

Closure of Project group “Travelling Club of Experts”

1. Basic information:

- 1.1. Name of the PG:** Travelling Club of Experts
- 1.2. Link with the EUROSAI Strategic Plan:** The PG is linked to the SG1 “Supporting effective, innovative and relevant audits by promoting and brokering professional cooperation”.
- 1.3. LEAD SAI and Participants:** National Audit Office of Lithuania. Co-leading SAI State Comptroller and Ombudsman office of Israel. Participants: 15 EUROSAI members participated as presenters in webinars and representatives from 40 EUROSAI participated as listeners in 8 webinars and final event.
- 1.4. Criteria used for the invitation/determination of participating SAIs:** The main activity of the project group was organising remote seminars on topics relevant to auditors. At the start of the group's work, the topics were ranked through a survey from a proposed list. In preparation for the seminars, several Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) were invited to present on the selected topics during the webinars. Information about the subject was sent to 4-5 international SAIs along with an invitation to present, and 2-3 respondents delivered presentations. An open invitation to join and listen to the seminar was sent to all EUROSAI members, encouraging auditors interested in the topic to participate.
- 1.5. Resources used (in-kind resources and financial resources if any):** The main resources used for the group’s activities were the time dedicated to organizing, preparing for, and moderating the webinars. Additional resources were allocated for organizing the final project group event, which was hosted by the Malta’s SAI.
- 1.6. Contact person:** Aušrinė Asanavičienė, Methodologist, Innovation and Methodology Department. (NAOL). E-mail: ausrine.asanaviciene@vasltybeskontrole.lt, mobile phone number: +37060893058

2. Results achieved (to be included in the Progress Report of the relevant Strategic Goal/Portfolio):

The Travelling Club of Experts has been an instrument in building a strong community of audit professionals, enabling every participant to explore new ideas, share best practices, and enhance collective expertise. Over the past two years, this initiative has brought together around 1,000 participants from approximately 40 EUROSAI member countries, fostering collaboration, knowledge exchange, and professional development in the field of public sector auditing. Over the two years of the project group’s activities, 8 webinars were organized, along with a final event (9th) hosted by the Malta’s SAI. Presentations were delivered by speakers from 15 EUROSAI members. Topics, that were covered:

- 1 webinar (2022-07-16): Quality assurance methods in Audit (90 participants)
- 2 webinar (2022-09-08): Evaluations, reports, and other assessments, which are not audits, provided by SAI (73 participants)
- 3 webinar (2022-11-17): Audit Innovations: The cases of the Netherlands, Austria, and Estonia (100 participants)
- 4 webinar (2023-02-15): Future challenges for supreme audit institutions: auditors' perspective (81 participants)
- 5 webinar (2023-07-12): How SAIs communicate with their stakeholders and civil society (91 participants)
- 6 webinar (2023-10-31): Auditor training: Harnessing Internal Resources (54 participants)
- 7 webinar (2023-12-18): Methodology Mosaic: Interactive Systems & Tools In Sai (113 participants)
- 8 webinar (2024-04-30): Audit insight series: Mastering sampling techniques (240 participants)
- Hybrid meeting (2024-06-05 hybrid) (9 webinar) (153 participants):
 - 1 TOPIC: AI opportunities for public sector audit
 - 2 TOPIC: Combined audits: Practices and benefits of conducting Performance, Financial and Compliance audits together

3. Main products of the Project (for their dissemination as described above): 8 webinars and 1 final event.

4. Accountability provision:

Quality and Transparency Statement

This is to acknowledge that the project group has adhered to the principles outlined in the "QUALITY AND TRANSPARENCY PROTOCOL FOR EUROSAI PRODUCTS AND DOCUMENTS" during the development of its activities, as detailed below:

i. Representation of the membership of the PG/TF/WG or group elaborating the product:

The project group was led under EUROSAI ESP SG1, with participation from 40 EUROSAI members (as webinar listeners). Feedback was received from 15 EUROSAI members through their participation as presenters during the webinars.

ii. External stakeholder representation/contribution, if any:

All webinars and the final event, held in Malta, included contributions from a wide range of EUROSAI members (UK, Israel, Lithuania, The Netherlands, Austria, Estonia, Czech Republic, Ukraine, Ireland, ECA, Latvia, Portugal, Malta, France, Norway (IDI), Germany), ensuring the representation of diverse perspectives.

iii. ToR/Work plan: existence and approval of a ToR/Work Plan to develop the product:

The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the project group were approved by the EUROSAI Coordination Team.

iv. Openness and transparency:

The activities of the project group were introduced to all EUROSAI members during EUROSAI GB meetings. A call for participation in the webinars was sent to all EUROSAI members, ensuring broad representation. Regular updates on the project's progress were shared during events such as the EUROSAI GB meetings at the technical level, EUROSAI GB meetings, the EUROSAI Post-Congress Get-Together and the EUROSAI Congress. The topics for the webinars were ranked via a survey sent to EUROSAI members, promoting inclusiveness. All presentations and webinar recordings will be made publicly available on the BIEP platform by the end of 2024 to ensure transparency.

5. Dissemination activities:

5.1. Materials and outputs documents (or links to them, if applicable): NA

5.2. Draft text piece of news for the EUROSAI website and EUROSAI OP webpage:

News Draft for EUROSAI Website and EUROSAI OP Webpage: Project Group Closure Announcement

Successful Completion of the EUROSAI Project Group “Travelling Club of Experts”:

We are pleased to announce the successful closure of the EUROSAI Project Group “Travelling Club of Experts”, which operated under EUROSAI ESP SG1. Over the course of two years, the project group organized eight webinars, covering key topics identified as highly relevant to the auditing community. The group's final event, hosted by the Malta's Supreme Audit Institution (SAI), marked the conclusion of this fruitful initiative.

The webinars brought together speakers from 15 EUROSAI member SAIs and webinar listeners from 40 EUROSAI members, fostering valuable knowledge-sharing and cooperation across the network. The webinar topics were carefully selected based on a survey conducted among EUROSAI members, ensuring that the content addressed the current needs and interests of auditors.

Although no specific product was developed as part of this project, all presentations and recordings from the webinars will be made available on the BIEP platform by the end of 2024, providing a lasting resource for the EUROSAI community.

Co-leaders of the PG extend our gratitude to all the SAIs and auditors who contributed to the project and look forward to continued collaboration in future EUROSAI initiatives.

5.3. Draft texts and pictures for social media: (same text as for Webpage)
– no pictures.

- 6. Lessons learnt (ideas, clues and suggestions for related future works, if any):** Based on the success of this project group, it has been decided to continue similar activities, with leadership transitioning to the SAI Lithuania and SAI Malta. Building on the foundation laid by this initiative, a new project group will be formed to further explore and expand on the topics relevant to auditors. A separate Terms of Reference (ToR) for the new project group will be developed by the end of 2024, setting the direction for the next phase of work. This continuity ensures that the knowledge-sharing platform established through the webinars will remain active, providing valuable opportunities for further collaboration within the EUROSAI community.