

ISSAI roll out model

Roll out model for the implementation of the ISSAIs in the INTOSAI family.

Implementation of the ISSAI framework is one of the strategic priorities for INTOSAI in the years 2011-2016. With the successful XX INCOSAI in Johannesburg and the adoption of the South Africa declaration on the International Standards for Supreme Audit Institutions it is now time to establish an ISSAI roll out model that can ensure a sustainable and successful implementation of the ISSAIs.

In order not to lose momentum and clearly define the roles and expectations to all relevant ISSAI implementation partners, the PSC together with the CBC and the IDI present this ISSAI roll out model to the INTOSAI Governing Board for approval, October 2011. The model is based on the description of tasks under Goal 1 and Goal 2 in the INTOSAI strategic plan. The ISSAI roll out model is to be implemented immediately after the Governing Board approval. Progress on the ISSAI roll out model will be reported annually to the INTOSAI Governing Board by the Chairman of the PSC based on a consolidated report with inputs from IDI, CBC and PSC and potentially the different INTOSAI regions.

The INTOSAI regions will play an important role in facilitating and supporting the implementation of the ISSAIs and the donor community will play an important role in providing donor support for the ISSAI implementation activities.

1. Purpose of the ISSAI roll out model

The purpose of the ISSAI roll out model is to gain a common understanding and approach as to how the ISSAIs can be implemented in SAIs. The model describes the three stages that the ISSAI implementation will follow in each INTOSAI region with a particular focus on the actual implementation activities. The use of the model and the content of the three stages should be targeted to the special characteristics of the INTOSAI regions.

2. ISSAI roll out model

The ISSAI roll out model consists of 3 stages

Stage 1. ISSAI Awareness raising

Stage 2. Facilitate decision-making on ISSAI implementation

Stage 3. Support ISSAI Implementation

These three stages illustrate the full ISSAI implementation process.

Stage 1. ISSAI Awareness raising

Based on the ISSAI Awareness Raising Strategy of the PSC, targeted ISSAI awareness raising activities will be/have been conducted in EUROSAI, OLACEFS, PASAI, AFROSIAI-E and ARABOSAI

The ISSAI Awareness Raising Strategy and progress report can be found on www.psc-intosai.org

Actions:

- Look into the possibilities of a 2-day ISSAI Awareness raising seminar in CAROSAI – together with the IDI
- Look into the need for ISSAI Awareness Raising activities in AFROSAI-F and ASOSAI
- Update the ISSAI Awareness Raising presentations and include stakeholder presentations
- Follow-up on ISSAI Awareness Raising activities

Responsibility:

the PSC

Stage 2. Facilitate decision-making on ISSAI implementation

A CBC subgroup is developing a guide on strategic considerations regarding adoption and future implementation of ISSAIs, including the various ways of introducing the ISSAIs in an SAI. The guide primarily focuses on the ISSAIs on level 4. Such strategic considerations may include – but are not limited to.

- any limitations to the implementation of the ISSAIs due to the SAI mandate and legislation
- any national/historical factors and auditing methods that limits the extent to which the ISSAIs can be implemented
- lack of maturity of the SAI which prevents implementation of the ISSAIs
- financial accounts and financial information in place and auditable in order for the ISSAIs to be implemented

These considerations and reflections may result in a decision to implement the ISSAIs, which then again leads to the next decision to be made: How should the ISSAIs be implemented?

Some SAIs may choose a “big bang” approach where existing manuals and standards are replaced by the ISSAIs and reference is made directly to the ISSAIs in the audit work. Even in such cases it will probably be necessary to make additional guidelines or audit manuals that translate the ISSAIs into the national settings and circumstances. Other SAIs may chose to implement the ISSAIs by making sure that existing guidelines and standards meet the requirements in the ISSAIs. Finally, some SAIs – for instance those with a lack of organizational maturity or lack of auditable financial information – may chose to focus primarily on level 1 and 2 in the ISSAI framework leaving the level 4 ISSAIs for later implementation.

It is up to each SAI to decide how to implement and work with the ISSAIs. It is however of vital importance to the successful implementation of the ISSAIs that SAIs share their reflections and experience on ISSAI implementation.

The paper on strategic considerations regarding adoption and future implementation of ISSAIs can be found on: <http://cbc.courdescomptes.ma>

Actions:

- A brief presentation/folder on strategic considerations before implementing the ISSAIs and targeted at Auditor Generals and Top level Management

- Kindly ask the regional Governing Boards to discuss the topic at their annual meetings based on the presentation/folder and report back to the CBC.
- Facilitate knowledge-sharing on ISSAI implementation in the INTOSAI family

Responsibility:

the CBC

Stage 3. Support ISSAI Implementation

Once an SAI has decided to implement the ISSAIs, it is important that sufficient support in relation to the implementation is available. IDI will play a crucial role in this, together with the INTOSAI regions but also SAI-to-SAI cooperation and bilateral support should facilitate ISSAI implementation.

The IDI will work to support ISSAI implementation in the following ways:

Actions¹:

- integration of the ISSAIs into existing IDI capacity building programmes
- an ISSAI implementation project on financial audit and compliance audit ISSAIs with a trans-regional approach (to the extent that funding from the World Bank is received)
- include primarily level 2 ISSAIs in strategic plan programmes

The implementation activities of the IDI depend on contribution from PSC and other experts on the various ISSAIs.

Actions:

In addition to these actions, the INTOSAI regions may consider:

- Regional seminars on the implementation of level 1 and 2 in the ISSAI framework
- Regional or subregional seminars on the implementation of level 4 in the ISSAI framework
- Regional, subregional or individual training courses in the implementation of specific level 4 guidelines (primarily financial, performance and compliance audits)
- Support to the development of regional audit manuals based on the ISSAIs on level 4 in the ISSAI framework
- Targeted implementation activities based on regional SAI needs and requests (INTOSAI GOVs, environmental auditing etc.)

Finally, a survey will be conducted early 2013 by the PSC, CBC and IDI in cooperation, in order to gain knowledge of progress and lessons learned on ISSAI implementation.

Responsibility:

The IDI

The INTOSAI regions

SAIs involved in bilateral support to other SAIs and SAI-to-SAI cooperation.

¹ The listed actions are still under consideration by the IDI and the World Bank