# Practical experience of Performance Auditing

Developed Good and Internal Audit in the Public Sector: Opportunities and Challenges Riga, 19. September 2025

Interne Revision



# **Agenda**

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# What is Performance Auditing?

**Performance audits** are independent, objective examinations of government measures, projects, procedures and organizations from the point of view of economy, efficiency or effectiveness ("3E"), with an indication of any possibilities for improvement.

#### **Economy**

Minimizing the cost of resources while maintaining appropriate quality

Are the best results being achieved with the available resources?

## **Efficiency**

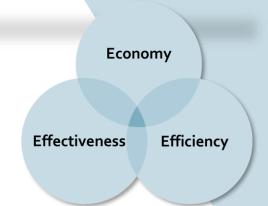
Optimal relationship between resources used and outputs delivered

Are things being done in the right way?

#### Effectiveness

Achievement of set objectives and intended results

Are the right things being done?



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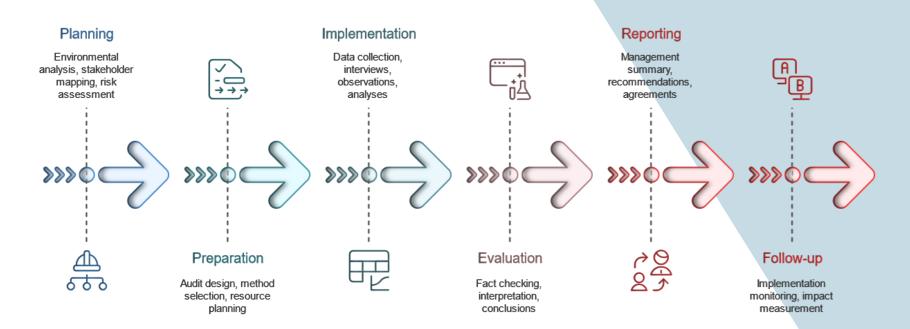
# **Strategic Significance**

Performance Auditing is more than just control – it is a **strategic instrument** for leadership to:

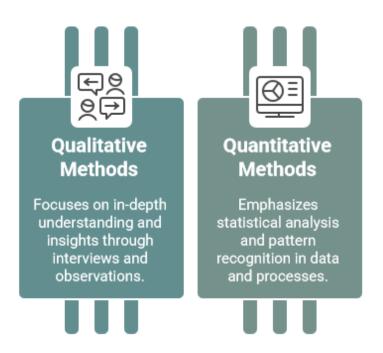
- Create added value for the organization
- Promote the organization's "fitness for the future"
- Support decision-makers with objective information
- Strengthen accountability and transparency



# The Audit Process in Practice

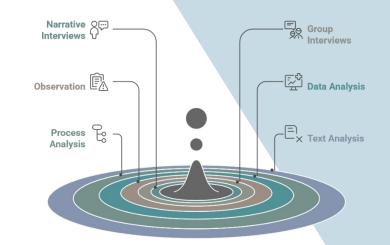


# **Diversity of Methods**



# Method combination is the key to success! The combination of different methods enables a

The combination of different methods enables a comprehensive and well-founded assessment.





# **Concrete Case Examples**

## **Case Example 1: Organizational Efficiency**

#### **Initial Situation:**

Long processing times in a tax authority

#### **Audit Approach:**

- Process analysis and employee interviews
- Quantitative analysis of processing times

#### **Results:**

35% reduction in processing time

#### **Case Example 2: Resource Optimization**

#### **Initial Situation:**

High costs in a public funding program

#### **Audit Approach:**

- Cost-benefit analysis and benchmarking
- Stakeholder surveys on effectiveness

#### **Results:**

22% savings with increased effectiveness



## **Lessons Learned:**

- ✓ Early stakeholder involvement
- Method combination for best results
- Clear visualization of results
- ✓ Implementation follow-up



# **Reporting: Communicating Added Value**

Management Summary as Centerpiece

Independent "story" for decision-makers that conveys the most important findings in a self-contained manner

Visualization of Complex Issues

Graphics and diagrams make complex relationships understandable and increase the impact of the message

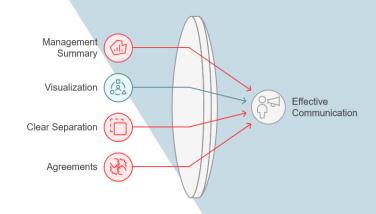
# **Example 2** Clear Separation

Facts - objective presentation of the situation
Evaluation - neutral assessment by auditors
Recommendations - concrete action proposals

# Agreements as Success Measurement

Concrete measures with responsible parties and deadlines demonstrate the impact of the audit

#### **Strategies for Impactful Communication**



The success of a Performance Audit is not measured by the number of recommendations, but by the **actual improvement** of the audited organization.

# **Success Factors**

#### **Stakeholder Involvement**

Early communication with all parties Transparency about goals and approach Common understanding of audit questions



## **Quality Assurance**

- Consistent application of the 4-eyes principle
- Standardized quality criteria
- Regular reflection and feedback

## **Continuous Development**

Regular method training Experience exchange within the team Adaptation to new challenges







## **Impact Orientation**

- Focus on sustainable improvements
- Measurable goals and indicators
- Systematic follow-up

# Outlook

## **Digitalization & Automation**

Automated data collection and analysis accelerate the audit process and enable more comprehensive audits.

## **Artificial Intelligence**

Al-supported pattern recognition identifies anomalies and assists in risk assessment and audit planning.

## **Real-time Auditing**

Continuous monitoring instead of point-in-time audits enables early interventions and agile management.

#### **Data Visualization**

Interactive dashboards and advanced visualization techniques improve the communication of audit results.

# Development of Audit Technologies Data Analysis Collaboration Al Usage Visualization Real-time Monitoring Today Future (2030)

