

FSM ONPA PRESS RELEASE

UNDP HOSTED THE SUB-REGIONAL CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT ON AUDIT IMPACT AND EFFECTIVENESS WORKSHOP IN POHNPEI, FSM.

THEME: "HARNESSING EFFECTS AUDIT RECOMMENDATION TRACKING IN THE PACIFIC."

During the week of April 18th – 20th, 2023, UNDP invited all public auditors from each Supreme Audit Institutions in the North Pacific region including Federated States of Micronesia, Palau, Nauru, Kiribati, and Republic of Marshall Islands to attend the sub-regional consultation and engagement on audit impact and effectiveness workshop. The purpose of the workshop is to help the SAIs build their capacity, relationship and strong connection with key stakeholders, demonstrate impact that will support the value of SAI's work, namely, to be an independent office that is regularly checking and verifying the accuracy and effectiveness of government financial management and ensuring that the budget meets citizen's needs.

The workshop focused on the importance of tracking and implementing audit recommendations to ensure that the findings and suggestions identified through audits are acted upon by government entities. By organizing this workshop, UNDP aimed to strengthen the capacity of SAIs to effectively follow up on their audit recommendations and promote greater accountability and transparency in the public sector.



Picture 1: Head of SAIs from the North and participants.

The workshop covered topics such as audit recommendation tracking methodologies, best practices, challenges, and success stories from the Pacific region, providing valuable insights for SAIs in the North Pacific.

The three-day audit workshop, which was UNDP's first in the North sub-region, presented an opportunity for participants to validate the research findings and clarify other details, gaps and provide an opportunity to discuss the audit recommendations tracking tools. It stated that the tool should be user-friendly and easy to maintain.

Participants from the FSM Office of the National Public Auditors office included Mr. Haser Hainrick, Public Auditor, who was accompanied by several staff including three staff from the Corporate Service division and three from the Audit division, and one staff from the Investigation division. It was an enriching experience.

The ONPA gives special thanks to the participants of each SAI for a successful workshop and all the informative panel discussions and presentations. We also thank and congratulate the host, UNDP, especially Kevin Petrini, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative; Marine Destrez, UNDP PFM project manager; Wezzie Lukhere; UNDP Consultant and Anhela Bochi, UNDP PFM specialist based in Suva, Fiji for making the workshop well organized and adaptive.