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November 25, 2024

Guam OPA Staff Completes Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) Human Resource Champions Program

Hagåtña, Guam – From November 18 to 22, 2024, Accountability Auditor Jerrick Hernandez attended the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions (PASAI) Human Resource (HR) Champions Program Module 6 (and final) Workshop. The workshop was held at the Auckland Rose Park Hotel in Auckland, New Zealand, and was sponsored by PASAI and the Swedish National Audit Office (SNAO).

The main facilitators were Ingela Ekholm and Carolina Bjerstrom who are Senior Advisors and HR Experts from the SNAO. Sina Palamo-Iosefo, PASAI's Director of Practice Development was assisting the facilitators. In attendance were 12 participants from Fiji, Tonga, Tuvalu, Federated States of Micronesia National, Guam, Kiribati, and Vanuatu.

The HR Champions Program was launched by PASAI in May 2023 to support Supreme Audit Institutions (SAI) to strengthen its HR processes, which is in line with one of PASAI's strategic priorities to enhance SAI capacity and capability by supporting SAIs to improve their approaches to managing human resources and related matters. This is an important steppingstone to achieving greater autonomy, despite limited HR resources.

The two main objectives of the program are:

- 1.) Champions understand and are familiar with Human Resources as a subject matter, its processes, and an overview level and to be able to relate to own context;
- 2.) Network of HR champions and peer review established.

As part of the program, Hernandez was able to finalize Guam OPA's very first HR Strategy, which was published in June 2024 (https://www.opaguam.org/sites/default/files/guam_opa_hr_strategy.pdf).

Travel expenses were primarily covered by PASAI. Additional expenses were covered by a technical assistance grant from the United States Department of the Interior Office of Insular Affairs (DOI OIA).

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