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 Bulletin

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## It's a wrap on our 17<sup>th</sup> Technical Conference!

Over 160 colleagues from regional SAIs and partner organisations joined us in Pretoria, South Africa, for the three-day event. Many colleagues also tuned into the live stream of the event.

We covered a range of interconnected topics, and in keeping with our theme of CONNECT, there were ample opportunities for participants to engage on the topics and with each other. Using our mobile conference app, we engaged the audience with interactive polling to supplement the questions and comments from the floor. This led to rich discussions on the key topics of ISSAI responsive SAIs, a blueprint for credible and professional SAIs, the future relevant auditor, integration of the SDGs for high-impact audits and the role of SAIs to combat corruption and money laundering.

Numerous highlights made our first face-to-face conference since 2019 a fruitful and memorable experience. These included the launch of the updated [Financial Audit Manual](#) and three new technical guidance exposure drafts:

- [Extractive Industries Audit Guidelines – Exposure Draft](#)
- [Becoming a Data-Driven SAI – Exposure Draft](#)
- [Guideline for developing a Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Plan – Exposure Draft](#)

The updated 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the [AFROSAI-E Integrated Competency Framework](#) was also launched.

We also had notable presentations by Imran Vanker, the Director of Standards at IRBA, on how SAIs can achieve audit impact through robust quality management systems and Jan van Schalkwyk on how the INTOSAI Capacity Building Committee (Goal 2) supports credible, professional SAIs. In addition, a joint team from the Netherlands Court of Audit, the GIZ Good Governance in Africa Programme, the Asset Recovery Interagency Network of East Africa (ARIN-EA) and AFROSAI-E facilitated a session on the role of SAIs in anti-money laundering initiatives.

Another major highlight of the event was the Recognition of Excellence Awards. As AFROSAI-E, we strive to recognise SAIs who are leading by example. This year we recognised two SAIs in the region for their achievements in exemplifying this ideal.

[SAI Uganda](#) embarked on a journey to transform its organisational culture by implementing the AFROSAI-E Culture and Organisational Assessment. They developed an action plan within three months after the leadership team received the results. The SAI has already made excellent progress



in implementing the plan, including creating a policy to implement the AFROSAI-E Integrated Competency Framework.

The SAI has led by example in integrating financial, compliance and performance audit methodologies. As a result of this approach, their audit findings and recommendations are more comprehensive and robust and demonstrate the value of the integrated approach. SAI Uganda has also been a true ambassador for the region on the global stage. They were recently welcomed as only the second of our member-SAIs on the Performance Audit Subcommittee of INTOSAI, and they Chair the Working Group on Extractive Industries.



**SAI Eritrea** has been at the forefront of piloting the new Financial Audit methodology. After receiving training on the Financial Audit Manual (FAM) in May 2022, their leadership team got directly involved in supervising and reviewing the audits using the new methodology. As a result, the SAI has already submitted working papers and produced its first FAM-compliant audit report for review.

Although the SAI does not have a dedicated quality assurance unit, they have been exemplary in their quality processes. As a result of these robust quality systems, their AFROSAI-E quality assurance review results were of extremely high quality. In reporting on their accountability mechanisms, they have been a model of responsiveness. The SAI has also implemented rigorous gender mainstreaming initiatives and a Gender Strategy for the SAI.



We warmly congratulate these two SAIs for setting a high standard of excellence in the region.

[Click here to access the presentations from the Conference.](#) To view the panel discussions and interactive question-and-answer sessions with participants that made up most of the proceedings, you can access the event recordings with the links below:

- Day 1: <https://youtu.be/h5p5tt5Q0AI>
- Day 2: <https://youtu.be/N4H1qh9V78c>
- Day 3: <https://youtu.be/osKP4GB06j8>



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## Request for proposals to develop a learning programme for API

AFROSAI-E, on behalf of the African Professionalisation Initiative (API), seeks proposals to develop the first phase of a student's learning programme in public financial management (PFM). The programme will target aspiring professional accountants and auditors interested in pursuing a career in public sector accountancy.

Deadline for Proposals: Friday, 18 November 2022 at 17:00 (South African Standard Time)

Read more: <https://professionalisation.africa/request-for-proposals-pre-qualification-students-learning-resources/>.

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## WGISAM meeting

The annual WGISAM meeting took place in Livingstone, Zambia, from 26 to 30 September.

The Workshop had many discussions and knowledge-sharing opportunities around the workshop theme – SAIs becoming more data-driven – and other challenges SAIs face. During the meeting, SAI Zambia was appointed as the new WGISAM Chairperson. Further, the working group also deliberated on its 2023-2024 work plan which will focus on IT, IT Management and Cybersecurity within the existing sub-working groups.

Abdourahman Badjie and Seringe Saine from SAI The Gambia attended the meeting and shared their perspectives on the outcomes. [Click here to read the full article](#).



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## UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

### 1 November: Gender, Diversity and Inclusion Workshop

#### Online Workshop

In collaboration with the GIZ, we will host an online workshop as part of our continued support to SAIs in the region to become gender-responsive organisations. Workshop theme: *The impact of SAI culture on gender, diversity and inclusion initiatives*. [Read more](#).

## **Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL) Workshop**

**15 – 17 November, Pretoria, South Africa**

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) is of crosscutting relevance for SAI operations, from strategic management, operational planning, stakeholder management and reporting to learning. Effective M&E systems enable a SAI to report to stakeholders about its performance, compliance with audit standards, financial management, and implementation of its strategic plan, among other things. This three-day workshop will introduce participants to monitoring and evaluation and take them through the life cycle of planning, monitoring, evaluation, reporting and learning. [Read more.](#)

## **ICBF training workshop**

**24 November, online**

For the ICBF self-assessment results and the subsequent country reports to add value to member SAIs, it is crucial that the self-assessment questionnaire be completed with credible information, which requires a thorough understanding of the measurement criteria. We have scheduled a virtual ICBF training workshop on 24 November 2022 to aid member-SAIs in completing the 2022 self-assessment questionnaire. [Read more.](#)