

We talk to the chairman of the IAIS Education Subcommittee (ESC), Mr. Walid Genadry



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A2ii: Mr. Walid, what are the priorities of the IAIS ESC?

WG: The objective of the ESC is to help supervisors enhance their mastery of their supervision profession regarding, among others, IAIS supervisory principles, and standards. For the last two and a half years we have worked at offering IAIS members an environment to enhance their professional development pursuing a strategy consisting of:

- a. **Assessing** the educational and development needs of IAIS members
- b. **Centralizing** information, references and material relevant to supervisors
- c. **Facilitating** and promoting activities that address supervisors’ needs
- d. Encouraging a policy of **leveraging** through partnership

It is important to mention that the IAIS is not a training institute, it is an international standard setting body, but has a central role within the supervisory community which puts it in the ideal position to cater to supervisory needs. This is what we call the catalyst role of the IAIS.

A2ii: Can you tell us a bit more on IAIS present and planned offer?

WG: At the heart of the offer are two central training tools:

- The core curriculum consisting of 36 basic-level modules and five advanced-level case studies in the principal areas of insurance supervision.
- FSI connect, which is a comprehensive set of tutorials covering supervisory guidance, techniques and practices.

The ESC also offers co-organized training seminars, and is developing a supervisory guide on operational issues, teaching notes on the ICPs a webinar-based induction seminar for new supervisory staff.

A2ii: How do you assess the IAIS member education and supervisory development needs?

WG: The ESC plans to conduct a major survey once every two years in order to assess supervisors’ needs *from their own perspective*.

A2ii: How do you see the evolution of IAIS members’ supervisory development?

WG: While standard writing succeeds with a limited number of competent people, implementation of these same standards succeeds by rallying everyone (all members) to apply them. The challenge is that one cannot have control on the timing of a successful implementation. It is a totally different challenge, as it is much more operational in nature, markedly people driven and interacts with the political, legislative and organizational realities of members in their home jurisdictions. If you expect quick results you can fail out of early disappointment.

A2ii: Does the IAIS partner with other organisations?

WG: This is an extremely important component of our supervisory development strategy. Financed Seminars on IAIS related topics are organized presently primarily in partnership with the Financial Stability Institute (FSI) and occasionally with some other organizations and are usually hosted by a member jurisdiction. We also partner – or seek to partner – with organizations such as the World bank, the Toronto Center, A2II, **Examination Resources**, IMF, UNCTAD, or other specialized or regional bodies.

A2ii: What kind of training do supervisors prefer?

WG: We are working hard on improving our understanding of our members’ needs. Our present understanding is that supervisors’ needs depend on the topics and their own level of development. New supervisors are more interested in induction-type programs and entry level understanding of core principles as well as basics of the insurance profession. Supervisors with 2-5 years of experience want to go beyond theory into more operational considerations and are interested in more specialized training including concrete examples and case studies. Senior supervisors tend to be more interested in focused information gathering on specific topics and in knowledge sharing.