



World Bank - SMP Capacity Building Training Webinar Series

Introduction

Following the webinar Small and Medium-Sized Practices Rising to Coronavirus Challenge on 29 May 2020, within the frames of the European Union- World Bank joint Financial Inclusion and Accountability Project, the World Bank in collaboration with SARAS and the Georgian professional accountancy organizations (PAOs), conducted a survey of small and medium-sized practices (SMPs) to assess the impact and implications of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on the market for audit services in Georgia. On 11 August 2020 the report, Survey of Auditors and Audit Firms on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Market for Audit Services in Georgia, was published here. This report recommended the launch of the 'SMP Capacity Building Training Webinar Series', a set of online training modules to help build the capacity of SMPs in Georgia.

About the Webinars

The table below provides the schedule for the webinar series. There are three core modules, which set out a broad rationale and approach, followed by a set of topic specific modules that contain more 'how to' guidance. Paul Thompson will act as webinar leader. In most cases he will be joined by a co-presenter. Registrations will open at least 3 weeks before the webinar is run. Slide presentations and recommended reading will be translated into Georgian (the table below contains links to the reading material) and disseminated before or soon after each webinar. Video recordings will be made and disseminated after the event.

The standard format for each 90-minute webinar is as follows:

- Introduction [10 mins]
- Presentation – Paul Thompson and Invited Speaker [60 mins]
- Questions & Answers – moderated by World Bank staff [15 mins]
- Closing Remarks – World Bank staff [5 mins]

<p>29 May, 2020</p> <p>Paul Thompson</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Small and Medium-Sized Accountancy Practices Rising to Coronavirus Challenge – Advising SMEs on Business Continuity [COMPLETED – SEE VIDEO HERE]</p>
<p>30 ნოემბერი, 2020</p> <p>პოლ თომპსონი ქრისტოფერ არნოლდი IFAC ალექს პილი ICAEW</p>	<p>Completed</p> <p>Future of SMPs: Lessons from the Crisis and Practice Transformation [COMPLETED – SEE VIDEO HERE]</p> <p>• Readings</p> <p>Survey of Auditors and Audit Firms on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on the Market for Audit Services in Georgia, World Bank / EU / SARAS, GEO Smarter, Sustainable, Stronger: Small and Medium Sized Practices Post Crisis, LinkedIn, GEO Covid-19 - the SMP's road to recovery, ACCA, GEO Practice Transformation Action Plan, IFAC, GEO</p>

<p>4 March, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson, Martin de Bie NBA</p>	<p>Future of SMPs: Digital Transformation</p> <p>This module builds on the first, explaining why SMPs must embrace digital transformation and sets out an implementation roadmap. Participants will learn from an expert how to acquire the mindset, skillset, and toolset necessary for this transformation. The module will also share some tools to help SMPs digitally transform and hear from some SMPs on how they made the transformation.</p> <p>● Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice Transformation Action Plan, IFAC, GEO Why SMPs must embrace the potential of digitalisation, ACCA, GEO How PAOs Can Help SMPs Transform their Businesses with Minimal Cost and Pain, IFAC, GEO Quick Guide to Digitalisation and Business Diversification for SMPs, ACCA, GEO SMP Pacesetters Embracing Technology (Article & Videos), ACCA, GEO
<p>Early March, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson, Aleksandra Zaronina ACCA</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Future of SMPs: Business Diversification Through Offering New Services</p> <p>This module explains why SMPs must offer new and improved services. Participants will learn from an expert what possible services to offer, including business advisory, and the step-by-step approach to building the capacity to promote, deliver and profit from these new service offerings.</p> <p>● Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Practice Transformation Action Plan, IFAC, GEO Transition into Advisory Services - Leveraging Partnerships and Networks GEO, IFAC, GEO
<p>Q2, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson with IAASB / IFAC staff</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Quality Control and Management</p> <p>● Readings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> With New Standards in Place, Proactive Quality Management Will Underpin the Next Era of Audit Transformation GEO
<p>Q2, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson, Antoni Gomez ICJCE</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Networks, Mergers and Acquisitions</p>
<p>Q2, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson with AICPA staff</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Practice Marketing and Communications</p>
<p>Q2, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson with ACCA staff</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Managing People</p>
<p>Q3, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson with IFAC staff</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Offering New Services: Business Advisory (Part 1 of 3)</p>
<p>Q3, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson with IFAC staff</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Offering New Services: Business Advisory (Part 2 of 3)</p>
<p>Q3, 2021</p> <p>Paul Thompson with IFAC staff</p>	<p>The date will be specified</p> <p>Offering New Services: Business Advisory (Part 3 of 3)</p>