



Training Seminar on Auditing Environmental Impacts of Agriculture

The EUROSAI WGEA secretariat, in cooperation with colleagues from the European Court of Auditors, is organising a training seminar on *Auditing Environmental Impacts Arising from Agriculture*. The training seminar will be held on 5 October 2015.

The objective of the training seminar is to:

- provide an overview of the range of environmental problems caused by agriculture;
- outline the measures for reducing environmental impacts of agricultural practices;
- present the range of agricultural subsidies;
- introduce the audit experience in the EUROSAI region.

Call for SAI presentations

As in previous years, SAI presentations at annual meetings are essential contributions for sharing experiences and inspiring. For the 2015 annual meeting we are calling for presentations (of approximately 10-15 minutes) on the following topics:

- 1) *Industrial Waste and Chemicals* – experiences related to already conducted or ongoing audits;
- 2) *Reaching the Stakeholders* – experiences related to communicating the audit results; and
- 3) Planned, on-going and conducted cooperative or coordinated environmental audits.

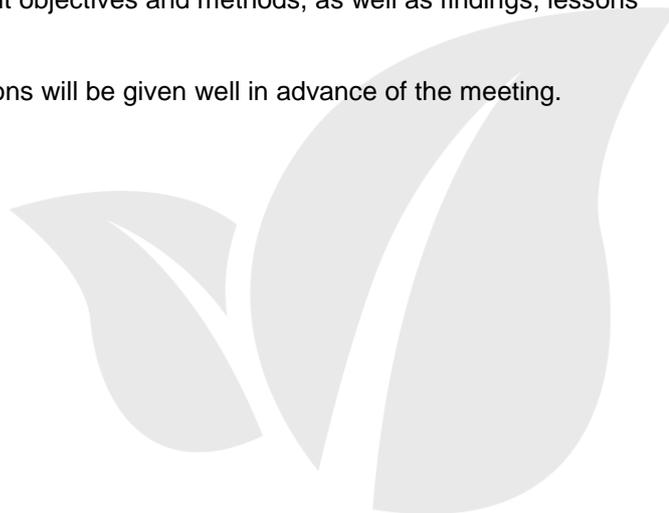
Regarding the first topic, the main input from SAI presenters is to share their experience in auditing environmental issues associated with industrial waste and chemicals. What are the biggest challenges and how to overcome them? Where to look for criteria? What methods have proven to be useful for analysing the risks and collecting audit evidence?

Regarding the horizontal auditing topic, reaching the stakeholders, the presenters are invited to analyse wider practice of communicating the audit results in their SAI. Although the focus is on environmental audit, experience from other fields might also be useful to hear for environmental auditors.

Regarding the third topic, all cooperation initiatives in the field of environmental auditing would be of interest for audience. Presenters are encouraged to share experience of all cooperation activities, which might extend further from audit cooperation (e.g. joint seminars, training activities).

All the presenters are asked to focus on audit objectives and methods, as well as findings, lessons learned and potential impact, if possible.

Further information regarding the presentations will be given well in advance of the meeting.



Call for active participation in the Experience and Information Sharing Market

Based on the success of previous years' meetings, we will also this year organise an information sharing market. The aim is to facilitate the exchange of information and knowledge among the participants. The market will be based on the **sharing of posters, hand-outs, reports, and any other relevant materials**.

This will render it possible for many SAIs to present **recently conducted, on-going and planned audits** within the environmental area. Hopefully, this will contribute to an increased exchange of information and to networking and cooperation among SAIs.

We strongly encourage all of you to use this opportunity to share information on your environmental audit activities with your colleagues!

We suggest you keep in mind the following when preparing posters and/or hand-outs:

- When presenting conducted or ongoing audits, please include topics, audit objectives, audit questions and, if possible, findings.
- When presenting planned audits please include topics, risk areas and, if possible, audit objectives.
- Poster size should not exceed A1.

With regards to posters, we would also encourage everyone to prepare a short abstract to be distributed during the session and included to the meeting report.

Practical information

Transport

NAO Malta will provide airport transfers to Corinthia Marina and St. George's Bay hotels for all participants on their arrival and departure. Transport to all official events will also be provided by the host.

Accommodation

Delegates can choose between the Corinthia Marina Hotel (<http://www.marinahotel.com.mt/>) and its adjacent sister hotel, Corinthia St. George's Bay Hotel (http://www.corinthia.com/hotels/malta/malta_stgeorgesbay/). Please complete the relative hotel accommodation form and return it directly to the respective hotel and copying nao.malta@gov.mt by **no later than 22 June 2015**. After this date, the hotel cannot guarantee availability of rooms. Furthermore, it is to be pointed out that only 10 rooms are available at St. George's Bay Hotel and will be allocated on first come, first served basis.

The hotels offer various amenities including free Wi-Fi.

Visa requirements

Visa requirements are in accordance with the European Union Common Visa Policy. Please refer to the following link for further information:

<http://homeaffairs.gov.mt/en/MHAS-Information/Travelling%20to%20Malta/Pages/Travelling-to-Malta.aspx>

It is strongly recommended to start with the visa application process as early as possible. If necessary, NAO Malta will provide you with a visa invitation letter (indicate on the registration form).

Enquiries

Should you have any enquiries regarding registration and booking forms, kindly contact:

- **Mr William Peplow** – william.peplow@gov.mt
- **Ms Maria Camilleri** – maria.h.camilleri@gov.mt

For any enquiries regarding the content matters of the meeting, please contact:

- **Ms Tuuli Rasso** – tuuli.rasso@riigikontroll.ee
- **Ms Krislin Kivi** – krislin.kivi@riigikontroll.ee

