On January 18th 2023, the Office of the National Public Auditor (ONPA) received an invitation from the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institution (PASAI) to attend a Communications and Media workshop in Nadi Fiji. The training was delivered by PASAI Staff Annie Subactagin-Matto – Director of Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting, Luke Eaton - Communications Advisor, Danial Sadeqi- eLearning Specialist and Meresimani Vosawale Katuba - Director (South). The workshop was scheduled from February 7th to February 10th 2023. The purpose of this workshop is to strengthen the Audit Office capabilities to communicate and engage effectively with the media and stakeholders by using various channels of communication.

The ONPA nominated Ankie Mendiola and Miriama Naivalu to attend the workshop that was attended by communication and audit staff from the Pacific region– Fiji, Guam, PNG, Vanuatu, Kiribati, Solomon, Tuvalu, Samoa, Nauru, FSM states of Yap and Pohnpei, Palau, CNMI, and Cook Islands. It was PASAI’s first face to face training since the covid-19 pandemic. Attending the workshop was an enriching experience as it provided the participants with new communication and media skills to assist our office better communicate our audit findings and create awareness about our audit work.

We are grateful to PASAI for the opportunity to learn from professionals and network with other SAI’s and learn from them as well. The workshop was timing as the ONPA is currently implementing its Stakeholders Engagement Strategy and executing its awareness programs and promoting its website and Facebook page by posting audit findings and reports, awareness news articles and more. The participants were also able to discuss with the facilitators and make improvements to its Communication workplan after linking it to the Audit workplan.

The ONPA give special thanks to PASAI and the facilitators for the informative workshop. We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of this experience that will help improve our efforts to effectively engage and create awareness about our audit work with our stakeholders.