Insights from IDI's efforts on SAI Independence

AFROSAI-E strategic Review 18-05-2021

Effective, accountable and inclusive Supreme Audit Institutions

Insights from past efforts on SAI Independence

Need to move from "awareness raising" to "action"

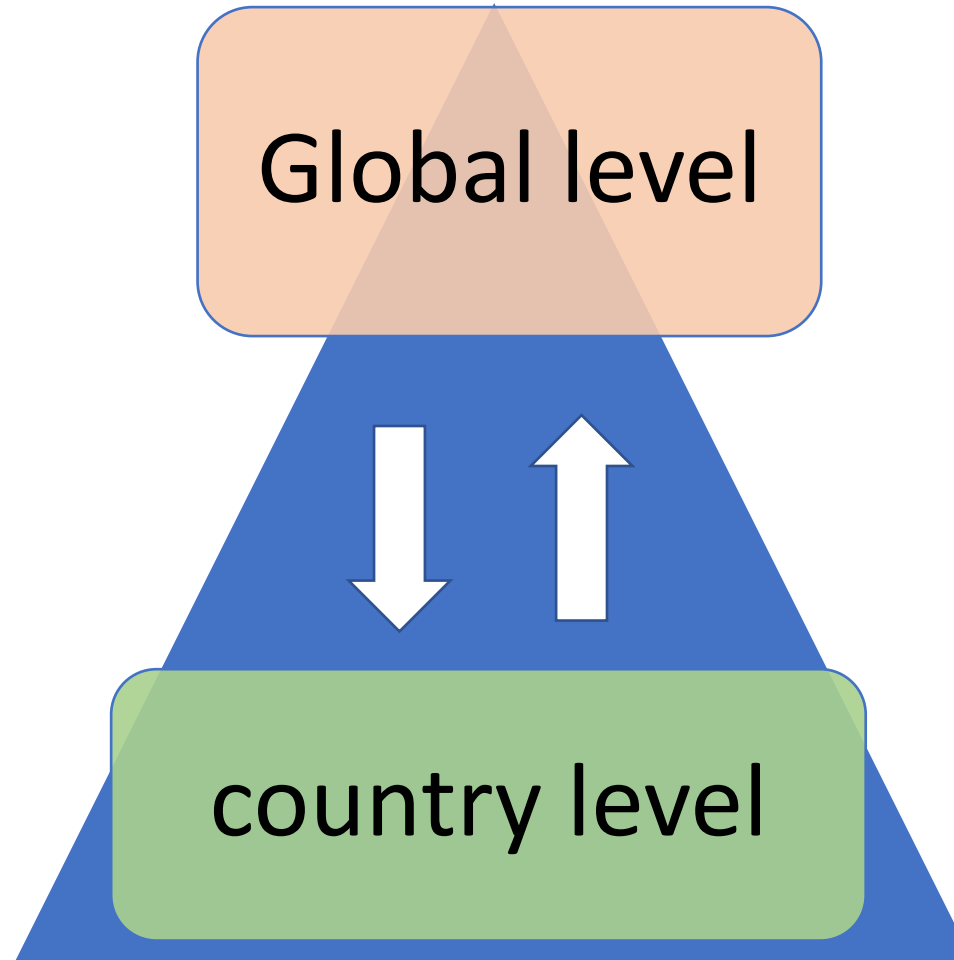Reach out to policy influencers and decision-makers

Mechanism to coordinate our actions and respond to threats
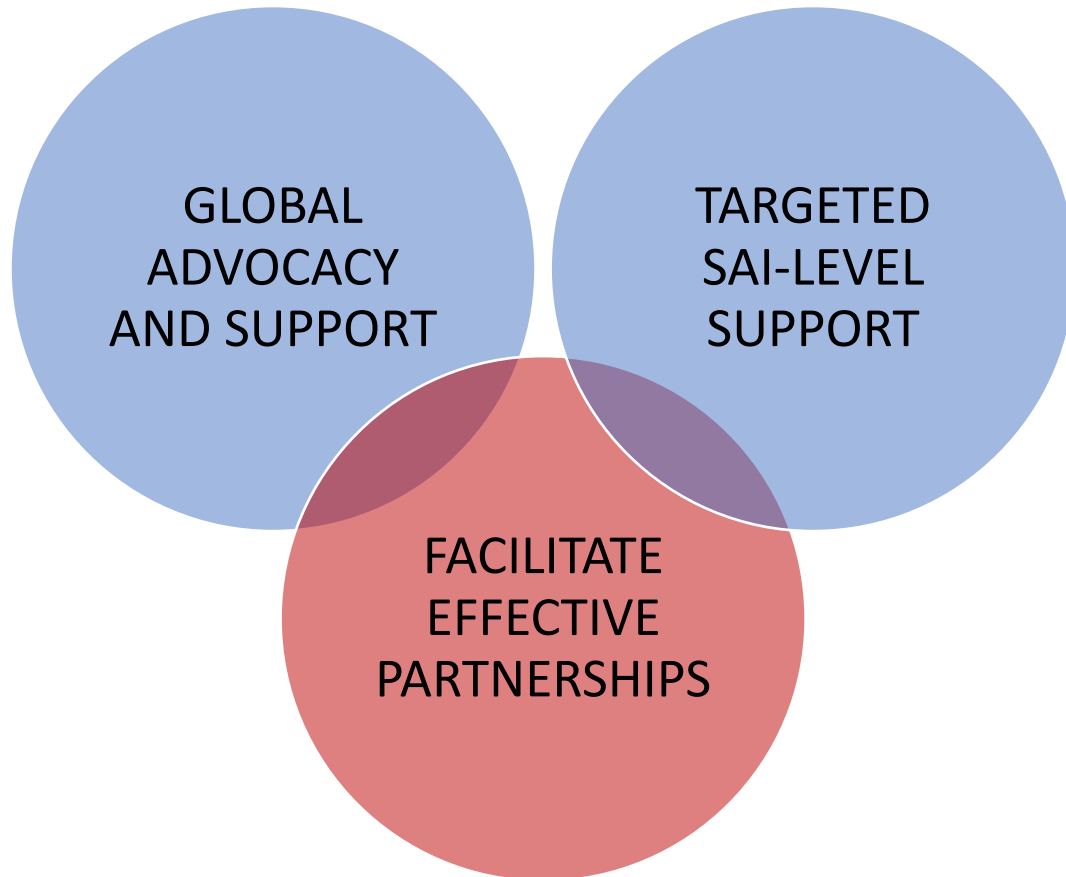
SAIs are still facing critical challenges

Need to Strengthen the cooperation among IDI and partners

Need to assess the country context more effectively

Need to work beyond the SAI

Global level

country level

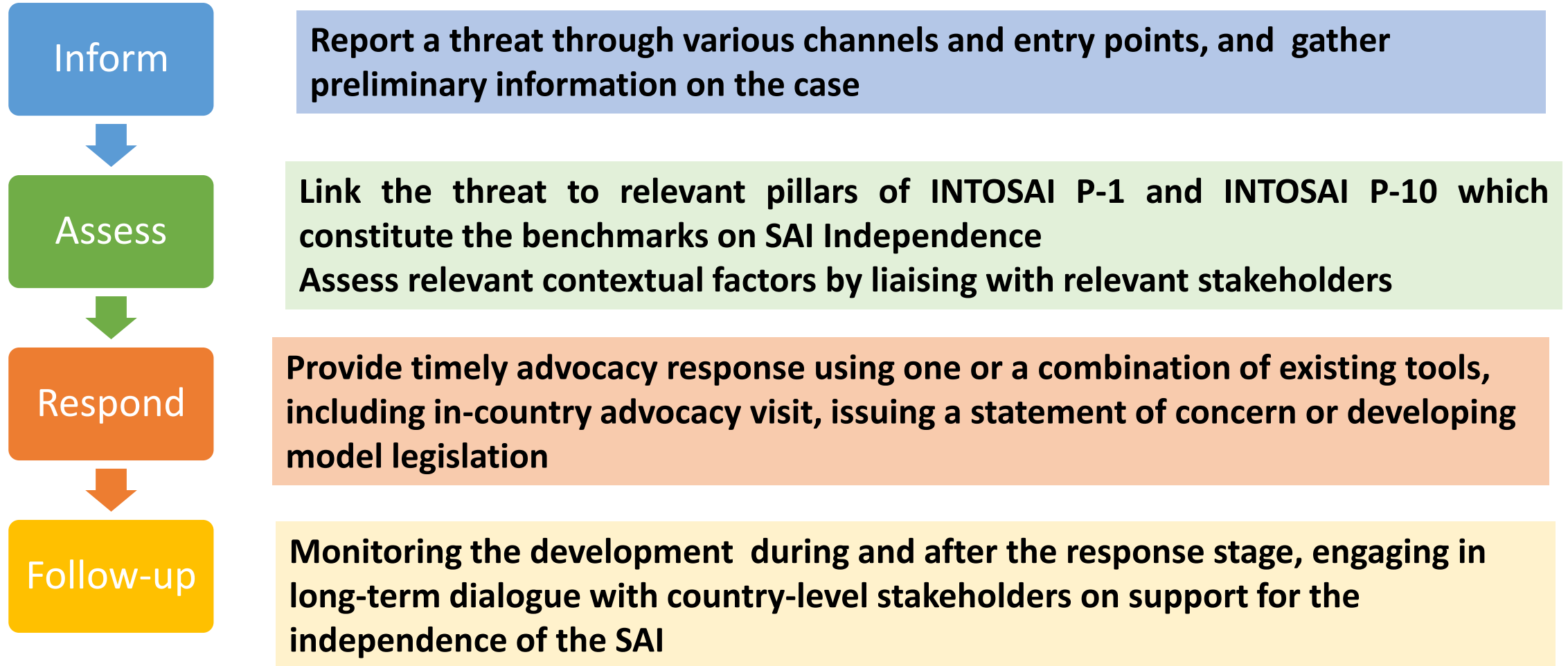# IDI 2019-2024 Strategic Plan

SAI Independence: SIRAM

Continuous monitoring and agile advocacy are key to maintain SAI independence

SIRAM's (SAI Independence Rapid Advocacy Mechanism) rollout over the last years has yielded some promising results and could form the basis for a more systematic approach to advocacy for SAI independence

SAI Independence: SIRAM

SIRAM's 4-Stages

Inform
Report a threat through various channels and entry points, and gather preliminary information on the case

Assess
Link the threat to relevant pillars of INTOSAI P-1 and INTOSAI P-10 which constitute the benchmarks on SAI Independence
Assess relevant contextual factors by liaising with relevant stakeholders

Respond
Provide timely advocacy response using one or a combination of existing tools, including in-country advocacy visit, issuing a statement of concern or developing model legislation

Follow-up
Monitoring the development during and after the response stage, engaging in long-term dialogue with country-level stakeholders on support for the independence of the SAI
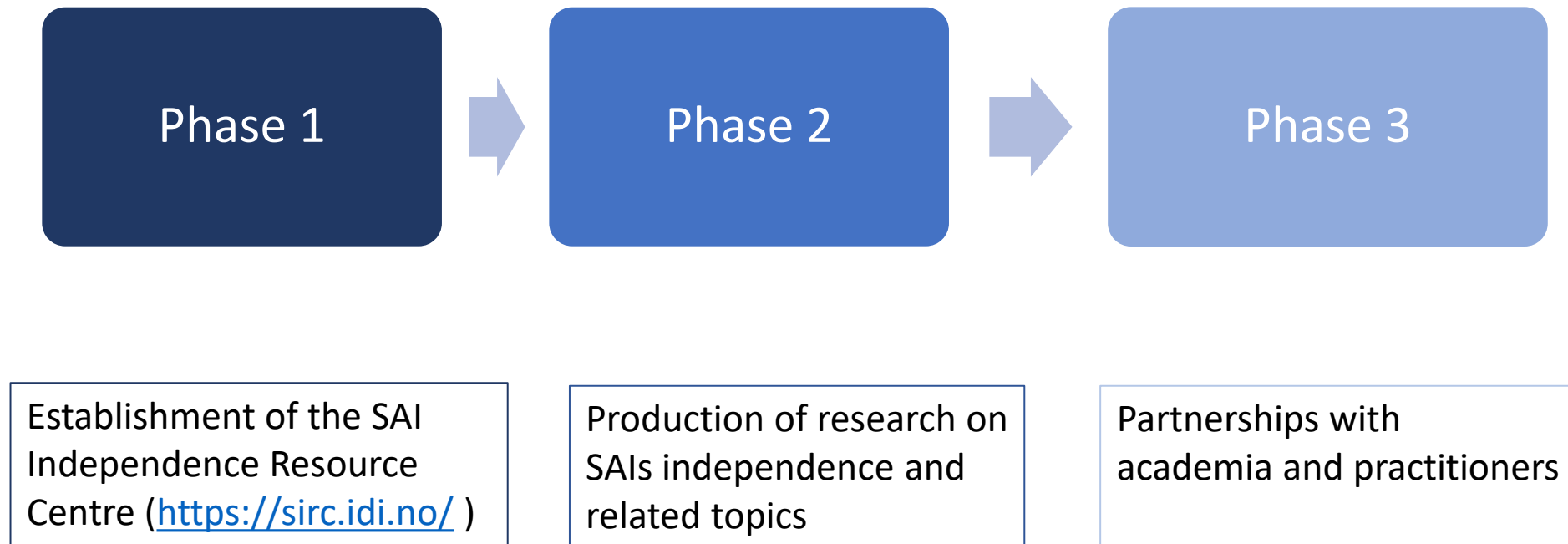
SAI Independence: SIRAM – points for consideration

- SIRAM as a tool is gaining popularity at the global level and in the SAI community

- INTOSAI is considered as a credible voice on SAI Independence both at the global and country level (No distinction between IDI and INTOSAI and its bodies at the Country level)

- Effective advocacy is highly dependent on greater coordination and follow-up at the country level

- Effective advocacy could be enhanced by the establishment of a continuous monitoring function to identify windows of opportunity
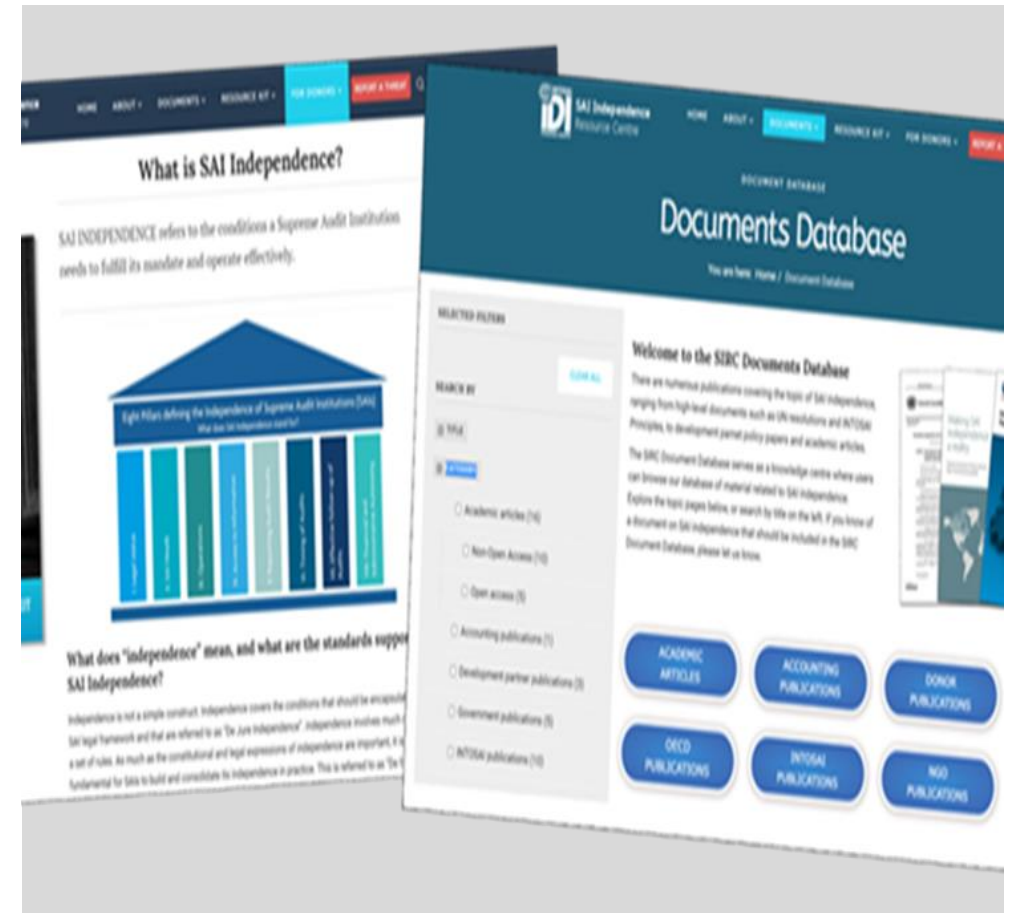
Establishment of a knowledge function

Consolidate and disseminate knowledge on SAI Independence are an essential element of the advocacy strategy

Phase 1	→	Phase 2	→	Phase 3

| Establishment of the SAI Independence Resource Centre (https://sirc.idi.no/) | Production of research on SAIs independence and related topics | Partnerships with academia and practitioners |

SAI Independence resource centre (SIRC)

The SIRC ((https://sirc.idi.no/) is as an information portal on SAI Independence providing all interested parties with the resources needed to advocate for SAI independence.

SAI Independence Literature Review

1. To synthesize conceptions of SAI independence from both academic and practitioner* literature

2. To illustrate the foundational role that INTOSAI guidance documents play in shaping the global conversation on SAI independence.

3. To identify the salience of SAI independence to achieve full implementation of the SDGs and build more inclusive societies

The SAI Independence Resource Kit is intended to serve as a quick reference guide for donor staff that will help them better understand the challenges SAIs face in obtaining and safeguarding independence and will assist them to effectively advocate for SAI independence at the global, regional and in-country levels.

SAI INDEPENDENCE RESOURCE KIT
FOR IN-COUNTRY DONOR STAFF
DRAFT VERSION – AUGUST 2020

SAI Independence: Research function – way forward

Expanding the research agenda will be critical to reach out to broader audiences and identity research gaps where our work could add value. In the upcoming months we will focus on the following:

- Adapt the resource kit to different target groups including parliamentarians and CSO's

- commission research on the impact of Covid-19 on SAI Independence

- Produce research on the SAIs following the board Model

Focus on support SAI Leadership

Various academic sources have emphasized the key role of SAI leadership in strengthening institutional independence through inter alia building alliances with other stakeholders.

We believe that supporting SAI leadership in safeguarding or enhancing the independence should be a key pillar of our actions going forward

Supporting Leadership through…

IDI Leadership masterclass on SAI Independence

Development of communication package on SAI Independence for new Heads of SAIs

Developing legal options and support for the transposition of INTOSAI P-1 and 10 into domestic laws and regulations

INTOSAI DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE