

Summary

International Training Programme on “Introduction to Environmental Auditing” (28th November to 10th December 2022) at iCED Jaipur

International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (iCED), as the Global Training Facility (GTF) of INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) organized International Training Programme on “Introduction to Environmental Auditing “ from 28th November to 10th December, 2022 in onsite mode at iCED. A total of 09 participants from 05 SAIs participated in this programme.



International Training Programme on “Introduction to Environmental Auditing”

During the inaugural session of the training programme, Mr Pushkar Kumar, Director (Training & Research), iCED welcomed the participants and the guest faculty Dr. Vivi Niemenmaa, Head, INTOSAI WGEA Secretariat and Deputy Director at the National Audit Office of Finland.

Ms Sayantani Jafa, Additional Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General & Director General, iCED inaugurated the training programme. She welcomed all the participants and Dr. Vivi Niemenmaa. She briefed the participants about the role of iCED in the SAI India and the training programmes conducted at iCED so far. She highlighted that global awareness about protecting the environment, about ensuring a safe future for the next generations has increased in recent times. She also emphasized upon the importance of environment audit and training requirements for the environment auditing across the nations.

She further discussed about the effects of climate change to the entire world with extreme weather conditions such as drought, heat waves, heavy rain, floods and landslides, importance of carbon neutrality in order to limit global warming.

Ms Jafa further informed about the training programme "Introduction to Environmental Auditing" and various issues to be covered during the training programme such as Environmental Auditing; Environmental Assessment and SDGs; Climate Change; Biodiversity; Water; Waste Issues and so on.

Further, she cited the famous writer Anton Chekhov as 'knowledge is of no value unless you put it into practice' and then requested to the participants to look forward for being able to contribute to the global auditing and oversight fraternity with the



Ms Sayantani Jafa, ADAI & Director General, iCED addressing the participants during Inauguration

knowledge-sharing they glean from the training. Further, she also briefed about outdoor activities like Study Trip to Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary, Bharatpur and Jhalana Leopard Safari (Jaipur) etc.

During this thirteen days training programme, experts from 04 SAIs and other organizations in India were invited to deliver the sessions on various aspects of Environmental Auditing; Environmental Assessment and SDGs; Climate Change; Biodiversity; Water; Waste Issues and so on.

Trainers for the training programme were as detailed below:

S.No.	Sessions	Trainer/s
1.	Basics of Environment Auditing and Evolution of Environment Auditing, INTOSAI WGEA (28 th November, 2022)	Ms Vivi Niemenmaa, SAI Finland (Online)
2.	Environment Governance and group work on Environment Governance (28 th November, 2022)	
3.	The Concept of Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals and Auditing implementation of SDGs (29 th November, 2022)	Shri J R Inamdar, PD (iCISA), Noida, SAI India
4.	Environment Impact Assessment (29 th November, 2022)	Dr. Vivekanand, Assistant Professor, MNIT, Jaipur, India
5.	Overview of issues related to Air and Climate change and use of data in Audits on the example of climate change (30 th November, 2022)	Mr Paul Stafford, European Court of Auditors
6.	Forming Audit questions and Audit cooperation in climate change issues (30 th November, 2022)	
7.	Green Finance (1 st December, 2022)	Ms Neha Kumar, Head, India Programme Climate Bonds Initiative, India
8.	Carbon Neutrality and Global Framework for Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation (1 st December, 2022)	Mr Abhishek Ranjan, Research, Manager, Reserve Bank of India
9.	Renewable Energy sector overview w.r.t. to Climate Change (2 nd December, 2022)	Mr N K Ram, Senior Fellow, Renewal Energy Technology Application Division, TERI, India
10.	Audit of Renewable Energy Experience sharing (2 nd December, 2022)	Mr B. Basantia, SAI India
11.	Essence of Biodiversity (3 rd December, 2022)	Dr. V. B. Mathur, Former Chairperson, National Biodiversity Authority of India Camp: Dehradun, India

12.	Selecting an Audit topic in the area of Biodiversity (3 rd December, 2022)	Mr Datta Prasad Shirsat, SAI India
13.	Designing Audits of Biodiversity and Audits of Biodiversity based on MEAs (6 th December, 2022)	Mr Mehul Grover, SAI India
14.	Global Water Challenges and Overview of various methods used in water audits worldwide (6 th December, 2022)	Mr Iwan Novarian and Mr Normas Andi Ahmad, SAI Indonesia
15.	Practical application of Audit methods (7 th December, 2022)	
16.	Practical application of Audit methods involving complex topics (8 th December, 2022)	
17.	Overview of issues related to Waste (8 th December, 2022)	Mr Pravinjith K.P, Managing Director, Paradigm Environmental Strategies (P) Ltd. Bangalore, India
18.	Auditing Waste Issues with special reference to Plastic Waste (9 th December, 2022)	
19.	Designing Audits of Waste issues that involve MEAs (9 th December, 2022)	Ms P. Bineesha, Executive Director, IIWM, Bangalore, India
20.	Strategy for developing environmental auditing & Course review and Evaluation	iCED Jaipur

Teaching methods during the training programme included both formal lectures as well as various individual and group exercises, etc. Each topic was divided into theory and practical part consisting of case studies.

Dinner at Chokhi Dhani-A dinner was arranged for the participants at Chokhi Dhani Jaipur. Chokhi Dhani is located in a heritage village and around 20 kilometres away from the main city of Jaipur. Like every heritage village worth its salt, it is a perfect place to see and experience everything about



local culture in a compact setting. The heritage village is specially designed to attract tourists visiting Rajasthan. It is a perfect mirror to the Rajasthani culture, food, traditions and heritage. The name Chokhi Dhani literally translates to

Rajasthani Culture. All the participants enjoyed the trip as an introduction to local cultural and culinary traditions.

Trip to Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur-

As a part of biodiversity module, a biodiversity trip to Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur was organized. The participants were overwhelmed by the biodiversity of bird species i.e. Waterfowl, Ducks, Storks, Cranes, etc. at Keoladeo National Park. They had a first-hand experience of measures for conservation of migratory and local birds, their habitat by forest authorities.



Aninga, large and slender water bird with long fanlike tails (Captured during Study Trip to Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur (India))

At the end of the park visit Mr Nahar Singh, Dy. Forest Officer (Wildlife), Bharatpur briefed participants about biodiversity and habitat conservation measures undertaken by forest department as well as challenges being faced due to socio-political conflict for scarce resources. Participants were overwhelmed by the biodiversity of bird species viz., Waterfowl, Ducks, Storks, and Cranes, etc.



Participants during biodiversity trip to Keoladeo National Park, Bharatpur, Jaipur (India)

A study trip was also organized at Jhalana Leopard Safari, Jaipur

It is spread in an area of 23sq km and it is home to 30-35 leopards out of which 6-7 leopards have their territory in tourism area of park. Situated right in the heart of Jaipur city and close to Airport, Jhalana slowly is becoming a favourite destination to spot leopards in the wild. The participants enjoyed the



Participants during biodiversity trip to Jhalana Leopard Safari, Jaipur (India)

sight of leopards and other smaller fauna including spotted deer, blue bulls, and wild boars.

Trips to Amer Fort & Hawa-Mahal, Jaipur- Trip to Amer Fort & Hawa-Mahal, Jaipur were also organized for the participants. **The Amber Fort** was originally built by Raja Man Singh. Jai Singh (I) expanded it. Improvements and additions were done by successive rulers over the next 150 years, until the Kachwa rulers shifted their capital to Jaipur during the time of Sawai Jai Singh (II), in 1727.



Participants during visit to Amber Fort, Jaipur (India)

The Hawa Mahal is an eco-tourism site and a five-storey building. It is the tallest building in the world that has been built without a foundation. It has a curved architecture that leans at an 87 degree angle, and a pyramidal shape which has helped it stay erect for centuries. The Hawa Mahal is dedicated to Lord Krishna.



Hawa Mahal, an eco-tourism place at Jaipur (India)

Further, shopping tours to Bapu Bazar, traditional market of Jaipur were also organized. Bapu Bazaar is a shopping destination located on MI Road in the heart of Jaipur. It is one of the oldest and best markets of Jaipur. The market is known for its exotic Rajasthani products which include textiles, handicrafts, brass work and precious stones.

Group assignment & Evaluation by experts from SAI India-Group assignment was also given to participants' for Strategy Paper / Presentation to be prepared by the participants. All participants were divided in two groups. The Strategy Paper for Future Environmental Audit during pre-valedictory session was organized.

Mr Deen Dayal Verma, Director (Administration), iCED (SAI INDIA) & Mr Varun Ahluwalia, Director, (SAI INDIA) evaluated the presentations given by both the groups of the participants during pre-valedictory session.



Mr Deen Dayal Verma, Director (Administration), iCED (SAI INDIA) & Mr Varun Ahluwalia, Director, (SAI INDIA)

Valediction of the 10th International Training Programme-

Shri Deen Dayal Verma, Director (Administration), iCED in his vote of thanks during valedictory session of validation of the training programme told the participants about the efforts of iCED staff of more than 6 months to conduct the training programme onsite at iCED and pointed out the difficulties faced due to the challenging time after covid-19 pandemic.

Ms Sayantani Jafa, ADAI and DG, iCED graced the valedictory session of the 10th International Training Programme. She emphasized upon the importance of trainings related to Environment Auditing for providing opportunity for sharing of experiences and perspectives from different national contexts. Ms Jafa said that it is hoped that the sharing of experiences and perspective during the training would suitably equip the participants to take the learning process forward. Ms Sayantani Jafa also invited participants on the stage to share their valuable feedback on this training programme.



Ms Sayantani Jafa, ADAI & Director General, iCED along with Mr Pushkar Kumar, Director (Training & Research) and Mr Deen Dayal Verma, Director (Administration), addressing the participants during valediction

Further, she distributed training certificates and mementos to all the participants. She expressed her gratitude to SAI Finland, SAI Indonesia and the European Court of Auditors (ECA) for nominating the resource persons for sharing their experiences with participants. She congratulated the participants and thanked all the SAls for nominating participants for this programme.



Ms Sayantani Jafa, ADAI & Director General, iCED distributing training certificates to the participants.



Testimonials

I would like to thank iCED for the good organization of the training programme and their hospitality. It is very challenging to organize a 2 weeks International Training and iCED has set a high standard. Course was very good and trainers were very knowledgeable. I want to express my gratitude to the authorities of iCED, organizers, researchers, staff in charge of logistics, kitchen, dining hall, security guards, drivers, cleaners, gardeners etc. Activities (study tours) were welcomed by the participants.



Mr Xavier Ignasi Farrero Gonzalez
Participant, ECA

I received a lot of helpful information about Environment Audit during this course. I am glad that I joined some interesting study tours of iCED and got to know about environment conservation in the local state. The campus is green and full of facilities for dining, sports and research. The hostel is clean and the room is comfortable. The whole training programme is meaningful, updated and networking among SAIs of countries. It was a Good Opportunity to share experiences between SAIs.



Ms Ngo Thi Ngoc Tu
Participant, SAI Vietnam

The topics were very interesting and useful. The facilities and conveniences are so well. People in the kitchen are very friendly, enthusiastic and helpful. Food is very good and I ate a lot, enjoyed Indian food so much and will keep this in mind as a good memory of India. Sports centre is so useful, we played badminton, table tennis, together, had fun, and enjoyed a lot there. Study tours were very interesting, I really loved the tours visit Amer fort and Jhalana Leopard Safari, Study tour to Keoladeo Bird Sanctuary were also interesting. Finally thank you so much for your effort to provide the training course and to take care throughout two weeks. It will be useful & helpful. Benefit from the course will help to improve environment auditing more & faster. People & your staffs are very friendly & helpful.



Ms Nguyen Mai Huong
Participant, SAI Vietnam

Topics were relevant and diverse. Lot of areas were covered in a short period of time. Most of the faculties were very knowledgeable and interactive. Both of the study tours were relevant and enjoyable. The trips and activities were a good exposure. Everything at iCED is great, from the food, staff, rooms and recreation activities available. The atmosphere of the campus is also very nice and rooms are spacious and clean. In general, the sessions were interactive and informative and the extra activities and campus facilities were very good. It was a pleasure to be here and I hope to come again. Thank You for having us.



Ms Aminath Shuaau Mohamed
Participant, SAI Maldives

I spent best time in this centre. Everything is very good, The Organizer, the study trips and enjoyed the whole programme. Everyone here welcomed us. Thank You.



**Mrs Samia Mohamed Abdelrahman
Participant, SAI Sudan**

It was going well despite of the intensification of the course and the training programme was comprehensive. Thank you very much.



**Mrs Misoon Elssideg Hamed Elneel
Participant, SAI Sudan**