

**OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL OF THE UNION
(SAI OF MYANMAR)**

COUNTRY PAPER

ON

**LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE AUDIT QUALITY AND
EFFECTIVENESS**

Content

1	Brief introduction of Myanmar SAI	3
2	Current status of e-government in Myanmar	4-5
3	Examples of E-Government Success in the country	5-6
4	IT development in OAG	6-7
5	Capacity Building Program of OAG	7-8
6	Involvement from external parties in ICT capacity building	8-9
7	Major Challenges of E-Government in the country	9
8	Challenges of IT Audit in OAG	9
9	Conclusion	9-10

1. Brief introduction of Myanmar SAI

The Office of the Auditor General of the Union, Myanmar is the Supreme Audit Institution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar headed by the Union Auditor General. In March 30 ,2011, the State Peace and Development Council handed over the state power to the new government and the Auditor General of the Union was appointed in line with Article 242(a) of new constitution, 2008. The duties and powers of UAG are clearly stipulated in Auditor General of the Union Law, 2010 including amendment in 2013 and 2014. In accordance with our new Auditor General Law, we adopted decentralized system of government and our office structure was changed from centralized system to decentralized system. Now there are 14 Regional Auditor Generals for respective region and one Union Auditor General for Union level, known as Auditor General of the Union.

In April 2014, two departments namely Administration, Training & Research Department and Audit Department were established under the Office of the Auditor General of the Union .Each Department is leaded by their own Director-Generals who are appointed by the Cabinet of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. Meanwhile, the organizational structure of the Audit Department of the Office of the Auditor General of the Union was set up by extending two more sub departments under the Audit Department with a view to conduct the audit work more effectively. Now, there are eight sub departments under the Audit Department of the Office of the Auditor General of the Union. At regional level, there are 14 offices of the Auditor General of the Region or State, 66 District Audit Offices and 294 Township Audit Offices. Those regional Audit Offices are also assigned to carry out the audit of the branch office of the Government departments at their respective level. To perform the audit works of public sector, OAG and its regional offices have employed over 5391 technical staffs.

2. Current status of e-government in Myanmar

In 1996, Computer Science Development Council including the experts from the government departments and external organizations was established to set the policies in ICT development activities. Our country could sign the agreement of Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) Work Plan and e-ASEAN Framework in November 2000. To implement the activities involved in that agreement, e-National Task Force was organized in 2000 and then started e-Government processes. In 2005, with the support of South Korea, we could design Myanmar ICT Development Master Plan which emphasizes e-Government, e-Education and e-Commerce.

As ICT Legal Frame Work, three major pillars of Myanmar ICT laws are (1) the Computer Science Development Law, 1996, (2) the Wide Area Network Order, 2002 and (3) the Electronic Transactions Law, 2004.

(i) Policy

- Ministry of Communication and Information Technology
- Myanmar Computer Science Development Council (MCSDC)

(ii) Regulation

- Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications (MPT)

(iii) Implementation

- Myanmar Posts and Telecommunications (MPT)
- Yatanarpon Teleport (YTP)
- Myanmar Computer Federation (MCF)
- Government organizations
- Semi-Government and NGO bodies

There are institutions in Myanmar ICT development. In 1996, Myanmar Computer Science Development Council and in 1998, Myanmar Computer Federation (MCF) were established. Myanmar Computer Professionals Association (MCPA), Myanmar Computer Industry Association (MCIA) and Myanmar Computer Enthusiasts Association (MCEA) are subordinated by MCF.

The new reformist Government, sworn in on March 30th, 2011, immediately embarked on a range of social, political and economic reforms aimed at attaining national reconciliation, good governance, and economic

development. Information and communication technology (ICT) powers new value chains and impacts entire industries. In Myanmar, huge discrepancies in ICT knowledge between government IT personnel and private IT developers. Government agencies rely on private IT consultancies and developers to advise them on trends, strategies. IT companies usually do complete system analysis of the departments' needs and submit project plans. Some projects are operated by private companies for a period of time before handing over fully.

In view of that, the government wants to streamline government to-citizens (G2C), government-to-business (G2B), government to- government (G2G), and government-to-employees (G2E) processes. An inter-ministerial task force—headed by a senior minister in the Office of the President—has been established to ramp up administrative performance, beginning with electricity, investment, telecommunications, and trade.

3. Examples of E-Government Success in the country

1. Ministry of Communication and Information Technology

- e library software system
- ADSL billing system, invoicing system & management information system
- counter voucher software system (express mail service, registration letter, Registration parcel)
- e-Billing System
- e-Document Exchange
- G-PMS
- Public Access Point
- G-WAN (Government wide WAN)

2. Ministry of Commerce

-Ministry dot Net software

IIS-Internal Information System

-BTOS-Border Trade Online System

-IELPS-Export & Import License Permit System

-TC online (EICC, EICS, TC)

-Business Registration System

3. Ministry of Defense

-SACDS-Stock Administration Control and Distribution System

-BECS-Budget and Expenditure

-Networking Service for LAN Cabling

4. Ministry of Information

-PSRMS Press Scrutiny Management System

5. Office of the Attorney General

-Case Reporting system

6. Ministry of Transportation

-Container management system

Software Application (Sailing Schedule System and Vessel Current Position)

-Crew Management System

-Seafarer Data Verification System

-Dynamic Web Portal

4. IT development in OAG

Since about 1990, our Office of the Auditor General of the Union set up a separate computer department from which some staffs attended the training

such C#, ASP.Net & Microsoft SQL Server (2008) database. And then we could share the knowledge to other staffs. However, because of lack of skillful technicians, it focused a barrier for human resources development. From 2008 to July 2014, in-house computer basic courses were delivered to office staffs totally 43 times. Moreover, our staffs learned e-government courses, and another IT course conducted by Initiative for ASEAN Integration (IAI) program. Four application systems namely APMS (Audit Performance Management System), ABCS (Accounting and Budgetary Control System) and SDMS (Staff Data Management System) are used in our office. Under the e-Government system GPMS (Government Personnel Management System) and EDMS (Electronic Document Management System) are being used to simplify our working environment and be in line with our plan of transforming manual to automated working environment. In 2001, ABCS was highly modified into Visual and DBMS as Window Based and distributed to other government departments at a reasonable price.

Our office has established Main Server to finish the job more effectively and quickly. Most of the Computers in our office have not only Wide Area Network (WAN) but also Local Area Network (LAN) connection by using Network cable. As Government to Citizens (G2C), one of E-government processes, the public can access the information concerned with the results of CPA and Diploma in Accountancy (DA), notifications of Practicing Accountants from our office website, www.oagmac.gov.mm. In addition, for the purpose of getting our office and Myanmar Accountancy Council (MAC) information, Frequently Asked Question by online can also be done on our website.

5. Capacity Building Program of OAG

To perform IT Audit and e-government functions effectively and efficiently, our office has appointed twenty staffs who get the computer bachelor degree and three computer officers who get the computer master degree. The OAG's capacity development needs to be influenced by a number of key factors.

- the document-based auditing system
- the five-year strategy for ISSAI implementation

- the planned development of quality assurance systems and
- the balanced approach currently being taken to training and development

As one of medium term capacity development program, an ICT development plan could be developed with a model similar to that used for the State Audit Organization in Lao PDR. That plan intends to build a platform for IT-based human resources and financial management together with internal and external communications and a website, identify and implement an audit support tool and other IT-assisted auditing techniques, convert the existing Audit Documentation System Manual(ADSM) to a computer-based format in conjunction with implementing the ISSAI strategy, develop computerized training resources including, in particular, a language laboratory for English language training and train the staffs in the use of the new systems. Development of the OAG's medium term auditing capacity could include the provision of assistance to the OAG in giving effect to five-year strategy for ISSAI implementation including understanding and translating key ISSAIs, adapting them appropriately for Myanmar conditions and embedding them in existing audit approaches.

6. Involvement from external parties in ICT capacity building

The Myanmar SAI is in a good position to build strong relationships with a range of development partners that are active in Myanmar, as well as with other SAIs in the region, especially through ASEANSAI and those that can provide bilateral assistance in various forms. Our office had a chance some of the staffs to attend not only the IT Audit courses and computer hardware and networking in India and Malaysia and also the training courses conducted by Ministry of Communication and Information Technology.

For the purpose of continuously upgrading to ensure a high quality audit, the staffs could take the opportunity to study e-learning courses on RBAFA since 2012. As the next step after E-learning course on IT Audit, we are conducting the pilot IT audits initiated by IT audit team of our office. At the moment, under the modernization of public financial management project financed by World Bank, we are trying to implement prefabricated data centre,

mini e-library and to make accredited training on MS office with national specialists.

7. Major Challenges of E-Government in the country

- ICT Infrastructure
- Technology and Policy Changes
- Privacy
- Security
- Top management support
- Resistance to change to electronic ways
- Collaboration
- Lack of Qualified Personnel and Training
- High Costs

8. Challenges of IT Audit in OAG

- legal and regulatory requirements
- budget constraints
- inter ministerial coordination
- Lack of IT knowledge, there is still a group of people with limited knowledge of Information Technology
- Lack of IT Audit tools which could help us in auditing the IT environment more effectively and achieve best results
- lack of in-house technical expertise
- unwilling to change current procedures/practices

9. Conclusion

We would like to conclude by thanking ASOSAI secretariat for inviting to attend 6th ASOSAI Symposium and also the academic committee from SAI of Malaysia for reviewing our country paper. As today's technology is moving rapidly, we understand that our SAI will have to leverage on technological advancement in order to increase overall quality of the audit. At the present

moment, we are managing step by step the above challenges caused. This will lead our better audit approaches and methodologies in IT environment and improvement public satisfaction.