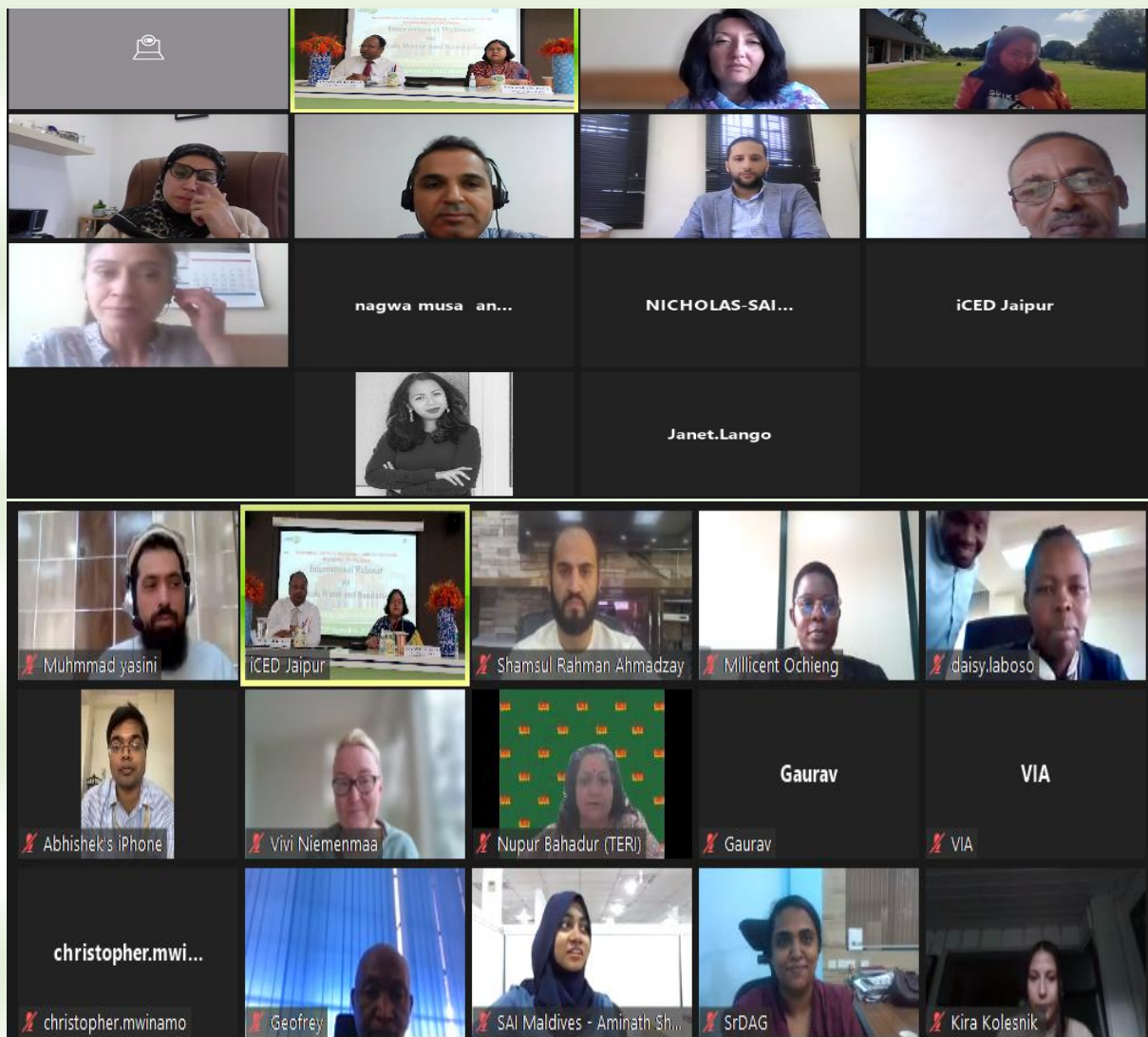


Summary

International Webinar on “Clean Water and Sanitation”

International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (iCED), as the Global Training Facility (GTF) of INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing (WGEA) organized International Webinar on “Clean Water and Sanitation” on 26th & 27th September, 2022 in two batches through virtual mode. A total of 47 participants (34 in Batch- I & 13 in Batch-II) from 14 SAIs across the world participated in this programme.



International Webinar on “Clean Water and Sanitation”

During the inaugural session, Mr. Pushkar Kumar, Director (Training & Research), iCED welcomed the participants, officers from WGEA secretariat and the guest faculty Ms. Nupur Bahadur (TERI), New Delhi. Ms. Sayantani Jafa, Additional Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General & Director General, iCED inaugurated the Webinar. She highlighted that access to water, sanitation and hygiene is a human right, yet billions are still facing daily challenges accessing even the most basic services. Achieving universal, adequate, and equitable access to safely managed water and sanitation services is at the core of sustainable development and requires worldwide effort. Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6.2 provides that “by 2030, provide adequate and equitable access to sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation, paying particular attention to the needs of women, girls and vulnerable people “.



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

Similarly, target 6.3 states that “By 2030, improving water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating waste deposits and reducing emissions of chemicals and hazardous materials, by halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and significantly increasing the recycling and reuse of these waters safely, globally”.

Ms. Jafa said that globally, SAI India promotes environment audits among other SAIs through iCED. It also encourages environmental audits through active involvement in research projects of INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing, hosting and participating in seminars and workshops, assigning experts, providing domain expertise, preparing various environment related products. Before closing, she thanked Mr Sami Yläoutinen, the Auditor–General of Finland and Chair of INTOSAI Working Group on Environmental Auditing and his team from the National Audit Office (NAO), Finland, for their support in organizing this webinar.

During this one day Webinar, expert from TERI, New Delhi, India provided an overview of Clean Water and Sanitation with respect to SDG 6 and experts from SAI India and European Court of Auditors (ECA) shared their experiences of audit of water and sanitation.

Session-wise details are given below:

S. No	Resource Person	Session	Presentation	Date	Session Recordings
1.	Dr. Nupur Bahadur, Fellow & Area Convenor, Water Resources Division, TERI, New Delhi	Overview of Clean Water and Sanitation with respect to SDG 6	https://drive.google.com/file/d/15kpViLcaPoX62cvZTrMoZ_Gt9GaggZ1X/view?usp=share_link	26 th Sep, 2022	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wuQTZrVtRaXML0cFL3-T2t-JbNuCa4yv/view?usp=share_link
				27 th Sep, 2022	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gVznAc0o-bhgxOBlRKfYzbrNEBFr0kQd/view?usp=share_link
2.	Mr. Pushkar Kumar, Director (Training & Research), iCED Jaipur	Audit of Clean Water and Sanitation in India: Experience Sharing	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1LYOoThujkxrRHRmGJm65Bx_yAoTu/view?usp=share_link	26 th Sep, 2022	https://drive.google.com/file/d/13ol3yU6MOuEdu4X2rBwPgbKXqwGrXD0m/view?usp=share_link
				27 th Sep, 2022	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tdsWTImGoYr95zo-WPToZjzjKm5l4Uxw/view?usp=share_link
3.	Ms Els Brems, Principal Auditor, European Court of Auditors (ECA)	Audit of Clean Water and Sanitation: Experience Sharing	https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Kkpt4boFQBjWuoN788zlrFbzZ5JMNyhy?usp=share_link	26 th Sep, 2022	https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pCQUbOzfsxMuc6-F-RUUh1_56h-12Mzl/view?usp=share_link
				27 th Sep, 2022	https://drive.google.com/file/d/148DMLZoJ29C1f1Qn-F41V8k2zhq6NEzk/view?usp=share_link



Dr. Nupur Bahadur, Fellow & Area Convenor, Water Resources Division, TERI, New Delhi started her presentation with emphases on Sustainable Development Goals especially SDG 6 related targets. She discussed international scenario of Water Sector and presented a case study of “Wastewater treatment and reuse using a

constructed wetland system at institutional level in Botswana” and “Moving from the MDG Water Supply Infrastructure Service Delivery Indicator to a Sustainable Water Supply Delivery Indicator in Support of the SDG process in South Africa”

She also discussed about India’s water sector using snapshots/ data/ graphs and key drivers for ensuring industrial water security in India, intangible benefits of Clean and green, Water quality etc.

Mr. Pushkar Kumar, Director (Training & Research), iCED Jaipur, India briefed the participants about water availability and its use; water & sanitation: status & implications of water and sanitation and water governance in India etc. He further highlighted auditors priority as per the 9th & 10th surveys of done by WGEA and importance of Audit of Water



and Sanitation. He explained current trends in audit of water pollution in India with reference to various union and state audit reports including the latest reports on groundwater and sanitation coverage in schools. He also highlighted key points of Performance Audit Report on Rejuvenation of River Ganga (Namami Gange) with special focus on water quality and sanitation related issues.

He discussed some common findings in audit of Clean Water and Sanitation such as Inventory, Planning, Financial Management, Implementation, linkages between Water Quality, Flora and Fauna, Human Resource etc. He also outlined some challenges

that auditor may encounter in audit of this sector especially the data gaps; integration and coverage; timeline; expenditure and materiality etc. He concluded his session by highlighting the impact of such audits and lessons learnt in audit of water and sanitation sector.



Ms. Els Brems, Principal Auditor, European Court of Auditors(ECA) shared audit experience of “Performance Audit on Water Use in Agriculture”. Her presentation was broadly divided into four parts viz. Reasons for conducting Audit; Audit Scope and Approach; Audit Observations and Recommendations.

She explained the reasons for conducting this audit such as water stress, significant use of water in agriculture sector and past audit coverage.

She discussed audit scope and audit approach with reference to the Water Framework Directive (WFD), Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) and Rural development and market measures.

During her presentation, she highlighted some observations made in audit such as Member States apply many derogations to water abstraction authorisation; cost recovery is lower in agriculture than in other sectors and WFD implementation progresses slowly; CAP direct payments do not significantly encourage efficient water use; Rural Development (RD) is not often used to improve water quantity and Funding for irrigation projects has weak safeguards.

She concluded her session with recommendations made by audit such as Justify exemptions to WFD implementation in agriculture; Tie CAP payments to compliance with environmental standards and Use EU funds to improve the quantitative status of water bodies etc.



**Ms. Sayantani Jafa, Director General, iCED
addressing the participants during
valediction**

Ms. Sayantani Jafa, ADAI and DG, iCED graced the valedictory session of both the batches. She emphasized the importance of this webinar for providing opportunity for sharing of experiences and perspectives from different national contexts. She congratulated the participants and thanked all the resource persons for sharing their experience with participants.