

11th Survey on Environmental Auditing

☐ Mandatory fields are marked with (*) and must be filled in to complete the form.

Dear INTOSAI Member,

Welcome to the 11th Survey on Environmental Auditing of the INTOSAI WGEA conducted in every three years to map the global status of the public sector environmental auditing practice.

The global environmental auditing survey responses prove instrumental in the successful design of the INTOSAI WGEA activities. Furthermore, environmental audit practitioners can use the results to compare their work to that of other countries. For SAIs that are new to environmental auditing, survey results demonstrate that auditing environmental issues is important and that they can learn from colleagues experienced in the field.

In the survey, questions cover the topics of auditing mandate, environmental audits and environmental auditing capacity, environmental audit cooperation among SAIs, and products developed by the INTOSAI WGEA. <u>The focus period of the 11th Survey is 1 January 2021- 31 December 2023.</u>

You may save the half-filled survey and forward it to colleagues by selecting the button "Save & continue" and using the unique weblink provided by the platform thereafter. The summary page can be viewed/printed/saved on the last page of the survey.

Kindly provide one coordinated response from your SAI by 5 April 2024 at the latest.

Please do not hesitate to contact the INTOSAI WGEA Secretariat at intosaiwgea@vtv.fi in case of any questions or comments.

Thank you very much for your continued support and cooperation!

Environmental audit mandate and types of environmental audits

In the context of this survey, environmental audit refers to financial, compliance and/or performance audit that evaluates and gives opinions on authorities' actions in addressing environmental problems through environmental policies and programs. Environmental audits can be related to topics, such as the management of natural resources, nature preservation, biodiversity, climate change, sustainable development or other.

1. SAIs can conduct audits on environmental topics without any specific legal mandate. However, some SAIs have a specific mandate. Does your SAI have a legal mandate referring specifically to environmental auditing?
You may describe the specific mandate if you wish.
O No
2. Has your SAI's legal mandate changed between 2021-2023 in a way that has an impact on conducting environmental audits?
Yes, please elaborate how
O No
3. For how years has your SAI conducted environmental audits?
Our SAI does not conduct environmental audits
O 1 year
O 2-5 years
O 6-10 years
O over 10 years
4. Which of the following types of environmental audits your SAI conducted during 2021-2023?
Financial Audit
0
0
If selected, please indicate the number of audits/products:
Please elaborate if needed:

Compliance Audit
O O
If selected, please indicate the number of audits/products:
Please elaborate if needed:
Performance (value-for-money) audit
0
0
If selected, please indicate the number of audits/products:
Please elaborate if needed:
Prior audits (for example audits in advance of expenditure)
0
O
If selected, please indicate the number of audits/products:
Please elaborate if needed:
Special reports (e.g. overviews, investigative studies, rapid reviews):
0
If selected, please indicate the number of audits/products:
Please elaborate if needed:

Other products, please elaborate:			
0			
O			
If selected, please indicate the number of audits/products:			
Please elaborate if needed:			
5. Please rate the potential objectives of environmental aud SAI during 2021-2023?	lits listed below	. Have they bee	en used by your
0 = objective not considered			
1 = objective sometimes considered 2 = objective very often/always considered			
	0	1	2
Fair presentation of financial statements and expenditures	0	0	0
Compliance with international environmental agreements and treaties	0	0	0
Compliance with domestic environmental legislation and policies	0	0	0
Performance of government environmental policies and programs	0	0	0
Environmental impacts of non-environmental government programs	0	0	0
Evaluation of environmental impacts of proposed environmental policies and programs	0	0	0
Identifying potential fraud/corruption in environmental and natural resource sectors	0	0	0
Investigative work to provide information and insights on environment-related issues	0	0	0

The volume of environmental auditing and the topics addressed

Other, please elaborate:

6. In 2021-2023, what was the trend regarding the volume of environmental audits conducted in your SAI compared to the previous period (2018-2020)?

increased (%)		
oremained the same		
O decreased (%)		
7. How does your SAI plan to change the volume of environ 2026)? The volume will:	nmental audits in the r	next three years (2024-
increase (%)		
O remain the same		
O decrease (%)		
8. In the table below, a list of environmental issues is presented identify the topics your SAI has audited during 202 audit during 2024-2026. Please tick all topics from the list t	1-2023 and topics that	
	Audited 2021-2023	Plan to audit 2024-2026
NATURAL RESOURCES		
Forestry and timber resources		
Fisheries (freshwater and marine)		
Others (please specify):		
WATER		
Drinking water: quality and supply		
Pollution of water bodies (industrial and agricultural sources)		
Wastewater treatment		
Acidification of marine and/or freshwater		
Water quantity manangement or management of watersheds		
Marine pollution		
Floods and stormwater management		
Others (please specify):		
CLIMATE, AIR AND ATMOSPHERE		
Climate change mitigation		
Climate change adaptation		
Stratospheric ozone layer depletion		
Acid precipitation		

	Audited 2021-2023	Plan to audit 2024-2026
Local air quality and pollution, such as smog, particulates (PM10, PM2.5, etc.), SO2, NOx and CO2		
Indoor air quality		
Toxic air pollutants, such as organic POPs, dioxins, furans		
Others (please specify):		
WASTE		
General waste		
Plastic waste		
Hazardous waste		
E-waste		
Municipal, solid and non-hazardous waste		
Radioactive waste		
Toxic substances		
Contaminated sites and soil pollution		
Medical waste		
Food waste		
Recycling		
Others (please specify):		
BIODIVERSITY AND NATURE CONSERVATION		
Protected areas and natural parks		
Ecosystem management and ecosystem changes		
Species diversity/endangered species		
Invasive alien species		
Protection of wetlands		
Protection of rivers and lakes		
Protection of marine habitat		
Protection of forests		
Protection of deserts and semiarid regions		
Coastal protection		
Others (please specify):		
LAND USE AND OTHER HUMAN ACTIVITIES		
Agriculture		
Management of urban environmental issues		

	Audited 2021-2023	Plan to audit 2024-2026
Rural sustainability		
Land-use planning and urban development		
Land improvement		
Soil degradation		
Recreation and tourism		
Cultural heritage of environmental importance/features		
Circular economy		
Biosafety and genetically modified organisms (GMOs)		
Chemicals management		
Pesticides		
Fertilizers		
Environment and human health		
Infrastructure development		
Others (please specify):		
ENERGY AND TRANSPORT		
Energy (electricity, heat, fuels) production		
Energy efficiency		
Renewable energy		
Energy infrastructure/connectivity		
Energy transition		
Transportation, traffic and mobility		
Others (please specify):		
GOVERNANCE		
Environmental impact assessment		
Strategic environmental assessment (SEA)		
Environmental taxes, charges, fees, levies, deposit-refund systems		
Trading schemes (e.g. emissions trading, tradable allowances)		
Green budgeting		
Domestic environmental funds and subsidies		
International environmental funds and subsidies		
Environmental liabilities		
Fraud and corruption in the environmental management		П

	Audited 2021-2023	Plan to audit 2024-2026
Environmental management systems		
Green public procurement		
Natural disaster preparedness and emergency response		
Public awareness and inclusion, environmental education		
Others (please specify):		
9. Which are in your opinion the three most pressing enviro	onmental issues facin	ng your country?
1st issue		
2nd issue		
3rd issue		
10. Are there any global or national trends or development	s that narticularly affe	-4
auditing in your SAI?	o mat partioularly and	ect environmental
·	o mat parmountly and	ect environmental
·	o mat parmountly and	ect environmental
·		ect environmental
·	agreements and	
auditing in your SAI? International environmental	agreements and evelopment Goals	(SDG)
International environmental the United Nations Sustainable De	agreements and evelopment Goals	(SDG)

12. Does your SAI plan to audit international environmental agreements or treaties in the next three years (2024-2026)? (EU Directives not included)

Yes as main target of an audit. Please in agreement(s):	dicate which	
O Yes as partial target of an audit. Please i agreement(s):	ndicate which	
O No		
13. How did the United Nations 2030 Agen practice during 2021-2023. Please mark all	·	ent influence your SAI's audit
SDGs have been used to choose audit to	opics	
SDGs have been used as criteria in audi	ts	
Agenda 2030/the SDGs have been integ	rated to all audits	
Agenda 2030/the SDGs have been inclu	ded in environmental audits	
Agenda 2030/the SDGs has been includ	ed in other, non-environmental	audits
SAI has developed a specific audit method	odology to audit SDGs	
SAI has used IDI's ISAM approach		
Focus on preparedness to implement the	e SDGs	
Focus on auditing the implementation of	the SDGs	
Focus on leaving no one behind		
Focus on future generations		
Focus on capacity of the government to	monitor the implementation of t	he SDGs
Agenda 2030 has not influenced our aud	lit practices	
Other, please specify:		
14. Did your SAI conduct any audits in dire one of the SDGs during 2021-2023 (i.e. inv the SDGs, or assessing the general progret Yes, please indicate which SDG or appro	estigating specifically the goaless on the UN 2030 Agenda)? Deach:	als, targets and/or indicators of
15. Please specify which of the environme SAI has audited during 2021-2023 and the during 2024-2026.	environment-related SDGs th	nat your SAI intends to audit
	Audited 2021-2023	Plan to audit 2024-2026
SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation		
SDG 7 – Affordable and Clean Energy		

	Audited 2	2021-2023	Plan to audit 2	2024-2026
SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities	[
SDG 12 – Responsible Consumption and Production				
SDG 13 – Climate Action				
SDG 14 – Life Below Water				
SDG 15 – Life on Land				
Other:				
•	unication of	onmental aud audit results en assessing t	S	ironmental
audits? Please mark all that apply.				
Parliamentary hearings				
Media coverage				
Social media coverage				
Results of follow-up audits				
Monitoring the implementation of recomm	mendations/aud	dit findings (e.g.	via letter, interview, s	survey)
Government response to audit recomme	ndations			
Budgetary savings resulting from the SA	ls findings and	recommendatio	n	
Feedback from experts/citizens				
Any other method:				
Our SAI does not assess impact of envir	onmental audit	s		
17. Please assess based on your own judgement the level of impact the environmental audits conducted by your SAI in helping government departments to				
	No impact	Low impact	Medium impact	High impact
Formulate environmental legislation or environmental policies and programs	0	0	0	0
Enforce regulations	0	0	0	0
Improve functioning of policies and programs	0	0	0	0

	No impact	Low impact	Medium impact	High impact		
Improve economic, efficient and effective use of environmental funds	0	0	0	0		
Generate environmental indicators, performance measures, monitoring systems, or other policy information to evaluate environmental policy	0	0	0	0		
Develop environmental management systems	0	0	0	0		
Produce environmental reports	0	0	0	0		
Other, please specify:	0	0	0	0		
as Parliament, NGOs, academia and citize Distribution of a printed version of audit report made public on the web Only audit report summary made public reports releases Briefings for journalists	report	ara an that appi	J .			
Presentations in events						
Articles in printed media written by SAI						
Blogs written by SAI						
Radio/TV appearances						
	Booklet/1-pager with audit results					
	☐ Infographs ☐ Tweets or short summaries about audit reports published in social media (such as Facebook, Twitter,					
LinkedIn etc.)	eports publishe	ed iii Sociai iiiedi	a (Sucii as Faceboor	i, iwiller,		
Videos or animations on audit reports in	website or soc	ial media				
Podcasts						
Audit reports obtainable upon request (n	Audit reports obtainable upon request (not distributed otherwise)					
No parts of audit reports are made public						
Other (please specify):						

19. If possible, please share an environmental audit success story experienced by your SAI during 2021-2023 or a journey towards success for the benefit of international peers. What were the key elements helping your SAI to achieve impact?

Environmental audit teams in SAIs
Environmental adalt teams in 67115
20. Does your SAI have a specific department/section/unit working full time on environmental audits?
○ No
21. How many environmental auditors (auditors working mainly with environmental audits) were there in
your office in 2021-2023 on average?
22. How many auditors are there <u>altogether</u> in your SAI?
23. During 2021-2023 how many employees were involved with one environmental audit on avarage? If
none, please mark zero (0).
Number of environmental auditors
Number of other employees*, please specify

*By "other employees" we mean employees who are not auditors, but who contribute significantly to the audit process (e.g. internal experts, engineers, apprentices, supportive staff). It could also be the member of Civil Society Organization for Citizens Participatory Audit.

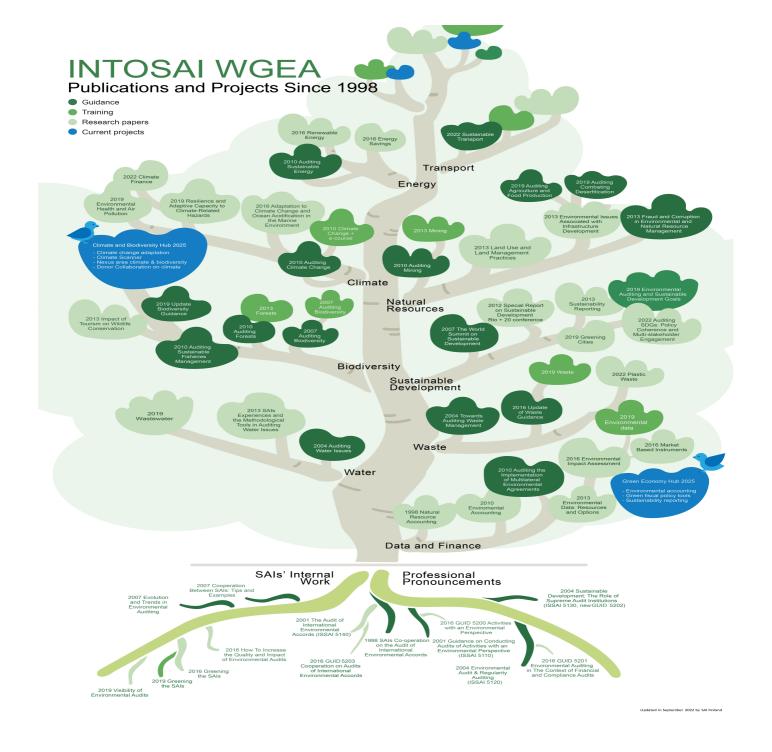
24. How did the number of employees working on environmental audits in your SAI during 2021-2023	?
O increased	
O remained the same	
O decreased	
O there are no environmental auditors	
25. How does your SAI plan to change the number of employees involved in conducting environmen audits in 2024-2026?	al
O increase	
O remain the same	
O decrease	
O not applicable/no plans	
26. Overall, which of the competences are covered in your SAI by the employees working on environmental audits?	
financial auditing experience	
compliance auditing experience	
performance auditing experience	
finance (e.g. experience/knowledge of accounting, taxation, financial analysis)	
economics	
law (e.g. experience/knowledge of public law, business law, environmental law)	
public administration and management (knowledge of the system and operations of the government)	
natural/environmental sciences, (environmental) engineering	
statistics, data analysis	
T, GIS experts	
social science	
other(s), please specify:	

Environmental audit challenges and developments International cooperation

27. Which of the following barriers did your SAI experience in executing environmental audits during 2021-2023?

	Yes	No			
Absence of SAI's mandate	0	0			
Lack of human resources/environmental auditors	0	0			
Lack of skills or expertise within existing staff	0	0			
Lack of technical resources (e.g. insufficient equipment, poor Internet connection etc.)	0	0			
Environment not the priority topic, no interest by SAI management	0	0			
Environment not a government priority	0	0			
Overall instability of the government	0	0			
Lack of environmental laws and standards	0	0			
Lack of environmental policies and programmes	0	0			
Insufficient monitoring and reporting systems	0	0			
Insufficient data on the state of the environment	0	0			
Difficulty in accessing the data	0	0			
Difficulty in validating reported data	0	0			
Difficulty in analysing reported data	0	0			
Other(s) (please specify):	0	0			
28. Please mark which of the possible environmental audit developments listed below are planned in your SAI in 2024-2026?					
Creation of a department/unit focusing on environmental audit within our SAI					
Mainstreaming environmental perspective in other audit fields					
Collaboration with other auditors in SAI					
Collaboration with external experts/seeking expert advice					
Training in environmental issues					
Training in environmental auditing					
Attention to the quality and realibility of environmental data					
Attention to the environmental audit methodology					
Attention to the impact of audits					

	Focus on Sustainable Development Goals
	Increasing use of AI (artificial intelligence)
	Exchange of knowledge with other SAIs
	Cooperative audit with other SAIs
	Peer review by other SAIs
	Other, please specify:
	Our SAI does not anticipate any special developments regarding environmental auditing in the next three years
	During 2021-2023, did your SAI have any experience with cooperating with another SAI(s) on ironmental auditing issues?
\circ	Yes
Ŏ	No, please elaborate on the reasons
	INTOSAI WGEA products and future work
	The visual below displays the WGEA documents produced throughout the years. You may have a ser look at all publications through the following link as well: Studies & Guidelines (wgea.org)
Dur	ing 2021-2023, did your SAI consider any of the WGEA products displayed in its work?
\circ	Yes
Ŏ	No
Ŏ	We were not aware of WGEA documents nor this tree



32. Which product(s) did you find particularly useful?

33. Please rate the importance or usefulness of different types of INTOSAI WGEA products and services to your SAI:

0 not aware of the product	1 not at all useful	2 not very useful	3 relatively useful	4 very usefu		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
0	0	0	0	0		
34. Would your SAI be interested in additional INTOSAI WGEA products related to environmental auditing? Please specify the most interesting topic(s) and types of products/projects for your SAI.						
	not aware of the product O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	not aware of the product O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	not aware of the product O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O	not aware of the product not at all useful not very useful relatively useful O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O <		

35. INTOSAI WGEA website includes an audit database of environmental audits where SAIs can submit their audits: <u>Audit Database (wgea.org)</u> Has you SAI submitted in 2021-2023 an environmental audit in the WGEA audit database?

O	Yes
\cup	103

O No
O I don't know
I did not know that the WGEA audit database exists.
36. How would you assess the impact of the work that takes place in the INTOSAI WGEA network to your SAI?
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
No impact at all OOOOOOOExtremely impactful
37.What would you recommend for the main theme of the 2026-2028 INTOSAI WGEA work plan?* Please explain your suggestion.
* You can find the current INTOSAI WGEA Work Plan here: Work Plan (wgea.org) SAI and contact details
38. Which INTOSAI Region your SAI belongs to/mainly works with:
O AFROSAI
O ASOSAI
O ARABOSAI
O CAROSAI
О СОМТЕМА
O EUROSAI
PASAI
Our SAI does not belong to any INTOSAI Region

39. Please provide contact information for the official(s) completing this survey. We will use this information only to clarify responses, if required.

First name *	
Last name *	
Email *	
Work title *	
Country *	
Name of SAI *	
Additional contact email *	

This was our last question. We highly appreciate the time and effort you and your SAI contributed to filling in the survey form. Thank you!

The survey will provide a downloadable summary of your responses after submission. It is also possible to edit responses at this stage before making the final survey submission.