



Strengthening capacity for inclusive negotiations

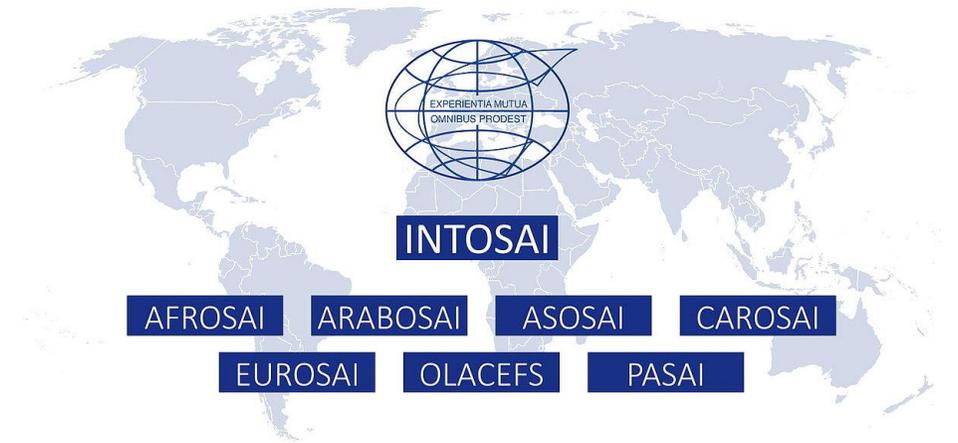


The role of Supreme Audit Institutions in Climate Auditing

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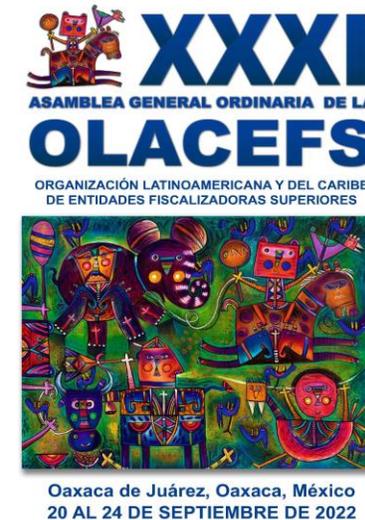
The importance of accountability

- The implementation gap in environmental law.
- Good governance as a principle and a right in the exercise of power: transparency, accountability, control, probity, efficiency.
- Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) as the fourth power.
- Auditing beyond financial: performance and compliance.



Climate audits on the rise

- National auditing processes. INTOSAI WGEA report 2022, [“Environmental and climate audits on the rise”](#)
- 11th survey (2024) [“The rise of environmental and climate audits continue”](#)
- Oaxaca Declaration, OLACEFs 2024.
- Broad thematic scope: auditing of climate mitigation and adaptation plans, infrastructure, compliance with international commitments, and more.



Top ten audit topics in 2021-2023	Number of SAIs
Climate change adaptation	28
Protected areas and natural parks	24
Forestry and timber resources	23
Drinking water: quality and supply	23
Agriculture	21
Climate change mitigation	21
Municipal, solid and non-hazardous waste	19
Municipal hazardous waste	19
Environmental taxes, charges, fees, levies, deposit-refund systems	19
Circular economy	19

Technical innovation, coordination and guidelines

Coordinated auditing to the Kyoto Protocol (2009): 10 EU SAI performed a coordinated auditing, evaluating their respective countries compliance with the CMNUCC, the Kyoto Protocol and the respective EU Directive.

Their report mapped fitness of national governance and Budget for implementation and found cooperation among SAIs is beneficial.

ClimateScanner Global Call: Supreme Audit Institutions unite at UN headquarters to assess national climate action and tackle climate change (April, 2024). 141 SAIs have joined the initiative.

WGEA guidelines on climate auditing (2010, 2016).



Success stories

SUCCESS
STORY FROM
THE EUROPEAN
COURT OF
AUDITORS

AUDITS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

The European Court of Auditors' audit on climate spending in the 2014-2020 EU budget (Special Report 09/2022) found that the reported spending was not always relevant to climate action and climate reporting was overstated overall. We estimated that it was overstated by at least €72 billion.

Our recommendations aimed to enhance climate reporting and to link the EU's budgetary contribution to its climate and energy objectives. We also recommended obtaining scientific evidence to support the climate contribution made by the EU's agricultural policy.

In 2022, **SAI Canada's** audit Just Transition to a Low-Carbon Economy, found that the Government of Canada had not developed the legislation that it had committed to advance in 2019 to support affected workers and communities. The report called on the government to outline a federal implementation plan, formal governance structure, and monitoring and reporting system. The audit also examined whether the responsible departments had adequately supported a just transition

for workers and communities affected by the accelerated federal phase out of coal fired electricity as an early example of the coming transition to a low carbon economy. Additionally, these programs had not been designed to support the transition and instead operated in a business-as-usual manner. This audit had much attention from the major media outlets in Canada upon tabling, and the Commissioner was called to appear before several committees in the House of Commons and the

Senate to discuss the findings and recommendations. Key elements to succeed:

- "One office, one team, one vision"
- Clear objectives and scopes
- Independence and objectivity
- Skilled and experienced team
- Internal and external collaboration
- Transparency and communication
- Follow-up mechanism

Source: 11th survey (2024) "The rise of environmental and climate audits continue"

Chile: Comprehensive auditing of climate policy and COP Funding

- **Implementation of the climate mitigation and adaptation plans** for the Ministry for Environment (2017), Ministry of Health (2018-2019), Undersecretary of Agriculture (2019-2020), National Port Public Works authority (2021), Ministry of Housing and Cities (2022) and Ministry of Tourism (2023), Fisheries National Service (2023), Ministry of Energy (2023).
- Findings: **severe implementation gaps**, the most recurring observation being that the Ministries had not put in place adequate processes to monitor and implement the plans.
- **NEW Climate Change Law grants explicit powers to audit climate instruments set in this new Bill and expands the Chilean SAI role by granting that office sanctioning powers** towards the ministers responsible for delivering these instruments if they fail to do so. These sanctions take the form of fines, not of the institution, but to the salary of the relevant minister.
- **Auditing of COP 25 Funding.**



Auditing the UNFCCC: the UNFCCC FCCC/SBI/2023/INF.9

The Secretariat 2022 revenue was 75m, of which 40m represent voluntary contributions.

The UNFCCC Secretariat's risk management framework is outdated and should address:

1. The Secretariat is facing difficulties to receive contributions in due time/
2. The Secretariat is resorting to supplementary resources to deliver even core activities, which leads to short comes in delivering them.
3. The secretariat sources of funding bring reputational risks.
4. Due diligence, transparency and prevention of corruption in regards to budget.





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THANK YOU !

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