

Through its activities, the EUROSAI WGEA aims to promote a spirit of cooperation based on integrity, open communication and professional excellence. This is achieved by pursuing the main strategic goals:

1. Encourage and support professional cooperation
2. Facilitate knowledge and experience sharing

Cooperation and experience sharing activities are often interrelated. EUROSAI WGEA contributes to fulfilling these aims through various activities. The main activities of the working group in the period 2017-2020 are listed in Annex 3 of the [EUROSAI WGEA Strategic Plan](#).

Presented below is the activity plan, complemented with the 'status' column for updates on the progress of each activity.

ACTIVITY	COMMENT	STATUS
Organising Annual Meetings	Generally organised in September-October; topics identified based on members' feedback and agreed by the Steering Committee	<p><i>The 16th EUROSAI WGEA Annual Meeting was held in Bratislava, Slovakia from 26 to 28 September 2018. The main topics of the Annual Meeting were 'Auditing Climate Change' and 'Increasing the Impact of Environmental Audits'. Report from the 16th Annual Meeting</i></p> <p><i>The 17th Annual Meeting will be held at the European Court of Auditors in Luxembourg. The central topic will be biodiversity.</i></p>
Organising Training Seminars	Generally held one day prior to Annual Meeting; topics identified based on members' feedback and agreed by the Steering Committee	<p><i>Training Seminar 'Climate change: Focus on Data' was held on 25 September 2018 in Bratislava, Slovakia (general overview presented in the report of the 16th Annual Meeting).</i></p>
Organising Spring Sessions	Thematic seminars generally held in April-May for sharing experience on widely common auditing issues; topics identified based on members' feedback and agreed by the Steering Committee	<p><i>The Spring Session 2018 'From Waste Management to Circular Economy' was hosted by SAI Cyprus on 7-8 May 2018. Materials of the event:</i></p>

		<p>https://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Pages/Spring-Session-on-Waste-and-Circular-Economy.aspx</p> <p><i>The topic and venue of the Spring Session 2019 are still to be decided.</i></p>
<p>Conducting and supporting cooperative audits</p>	<p>Three cooperative audits in the Strategic Plan</p>	<p><i>Two cooperative EUROSAI WGEA audits have been finalized:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>October 2018: cooperative audit of the energy efficiency of public sector buildings (Flanders region of Belgium, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal and Slovakia);</i> • <i>January 2019: cooperative audit on air quality (14 European SAIs along with the European Court of Auditors and SAI of Israel). The joint report was also presented at a meeting relating to the implementation of the Ambient Air Quality Directives in March 2019.</i> <p><i>The joint report of the cooperative audit on Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas is planned to be published in Q3 2019.</i></p>
<p>Promoting, using and developing e-learning tools (Massive Open Online Courses, webinars) in cooperation with stakeholders</p>	<p>MOOC on auditing water issues (project led by the EUROSAI WGEA Secretariat)</p>	<p><i>The water audit MOOC was launched in November 2018 and sparked wide interest with close to 300 participants initially signing up to take the course. By the end of December, 185 students from 47 countries had completed all assignments and received a certificate from the University of Tartu. Three quarters of the course alumni are working in 34 different Supreme Audit Institutions of seven INTOSAI regions, but there are also university students and employees of other government institutions and private companies among the graduates.</i></p>

Contributes to
EUROSAI Goal 1:
Professional Cooperation

Contributes to
EUROSAI Goal 2: Institutional
Capacity Development

		<p>The MOOC will be run again in the autumn of 2019, with some small adjustments to be made based on the generally positive feedback of course participants.</p> <p>https://sisu.ut.ee/water/</p> <p>EUROSAI WGEA has also promoted the MOOCs developed by the NAO of Estonia: 'Introduction to Environmental Auditing in the Public Sector' and 'Auditing Environmental Impacts of Infrastructure'.</p>
Publishing EUROSAI WGEA Newsletter	Published biannually	<p>Two Newsletters were published in 2018:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter 1/2018 (August) • Newsletter 2/2018 (December)
Distributing information at the EUROSAI WGEA webpage and other online media tools	Maintained continuously	Maintained continuously
Cooperation within INTOSAI	With INTOSAI WGEA, regional working groups, etc.	<p>EUROSAI WGEA was represented at the following events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18th INTOSAI WGEA Annual Meeting, Indonesia, July 2018; • 16th INTOSAI WGEA Steering Committee Meeting, Czech Republic, October 2018 • Bilateral meeting between SAI Estonia, Chair of EUROSAI WGEA and SAI Kuwait, Chair of ARABOSAI WGEA in the framework of the cooperation agreement between the SAIs, March 2019
Cooperation with external stakeholders	E.g. inviting experts from relevant institutions to EUROSAI WGEA events	The Directorate-General for Environment of the European Commission has involved the EUROSAI WGEA in its activities in environmental compliance assurance and governance within

		<p><i>the Environmental Compliance and Governance Forum. Based on the request of the EUROSAI WGEA Chair, EWGEA has changed its status within the Forum from a member to that of an observer. The Secretariat attended the 2nd meeting of the Forum in Brussels in December 2018.</i></p> <p><i>In 2018 and 2019, EUROSA WGEA Secretariat has collaborated with the European Environment Agency, IMPEL, World Resources Institute and the European Topic Centre for Waste and Materials in a Green Economy (VITO) in finding experts to contribute to EWGEA events.</i></p>
<p>Carrying out cooperative projects</p>	<p>Other cooperative projects (research projects, seminars, etc.) initiated by members</p>	<p><i>No additional projects initiated in 2018.</i></p>

20.05.2019

