

On ALSAI's participation in the Government Accountability Office (GAO) International Auditor Fellowship Program in Washington, D.C., 2024

ALSAI participated in the International Auditor Fellowship Program, organized by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) in Washington, D.C., from 17 April to 12 July 2024. ALSAI was represented by Mr Rigels Guzi, auditor in the State Budget Audit Department.

The attendance of this program, which aims to strengthen the capacities of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) worldwide, was made possible following a competitive selection process.

The program provided an opportunity to deepen knowledge on the proposed topic: “Auditing Fraud, Waste and Abuse and the Use of Data Analytics as an Example of Best Practices.”



This initiative of the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) also brought together Supreme Audit Institutions from around the world. The group participating in the program included representatives from 16 other countries, including Brazil, India and Kosovo.

Audit capacity building was designed to be achieved through an intensive training program delivered by senior GAO officials, covering areas ranging from leadership and change management to practical examples of the audit engagement process at GAO.

The sharing of experiences by senior officials with extensive expertise in public-sector auditing, combined with the latest developments concerning the role of Supreme Audit Institutions within INTOSAI, represented some of the program's most significant benefits, providing participants with valuable knowledge to support and implement change within their respective institutions.

The Fellowship Program also included the preparation of a strategy paper on the topic proposed during the competitive application process. Throughout the program, the development of this paper was guided by senior-level mentors at GAO, who reviewed the work and provided recommendations for improving the strategy in accordance with the specific context in which each Supreme Audit Institution operated.

Upon completion, the proposed strategy was approved by the project supervisor, enabling participation in the graduation ceremony organized for the program. During the ceremony, participants also had the opportunity to meet with the Comptroller General of the United States and head of GAO, Mr. Gene Dodaro.



With the aim of strengthening partnerships and promoting the exchange of best practices, while enhancing the role of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) in increasing accountability in the use of public funds, study visits were also organized to the World Bank headquarters in Washington, D.C., as well as to the Committee on Oversight in the U.S. Congress.

During the meeting at the World Bank, participants were introduced to cooperation practices between the World Bank and Supreme Audit Institutions worldwide, contributing to their shared mission of improving citizens' lives. Senior World Bank representatives also delivered presentations on the latest developments and challenges in the field of artificial intelligence.

As observers at the U.S. Congress, participants had the opportunity to attend a congressional hearing at which the Comptroller General of the United States and head of GAO appeared before the Committee on Oversight. During the hearing, he presented one of GAO's annual reports and responded to questions raised by members of Congress serving on the Committee.

This provided a highly significant example of how the work of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) can be used to support legislative decision-making and parliamentary oversight.



Upon completion of the program, representatives of the participating Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) were awarded their respective certificates of completion.