

# EUROSAI Project Group

**Preparing for future risks  
and climate crisis:**

**Time for audit to take a  
long-term view?**



EUROPEAN  
COURT  
OF AUDITORS

# BACKGROUND

- Long-term thinking is key to tackle future risks, such as climate crisis
- In order to prepare for climate change risk, the recovery packages should support carbon neutrality
- SAIs should develop methodologies to assess future risks and to audit recovery package plans

A new EUROSAI Project Group to work on sustainability in long-term policy planning and public finances could focus on climate change, as one of the biggest risks.

# OBJECTIVES

The objectives for this project group are:

- 1. Methodological development** among EUROSAI members related to
  - future thinking and foresight, auditing future risks, such as climate crisis;
  - Climate mainstreaming in spending, climate proofing and tracking methods: assessment of whether spending contributes to achieving climate objectives and whether reporting on climate action is reliable.
- 2. Facilitating *sharing*** of audit approaches and experiences on above mentioned topics;
- 3. Providing a platform for *comparable/similar audit(s)*** on the topic;
- 4. Conducting a compilation of *lessons learned*.**

# WORKING METHODS

- The Project Group supports and facilitates innovative working methods. We acknowledge that SAIs can take different approaches depending on their mandates and strategic priorities. Cooperation should be as effective as possible and therefore we aim to work mainly virtually to achieve operative mind-set.
- To facilitate the agile work, it is possible that SAIs commission external studies and reviews supporting the work. SAI Finland is planning to commission such a study on climate proofing methodologies.
- Participating SAIs of the eventual cooperative audit plan the work methods separately.

# DURATION & MILESTONES

- **October 2020** – Project group (including the Operational Plan) approval and interested EUROSAI members confirm participation
- **October 2020** – BIEP knowledge sharing topic established to share outputs / methodologies
- **November 2020 – February 2021** – Collection of SAI experiences, literature review, stakeholder input, development of methodology
- **2021** – Possible Comparable/similar audit(s)
- **June 2021** – Status update to the EUROSAI XI Congress, including report on the methodologies
- **Spring 2022** – Collection of experiences
- **September 2022** – Compilation of lessons learned (Compendium)

Milestones and outputs will be further defined by the project group when creating the project plan.