

The Secretariat's reflections on Sustainable Development

The 10th EUROSAI WGEA Annual meeting
Cyprus, October, 2012

How can SAIs contribute?

Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Environmental, social and economic demands are the "three pillars" of sustainability.

- How can SAIs make an impact?
- How can SAIs address sustainable development?

Future development in EA

- To meet policy development in Europe
- The need for approaching environmental issues in a broader context either by
 - Auditing sustainable development
 - Broader sustainability scope on environmental topics
- To address more directly the issues which so often appears in our audits



Identified issues

- Difficult to approach the area of SD
- Goal conflicts
 - economy vs. Environment
 - environment vs. Environment
 - Social needs vs. Environment
- Fragmented policies = fragmented audits
- Cross-sectoral approaches vs. Sector-specific audits



Next step

- Explore and summarize
 - How can SAIs approach the topic of SD within their mandate
 - Experiences and lessons learned from auditors who have approached the area
 - What challenges will auditors meet and how can they be overcome?
 - Input for future development of methodology

