

الإمارات العربية المتحدة  
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



مؤسسة المراجعة  
STATE AUDIT INSTITUTION

## Theme I:

*How can INTOSAI contribute to the UN 2030-  
Agenda on Sustainable Development?*



# Agenda

- The UN 2030-Agenda on sustainable development
  - Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2016-2030
  - SDGs - Challenges and Opportunities
  - INTOSAI's involvement with the SDGs
  - Four approaches to the SDGs
  - The way forward



# Sustainable Development Goals

- The UN 2030-Agenda on Sustainable Development (also referred to as the Sustainable Development Goals or just the SDGs), was jointly committed to by UN Members States in September 2015, will run from 2016-2030.
  - The SDGs provides an ambitious and long-term agenda on a broad range of vital issues.
  - There are 17 SDGs with 169 associated targets.
- The SDGs builds on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and try to complete what these did not achieve. However, the SDGs goes far beyond the MDGs.
  - Alongside continuing development priorities such as poverty eradication, health, education and food security and nutrition, it sets out a wide range of economic, social and environmental objectives.
- The goals and targets have been accepted by all countries and will be applicable to the entire world, developed and developing countries alike.
- The SDGs came into effect on 1 January 2016 and shall guide the decisions we take over the next fifteen years. All countries commit to work to implement the Agenda within their own countries and at the regional and global levels, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities



# Sustainable Development Goals

## Sustainable Development Goals



# SDGs



## Challenges and Opportunities

- The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by the United Nations (UN) presents both **opportunities and challenges** for INTOSAI.
- INTOSAI has an important supporting and leveraging role to play in national, regional, and global efforts to implement the SDGs, and in the follow-up and review of their progress.
- The broad scope of the SDGs means that many of the issues they address already **fall within the scope of SAIs' work** in financial, compliance and performance audits. SAIs can, therefore, play an effective role in supporting their country's preparation for the SDGs, their implementation and reporting on progress.



# INTOSAI involvement with the SDGs

- INTOSAI has been involved with the UN for a long period
  - 1<sup>st</sup> seminar/symposium in 1971: *General principles, methods and goals of government audit and related institutional problems*
  - Over the last couple of years the UN has issued a couple of resolutions that highlights the importance of SAIs and INTOSAI,
- The SDGs are opening up for the possibility for a new kind of relationship with the UN
- The next **INTOSAI Strategic Plan** for the 2017-2022 period has placed the SDGs as a crosscutting priority and identified four broad Approaches to contribute to the implementation of the SDGs.



# The four approaches

1. assessing the preparedness of national governments to implement, monitor and report on progress of the SDGs, and subsequently to audit their operation and the reliability of the data they produce;
2. undertaking performance audits that examine the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of key government programmes that contribute to specific aspects of the SDGs;
3. assessing and supporting the implementation of SDG 16 which relates in part to transparent, efficient, and accountable institutions; and
4. being models of transparency and accountability in their own operations, including auditing and reporting.

The four approaches are further elaborated within the Theme I paper.



# The way forward

- In order to develop, coordinate and monitor INTOSAI's contribution to the SDGs, it would be valuable to **create an informal expert group** under the leadership of the INTOSAI chair, consisting of internal and external experts that have responsibility to:
  - develop the frameworks related to each of the four Approaches;
  - identify a mechanism to monitor progress and collect information in relation to SDGs from individual SAs and regions;
  - maximize interactivity and relevance of the next INTOSAI/UN symposium on this theme; and
  - consider and prepare a presentation at the 2019 HLPF on the SDG 16.
- The status of the informal expert group should be reviewed at the XXIII-INCOSAI, at which time the role and responsibilities of INTOSAI towards the SDGs will be clearer.