

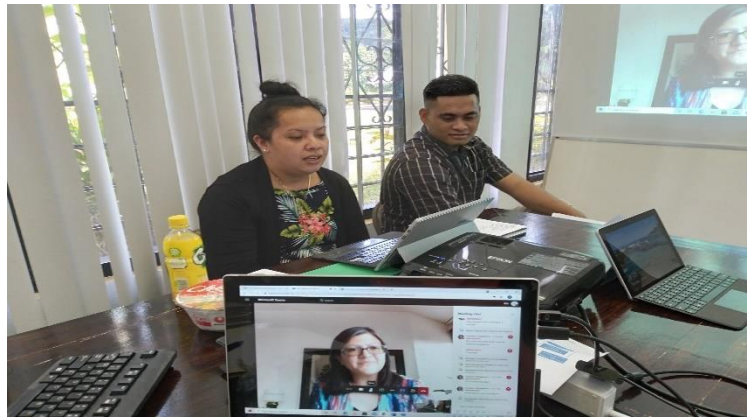
1st Virtual Lakewood Experience at the ONPA

June 25th, 2021 marked the last day of the first virtual Lakewood Experience training, which ran for 4 hours a day for 2 weeks. The 2021 Lakewood Experience graduates testified that it was a great training experience because they learned so much from the case study that was chosen for the whole training. There were morning group activities and discussions, and even games of jeopardy as part of the program.

Participants were mainly from the North Pacific region, which included the FSM except for Yap and Chuuk States, Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, Guam, and one country from the South Pacific, American Samoa. Trifonovitch Sound and Brenda Carl, represented the ONPA; Derick Dainart and Cherry Lyn Somcio, represented the Pohnpei Office of the Public Auditor.

The main topic of the training was *The Phases of an Audit*, designed for auditors with 1-3 years experienced in audit. The training covered the planning phase and survey phase, then onto fieldwork, reporting, and the last phase of following-up to find if audit impacts and recommendations took place.

The Lakewood Experience was facilitated by the Department of Interior-Office of Inspector General (DOI-OIG) with Elizabeth Schubert as the Capacity Building Program Coordinator/Regional with her team of professionals. Special shout-outs to Ms. Schubert and her team from DOI-OIG.



It was the first time the Lakewood Experience was ever carried out in a virtual world due to the travel restrictions. Despite the lack of in-person interactions, the training started out very smoothly and ended on a very productive note. The participants found the training very useful to their daily audit activities, as they shared together one by one during group activities and discussion.

