EUROSAI
Strategic Plan
2011-2017

Doc. GT4/17

GOAL TEAM 4’s
Annual Report to GB
(2012-2013)

May 2013
Goal Team Chair

Portugal

Goal Team Members:

Czech Republic, Chair of Goal Team 3

France, Chair of Goal Team 1

Germany, Chair of Goal Team 2

Netherlands, Incoming EUROSAI Presidency

Poland, Outgoing EUROSAI Presidency

Spain, EUROSAI Secretariat

Invited Experts:

Denmark

United Kingdom

INTOSAI Director of Strategic Planning

INTOSAI Secretariat

Date of approval by Goal Team: 26-04-2013

Date of submission/circularisation: 02-05-2013
EUROSAI Goal Team 4’s 2\textsuperscript{nd} Report

Reporting period: June 2012 - May 2013

Strategic Goal

4: GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION
Manage EUROSAI in accordance with the principles of good governance and effective communication.

Structure of Goal Team 4 (GT4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SAI</th>
<th>Portugal (current EUROSAI Presidency 2011-2014)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

MEMBERS
- Poland (outgoing EUROSAI Presidency)
- Netherlands (incoming EUROSAI Presidency)
- Spain (EUROSAI Secretariat)
- France (Chair of GT1)
- Germany (Chair of GT2)
- Czech Republic (Chair of GT3).

INVITED EXPERTS
- Denmark
- United Kingdom
- INTOSAI Director of Strategic Planning (IDSP)
- INTOSAI Secretariat

GT4 Task Groups (TG):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Areas</th>
<th>Lead SAI</th>
<th>Other TG Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TG1 Planning and Reporting</td>
<td>GT4 Chair: Portugal</td>
<td>Netherlands, Spain, United Kingdom, IDSP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TG2 Liaison and good practices</td>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>France, Germany, Czech Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TG3 Training issues</td>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Portugal, France, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TG4 Funding issues</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Portugal, France, Germany, Czech Republic, UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TG5 Communication and Sustainability</td>
<td>Netherlands Poland</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TG6 EUROSAI website</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Netherlands, Czech Republic, Portugal, Denmark, INTOSAI Secretariat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Main results achieved

1. Planning and reporting
   - GT4 annual report and operational plan (OP) update were prepared.
   - Liaison with GTs 1, 2 and 3 for the update of their OPs and for the presentation of their annual reports was ensured.
   - Analysis of GTs reports was made.
   - The 2nd overall progress report on the EUROSAI Strategic Plan (ESP) implementation was prepared.
   - A proposal for the ESP mid-term review procedure was completed.

2. Training
   - A 1st consolidated report on training events held was prepared.
   - Liaison with GT3 for the preparation of training information to be posted in the EUROSAI website was ensured.
   - EUROSAI practical guide for training events update has significantly progressed, but a decision on enlarging this guide to other type of events has been taken, requiring further work.

3. Financial Issues
   - EUROSAI financial rules were drafted, commented and finalised.
   - Financial requests from the EUROSAI budget were presented and analysed.

4. Communication and sustainability
   - A draft for a EUROSAI communication policy has been discussed for further development.
   - A discussion on the electronic collaboration platform to be used in the future has been held, based on a comparison between options, and an agreement was reached on accepting the opportunity offered by the SAI of the Netherlands (NCA) to test the platform created for the 2014 Congress.
   - A reflection on the EUROSAI publications was initiated. As a result of that:
     - The EUROSAI Newsletter will be replaced by a “News” section in the new website.
     - Although the reflection on the EUROSAI Magazine will be further developed, GT4 proposes that its next number should be reduced in terms of pages and costs and strongly encourages EUROSAI Members to be more involved in the respective translation effort.
   - The 4th GT4 meeting was held by e-conference.

5. EUROSAI website
   - Folders and contents of the new website were agreed, drafted and reviewed.
   - Implementation of the new EUROSAI website, in its English version, was completed. The new website will be soon implemented in the other official languages.
   - Main agreements regarding the management and update of the new website were reached (initial identification of website’s editors and the role of the Secretariat as website publicator). Other agreements are in progress.
Conclusions/Outlook

GT4 planned activities are mainly meant to address cross cutting issues.

GT4 has identified and addressed some of these issues, such as planning and reporting requirements, website, coordination of training, coordination of surveys, financial rules, preparation of requests for funding, communication tools, clarification of external co-operation levels and promotion of sustainability. During the reporting period, GT4 has also acknowledged the need of rethinking EUROSAI publications and of promoting the coordination of databases.

Those considered particularly in the next reporting period are:

- The complete launching in all the EUROSAI official languages, the continuous update and the dynamic use of the new EUROSAI website (to be implemented in liaison with all Goal Teams)
- The testing of the NCA’s 2014 Congress electronic platform (to be tested by Goal Teams)
- The completion of a proposal on a EUROSAI communication policy (to be finalised and consulted with the EUROSAI bodies and Members)
- The rethinking of the EUROSAI Magazine (for continued discussion)
- The articulation of databases (to be thought and discussed with the several Goal Teams)
- How best to coordinate training within GTs under the ESP (to be kept under consideration)
- How to enhance cooperation within INTOSAI and with external partners (to be considered and developed)
- The encouragement of sustainability in EUROSAI activities (to be developed)
- How to fund major and/or multi annual projects within the overall operational plans of EUROSAI (review in progress)
- The growing financial transparency of EUROSAI by implementing the financial rules and publishing documents (to implement)
- The mid-term review of the EUROSAI Strategic Plan (to be prepared for the 2014 Congress)

GT4 will also identify and consider new horizontal issues as they arise.
Decisions required from the GB

The following issues are presented to the Governing Board:

- EUROSAl Financial Rules *(for approval)*
- Funding request for a GT2 seminar on Performance Audit ISSAI *(for approval)*
- Possible future funding requests for some other planned activities (training events and license for publishing ISA translations) *(for information)*

- GT4 annual report and GT4 operational plan update *(for acknowledgment)*
- Overall Progress Report on the implementation of the EUROSAl Strategic Plan *(for acknowledgment)*
- ESP mid-term review procedure *(for acknowledgment)*
- The new EUROSAl website *(for acknowledgment)*
- The discontinuation of the EUROSAl Newsletter *(for approval)*
- The reduction of pages and cost of the EUROSAl Magazine’s next number *(for acknowledgment)*

- The testing of NCA’s 2014 Congress electronic platform by EUROSAl Goal Teams *(for agreement)*
# Progress Report

**Reporting Period:** 2012-2013

## Implementation strategy (SP): 4.1 - Ensure that EUROSAI has an organisational structure that best supports the achievement of the strategic goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects (6)</th>
<th>a. TASKS</th>
<th>b. PROGRESS</th>
<th>Overall status of the key activity/project (12)</th>
<th>Observations 2 (13)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period (7)</td>
<td>Timetable (as planned) (8)</td>
<td>Delivered by (9)</td>
<td>Observations 1 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
<td>To (MM/YY)</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1.1 Agree on planning and reporting requirements and contents to provide a sound basis for activities 4.1.2 – 4.1.6.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tasks executed as planned</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.1.1.1 Agree on planning and reporting requirements and contents to provide a sound basis for activities 4.1.2 – 4.1.6.</td>
<td>Tasks executed as planned</td>
<td>TG1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>- PMRR were approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1.2 Liaise with Goal Teams in agreeing ToR and operational plans</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Tasks executed as planned</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.2.1 Liaise with Goal Teams in agreeing ToR and operational plans</td>
<td>Tasks executed as planned</td>
<td>TG1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>- Guidance for GTs’ OP and ToR was issued</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4.1.3 Analyse reports for Goals 1, 2, 3, 4 (…)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tasks executed as planned</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.1.3.1 Analyse reports for Goals 1, 2, 3, 4 (…)</td>
<td>Tasks executed as planned</td>
<td>TG1</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>- Guidance to assist GTs in their first reporting exercise was issued</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Progress Report

**Implementation strategy (SP):** 4.1 - Ensure that EUROSAI has an organisational structure that best supports the achievement of the strategic goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period</td>
<td>Timetable (as planned)</td>
<td>Delivered by</td>
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<tr>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>(9)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>From (MM/YY)</strong></td>
<td><strong>To (MM/YY)</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>a. TASKS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>b. PROGRESS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>In former years</strong></td>
<td><strong>In the current reporting period</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Observations 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Observations 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.1.4 Identify value and benefits of interaction within INTOSAI

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tasks executed as planned</th>
<th>TG2</th>
<th>50%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Liaison with INTOSAI – Donor Cooperation by the EUROSAI Secretariat and GT4 Chair identified opportunities and benefits of interaction.</td>
<td>Punctual opportunities identified</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tasks not executed and requiring rescheduling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.1.4.2. Prepare document focused on opportunities to enhance interaction within INTOSAI</th>
<th>1/13</th>
<th>4/13</th>
<th>TG2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

This key activity had a certain overlap with GT3 and needed coordination with that GT. The situation is addressed in the GT3 and GT4 OP updates.
# Progress Report

**Reporting Period:** 2012-2013

## Implementation strategy (SP):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects</th>
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<th>b. PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period (7)</td>
<td>Results and outcomes achieved (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timetable (as planned) (8)</td>
<td>Overall status of the key activity/project (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delivered by (9)</td>
<td>Observations 2 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Observations 1 (10)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
<td>In former years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To (MM/YY)</td>
<td>In the current reporting period</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.1.5 In the area of training

| % Tasks executed as planned | TG3 | 100% |

- Financial applications requiring EUROSAI funding reviewed and submitted to GB approval
- Information about training events from GTs, WGs/TFs was collected

- Financial applications requiring EUROSAI funding reviewed and submitted to GB for approval;
- Summary of training events carried out.
- General part of EUROSAI Practical Guide on training events updated
- A consolidated report on training events was drafted and included in the GT4 report
- Training folder developed and included in the website
### Progress Report

#### Reporting Period: 2012-2013

#### Implementation strategy (SP):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects (6)</th>
<th>a. TASKS</th>
<th>b. PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period (7)</td>
<td>Timetable (as planned) (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
<td>To (MM/YY)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.1.6 Identify and address systemic (horizontal) issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Tasks executed as planned</th>
<th>All TGs</th>
<th>100%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- List of cross cutting issues was identified.
- Cross cutting issues began to be addressed:
  - Website related issues surveyed and addressed in the new website proposal.
  - Coordination of GT1-4’s surveys agreed.
  - EUROSAl funding rules to be revised.
  - External cooperation activities discussed and proposals being prepared.
  - Training and sustainability issues to be dealt with by GT4 task groups.

- List of cross cutting issues updated.
- Surveys of GTs and their results coordinated; list published.
- Updated list and analysis included in overall strategy report on systemic or recurring patterns, impacting effective delivery of SP.
## Progress Report

### Implementation strategy (SP): 4.2 Strengthen EUROSAI’s capacity to achieve its strategic goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects</th>
<th>a. TASKS</th>
<th>b. PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period (7)</td>
<td>Results and outcomes achieved (11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Timetable (as planned) (8)</td>
<td>Overall status of the key activity/project (12)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Delivered by (9)</td>
<td>Observations 1 (10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
<td>To (MM/YY)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 4.2.1 Strengthen EUROSAI’s capacity to achieve its strategic goals (cf. 4.1.4)

- **% Tasks executed as planned**
- **TG1**
- **100%**
- -Report and proposals made to GB reflecting the analyses of annual progress reports from GT
- -Requirements for the next ESP mid-term evaluation identified

#### 4.2.2 Strengthen EUROSAI’s financial situation

- **% Tasks executed as planned**
- **TG4**
- **100%**
- -Funding principles and procedures of EUROSAI discussed by GT4
- -EUROSAI financial rules agreed by GT4 and submitted to GB
- -Financial applications submitted to GB

#### 4.2.3 Develop workable EUROSAI practices and criteria for events and project management

- **% Tasks executed as planned**
- **TG2**
- **100%**
- -A list of existing EUROSAI/INTOSAI guidelines/recommendations for management of events and projects was prepared, analysis was performed and the redraft of this project is in progress

# Progress Report

**Reporting Period:** 2012-2013

## Implementation strategy (SP):

### Key activities /projects (6)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. TASKS</th>
<th>b. PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Delivered by (9)</td>
<td>Observations 2 (13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Observations 1 (10)</td>
<td>In former years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
<td>To (MM/YY)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.3.2 Develop and put into place a EUROSAI internal and external communication policy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Tasks executed as planned</th>
<th>TGS</th>
<th>75%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Tasks not executed and requiring rescheduling**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>4.3.2.5. Develop EUROSAI communication policy</th>
<th>1/13</th>
<th>4/13</th>
<th>TGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A draft was prepared but further consultations are still needed to complete it</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Main assumptions of EUROSAI communication policy were drafted
- Main internal communication areas to be improved were identified
- A draft on the EUROSAI communication policy was prepared but will be submitted to further consultations
- Agreement reached on testing the NCA’s electronic platform for the 2014 Congress

It was considered that a more in depth consultation process for the EUROSAI communication policy would result in a better proposal. The delay is not critical for the achievement of the SP expected outcome.
# Progress Report

**Reporting Period:** 2012-2013

## Implementation strategy (SP):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period (7)</td>
<td>Time table (as planned) (8)</td>
<td>Delivered by (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
<td>To (MM/YY)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4.3.3 Evaluate and update EUROSAI related Websites

- % Tasks executed as planned
  - TG6: 100%
  - The needs, preferences and expectations of EUROSAI Members, Working Groups, Task Forces and Goal Teams towards the EUROSAI website have been surveyed and identified;
  - Changes in the current website have been introduced;
  - A mock up to redesign the EUROSAI website has been prepared and submitted to GB;
  - A new Content Management concept was proposed.
  - English version of the new website implemented
  - Articles about EUROSAI prepared and published in Wikipedia in the official EUROSAI languages
  - Statement issued to encourage EUROSAI members to do the same in their own languages

### 4.3.4 Promote the use of EUROSAI publications and EUROSAI related websites

- % Tasks executed as planned
  - TG5: 100%
  - Links to EUROSAI and INTOSAI relevant products are included in the website
  - Target groups and objectives of EUROSAI publications were identified
  - EUROSAI Newsletter was replaced by the “News” item in the new website
  - A reflection was initiated in what concerns the EUROSAI Magazine
## Implementation strategy (SP):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key activities /projects</th>
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<th>b. PROGRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scheduled tasks for the reporting period</td>
<td></td>
<td>Results and outcomes achieved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timetable (as planned)</td>
<td>Delivered by</td>
<td>From (MM/YY)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>(9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Tasks executed as planned</td>
<td>TG5</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tasks not executed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3.6.1. Assessment of technical capacity (Task group conducts survey to assess members’ technical capacity)</td>
<td>02/13</td>
<td>03/13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Observations 1
- Results and outcomes achieved
- In former years
- In the current reporting period
- Overall status of the key activity/project

### Observations 2
- This key activity was to be mainly developed in the next period. The survey was meant as an input to that development and was finally considered as not necessary. Thus, the execution of the activity is not compromised.
**Cross-cutting information:**

### Training:
- GT4/TG3 has collected information on training events conducted in EUROSAI, as planned in its OP. The specific report is attached in annex.

### Surveys:
- Surveys planned by GT4 were not issued and were replaced by other methods of raising information in order not to burden SAIs with unnecessary requests.
- A list of surveys issued within EUROSAI and their summarised results, when available, were published in the website.

### Funding from the EUROSAI Budget:
- The new EUROSAI website is to be funded by the EUROSAI budget. Although expenses have not yet been paid, the amount of 34,276.78 euros (VAT included) is expected to be needed.

### Use of the EUROSAI website:
- The website was increasingly used to update published information (e.g. lists of surveys and training events, Summaries of Agreements of GT4’s meetings, Operational Plans, etc.). It was also used as the main information source of EUROSAI’s documents (ESP, Statutes, etc.) or to follow other GT’s activities’ results.
- Structure and content of the new website were intensively drafted.
- Specific responsibilities for the update and use of the new website are assigned to GT4, not only as one of the website’s editors but also as the responsible for fostering its use.

### Interaction with INTOSAI groups and reinforcement of cooperation with other organisations or partners:
- Permanent liaison with INTOSAI Director of Strategic Planning and INTOSAI Secretariat are established, mainly in planning and reporting issues and in the website and communication issues.
- Other interactions arise where cooperation issues are at stake (ex: IDI, ASOSAI).
- GT4 channels interactions to the most appropriate team.
- Under proposal of GT3, GT4 agreed to include Goal 3 key activities related to interaction with INTOSAI groups and other organisations or partners in the scope of its TG2 and TG5’s tasks.

### Communication and publications:
- During the reporting period, contributions were given for EUROSAI Newsletter and EUROSAI Magazine.
- Within the preparation of the EUROSAI communication policy, GT4/TG5 has identified the target groups and objectives of communication in the organisation, being the EUROSAI publications an important vehicle of that communication, both next to internal and external stakeholders. The objectives are to keep both updated about current information, news, developments, events and initiatives, to encourage EUROSAI members to share information, ideas and knowledge on auditing and audit-related issues, to increase the knowledge and participation of EUROSAI members in EUROSAI activities at audit and staff level and to work together with internal and external stakeholders towards
strengthening public sector auditing within the EUROSAI region.
- EUROSAI Secretariat has presented a reflection on costs of the EUROSAI publications and possible measures to reduce them.
- GT4/TG6 has reflected on the impact of the new website features on the EUROSAI publications’ policy.
- Resulting from these reflections, GT4 agreed that:
  - There is no point in continuing EUROSAI Newsletter, since its objective *(keeping stakeholders updated about EUROSAI current information, news, developments, events and initiatives)* is redundant with the “News” section of the new website
  - The next number of EUROSAI Magazine should have fewer pages, the deadlines to send contributions should be anticipated and EUROSAI Members should be invited to make a stronger contribution for the translation effort
  - During the next reporting period, GT4/TG5 will reflect further on the review of the EUROSAI Magazine, in consultation with EUROSAI Members and the GB.

**Sustainability initiatives:**
- GT4’s 4th plenary meeting was held by internet audio conference.
- GT4 has worked essentially through e-mail, mainly within task groups.
- GT4 publications shall be electronically delivered.
- In the next period, GT4/TG2 will develop tasks to encourage EUROSAI bodies to work in a more sustainable way

**Activities to be disseminated:**
- New EUROSAI website and its new contents
- EUROSAI Financial Rules
- Results of EUROSAI surveys

**Suggestions to improve the implementation of the EUROSAI Strategic Plan:**
- GT4 shall conduct a lively, informal and continuous discussion with the other GT to identify all relevant aspects deemed necessary to improve the implementation of the EUROSAI Strategic Plan, namely for duly consideration under the mid-term review process.
Report on feedback and follow-up on EUROSIAI training events organised in reporting period 5/2012 – 5/2013

Introduction

In the EUROSAI Strategic Plan 2011-2017, approved at the VIII EUROSAI Congress (Portugal, 2011), training has been designed as a tool for implementing the Strategic Plan. The performance of training is entrusted nowadays to Goal Teams 1, 2 and 3 – each one in the framework of its tasks – under the global coordination of Goal Team 4. Goal Team 3 – “Knowledge Sharing” is in charge of encouraging cooperation and exchanging experience among EUROSAI Members, within INTOSAI and with external partners. In order to strengthen the area of training, to avoid overlapping and to fulfil all tasks, the Goal Team 4 set up the Task Group TG3 as a subgroup focused on training issues. The members of TG3 and GT3 cooperated closely and made a special effort during this year to make training more effective. Among others accomplishments, the training strategy of GT1-GT4 was prepared, the training part of the EUROSAI website was designed and the Practical guide for organising training events has been updated. All these instruments have one goal, which is to encourage SAIs to organise training events, make the organisation of events more effective and to improve the training quality.

Several seminars and training events were organised in the respective reporting period, some of them in the frame of working groups.

Training events organised by EUROSAI working groups

Seminar on Sustainable Fisheries and Forest Management

SAI of Norway was the host of the Working Group on Environmental Auditing’s (WGEA) Seminar on Sustainable Fisheries and Forest Management that was organised from 15 to 16 May 2012 in Oslo. The seminar addressed key issues in the sustainable management of fish and forest resources in the European region, including main challenges in auditing fisheries and forests management. One important issue addressed was the achievement of the European Union’s Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the overall assessment that it was negative.

The seminar had both plenary and workshop parts. The first plenary part was focused on Sustainable Forest Management and Sustainable Fisheries Management. The first workshop concerned Auditing Sustainable Fisheries Management, and the second workshop was focused on Auditing Sustainable Forest Management.

The seminar was attended by 42 participants from 24 countries. Based on the evaluation from seminar participants, the seminar was successfully delivered. The main reason for the meeting’s success was the willingness of participating SAIs to share their knowledge and
experiences in the field of auditing fisheries and forests. The seminar presentations of audits in the area of fisheries and forests showed that several audits have had significant impacts on management practices. It illustrates the role of Supreme Audit Institutions, demonstrating how they can contribute to a better and sustainable management of such resources.

**Seminar on Auditing Forestry**

On 22 October 2012, a one day training seminar on auditing forests was organised by the EUROSAI WGEA Secretariat. 30 participants from 14 SAIs attended the seminar. The seminar was conducted by the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia that has previously developed an INTOSAI WGEA guide on auditing forests, published in 2010. In the current INTOSAI WGEA working period they have continued their commitment to this area by developing a comprehensive training course on the matter. This seminar presented highlights from the 5 day training course, emphasizing the aspect of identifying risk and planning an audit on the topic of forests. The focus of the seminar was on sustainable management of forests in the European region. The objective of the seminar was to give guidance on how to plan and conduct forest audits. The course consisted of lectures, group work and case presentations. There were 5 main sessions, covering an overview on forests, understanding forests, sustainable forest management, picking audit topics and finally audit evidence and methodology in forest audits.

WGEA will organise a seminar on **Auditing Water Management** at the end of April 2013 in Oslo. Assessment on this seminar will only be available later.

**Working Group on Information Technologies (ITWG)**

The Working Group on Information Technologies (ITWG) organised a lot of activities and IT Audit Self-Assessment (ITASA) workshops. Some of these projects included activities that could be considered as training but nearly all activities were oriented to exchange experiences, discuss projects development, perform self-assessments to be in compliance with rules and regulations and examine and plan possible joint audits.

**Seminars organised by EUROSAI members**

**EUROSAI Seminar on Application of Software Tools in Audit**

The Czech Supreme Audit Office hosted and organised an international EUROSAI seminar on ‘Application of Software Tools in Audit’, which was supported by EUROSAI. The seminar was held in Prague, the Czech Republic, from 18 to 20 September 2012.

72 participants from 26 EUROSAI member countries and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) attended the seminar. 2 representatives from INTOSAI’s Regional Working Group ASOSAI attended the seminar as observers.
The primary objective of the seminar was to exchange ideas, provide information and share best practices regarding the use of the Audit Management System and data processing tools in audits by comparing positions, methods and results used by participating SAIs.

The main topics of the seminar were: the purchase, implementation and operation of the Audit Management System (AMS) for managing and evaluating the audits; the use of the AMS in practice; and the use of data processing tools during the audit.

The total expenses were calculated at 14 397 EUR which covered the meeting rooms for the plenary session, technical equipment, services provided during meetings, working lunches, coffee breaks, the social programme, USB flash drives. The Czech SAO applied for sponsorship in order to cover some of the costs related to the organisation of the seminar. The granted contribution of 5 168 EUR that the Czech SAO received from EUROSAI covered expenses related to renting conference rooms and the technical equipment.

97 % of participants stated that they were given a good understanding of the seminar objectives (65 % state complete understanding and 32 % very good) and over 97 % agree that the programme of the seminar was adequate to meet those objectives.

In conclusion, participants appreciated the organisation of the seminar (the event was evaluated as complete or very good by 100 % of participants), many participants asked for follow-ups of this seminar and suggested more space for discussions, as well as more further experience sharing and case studies.

**IDI/EUROSAI programmes**

**3i Programme**

The IDI has initiated support for implementation of ISSAIs with a comprehensive capacity building programme called the ISSAI Implementation Initiative or 3i Programme. EUROSAI Goal Team 2 cooperates with IDI in the implementation of this programme in the frame of GT 2’s training strategy. EUROSAI has signed a cooperation agreement with IDI.

The Objectives for the 3i Programme are:

1. Assist SAIs in identifying implementation needs
2. Create capacity for implementation of Level 2 and Level 4 ISSAIs in financial, performance and compliance audit through global public goods and ISSAI facilitators at the global, regional and SAI level
3. Facilitate startup of SAI level implementation by providing support for assessing implementation needs at the SAI level to develop ISSAI Implementation strategies, ISSAI based cooperative audits and other startup activities that SAIs may undertake based on their strategy
4. Create an active knowledge community through a web based knowledge forum for wider outreach

Nine EUROSAI members are enrolled in this programme. From 11-13 March, the first Management Workshop took place in Sarajevo, hosted by the SAI of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Participants reported on their progress concerning the implementation of the ISSAI and learned how to use the iCATs (ISSAI Compliance Assessment Tools) for financial, performance and compliance audit.

**Note**

Up-to-date information on EUROSAI activities can be found on the EUROSAI website or in the GT 3 Operational plan.

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