

SCFMC Newsletter

We take a trip
down Memory
Lane - p8



‘One big, happy
family’: A Word
from Elaine - p6



A warm welcome to our alumni

A warm welcome to all our alumni. It is hard to believe that the Small Countries Financial Management Programme has been running for 14 years, during which time more than 300 delegates have attended, representing 31 countries.

We are particularly appreciative of the Isle of Man Government's generous and continued financial support for our work over those 14 years.

We feel we are going from strength to strength and hope you share that view. However, we are aware that we could and should do more to

engage with you on a more regular basis.

In addition to developing a quarterly series of virtual events, we plan to produce a Newsletter twice yearly, to keep you updated with our activities and plans.

We hope that you continue to see yourselves as ambassadors for the SCFMC and would welcome your thoughts and ideas as to how we can add further value to what we do.

Please keep in touch and spread the word about the SCFMC.



Steve Pickford, Chair



Contributing to the growth and prosperity of small countries

The [Small Countries Financial Management Centre \(SCFMC\)](#) was established as a charity (company limited by guarantee) in the Isle of Man in June 2009, charity number 1044.

Its purpose is to contribute to the growth and prosperity of small developing countries through capacity building at senior official levels in the government financial sector.

The SCFMC achieves this through the provision of targeted executive education programmes conducted by practitioners and academics to provide improved skills, deeper understanding and best practice around financial regulation, risk management, and broader management of government financial activities.

The SCFMC meets all the costs of the annual Programme, including travel and accommodation for participants.



(1) Oxford, 2017

(2) Tynwald Hill, 2019

(3) Dr Valda Henry ECCB receives her certificate at the 2022 final dinner from chair Steve Pickford

(4) Fort Anne, 2016





Building lasting friendships and deep professional bonds

Programme Director [Paul Fisher](#) reflects on a successful 2022 event

This was the first programme we held physically since July 2019 and it's clear that so much confidence, energy, collaboration and learning is generated from the participants and their relationships with one other.

If the constant buzzing on my phone from the 2022 WhatsApp group is anything to go by, it's clear that a huge sense of togetherness was created over the two weeks with what I hope will be lasting friendships, as well as deep, professional bonds.

Some of the participants even took up mentoring roles to others which was particularly gratifying and demonstrates what a very special programme the SCFMP is. It was clear to me that participants left with a renewed sense of confidence, belief in what they are doing, and also an understanding that they are not alone and many of their colleagues face similar challenges.

As Programme Director, I am always looking to improve content and make it as relevant as possible to firstly align with the big issues that small countries face and secondly to focus on the skills they will need to address these issues.

For this reason the 2022 programme



included a number of additional areas of focus including climate change, cross organisational working and objective setting, resilience, and scenario planning.

I was also delighted that we managed to tap into some of the expertise of our board this year with our chair Stephen Pickford doing an excellent joint session with Mark Shimmin on cross organisational working and objective setting, and Serena Libera Kern fronting up one of our evening speaker slots with a very personal and inspiring account of her life's journey.

The evening speaker slots continue to be an excellent means of providing

different perspectives and our Oxford session with Professor Ian Goldin, Professor of Globalisation and Development at the University of Oxford and founding Director of the Oxford Martin School, which consisted of a tour d'horizon of global challenges, was a great success.

The evaluations completed by participants confirm how positively the performance of the faculty as a whole was viewed, as was the value and impact of the overall programme.

I'm very proud of what we delivered during 2022. We look forward to keeping the momentum going in 2023!

MEET THE ALUMNI... Ianesi Faasisila-Enosa

‘Need for inspirational leaders is crucial during transition’

Samoa continuing to deal with impact of significant political change

I attended the 2019 SCFMP, in my capacity as Manager in the Human Resource Department of the Central Bank of Samoa from 2015 to 2021.

Prior to that role, I worked at the Samoa Public Service Commission in the position of Assistant CEO for Senior Executive Services for about six years and prior to that held middle management positions in Government Ministries and State-Owned Enterprises earlier in my career.

The multiple work exposure gave me insight into policy development, organisational management and human resources management policies and practices across an array of government sectors.



Ianesi Faasisila-Enosa, Principal Adviser, Office of the Prime Minister

liaising and coordinating with government officials in providing briefings, assessments and advice to the Prime Minister.

The role plays a heavy ‘coordination’ function. The level of understanding required is high level in terms of knowing well government functions, legal mandates, services, policies, protocols and so forth, to effectively serve and support the Office of the Prime Minister.

Interests outside of work

In addition to my professional role, I am also heavily involved in the Samoa Human Resources Institute (SHRI), a professional body for human resources practitioners in Samoa. In August 2022 I was elected as the first woman President of SHRI.

One of the major undertakings at the moment is developing competency standards for the human resource profession and going through the accreditation process under the local authorities.

Key Issues facing Samoa

The Samoa general elections held in April 2021 introduced a change in Government in Apia, replacing the former Government (political party) that served in the administration for more than 40 years.

The new Government was led by the first woman Prime Minister since Samoa became independent 60 years ago.

This had a significant impact in Samoa and its diaspora communities around the world. It was an unexpected political change.

Current employment

In September 2021, I was appointed as the Principal Adviser to the newly elected Prime Minister of Samoa as part of its transitioning regime.

The newly-elected Government required solid change management knowledge and skills to facilitate the transition.

My duties as Principal Adviser generally involve managing the Office of the Prime Minister and more specifically, triaging matters coming through to the Office by

SCFMC Alumni in Samoa

There are many senior executives in the Samoa public service and public sector that attended the SCFMC programme, coming from diverse professions and areas

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

‘The newly-elected Government required solid change management knowledge and skills’

Sustain momentum through networking

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

of expertise.

The potential to build on the topics and lessons learnt from the programme is high. Unfortunately competing priorities drowned out the ability for alumni members to network effectively and reflect on lessons learnt from the programme.

How I would like to see SCMFC develop

The current arrangements by SCMFC in providing face-to-face meetings, virtual meetings and workshops during Covid and information sharing on other media

platforms are effective.

The knowledge shared is of great importance. In my area of work, I took away solid lessons from topics on soft skills and reflected on these during Samoa's political transition.

The need for adaptive and inspirational leadership and powerful influencers with apt negotiation and crisis management skills, is critical as Samoa transitions in the political arena.

As a way forward in my humble view

(a) The local alumni should be strengthened.

'Local' in the sense of regions (clustered by location), not nationally.

The momentum needs sustaining and this can be achieved through frequent networking via online or face to face.

(b) Regions to have a pool of experts or expertise in certain areas that alumni members can draw upon or call upon.

Areas can range from an array of topics depending on the capacity within each region. This can serve as a base of knowledge sharing for SCMFC alumni.

This approach plants roots of Small Countries Financial Management Centre in each region with growth in numbers expected, after the yearly programmes.

Check out the 2022-23 alumni engagement programme

Professor Ian Goldin to deliver Global Challenges seminar in January 2023

We will be holding four virtual seminars a year on topics of interest and relevance to both alumni and your colleagues. Your ideas for both topics and speakers are welcome.

The first of these seminars was held on 28th September jointly with the IMF's Independent Evaluation Office (IEO). Thank you to all those attending.

Next Seminar: 11th January 2023, "Global Challenges Facing Small Countries", Professor Ian Goldin.

Ian Goldin is Professor of Globalisation and Development at Oxford University, Director of the Oxford Martin School and Professorial Fellow at the University's Balliol College.

He previously was Vice President and Director of Policy at the World Bank. From 1995 to 2001 Ian was Chief Executive of the



Development Bank of Southern Africa and Economic Advisor to President Mandela.

Before that he was Principal Economist at the European Bank for Reconstruction

and Development (EBRD) and Director of Trade, Environment and Sustainable Development at the OECD Development Centre in Paris.

Tell us your news

The next issue of the SCFMP newsletter will be circulated in June 2023. Any news, updates and stories from alumni would be very welcome, especially updates on your challenges, promotions or changes of roles.

What would interest you most? Any ideas for content for future newsletters would be most welcome. Submit your updates to Elaine Moretta at elaine.moretta@scfmc.im

Let's keep in touch, share ideas and make the most of our unique SCFMC network.

Date for the diary

The 2023 Small Countries Financial Management Programme will be held from Sunday 2nd to Friday 14th July 2023. Applications will be invited from 7th December 2022.

A WORD FROM ELAINE...

‘It was fabulous to get back to our in-person programme’

Our wonderful interns help to make the SCFMC events such a success

It was fabulous to be able to get back into our in-person programme this year and I am so looking forward to our 2023 programme.

Since I joined the SCFMC in 2013 my highlight each year is meeting the participants. You are all so wonderful and by the end of each two-week programme we became one big happy family.

I was very fortunate in February 2020 to visit St Vincent & the Grenadines and had arranged to meet Sharda Bollers, an alumna and one of our Directors, for lunch. We caught a short boat ride to Young Island and whilst enjoying a pre-dinner drink, I was absolutely blown away when our past SVG alumni turned up to surprise me!

Thank you so much for the wonderful memory. I have all your other countries in the Caribbean, Pacific and Africa and the Indian Ocean on my bucket list so watch this space!

I could not do what I do without the



Elaine Moretta, our inimitable Programme Manager, with our brilliant 2022 Interns, Cate Atkinson and Harry Corlett

assistance of my wonderful interns. I am delighted that Cate and Harry are able to join me again for the 2023 Programme,

but I am also grateful to all our previous interns, who contributed to making our programmes a success.

‘By the end of the two-week programme we became one big happy family’

2022 Small Countries alumni re-unite in Zambia

Meeting of Eastern and Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group

SCFMC alumni Avinash Nemchand, Bryan Eiseb and Ogona Tshoswane from Mauritius, Namibia, and Botswana respectively, met at the 44th Eastern & Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group (ESAAMLG) Task Force of Senior Officials meeting in Livingstone, Zambia 28th August-3rd September 2022.

Botswana and Mauritius had applied for a re-rating with regard to FATF Recommendation 15 and their respective applications were considered at the September 2022 meeting.

Avinash and Ogona formed part of their countries' delegations, which attended the meeting to defend the applications for re-rating. Bryan Eiseb led a high-powered delegation from Namibia as the meeting discussed its Mutual Evaluation Report.

At the same meeting, Ogona was part of a panel that discussed the topic "Virtual Assets and the Implementation of AML/CFT programmes in the ESAAMLG region" during the Public – Private Sector Dialogue.

At the 2022 SCFMP, both Avinash and Ogona had come with challenges pertaining to the licensing and regulation of virtual assets in their relevant countries.



Avinash Nemchand, Bryan Eiseb and Ogona Tshoswane at the 44th Eastern & Southern Africa Anti-Money Laundering Group meeting in Livingstone, Zambia

Commenting on their participation in the ESAAMLG meeting, Avinash and Ogona echoed that the discussions, guidance and support provided by the resource persons and fellow participants

during the 2022 SCFMP on their challenges have been crucial in both preparing their countries' applications for rerating on FATF Recommendation 15 and in defending their countries' applications at the meeting.



Take a look at our online content

Remember to visit the Small Countries Financial Management Centre website at www.scfmc.im for further information.

We delve into our photo archives to remember some of the Small Countries Programmes from recent years. Please send any photos you would like to share for this section to elaine.moretta@scfmc.im

