Market Based Instruments in Environmental Protection
ISSAI of Environmental Auditing

Report from the 14th EUROSAI WGEA Annual Meeting

EUROSAI WGEA secretariat
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Dear Colleagues,

The 14th EUROSAI WGEA Annual Meeting was held in Skopje, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in September 2016. The meeting focused particularly on two environmental auditing issues:

1) Market Based Instruments (MBIs) for Environmental Protection
2) ISSAIs of Environmental Auditing

The first day of the annual meeting was dedicated on introducing one of the latest INTOSAI WGEA projects – Market Based Instruments for Environmental Protection and Management – and discussing the European SAIs’ experience with regard to auditing environmental taxes, fees, quotas, etc. The key-note presenter Dr Stefan Speck outlined the importance of SAIs in the context of MBIs – for example, SAIs have a clear role in highlighting the challenges of achieving binding climate-related reduction targets.

The second central theme – the ISSAIs of environmental auditing – provided an opportunity to discuss all four environmental ISSAIs in smaller groups. The participants shared their experience and argued the possibilities of using the environmental ISSAIs in audits.

The third day of the meeting was dedicated on progress reporting and cooperative activities.

This report aims to assemble some of the ideas and experiences that were shared by the meeting participants in Skopje. It contains abstracts of the presentations, summaries of group discussions, as well as references to other useful materials.

Alar Karis
Auditor General of Estonia
Chair of EUROSAI WGEA
Market Based Instruments in Environmental Protection

The first day of the 14th Annual Meeting was dedicated on market based instruments in environmental protection.

Market Based Instruments (MBIs) are a common tools used by governments to correct the market failure and encourage transfer to environmentally sound behaviour. MBIs are frequently approached in audits as taxes, charges, subsidies and other MBIs are important tools in environmental management. MBIs are usually not in central focus of an audit, but they are brought in to support the main topic (e.g. water tax may be discussed in an audit of water management).

First, Dr Stefan Speck gave a key note presentation about environmental taxation in Europe. This was followed by a presentation about a recently completed INTOSAI WGEA research project ‘Market based instruments for environmental protection and management’. Furthermore, several SAIs shared their auditing experience regarding environmental taxes and other instruments.

Afterwards, the participants divided into three groups to further share their experience and ideas regarding different issues of auditing market based instruments.

Environmental taxation – rationale, current state, outlook and reflections

Key-note presentation by Dr Stefan Speck

Stefan Speck is a freelance consultant. His last post was at the European Environment Agency (EEA) in Copenhagen as a project manager for environmental economics and policies. At the EEA he was responsible for the work related to environmental taxation and the transition towards a green economy. Prior to his employment at the EEA, he worked as a senior consultant at Kommunalkredit Public Consulting in Austria and as a senior project scientist at the National Environmental Research Institute/University of Aarhus in Denmark.

In the past he implemented projects for a range of clients including the European Commission (EC), Organisation of Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Danish Environmental Protection Agency (DEPA), and the UK Department for International Development (DFID). He carried out research projects in Europe, Africa and Asia.

He published widely on environmental tax reform and green economy; he was co-editor of the books Environmental Fiscal Mechanism and Reform for Low Carbon Development: East Asia and Europe (2013) and Environmental Tax Reform: A Policy for Green Growth (2011) and was the lead author of the EEA reports Resource-efficient green economy and EU policies (2014) and Environmental taxation and EU environmental policy (2016). He holds a PhD in economics from Keele University in England.
Environmental taxes are mainly implemented in order to regulate a market failure of externalities, e.g. to reduce pollution and resource use. Correcting an inefficient outcome gives a rationale for the government to intervene in the market. Market based instruments (MBIs), such as environmental taxes, are also used in the European Union (EU) environmental legislation, whereas there are both binding and non-binding MBIs. The research project ‘Environmental taxation and EU environmental policies’ conducted by the EEA, indentified 18 binding and 24 non-binding MBIs based on current EU environmental legislation. Furthermore, there are currently 82 binding targets and 84 non-binding objectives for 2013-2050.

Environmental taxes are classified as energy taxes, transport taxes, and pollution and resource taxes. Energy taxes contribute most to environmental tax revenues (EU-28: 77% of total revenues), followed by transport taxes (EU-28: 20%) and pollution and resource taxes (EU-28: 4%).

Currently, comprehensive energy taxation schemes have been implemented in the EU member states as required by the Directive 2003/96/EC on the taxation of energy products and electricity. The number of countries that have introduced carbon pricing schemes either through carbon taxes (voluntary) or greenhouse gas emission trading schemes (mandatory EU ETS) has increased. Vehicle sales and/or registration taxes have been applied in 21 EU member states; a number of countries have implemented some form of road charging (distance based or vignette) differentiated between private vehicle and commercial/heavy good vehicles. Furthermore, landfill taxes have been implemented in 25 EU member states, which is an increase compared to the situation in mid 2000s.

Taking into account the current status of environmental taxation in Europe, some questions should be raised:

- Is the design of environmental tax appropriate for achieving policy objectives and secondary benefits - achieving policy targets cost-effectively?
- Can the benefits be achieved simultaneously?
Continued evaluation and auditing is necessary. Furthermore, evaluation and auditing outcomes should contribute to changes in tax design. One of the main challenges in establishing a resilient, long-term fiscal system is the combination of economic, environmental and social policies. Environmental, especially energy taxation including the EU ETS, is often perceived as a stable revenue guaranteed in the long-run. Nevertheless, the tax base is reducing due to energy and climate policy reduction targets, as well as demographic changes in society.

See the presentation slides here:  
http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2709_1_KNS_Speck_F.pdf

See the EEA report here:  

INTOSAI WGEA project ‘Market based instruments for environmental protection and management’

Ms Viire Viss, SAI Estonia

The INTOSAI WGEA research project on market-based instruments for environmental protection and management was conducted under the INTOSAI WGEA Working Plan 2014-2016. The aim of the project was to give an overview of market based environmental policy instruments (MBIs) and collect the experience of SAIs on auditing these instruments. The project sub-committee consisted of 9 SAIs: Bhutan, Brazil, Cameroon, Estonia (leader), Indonesia, New Zealand, The Netherlands, Senegal, and United Kingdom.

The report is structured into 4 chapters:

1. Introduction
2. Environmental policy design and the instruments
3. Main types of MBIs
4. Auditing MBIs

The report also includes 11 audit cases provided by the following SAIs: Columbia, Czech Republic, Estonia, ECA, Finland, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden (2X), Tanzania and USA.

See the presentation slides here:  
http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2709_2_Estonia_MBI%20project.pdf

See the INTOSAI WGEA paper ‘Market-based instruments for environmental protection and management’ here:  
SAI presentations

The integrity and implementation of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme

Mr Colm Friel, European Court of Auditors

See the presentation slides here: http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2709_3_ECA.pdf

Experience of auditing MBIs

Mr Sigmund Nordhus, SAI Norway

See the presentation slides here: http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2709_4_Norway.pdf

Auditing economic instruments in environmental performance audits

Ms Viire Viss, Ms Kristiina Visnapuu, SAI Estonia

See the presentation slides here: http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2709_5_Estonia.pdf

See the paper ‘Auditing economic instruments in environmental performance audits – NAO of Estonia’s decade of experience’ here:

http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/INTOSAI_WGEA_paper_Auditing%20EIs_EST.pdf
Discussion in groups

The participants divided into three groups to discuss auditing market based instruments from different angles:

1) Auditing environmental taxes and other taxes which have impact on the environment/behavioural change
2) Auditing pricing policies, tariffs, fees of environmental services
3) Auditing tradable permits and quotas

The discussions covered issues related to designing the instruments, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, use and distribution of revenues, adaption and revision, etc. The groups mostly steered their discussions by following the policy design circle:

![Policy Design Circle](image)

**Policy evaluation**
- Monitoring
- Evaluating based on monitoring results

**Agenda setting**
- Identifying issues
- Setting policy objectives

**Policy implementation**
- Developing implementation strategy
- Allocating resources
- Enforcement
- Distribution of revenues

**Policy design**
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Modelling
- Selling performance indicators
- Choosing policy instruments
- Coordinating with other policies

Figure 2. Extract from INTOSAI WGEA report "Market based instruments for environmental protection and management"

Auditing environmental taxes and other taxes which have impact on the environment/behavioural change

During the session, the group discussed different stages in policy process and marked down the issues to be kept in mind in the course of an audit.

There are often many differentiations and exemptions implemented for environmental taxes (frequently also called green taxes), which make the issue more complicated for an auditor to address. Moreover, an auditor should make sure that tax exemptions are actually not harmful subsidies, which might sometimes be the case.

With green taxes it is also important to have an appropriate incitement structure, so the taxes are actually set on a level that creates the environmentally sound behaviour.
Ideally, an auditor would have to calculate the social costs that incur in addition to the private cost of an activity. It is not an easy task as the long term perspective and possible risks need to be taken into account when calculating the social cost. Another aspect to be kept in mind is the actual objective of the tax. In addition to the environmental aspects, fiscal arguments are often considered. However, in case of environmental arguments, it should be clarified whether the purpose was to change the behaviour, to finance environmental activities, or both. It is also important to look for performance indicators and whether they are relevant, ambitious, measurable, etc.

The discussion was continued with the tax implementation stage, with a focus on tax exemptions and differentiated taxes. The multitude of tax exemptions and differentiations make auditing more complex also in the implementation stage. In case of tax exemptions, an auditor should pay attention to how the exemption is being implemented and reported. Furthermore, a monitoring system is necessary, which makes it very costly to be effective. The more you have to monitor the behaviour, the more costly it is.

It is also important that people are aware of the taxes, so they are not doing something wrong without doing it on purpose.

With regard to distribution of revenues, sometimes the question of earmarking is relevant – whether the tax is earmarked for certain purposes. If that is the case, an auditor should see what the purpose of that is and whether the money earmarked is actually used for these purposes.

Finally, the group discussed the evaluation and revision of environmental taxes. If there were targets set, an auditor should see whether or not these were achieved. If there were behavioural targets, has the behaviour changed the way it was expected to? Are there any unintended results and is the tax being adjusted to the tax system in a relevant way.

## Auditing pricing policies, tariffs, fees for environmental services

The four steps of policy design cycle are applicable also with tariffs and fees. There are numerous tariffs and fees in all environmental fields – from water supply to wastewater treatment, from waste treatment to biodiversity. The question is, how to calculate the fee, and for auditors, how to recalculate the fee and get to the basics of this calculation. Furthermore, how to assess whether the fee is appropriate for the certain product?

In comparison to the fees where there is a concrete facility connected (e.g. landfill or wastewater treatment plant or water supply network), the difficulties arise with the calculation of external costs. In case on external costs, e.g. a fee for the use of highway, there are different methods for calculating the fee.
Fees and tariffs are not easy to compare and regional problems need regional solutions (not only technical, but also monitoring and calculation solutions). That does not mean that in one case there are no fees and in the other case there are fees. For instance in case of the EU water directive – when a water service is priced, there has to be a difference between regions and countries, depending on the availability of the resource.

There has to be a range in these fees (lower and upper lever), which raises to question of how to calculate these. The lower level should be the polluter pays principle, so the occurring costs are covered by fees. The higher level could be set by the affordability for people. It is also important to look, whether there are cross subsidies from these fees to other sectors, or vice versa.

Auditing tradable permits and quotas

Audit design, implementation, and the integrity of the system and the evaluations were discussed in the third group. The participants shared their experience mainly on auditing the emissions trading scheme (ETS), fishing quotas and quotas on logging.

With regard to the instrument design, it is important to look whether an impact assessment has been made. If yes, an auditor can study the hypotheses made in the impact assessment. It is necessary to check whether the hypotheses actually reflect the reality and the instrument is relevant (also, that it has not lost its relevance in time).

Previous audits have shown problems in the implementation, monitoring and support systems. Tradable permits and quotas are a very policy heavy and cash light area. It is important to audit the system integrity. Often there is not enough attention put into control systems. Furthermore, the impact of these instruments is difficult to assess.
ISSAIs of environmental auditing

Second day of the annual meeting was dedicated for the ISSAIs. First, in a group exercise the participants were asked to share what they generally know about ISSAIs and whether they use them with the help of colour coded dots. Then, Vivi Niemenmaa gave a presentation about hierarchy of ISSAIs and the INTOSAI WGEA update process of the Environmental Guidances:

- 5110 Guidance on Conducting Performance Audit with an Environmental Perspective;
- 5120 Environmental Audit and Financial and Compliance Auditing;
- 5130 Sustainable development. The role of SAIs;
- 5140 How SAIs may co-operate on the audit of international environmental accords.

The project leaders are Indonesia and Brazil, while ECA is a co-leader for ISSAIs 5110 and 5120, and Canada for 5130 and Philippines for 5140.

After that, three SAIs shared their practical experience about using the environmental ISSAIs in audits. The presentations were followed by a group discussion session.

Updates in the ISSAIs of environmental auditing

Dr Vivi Niemenmaa, European Court of Auditors

Dr Vivi Niemenmaa has a strong academic background as well as practical experience in sustainable development. She has worked at the Finnish Association of Local Authorities in projects promoting and studying sustainability. She completed her planning geography PhD in a multidisciplinary graduate school of urban and planning studies in 2005. Her thesis was about sustainable cities. She has also lectured at the University of Helsinki and Open University Helsinki about geography and regional studies.

Niemenmaa started as a performance auditor in the National Audit Office of Finland in 2005, and is currently on a secondment at the European Court of Auditors since October 2013. She has experience in various environmental policy audits ranging from biodiversity to marine protection, with a heavy emphasis on audits related to climate policies. She has been involved in the INTOSAI and EUROSAI WGEA activities and was e.g. responsible of the INTOSAI WGEA publication Sustainability Reporting: Concepts, Frameworks and the Role of Supreme Audit Institutions.

Presentation by Dr Vivi Niemenmaa

Many of the existing ISSAIs have become a bit outdated and as the number of environmental audits has risen in recent years. Therefore, there was a need to update the guidance and provide new audit case studies with a better global coverage. There was also a need for updates because of the developments in the upper level ISSAIs. In the update, special attention was also given to making cross-references to other INTOSAI WGEA materials, such as guidance documents and research projects.

Environmental ISSAIs are in the endorsement phase, and all except ISSAI on sustainable development are expected to be endorsed in the INCOSAI meeting in December 2016.

See the presentation slides here: http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2809_1_Vivi.pdf
SAI presentations

Three SAI presentations gave a very positive feedback about using the ISSAIs. First Mr Liu Huibo presented an audit about reducing poverty in China. The target is to lift out 70 million people out of poverty by 2020. The audit concerned Poverty Alleviation Fund, and the draft for the new ISSAI 5130 was used in planning and conducting the audit. It was found very useful in giving inspiration and helping to scope the audit. National Audit Office of China also plans to do more audits on sustainable development strategy and using sustainable development as “lens” in audits.

Ms Lejla Mrinko from the SAI of Slovenia gave a perspective of an auditor conducting her first environmental audit. She identified three ways how ISSAIs are useful. First, they give a general understanding about the topic, secondly they help in identifying possible problems and third, they help to gather and check your ideas on risks etc. Environmental ISSAIs were also presented to the group of younger auditors in the Slovenian audit office.

Mr Akis Kikas from Cyprus told that they had used the ISSAIs 5110 and 5120. They give a structured approach for audit methodology and ensure that all relevant issues are taken into account at the planning stage. He found that ISSAIs are especially useful for auditors with limited experience and they give confidence in auditing activities. They include practical examples, give inspiration and ideas. For seniors and audit managers the ISSAIs can provide guidance about identifying omissions. Applying the international standards can also add credibility to audit reports. Mr. Kikas pointed out that using the ISSAIs can also make environmental audits more comparable and understandable for other SAIs.

Case study: CNAO’s audit of poverty alleviation funds

Mr Liu Zhengjun, SAI China

The National Audit Office of China (CNAO) has always been facilitating the achievement of sustainable development goals through auditing. The audit of poverty alleviation funds is an important part of sustainable development auditing as it facilitates the realization of the objectives of poverty reduction policies. Since 1980s, many audit projects of poverty alleviation funds have been carried out by CNAO. From February to April 2016, CNAO carried out another audit of poverty alleviation funds with reference to ISSAI 5130.

See the presentation slides here:
http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2809_2_China_F.pdf

Using the ISSAIs in environmental audits

Mr Miroslav Kranjc, Ms Lejla Marinko, SAI Slovenia

See the presentation slides here:
http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2809_3_Slovenia.pdf

Using the ISSAIs in environmental audits

Mr Akis Kikas, SAI Cyprus

See the presentation slides here:
http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Documents/14%20AM/2809_4_Cyprus.pdf
Discussion in groups

After the coffee break the participants split into four groups, and using the carousel method moved from one draft ISSAI to another and with the help of rapporteurs discussed more deeply about the each of the environmental ISSAI.

The following questions were given to steer the discussions:

- Would you like to share an audit experience that fits under this ISSAI?
- How could/should this ISSAI be used?
- Which is the most relevant part of this ISSAI?
- Who should read this ISSAI in your office?

ISSAI 5110: Guidance on conducting audits of activities with an environmental perspective

Rapporteur Heinrich Lang, Austria

All groups found ISSAI 5110 a good guidance which contains only relevant parts. The conclusion was that, in general, everyone involved in environmental audits should at least be aware of the ISSAI because environmental ISSAIs are related to auditors’ daily work. It would also be important that audit managers and units dealing with audit methodology know the ISSAIs. Upper level ISSAIs, on the other hand, are more relevant for the handbook makers. Language barrier might be a problem for some auditors and since translation requires resources, it is often missing.

Concretely the ISSAI 5110 could be used as a skeleton for specific problem checks. Usually, people who get to know first about ISSAIs are those attending the INCOSAI meetings, i.e. Auditors General and liaison officers. Therefore, it is important that knowledge goes down in the hierarchy. Case studies help find some topics, questions, or methodology. General conclusion from the group was that everybody should read the ISSAIs.

ISSAI 5120: Environmental audit and regularity auditing

Rapporteur Branko Smilevski, FYR Macedonia

Many participants had used the ISSAI 5120 on topics such as waste management, forest audit, medical waste management, public procurement audits, etc. The ISSAI has very good aspects for performing financial audits.

The ISSAI could be used in the planning phase because it is important to be on the right way from the beginning and the document provides good examples of best practice and good guidance. One can add additional environmental questions to the standard questions and combine elements from different audit types (compliance, financial, performance). Especially the compliance part of the guidance was found important, when it is needed to consider environmental risks.

The ISSAI 5120 was found relevant for each auditor, especially experts in laws and economics. They should be aware and trained about the ISSAI. It could also be very relevant for financial auditors for aspects regarding subsidies and fees.

The guidance must be accessible to each auditor and it would be good idea to put it to the office intranet. Training might be needed for young auditors, especially in countries where English is not the main.
ISSAI 5130: Sustainable development: the role of supreme audit institutions

Rapporteur Jan Oestergaard, Denmark

The experience from the training day was that many SAIs have actually performed sustainable development audits, even if they would not have been aware about it or planned for it. Specific examples about audits addressing future generations were e.g. audits on water resources in Malta, nuclear waste in Estonia, public debt in Slovenia, and sustainable development in Belgian Wallonia.

Most agreed that the ISSAI 5130 should be used as inspiration in the planning phase, but also inspiration in the strategic planning of audit programmes. This ISSAI should be read by all auditors in SAIs, especially to raise awareness about the relevance of sustainable development in public sector auditing. This aspect might become even more relevant after the INCOSAI meeting. The ISSAI is also useful in cases where there are audits with multiple objectives, e.g. in the agricultural field. The guideline might help us make a bit vague sustainable development more tangible. It is not only about public spending but also about capital stocks. It would be important to broaden the perspective of environmental auditors and to look further from the environmental sector, social and economic aspects as well. Thus it might be relevant to implement the ISSAI to the quality control systems of the SAI.

All parts of the ISSAI 5130 are relevant and the use of it depends on the needs. The case studies presented in the guideline are very good. According to the group all auditors should be aware of the ISSAI, mainly performance auditors, but also top management. Linking the ISSAI to the strategic planning is very important and it might also encourage cooperation between different departments within an audit office.

One more topic which was raised in the discussion was that whether the place of the ISSAI under the environmental ISSAI series is the best place. In order to make SD a topic for all, it might be better placed under general guidelines.

ISSAI 5140: How SAIs may co-operate on the audit of international environmental accords

Rapporteur Julia Szappanos, Hungary

Many SAIs have experience on cooperative audits in subjects such as fisheries, national parks, and tourism. The ISSAI could be used in the preparation phase of an audit, and during elaborating a memorandum of understanding. It could also be used while selecting questions, audit criteria, methodology, and organising the whole process. It is also useful in identifying what risks can occur during the audit process. What the ISSAI could still emphasise more is the emphasis on cross-border cooperation and point out added value of the audit, and also that audit does not always go as planned.

Most relevant part is the one dealing with co-operation processes among the SAIs. There are some overlaps to the general ISSAI 5800 for cooperative audit process. ISSAI 5140 is useful and includes good examples and it can be relevant when planning future audits. The ISSAI should be used by the auditors preparing audit proposals and audit managers who are responsible of the audits. There are variations because in some SAIs international department is responsible for cooperative audits.

As a general conclusion of the carousel exercise was that more people than just environmental auditors should read environmental ISSAIs, e.g. managers and methodology departments of SAIs.
Business meeting

The business meeting started with presenting the activities of working groups – INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing and EUROSAI Working Group on the Audit of Funds Allocated to Disasters and Catastrophes presented their progress report for the past year. Also, the EUROSAI WGEA secretariat introduced their recent and upcoming activities.

See the presentation slides here:

INTOSAI WGEA

EUROSAI WGADC
http://www.eurosaiwgea.org/meetings/Pages/14th-Annual-Meeting.aspx

EUROSAI WGEA

Following the progress reports, the participants of the meeting split into three groups in order to conduct a brainstorming session on EUROSAI WGEA strategic directions. The results of the session will provide an input for the EUROSAI WGEA Strategy and Activity Plan 2018-2010. The updated strategic plan will be sent for comments to all EUROSAI WGEA members in mid-2017.

The second half of the business meeting was dedicated on cooperative activities. First, SAI Ukraine shared their experience in conducting of international coordinated audits. This was followed by presentations about updates on three incipient cooperative audits of EUROSAI WGEA:

a. Cooperative Audit on Air Quality
b. Mediterranean Cooperative Audit on Marine Parks
c. Cooperative Audit on Energy Efficiency in the Public Sector

At the end of the business meeting, the host SAIs for upcoming EUROSAI WGEA events were announced. The Spring Session 2017 will be hosted by SAI Slovenia and the 15th annual meeting by SAI Albania.
Appendix 1. Programme

14th EUROSAI WGEA Annual Meeting

DAY 1. Market Based Instruments in Environmental Protection

Tuesday, 27 September

9:00 Opening of the 14th Annual Meeting by the Auditors General
Ms Tanja Tanevska and Dr Alar Karis

9:20 Introduction to the day

Environmental taxation – rationale, current state, outlook and reflections
Dr Stefan Speck

INTOSAI WGEA project ‘Market based instruments in environmental protection’
Ms Viire Viss, SAI Estonia

11:00 Coffee break and group photo

11:30 SAI presentations:

The integrity and implementation of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme
Mr Colm Friel, European Court of Auditors

Experience of auditing MBIs
Mr Sigmund Nordhus, SAI Norway

Auditing economic instruments in environmental performance audits
Ms Viire Viss, Ms Kristiina Visnapuu, SAI Estonia

12:30 Lunch and Information Sharing Market

14:15 Discussion in groups:

a. Auditing environmental taxes and other taxes which have impact on the environment/behavioural change
b. Auditing pricing policies, tariffs, fees for environmental services
c. Auditing tradable permits and quotas

15:30 Coffee break

16:00 Results from group discussions and conclusions

16:30-18:00 Time allocated for side meetings

a. Mediterranean Cooperative Audit on Marine Parks
b. Cooperative Audit on Energy Efficiency in the Public Sector
DAY 2. ISSAIs of Environmental Auditing

Wednesday, 28 September

9:00 Introduction to the day

*Updates in the ISSAIs of environmental auditing*
Dr Vivi Niemenmaa, European Court of Auditors

10:00 SAI presentations:

Case study: CNAO’s audit of poverty alleviation funds
Mr Liu Zhengjun, SAI China

Using the ISSAIs in environmental audits
Mr Miroslav Kranjc, Ms Lejla Marinko, SAI Slovenia

Using the ISSAIs in environmental audits
Mr Akis Kikas, SAI Cyprus

10:30 Coffee break

10:45 Discussion and assignments in groups:

ISSAI 5110: Guidance on conducting audits of activities with an environmental perspective
ISSAI 5120: Environmental audit and regularity auditing
ISSAI 5130: Sustainable development: the role of supreme audit institutions
ISSAI 5140: How SAIs may co-operate on the audit of international environmental accords

12:30 Wrapping-up group sessions

13:00 Lunch

15:00-21:00 Environmental excursion and dinner
DAY 3. Business Meeting

Thursday, 29 September

9:00  Introduction to the day
      INTOSAI WGEA activities
      Mr Didik Ardiastanto, SAI Indonesia, INTOSAI WGEA secretariat
      AFROSAI WGEA activities
      Mr Francois Bekemem Moukoko, SAI Cameroon, AFROSAI WGEA secretariat
      Activities of EUROSAI WG on the Audit of Funds Allocated to Disasters and Catastrophes
      Mr Dmytro Karnaukhov, SAI Ukraine
      EUROSAI WGEA activities
      Ms Tuuli Rasso, SAI Estonia, EUROSAI WGEA secretariat

9:45  Brainstorming in groups: EUROSAI WGEA Strategy and Activity Plan 2018-2020

11:15 Coffee break

11:30 Presenting ideas from brainstorming
      Conclusions and further steps regarding the Strategy and Activity Plan

12:00 Experience in conducting of the international coordinated audits
      Mr Myhailo Garbuz, SAI Ukraine
      Updates on cooperative audit initiatives:
      a. Cooperative Audit on Air Quality
      b. Mediterranean Cooperative Audit on Marine Parks
      c. Cooperative Audit on Energy Efficiency in the Public Sector

13:00 Conclusions and closing of the meeting

13:30-16:30  18th EUROSAI WGEA Steering Committee meeting
## Appendix 2. List of participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EUROSAI WGEA members</th>
<th>A merged list of participants for the training seminar on auditing sustainable development and the 14th EUROSAI WGEA annual meeting.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>Mr Artur Hasanbelliu, Director of Internal Audit&lt;br&gt;Ms Alma Sina, Auditor&lt;br&gt;Ms Ermira Vojka, Auditor&lt;br&gt;Prof Dr Sazan Guri, Expert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Dr Heinrich Lang, Director of Department</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Mr Michaël Stassart, Adjunct Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>Ms Eva Galabinova, Chief Auditor&lt;br&gt;Mr Dimitar Dimitrov, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Mr Akis Kikas, Senior Principal Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>Mr Michal Rampir, Head of Unit&lt;br&gt;Mr Benjamin Groll, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Mr Jan Oestergaard, Senior Advisor&lt;br&gt;Mr Nikolaj Thomsen Raevdal, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Dr Alar Karis, Auditor General, Chair of EUROSAI WGEA&lt;br&gt;Ms Tuuli Rasso, Head of EUROSAI WGEA Secretariat&lt;br&gt;Ms Krislin Kivi, Advisor of EUROSAI WGEA Secretariat&lt;br&gt;Ms Viire Viss, Senior Auditor&lt;br&gt;Ms Kristiina Visnapuu, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Court of Auditors</td>
<td>Mr Colm Friel, Principal Manager&lt;br&gt;Mr Tomasz Plebanowicz, Auditor&lt;br&gt;Dr Vivi Niemenmaa, Seconded National Expert&lt;br&gt;Ms Jerneja Vrabic, Attache in the private office of the Slovene member of ECA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Mr Sascha Baum, Audit Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Ms Júlia Szappanos, Head of Department&lt;br&gt;Ms Antónia Modor, Advisor to the President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>Ms Ilonda Stepanova, Member of Council, Director of Audit Department&lt;br&gt;Mr Jānis Salenieks, Senior State Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>Ms Vaida Bariziene, Principal Auditor&lt;br&gt;Mr Mindaugas Valančius, Senior Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malta</td>
<td>Mr William Peplow, Senior Audit Manager</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Netherlands</td>
<td>Ms Sadaf Qutbyar, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Mr Sigmund Nordhus, Deputy Director General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>Mr Jacek Jezierski, Special Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Mr José Augusto Rosário Silva, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovak Republic</td>
<td>Mr Lubomir Andrassy, Director General&lt;br&gt;Ms Lubica Gazdová, Director General&lt;br&gt;Mr Igor Blaško, Auditor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The list includes participants from various audit institutions and organizations across different European countries, indicating their roles and contributions to the training seminar and the annual meeting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Representative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Court of Audit of the Republic of Slovenia</td>
<td>Mr Tomaž Vesel, President  Mr Miroslav Kranjc, Supreme State Auditor  Ms Lejla Marinko, Assistant Supreme State Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Swiss Federal Audit Office</td>
<td>Dr Alkuin Kölliker, Evaluation Expert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>State Audit Office of the Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>Ms Tanja Tanevska, Auditor General  Ms Tanja Janevska, Head of Department  Mr Branko Smilevski, Head of Audit  Ms Kaliopi Petkoska, Principal Auditor, International Cooperation  Ms Marina Blazevska, Principal Auditor  Ms Rosica Shalevic Hristovska, Principal Auditor  Ms Biljana Stojanovska, Senior Auditor  Ms Natasa Mihailova, Senior Auditor  Mr Goran Poposki, IT Auditor  Mr Naser Baftijari, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>Accounting Chamber of Ukraine</td>
<td>Mr Mykhailo Garbuz, Deputy Head of Department  Mr Dmytro Karnaukhov, Chef Specialist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>Audit Office of the Institutions of Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>Mr Jasmin Pilica, Deputy Auditor General, national audit office  Mr Duško Šnjegota, Auditor General, sub-national audit office  Mr Dževad Nekić, Auditor General, sub-national audit office</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>National Audit Office of China</td>
<td>Mr Liu Zhongjun, Director General  Mr Liu Huibo, Director  Mr Guanqun Wang, Project Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Stefan Speck, Freelance Consultant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia</td>
<td>Mr Didik Ardiastanto, INTOSAI WGEA Secretariat  Ms Susilowati, Senior Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo*</td>
<td>Kosovo National Audit Office</td>
<td>Mr Besnik Osmani, Auditor General  Ms Vlora Spanca, Assistant Auditor General  Mr Labinot Sadiku, Performance Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kuwait</td>
<td>State Audit Bureau of Kuwait</td>
<td>Mr Adel Alkoot, Controller Performance Audit  Mr Mubarak Alsubaiei, Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>State Audit Institution of Montenegro</td>
<td>Mr Nikola N. Kovacevic, Member of Senate  Mr Blažo Savković, Head of Sector  Ms Marija Žugić, Head of International Relations Department  Mr Dragan Radenovic, Junior Auditor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serbia</td>
<td>State Audit Institution of Serbia</td>
<td>Mr Radoslav Sretenovic, Auditor General</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>Cabinet of Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs of the Government</td>
<td>Ms Sandra Andovska, Advisor for Sustainable Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia</td>
<td>Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning</td>
<td>Dr Teodora Obradovic Grncarovska, State Counselor for Climate Change</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.