



International  
Federation  
of Accountants

# Quality as Our Advantage

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LACPA 19<sup>th</sup> International Scientific Congress Audit  
Complementarity Effects on Business Perspectives

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# Agenda

- SMP Committee
  - Overview
  - IFAC Global SMP Survey
- ISQC 1
  - Overview
  - Proportional Application
- IFAC Resources
  - Quality Control (QC) Guide
  - Global Knowledge Gateway
- Connect With Us!

# IFAC SMP Committee - Overview

- To represent interests of SMPs
- Comprised of 18 members from 17 countries
- Regular and robust input to policy, regulation, and international standards / guidance
  - For example, IAASB Strategy & Work Plan, Auditor Reporting, Disclosures
- Develops and shares tools and guidance
- Promotes the visibility and recognition of SMPs – presentations at over 25 events in 2014

# IFAC Global SMP Survey—Open in 21 Languages!

- Arabic
- Chinese
- Dutch
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Hebrew
- Hungarian
- Italian
- Japanese

**Calling All SMPs!**

Make Sure Your Voice Is Heard.  
Take the IFAC Global SMP Survey 2014.  
[www.ifac.org/SMP](http://www.ifac.org/SMP)



- Korea
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Russian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- Turkish

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# IFAC Global SMP Survey – Preliminary Insights I

- About the respondents
  - Top 3 languages are English, French and Romanian
  - Top 3 countries are Canada, Israel and Nigeria
  - Europe accounts for over 40% of respondents
  - Over 60% are partners
  - Almost 75% are male
  - Almost 70% are sole practitioners or in firms of 2-5 partners & staff

# IFAC Global SMP Survey – Preliminary Insights II

- Sneak peak at half-time scores
  - Top 4 challenges SMPs presently facing are rising costs, attracting new clients, keeping up with new technology and keeping up with new regulations and standards
  - Over 70% are not part of network, alliance or association – but 40% of these are considering joining one
  - Top 3 impacts in next 5 years are regulatory environment, competition and technology developments
  - Almost 75% said 2014 was the same or better than 2013
  - Advisory / consulting services and tax expected to be fastest growing service lines in 2015

# Overview – ISQC 1 Implementation

- ISQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements and Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements*
- Treat it as an exercise in change management
- Create an implementation plan and appoint a team leader
- Talk to your colleagues and clients now
- Take time to digest it all - recognize need to understand *all* of ISQC 1
- Determine requirements relevant to your practice

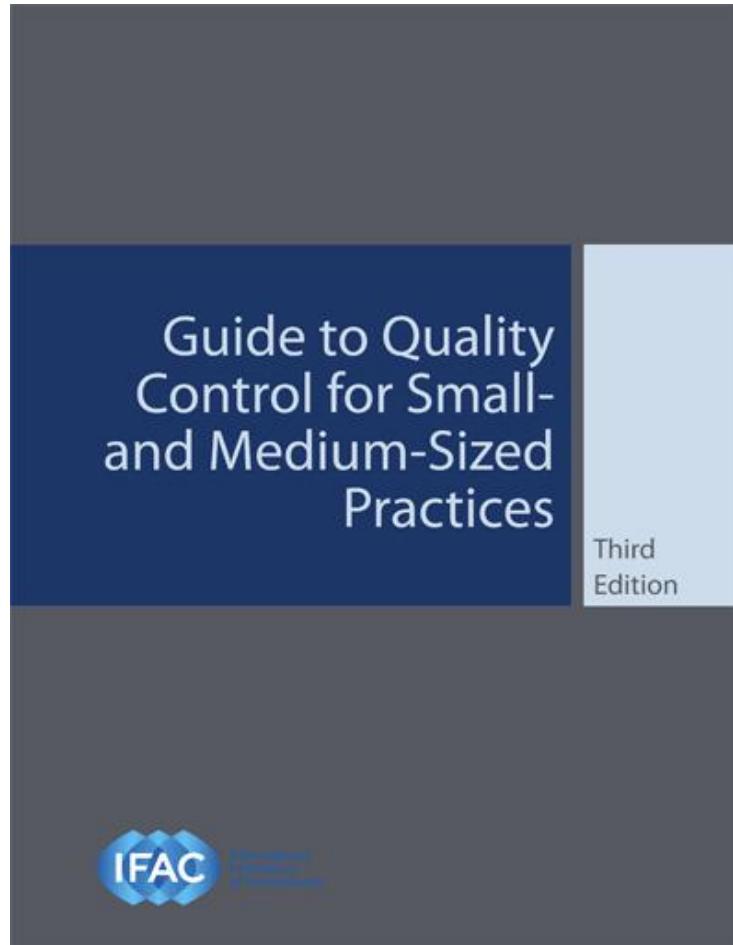
# Overview – ISQC 1

- Applies to firms of all sizes that provide services covered by the IAASB's International Standards
- Clarity structure in which information is presented in separate sections: Introduction, Objective, Definitions, Requirements and Application and Other Explanatory Material
- The objective of the firm is to establish and maintain a system of quality control to provide it with reasonable assurance that:
  - The firm and its personnel comply with professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements; and
  - Reports issued by the firm or engagement partners are appropriate in the circumstances.

# Proportional Application I

- Emphasis on professional judgment, the standard is principles-based which allows practitioners to tailor procedures
- Applying ISQC 1 proportionately to the size and complexity of the firm is key to its efficient implementation
- Requirement for the firm to comply with each requirement of the standard *unless, in the circumstances of the firm, the requirement is not relevant to the services provided...*
- ...hence some requirements may not be relevant to SMPs
- Contains special considerations for smaller practices (SMPs)
- Firms can draw on external resources to meet some of the requirements

# Quality Control (QC) Guide I



Published  
August 2011  
French and  
Arabic  
translation at  
<http://www.ifac.org/about-ifac/translations-permissions/translations-database>

# QC Guide - Introduction I

- Helps SMPs apply ISQC 1 proportionately and efficiently
- Provides practical guidance, but is no substitute for:
  - Reading and understanding ISQC 1 (itself, a requirement of ISQC 1)
  - Using professional judgment
- Helps firms develop a system of quality control
- Promotes consistent application of quality control requirements within audit, review, and other assurance and related service engagements
- May serve as a reference document for training within a firm

# Structure and Content I

- Modular approach to the elements of ISQC 1
  - Chapter 1: Leadership Responsibilities for Quality Within the Firm
  - Chapter 2: Relevant Ethical Requirements
  - Chapter 3: Acceptance and Continuance of Client Relationships and Specific Engagements
  - Chapter 4: Human Resources
  - Chapter 5: Engagement Performance
  - Chapter 6: Monitoring
  - Chapter 7: Documentation
- “Helpful Hints”

## Structure and Content II

- Case study—M.M. and Associates
  - Fictional sole practitioner employing four staff
  - Performs review engagements and a small number of audits
  - Illustrates the value of a system of quality control and how its elements may be applied to practical situations
- Sample forms and checklists
- Two sample Quality Control Manuals
  - Sole practitioner
  - 2-5 partner firm

# IFAC Global Knowledge Gateway - About

- News, views, resources, thought leadership
  - Access global resources
  - Learn about emerging areas
  - Stay connected to pressing news
  - Exchange views, make recommendations, share information and resources

The screenshot shows the homepage of the IFAC Global Knowledge Gateway. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for "English", "search", "Login/Register", and "ABOUT IFAC". Below the navigation is a banner with the text "Strengthening Organizations, Advancing Economics". The main content area features a large article titled "Interconnected Global Risks: No Man, or Business, Is an Island" by Mervyn King, former Governor of the Bank of England, dated April 10, 2014. The article discusses the challenges of designing an economic model capable of identifying and assessing risks relating to interconnectedness and how the G-20 has been grappling with these since the onset of the global financial crisis in 2008. It also highlights the need for businesses to make up around half of the world's largest economies. The article is presented in a business context to bring together the different parts of a business in recognition of the interconnections between them. It forces a new kind of thinking. The article concludes with the introduction of integrated reporting, a new corporate reporting model being trialed in approximately 25 countries and embraced by companies as diverse as Hyundai, Pepsico, National Australia Bank, and Unilever.

Below the main article, there are several sidebar sections: "Business Reporting", "Ethics", "Finance Leadership & Development", "Governance", "Performance & Financial Management", "Risk Management & Internal Control", "Sustainability", "Audit & Assurance", and "Practice Management". Each section includes a brief description and links to "Discussions", "Resources", and "News". On the right side, there's a "Recent Viewpoints" section with articles like "CIMA's Global Management Accounting Principles: Seeking Your Input" and "Deja Vu All Over Again". There's also a "Latest Accountancy News" section with headlines such as "Asian Development Bank Lent \$3bn to Public Sector Last Year", "Management Accountants Get an Edge at Penn State", and "US FASB Pushes Revenue Recognition Release to Late May". At the bottom right, there's a "Keep Updated" box with a "Subscribe" button and a link to "Get the latest updates delivered straight to your inbox".

# Global Knowledge Gateway – Topic Areas

- Business reporting
- Ethics
- Financial leadership & development
- Governance
- Performance and financial management
- Risk management & internal control
- Sustainability
- Audit & assurance
- Practice management
- *Islamic Finance (Dec.)*

# Global Knowledge Gateway – Audit & Assurance



## Audit & Assurance

Accounting firms offer a wide range of professional services to their clients, including audit, review, other assurance, and related services. These services are regulated, with many jurisdictions requiring compliance with international standards or national requirements that have been based on international ones. High-quality international standards increase the comparability, consistency, clarity, credibility, and transparency of financial information. And, high-quality financial information, in turn, increases the stability of the global financial infrastructure. [Read More](#)

[Discussions](#)[Resources](#)[News](#)

### What is the Future of Audit and Assurance? FEE Opens Discussion

by Hilde Blomme, FEE Deputy CEO, and Noémi Robert, FEE Audit & Assurance Manager | May 14, 2014 |

As part of its commitment to promoting a public debate on audit and assurance, the Federation of European Accountants (FEE) has published a discussion paper, the *Future of Audit and Assurance*. The paper lays out initial observations that could result in potential longer-term developments in audit, assurance, and other services. As the start of a journey, this paper examines some areas of development and poses questions. [Read More](#)

 [Recommend](#)

- Audit & Assurance  
 All Global Knowledge Gateway

### Recent News

#### [Value of Audit Blog](#)

May 14, 2014 - [Economia](#)

#### [Value of Audit](#)

May 6, 2014 - [Economia](#)

#### [PCAOB Seeks Input on Reorganization of Auditing Standards](#)

May 6, 2014 - [Accounting Web](#)

#### [SME Auditing Options Explained](#)

April 29, 2014 - [South African Institute of Professional Accountants](#)

### Recent Resources

#### [Auditing Special Purpose Frameworks: Flowchart Prep Tips](#)

May 14, 2014 - [Accounting Web](#)

#### [Auditing Special Purpose Frameworks: Key Controls](#)

May 8, 2014 - [Accounting Web](#)

#### [Factsheets on the EU Audit Directive and Regulation](#)

## Connect With Us!

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- Sign-up for Global Knowledge Gateway updates

[www.ifac.org/Gateway](http://www.ifac.org/Gateway)

## References – General

- IFAC SMP Committee: [www.ifac.org/SMP](http://www.ifac.org/SMP)
- IFAC Global SMP Survey [www.ifac.org/smp](http://www.ifac.org/smp)
- Global Knowledge Gateway (Audit & Assurance): <http://www.ifac.org/global-knowledge-gateway/audit-assurance>
- Global Knowledge Gateway (Practice Management): <http://www.ifac.org/global-knowledge-gateway/practice-management>
- Gateway resources for audit: <http://www.ifac.org/global-knowledge-gateway/audit-assurance?resources&topic=357>
- IFAC Translations Database: <http://www.ifac.org/about-ifac/translations-permissions/translations-database> (for Arabic & French translations of QC Guide)

## References – IAASB

- Staff Q&A, *Applying ISAs Proportionately with the Size and Complexity of an Entity*: <http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/staff-questions-answers-applying-isas-proportionately-size-and-complexity-ent>
- Staff Q&A, *Applying ISQC 1 Proportionately with the Nature and Size of a Firm*: [http://www.ifac.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/Staff%20QA%20ISQC%201%20Proportionality\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.ifac.org/sites/default/files/publications/files/Staff%20QA%20ISQC%201%20Proportionality_FINAL.pdf)
- The Clarified ISAs—Findings from the Post-Implementation Review: <http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/clarified-isas-findings-post-implementation-review>
- 2014 Handbook of International Quality Control, Auditing, Review, Other Assurance, and Related Services Pronouncements: <http://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/2014-handbook-international-quality-control-auditing-review-other-assurance-a>
- IAASB Clarity Center: <http://www.ifac.org/auditing-assurance/clarity-center>

# References – Implementation

- Guide to Using International Standards on Auditing in the Audits of Small- and Medium-Sized Entities (Third Edition) (incl. companion manual and slides):  
<https://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/guide-using-international-standards-auditing-audits-small-and-medium-sized-en>
- Guide to Quality Control for Small- and Medium-Sized Practices (Third Edition) (incl. companion manual and slides): [www.ifac.org/publications-resources/guide-quality-control-small-and-medium-sized-practices-third-edition-0](https://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/guide-quality-control-small-and-medium-sized-practices-third-edition-0)
- Boosting the Quality and Efficiency of Smaller Entity Audits article:  
<https://www.ifac.org/news-events/2013-07/boosting-quality-and-efficiency-smaller-entity-audits>
- Tips for Cost-Effective ISA Application article: <https://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/tips-cost-effective-isa-application>
- Tips for Cost-Effective ISQC 1 Application article:  
<https://www.ifac.org/publications-resources/tips-cost-effective-isqc-1-application>