

Due process engagements for the year ended 31 March 2024	
Topic	Stakeholder
ED 200 Post-implementation Review of GRAP 109 Accounting by Principals and Agents	TVET Colleges
	SAICA Public Sector Committees
	SAIGA members
	PSAF members
	Public entities
	SAIGA
	SAICA auditors and other technical specialists
	National Treasury training sessions for the Eastern Cape, Limpopo and Mpumalanga municipalities
	Office of the Accountant-General
	Public Sector Accounting Forum municipal preparers
	Metro and non-delegated municipalities and municipal entities
	SALGA municipal preparers North-West, Free State, Kwa-Zulu Natal
	SALGA municipal users North-West, Free State, Kwa-Zulu Natal
	SAICA members
	AGSA Product Champion Forum
	CIGFARO
	Waterboards
MFMA Coordinators	
ED 203 IPSAS ED on Concessionary Leases and Right-of-use Assets In-kind (amendments to IPSAS 43 and IPSAS 23)	Auditors, technical specialists and preparers (2 sessions)
ED 204 on Revisions to the Standards of GRAP 105 Transfer of Functions Between Entities Under Common Control, GRAP 106 Transfer of Functions Between Entities Not Under Common Control and GRAP 107 Mergers	Auditors and technical specialists
	Preparers – public entities, water boards, municipalities, municipal entities, CET Colleges
	CIGFARO
	PSAF members
	Western Cape Accounting Working Committee
Auditors and other technical specialists	

Due process engagements for the year ended 31 March 2024	
Topic	Stakeholder
	Preparers
Social benefits (development of ED 205)	SARB
Social benefits (development of ED 205 - part 2)	SARB
Social benefits and the application of insurance accounting	National Home Builders Registration Council
ED 205 on <i>Social Benefits</i>	PSAF members
	Preparers
	AGSA auditors
	Auditors and other technical specialists
	National Treasury Office of the Accountant-General and Public Finance
	PSAF members
	Reserve Bank: Public Finance
	Office of the Accountant-General: Public Finance
	Preparers
	Specific preparers
	Specific preparers
	Auditors and other technical specialists
ED 206 on <i>IPSASB strategy and work programme</i>	PSAF members
	SAICA members and ASB stakeholders
ED 207 on <i>Post-implementation Review of GRAP 108 on Statutory Receivables</i>	CIGFARO/SALGA members
	PSAF preparers
	CIGFARO KZN

Sharing information with stakeholders	
Topic	Stakeholder
GRAP update	SAICA members
	MFMA entities
	Eastern Cape Provincial Treasury MFMA entities
	Northern Cape Provincial Treasury
	Northern Cape Provincial Treasury, Municipalities
	SARB
	Free State Provincial Treasury, Municipalities
	North-West Provincial Government
	CET/TVET Colleges Department of Higher Education and Training
	PFMA entities
GRAP reporting framework (TechTalk)	SAICA members
Introduction to ASB and GRAP and update on activities	City of Cape Town APAC members
Ethics in accounting	National Treasury public finance management conference Public sector stakeholders
Information sharing on ASB projects	Western Cape Accounting Working Committee
GRAP 104 transitional arrangements (TechTalk)	SAICA members
GRAP update Enhancing the application of the Standards of GRAP	Municipal CFOs
Enhancing the application of the Standards of GRAP Current/upcoming exposure drafts GRAP 104 transitional arrangements	Western Cape Accounting Working Committee
GRAP update, ED 204, Concessionary loans	City of Cape Town
GRAP update and financial statement preparation	CIGFARO members
Closing address on sustainability reporting in the public sector	SAIGA Finance and Audit Indaba

Sharing information with stakeholders	
Topic	Stakeholder
	SAIGA members
Current exposure drafts	Western Cape Accounting Working Committee
Publication of ED 207	Product champions AGSA
	Municipal CFOs
	MFMA Co-ordinators Forum
Update on IPSASB and ASB activities (TechTalk)	SAICA members

THE IMPORTANCE OF STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND OUR STRATEGY

The Standards of GRAP are issued in terms of the PFMA. The Minister of Finance is responsible for approving the application of the Standards of GRAP – both who should apply the Standards, and from when. The Standards of GRAP are legislation, and it is the Minister of Finance who approves this legislation on behalf of Parliament.

As the Standards are legislation, it is important that a rigorous public consultation process is followed and that sufficient opportunities are created by the ASB for stakeholders to be involved in the due process. During the year, this process was published in our Handbook, and was also subject to public consultation. It is equally important that stakeholders are provided regular updates about the ASB's activities, and that they have an opportunity to raise issues about the effectiveness and application of the Standards.

The ASB's stakeholders include users of the financial statements, i.e. providers of resources and beneficiaries of government's services; Parliament, provincial legislatures, and municipal councils; preparers of the financial statements; regulators and oversight bodies; professional bodies; academia; ratings agencies and others.

OUR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE YEAR

Information about the engagements for the year is available on the ASB's website at [add link]. Almost all the engagements for the year were held virtually. Virtual engagements continue to be the preferred way of interacting because of time and cost savings. The physical in-person meetings held were usually at the request of another entity, for example, a provincial treasury, a stakeholder's conference, or an individual entity.

The engagements for the year totalled 55 (2022: 75). The number of engagements depends on the following:

- The nature of projects on the work programme and how many pronouncements are issued for comment by the ASB and IPSASB. Sixty percent of the engagements for the year related to the standard-setting activities and executing the Board's due process. Publications issued by the IPSASB for comment are issued as Exposure Drafts locally for comment and follow a similar due process as Standards of GRAP. The purpose of the of the local discussions on the IPSASB's documents is for the Secretariat to obtain feedback on the IPSASB's proposals to draft a relevant South African comment letter.
- The need for outreach from stakeholders. The remaining 40% of outreach activities related to sharing information with stakeholders through GRAP updates, online workshops and webinars with professional bodies and their members and presenting on specific topics at conferences or equivalent.
- The availability of staff resources. The vacancy of the Technical Director meant that there was reduced organisational capacity to respond to outreach requests.

While all stakeholder engagements are valuable and constructive, there were two initiatives that were particularly well received by stakeholders. For the second time the ASB hosted GRAP for both PFMA and MFMA entities respectively. The purpose of the sessions was to raise awareness about potential changes and topical issues in the GRAP

environment to assist in preparing financial statements. The intention is not to replace detailed training offered by service providers. The second initiative was creating a dialogue on sustainability reporting for the ASB's stakeholders. As sustainability reporting in the public sector is still largely vague and ill-defined the session provided stakeholders an opportunity to understand developments in the private sector, how work in the public sector is progressing, and gave entities a chance to share their own efforts in this area.

EXPANDING OUR REACH

The ASB is always looking for opportunities to expand its outreach. The ASB had success with various social media platforms, but YouTube had the best results. Recorded events were posted which enabled stakeholders to access the content multiple times.

In the past, the Standards of GRAP were translated. The use of the translated Standards is low, in part because accounting is often taught in English at universities and other tertiary institutions. The translation of the Standards stemmed from the Use of Official Languages Act. The intention of the Act is to promote better access to government services and better understand how government works using a range of languages. The translation of other material would better facilitate the intent of the Act. The ASB will assess how to implement the Act more effectively in the new reporting period.