Report on feedback and follow-up of EUROSAl training events organised in reporting period 01/2015 – 01/2016

Participation in EUROSAl Training Events

- Spring Session on Auditing Energy Issues (23-24 April): 23 SAIs from EUROSAl, 48 Participants from EUROSAl, 4 Participating Institutions, 4 Participants from Other Institutions
- Training Seminar on Agriculture (05 October): 20 SAIs from EUROSAl, 44 Participants from EUROSAl, 4 Participating Institutions, 5 Participants from Other Institutions
- Experience of development and possibility for SAIs to implement ISSAI 5500 (20-21 October): 8 SAIs from EUROSAl, 18 Participants from EUROSAl, 0 Participating Institutions, 0 Participants from Other Institutions
- Methods and measuring tools to audit ethics (26-27 November and follow-up in February and March 2016): 22 SAIs from EUROSAl, 44 Participants from EUROSAl, 8 Participating Institutions, 9 Participants from Other Institutions
- Open Data Seminar (26-27 November): 26 SAIs from EUROSAl, 59 Participants from EUROSAl, 5 Participating Institutions, 5 Participants from Other Institutions

Legend:
- Number of SAIs from EUROSAl
- Number of Participants from EUROSAl
- Number of Participating Institutions (non-European SAIs and Other Public and Private Institutions)
- Number of Participants from Other Institutions (non-European SAIs and Other Public and Private Institutions)
Participation in EUROSALI Training Events

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<th>Event</th>
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Goal Team 3 - Knowledge Sharing is in charge of encouraging cooperation and exchange of experience among EUROSAI Members, within INTOSAI and with external partners. In order to strengthen the area of training, the members of GT3 cooperate closely with GT4 Task Group on Training Issues to make training more effective.

- For supporting the organisation of training events a Fact sheet was created that informs potential hosts and organisers about organisation, topics, support tools and financing of EUROSAI training events. The document was circulated among EUROSAI members and was posted on EUROSAI website in the section training.

- Potential organisers and hosts can also find Guidance for organising training events on the EUROSAI website that is regularly completed and updated.

- In the year 2015, interactive evaluation forms for contributors and participants were created in the LimeSurvey programme that will significantly help organisers and hosts with the evaluation of training events. Evaluation will be made automatically in the programme after the participants filled in the forms.

From January 2015 to January 2016, 5 training events were organised and evaluated by Working Group on Environmental Auditing (2), Working Group on the Audit of Funds Allocated to Disasters and Catastrophes (1), Task Force Audit & Ethics (1 seminar and its follow-up in the IDI platform) and Goal Team 1 (GT1).

These training events were attended by 236 participants in total. 213 participants were from 42 EUROSAI SAIs and European Court of Auditors. The training events in the year 2015 were hosted by SAIs of Estonia (1), Turkey (2), Malta (1) and the Netherlands (1). E-seminar (follow-up of the TFA&E seminar) was hosted by the IDI platform.

Three events were supported from the EUROSAI budget with the sum of € 14.140, the amount finally used was € 6.950,26.
I. Training events organised by EUROSAI Working Groups/Task Forces

Working Group on Environmental Auditing organised two seminars that were attended by 101 participants, 92 participants were from EUROSAI SAIs.

Spring Session on Auditing Energy Issues

The seminar was organised by SAI of Estonia under the umbrella of the Working Group on Environmental Auditing on 23-24 April in Tallinn and was dedicated to one of the most audited topics within the EUROSAI community – energy issues. It was focused on three main aspects of the energy field – energy efficiency, savings and renewable energy. The energy issues were addressed by key note speeches, various SAI presentations and group discussions. As a result, a few potential energy related fields of interest were identified, that SAIs might consider cooperating on. Such topics include the EU 2020 energy goals, energy efficiency in public sector, energy security, EU common electricity market, energy innovation, etc.

Training Seminar on Auditing Environmental Impacts of Agriculture

The seminar was organised as a one day training event before the annual meeting of the EUROSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing on 5 October in St. Julian’s, Malta and was focused on Auditing Environmental Impacts of Agriculture. There were three key note speeches delivered at the training seminar. The key note presentations were complemented by three group work assignments and three SAI presentations. The objective of the training seminar was to: provide an overview of the range of environmental problems caused by agriculture and to introduce the measures for reducing
environmental impacts of agricultural practices; the range of agricultural subsidies and discuss their impact on environment and introduce the audit experience in the EUROSAl region.

Working Group on the Audit of Funds Allocated to Disasters and Catastrophes organised one seminar that was attended by 18 participants from EUROSAl SAIs.

Experience of development and possibility for Supreme Audit Institutions to implement international standards ISSAI 5500 series - Guidelines on Audit of Disaster-related Aid

The Working Group on the Audit of Funds Allocated to Disasters and Catastrophes organised the seminar on 20-21 October in Ankara, Turkey. The objectives of the seminar were: acquaintance with content and peculiarities of 5500 series of ISSAIs “Guidelines on Audit of Disaster-related Aid”; acquaintance with experience and problems of methodology development in the sphere of catastrophes; discussion with participants of possibilities for application of the abovementioned standards in SAIs’ practice, as well as problems, which can hamper their usage; sharing experience on possible ways of application/implementation of the indicated standards by SAIs and sharing experience on conducting parallel/coordinated audits, including difficulties and problems, facing their coordinators and participants.
Training event organised by Task Force Audit & Ethics was attended by 53 participants, 44 participants were from EUROSAI SAIs.

Methods and measuring tools to audit ethics

The seminar was hosted and financed by the SAI of Turkey and organised under the umbrella of the Task Force for Audit & Ethics on 26-27 November 2015 in Ankara, Turkey. As some speakers and participants could not attend the seminar, and in order to utilise all the work that had been already done, a follow-up electronic seminar was organised via the IDI platform, between February and March 2016. This e-seminar counted with 53 participants, and had a very positive evaluation. The aim of the seminar and correspondent follow-up was exploring and discussing the available methods and measuring tools for auditing ethic related issues, in order to prepare the possible guidance on this matter by exchanging and comparing SAIs’ experiences. The seminar was mainly targeted for SAIs’ staff responsible for developing methodologies and/or conducting audits view, approaching and experiences.
II. Training events organised by EUROSAI Goal Teams

Training event organised by GT1 was attended by 64 participants, 59 participants were from EUROSAI SAIs

Open Data Seminar

The seminar was hosted and organised by SAI of the Netherlands on 26-27 November in the Haag under the umbrella of GT1. The two goals of that seminar were to provide a platform for subject matter experts to exchange views and share insights on the use of foresight and data analytics in government accountability and to provide an opportunity for practitioners of government foresight and data analytics to create a collaborative network with and among SAIs. The majority of participants are willing to continue activities on Open Data within the EUROSAI community. Four main conclusions were formulated and followed by two propositions. One of the conclusions is for SAIs to lead by example, to audit the state of open data in your relevant countries, to use open data in audits and a window of opportunity for future steps.