Enabling in-country donor staff to advocate for SAI Independence via the SAI Independence Resource Kit

Freddy Ndjemba, IDI
Strategic discussions held in IDC pointed to the need for INTOSAI and the Donor community to actively build capacity of donor staff at the country level to enable them to engage effectively on SAI independence.

The SAI Independence Donor Resource Kit is intended to serve as a quick reference guide for donor staff that will help them better understand the challenges SAIs face in obtaining and safeguarding independence and will assist them to effectively advocate for SAI independence at the global, regional and in-country levels.
The Advocacy section provides the necessary background to understand the role of SAIs in government oversight and accountability, and the importance of independence in ensuring SAIs can effectively fill their role. This section answers the following questions:

• What are Supreme Audit Institutions?
• What is SAI Independence?
• How can independent SAIs contribute to good governance?
• What existing documents support SAI Independence?
The Tools section highlights several tools which can help donor staff better understand the concept of SAI independence, and also help them assess and respond to threats to SAI independence including:

- SAI Independence Rapid Advocacy Mechanism (SIRAM)
- SAI Performance Measurement Framework (SAI PMF)
- Regional workshops on SAI-Donor engagements
The Resources section features information about websites, reports and surveys which can help donor staff contextualize the topic of SAI independence in your local environment.

- SAI Independence Resource Centre
- Global Stocktaking Report
- Open Budget Survey
Discussion questions

a) Does the current form and content of the SAI Independence Donor Resource Kit meet the needs of your staff, especially in-country staff, to effectively understand and advocate for SAI independence?

b) What additional content would you like to see in the Donor Resource Kit, or in other support documents to be made in the future?

c) What will be the dissemination strategy for this document within your organization?