

Concerns of Small Regulators

The objective of this break out session was to i) identify whether smaller regulators have commonalities in their challenges and ii) to optimize the role of smaller regulators in the IFIAR framework. During a "tour de table" approximately 14 IFIAR Members shared the main challenges they face as smaller regulators. Examples of common challenges that were raised during the session are:

- Organizational issues, such as collective procurement of IT tools for audit oversight purposes;
- Recruitment of staff (expertise and experience / budgetary constraints), especially for regulators that move from an inspection system based on subcontracting to a model where smaller regulators will conduct their own inspections;
- Difficulties in preparing for and attending international meetings and difficulties participating in Working Groups, given limited resources.

The participants of the break out session raised suggestions to address some of the discussed challenges, such as:

- Create an interactive forum (like a market place) in the Members Only section of the IFIAR website so Members can flag issues and ask each other for assistance;
- Develop ideas on how smaller regulators could be assisted by (more) advanced / experienced regulators with setting up inspection units.
- Hold a meeting of smaller regulators to continue their discussion at the next plenary meeting.