

23RD INTOSAI WGEA ASSEMBLY MALTA 2025

Auditing Our Blue Planet



23rd INTOSAI WGEA Assembly 1 – 3 July 2025

Venue of the meeting: Poseidon Hall at AX ODYCY

Monday 30 June, Welcome reception

Time	Programme
18:00-19:00	Registration Medusa Lounge at AX ODYCY
19:00	Welcome reception hosted by CIPFA

Tuesday 1 July, Auditing our Blue Planet

08:00-09:00	Registration continues Poseidon Hall at AX ODYCY
09:00-10:30	Opening of the Assembly Chair of INTOSAI WGEA, Auditor General Sami Yläoutinen, SAI Finland Host of the 23 rd Assembly, Auditor General Charles Deguara, SAI Malta The Minister for the Environment, Energy and Public Cleansing, the Hon. Miriam Dalli, Malta Keynote presentation, Karl Cilia, Chief Executive Officer, Water Services Corporation <i>Enhancing Malta's Resilience – Sustainable water infrastructure for a changing climate</i> <i>Moderator: Secretary General Vivi Niemenmaa</i>
10:30-11:00	Group photo and coffee break
11:00-12:30	First main session on marine environment Karina von Schuckmann, Senior Advisor, Mercator Ocean International (online) <i>Status of the marine environment globally</i> Dr Robin Degron, Director of Plan Bleu, UNEP/Mediterranean Action Plan <i>Sustainable Mediterranean region</i> Audit insight: Assistant Auditor General William Peplow, SAI Malta & Director of Audit Akis Kikas, SAI Cyprus <i>Are mechanisms in place to ascertain the designation and effective management of Marine Protected Areas within the Mediterranean Sea?</i>

Panel discussion and Q & A

Moderator: Director Mohamed Ibrahim Jaleel, SAI Maldives

12:30-14:00

Lunch

Young environmental auditors' working lunch | Workshop Room

14:00-15:30

Second main session on drinking water, droughts and desertification

President Tarja Halonen, Drylands' Ambassador for the UN Convention on Desertification (*video*)

Regional Climate Policy Advisor Daisy Mukarakate, UNPD
Climate-water nexus in Africa (online)

Senior Advisor Xavier Leflaive, OECD Environment Directorate, Global Commission on Economics of Water (*video*)

Head of Bonn Office, Dr Animesh Kumar, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

From risk to resilience: Leveraging disaster risk reduction for national auditing

Audit insight: James Pilly, SAI Tanzania
National Action Programme to Combat Desertification

Panel discussion and Q & A

Moderator: Technical Manager Richard Pappoe, AFROSAI-E

15:30-16:00

Coffee break

16:00-17:30

From compliance to impact: Scrutiny over environmental expenditure

Simon Upton, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, New Zealand

Commentaries:

Sami Yläoutinen, SAI Finland

Ramona Bortnowschi, European Court of Auditors

Hugo Freire, SAI Brazil

Q & A

Moderator: Deputy Secretatry General Raisa Ojala

Closing remarks from the first day

Wednesday 2 July, Parallel sessions

09:00-10:30

1A Water stream: Audit cases on marine pollution (ECA and SAls of Finland and Tanzania) <i>Moderator:</i> <i>Maria Azzopardi, SAI Malta</i>	Extra session: Innovative forms of reporting on environmental auditing (SAls of Canada and Czech Republic) <i>Moderators:</i> <i>Akis Kikas, SAI Cyprus & Jonathan Keate, SAI New Zealand</i>	3A Nexus stream: Hands-on workshop on sustainability reporting for public sector change, facilitated by SAI Thailand and SAI Indonesia <i>Moderators:</i> <i>Normas Ahmad, SAI Indonesia & Chomprang Wongrusmeeduan, SAI Thailand</i>	4A Capacity building stream with CIPFA: Workshop on CIPFA's performance audit certification <i>Moderators:</i> <i>Khalid Hamid & Steve Watkins, CIPFA</i>
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10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-12:30

1B Water stream: Audit cases on marine protection and sustainable fishing (SAls of Egypt, Indonesia, and Portugal) <i>Moderator:</i> <i>Esmeralda G. Camilleri, SAI Malta</i>	2A Drinking water stream: Audit cases on drinking water projects (SAls of Algeria, Maldives, Poland and Thailand) <i>Moderator:</i> <i>Elton Camilleri, SAI Malta</i>	3B Nexus stream Workshop on CCAA (Cooperative audit on climate change adaptation actions) with IDI <i>Moderator:</i> <i>Raisa Ojala, WGEA Secretariat</i>	4B Capacity building Workshop on Handbook on Environmental Auditing <i>Moderators:</i> <i>Nella Virkola, WGEA Secretariat, Normas Ahmad, SAI Indonesia & Chomprang Wongrusmeeduan, SAI Thailand</i>
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12:30-14:00

Lunch

14:00-15:30

1C Water stream: Audit cases on climate change and water scarcity (SAls of, Cyprus, Malta and Kenya) + Australia NSW (video) <i>Moderator:</i>	2B Drinking Water stream: Audit cases on drinking water supply amid multiple pressures and long-term considerations (SAls of China, India, Slovenia and Ukraine) <i>Moderator:</i>	3C Nexus stream: Workshop on Environmentally Harmful Subsidies with IISD Senior Policy Advisor and Lead Farooq Ullah, and SAls of Canada and Estonia <i>Moderator:</i>	4C Capacity building stream: Workshop on the future of the ClimateScanner <i>Moderator:</i> <i>Dashiell Costa, SAI Brazil</i>
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<i>Sylvia Mullerova, SAI Czech Republic</i>	<i>Moderator: Michael Malabeja, SAI Tanzania</i>	<i>Vivi Niemenmaa, WGEA Secretariat</i>	
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15:30-16:00

Coffee break

16:00-17:30

Concluding panel in plenary with stream rapporteurs (Pekka Salminen SAI Finland, Marc Heidkamp ECA, Raisa Ojala Secretariat & Mai Malek SAI Egypt) and experts

Legal Officer Angela Kariuki, United Nations Environment Programme
Multilateral environmental agreements (video)

19:30

Official dinner hosted by SAI Finland

Dress code: Ocean-themed outfit (best dress will be awarded)

Thursday 3 July, Business meeting

09:00-10:30

INTOSAI WGEA Business meeting: 2023-2025 Activities

Secretariat Progress Report

Capacity building with SAIs of Estonia and India

Panel on regional activities with regional WGEA leaders

Panel of 2023-2025 project results with project leaders

Adoption of projects

Moderator: Sami Yläoutinen, Chair of the INTOSAI WGEA

10:30-11:00

Coffee break

11:00-12:30

INTOSAI WGEA Business Meeting continues: Activities for the 2026-2028

Dr Andrea Hinwood, the Chief Scientist of the UNEP
Exploring the Future of Environmental Challenges: Current Trends and Emerging Issues (online)

Presentation of the preliminary Work Plan 2026-2028

Group discussions

Adoption of the preliminary Work Plan

Moderator: Sami Yläoutinen, Chair of the INTOSAI WGEA & SAI Thailand

12:30-13:30

Lunch

13:30

INTOSAI WGEA Award and the New Chair

Inspiration in Environmental Auditing: INTOSAI WGEA Award Ceremony

Handing over of the Chairmanship (SAI Finland & SAI Thailand)

Moderator: Hussain Niyazy, Vice Chair of the INTOSAI WGEA

approx. 15:00

Closing of the Assembly

approx. 17:00-22:30

Departure to the environmental excursion hosted by SAI Malta

Pick up from AX ODYCY

Friday 4 July, Additional Steering Committee Meeting (by a separate invitation) 09:00-12:30
