bank and updates on workshops that took place this month.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Bulletin!

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## The first PFM Transversal Risk Report is out now

We have just published our first Public Financial Management (PFM) Transversal Risk Report for the AFROSAI-E region. Our PFM Reporting Framework Tool allows SAIs to report holistically on PFM risks. The framework focuses on the overall functioning of the system and the related synergies. In this PFM Transversal Risk Report, we have taken the reporting framework further by consolidating nine countries' perspectives on PFM into a holistic regional view. This report also highlights the pivotal role that PFM processes play in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

We recognise that effective PFM systems can have widespread effects on the reach, quality and effectiveness of essential public services. We, therefore, trust that this report will be a valuable resource for various stakeholders, including practitioners and policymakers.

Key observations in this report include:

1. Governments are doing a lot to improve PFM systems. However, there is significant scope for them to do more as there are severe deficiencies in the region's PFM systems. It is in the interests of the SAIs to use the PFM tool to complement the traditional audit approach.
2. The level of adherence to the PFM processes is consistent with the level of skills across the PFM institutions. There is also a noticeable decrease from the core PFM institutions to the Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). This suggests an urgent need for capacity building at parliament and MDA levels.

does not always cascade to the MDAs. We see this in the lack of transparency in reporting on SDGs at the MDA level. Unless urgently addressed, this will result in the region missing the SDG targets.

If you have any questions or comments on the report, please contact Edmond Shoko at [edmond@afrosai-e.org.za](mailto:edmond@afrosai-e.org.za).



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## PFM on the Couch @AFROSAI-E features AG Kenya

In the third instalment of our series, PFM on the Couch @AFROSAI-E, Edmond Shoko talks to the Auditor General of SAI Kenya, Ms Nancy Gathungu. Part 1 of this two-part episode discusses the benefits that SAI Kenya has experienced in using the PFM Reporting Framework tool. In Part 2, the discussion turns to the SAI Kenya audit report of December 2021, which applied the PFM-RF tool. AG Gathungu reflects on how efficient and effective the PFM systems are in Kenya, based on the findings in this first report.



PFM on the Couch @AFROSAI-E Episode 3 Part 1



PFM on the Couch @AFROSAI-E Episode 3 Part 2

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## African Development Bank and AFROSAI-E launches an \$8 million project to promote transparency and accountability

The African Development Bank and AFROSAI-E have officially launched a three-year support project to improve regional collaboration and coordination between African public sector accountability institutions, aimed at increasing professionalism and efficiency in the sector. The grant will support AFROSAI-E in its mandate to professionalise public sector accountability and empower SAs for greater audit impact and

The African Financial Integrity and Accountability Support Project (AFIAP) launched in Pretoria on 22 July 2022. In attendance, among others, were the Bank's Deputy Director-General for Southern Africa Regional and Business Delivery Office, Mbeakani Kennedy, and AFROSAI-E CEO, Meisie Nkai.

"We are excited that we will be able to scale up support for the AFROSAI-E region based on the lessons learned from interventions funded and supported through the Bank. The AFROSAI-E Governing Board also welcomes the support of the Bank, as improved capacity in the selected SAIs, will also benefit the entire region," – Meisie Nkai.

[Read the full press release.](#) Contact Cynthia Mangaba at [cynthia@afrosai-e.org.za](mailto:cynthia@afrosai-e.org.za) for questions about our collaboration with AfDB and the support project.



## Highly engaging Regional Communication Workshop

While technology enabled us to continue engaging throughout the pandemic, the value of our first in-person Regional Communication Workshop since 2019 was immeasurable. Fourteen participants from 10 member-SAIs had the opportunity to engage with their counterparts, share their experiences and strengthen their knowledge of strategic communication and stakeholder engagement at SAIs.

The workshop, held from 18 - 22 July 2022 in South Africa, focused on the essentials of Communication and Stakeholder Engagement (CSE). The participants received our newly developed frameworks for preparing CSE policies, strategies and plans to implement at their respective SAIs. They also completed a blended learning course on Crisis Communication that included a pre-workshop e-learning module and discussions at the workshop around best practices using case studies. Internal Communication and Media Engagement were the other topics that garnered intensive and enthusiastic participant interaction, including role-play exercises, to share their experiences.

Regional subject matter experts from Sierra Leone, Kenya and Uganda rounded out the facilitation team



## Performance Audit Supervision & Review

Through our performance audit courses and on-the-job training, we have been strengthening regional capacity to perform audits that add value. One of the crucial target groups for our performance audit interventions is operational management. We developed a specific Supervision and Review course targeting this group. The course aims to strengthen their technical subject matter capacity as well as their management and supervision skills.

With the support of institutional partners and experienced regional resources, we have strengthened the design of our previous Supervision and Review course to accommodate country-specific challenges. We implemented the updated course material for SAI South Africa and SAI Uganda earlier this year. In South Africa, the training participants developed an action plan on specific areas they want to improve. In Uganda, the staff from all audit types were involved and they made meaningful analyses of the challenges encountered and suggested a way forward.

We are now gearing up to host a sub-regional Supervision and Review Workshop for Southern African SAIs from 19 to 23 September. See below for more details.



## Aidspan hosts a regional roundtable meeting

From 13 to 15 July, we participated in a regional roundtable meeting as part of a collaborative project with Aidspan, the independent observer of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria. The project aims to enhance the capacity of SAIs to perform financial, compliance, and programmatic audits of Global Health Initiatives (GHIs) supported programmes.

Key stakeholders who attended the meeting included the Global Fund Secretariat and Office of the Inspector General (OIG), CREFIAF, the Heads of SAIs from the participating countries and Internal Auditors of state Principal Recipients.

This roundtable brought together the project stakeholders to:

- share experiences and expectations,
- provide SAIs with a platform to interact with the Global Fund and Gavi, and
- agree on the way forward in terms of the implementation of project activities and timelines.

*Pretoria, South Africa*

In line with our operational plan, we are working to strengthen quality assurance systems and approaches in the region. Our goal is to aid SAls with creating and strengthening internal quality assurance functions. To realise this goal, we are planning subregional workshops. In addition, we are busy with an ongoing project on the anticipated changes on ISSAI 140 based on ISQM 1 and ISQM 2. With these subregional workshops, we plan to pro-actively sensitise the SAls on the upcoming changes to ISSAI 140. We invite SAls in this Southern Africa sub-region to nominate participants for the workshop.

**[Click here to learn more and register](#)**

#### **Annual HR Regional Workshop: 19 – 23 September**

*Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania*

Our annual HR Workshop will focus on staff productivity and engagement as key discussion topics. The 2021 ICBF results show that SAls in our region are struggling to retain, recognise and develop staff, sometimes with limited financial resources. Therefore, the workshop aims to share ideas and experiences and explore opportunities to address these concerns.

**[Click here to learn more and register](#)**

#### **Southern Africa Sub-regional Workshop - Performance Audit Supervision & Review: 19 – 23 September**

*Pretoria, South Africa*

The objective of the workshop is to raise supervision and review competencies to enable SAls to produce higher quality performance audit reports and establish effective audit processes. The workshop will cover the following four areas:

1. Overall planning in performance auditing, focusing on operational planning.
2. Supervision and support of performance auditors and audit teams.
3. Review of draft pre-studies and reports.
4. Exchanging performance auditing experiences between managers in the region.

We invite SAls in this Southern Africa sub-region to nominate participants for the workshop.

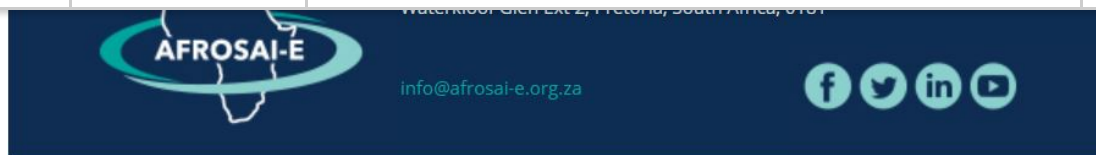
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