

Adoption of AMIS to automate audit processes and procedures

Management of GAS identified the need for capacity building and institutional strengthening to properly respond to the wide ranging public financial management reforms being implemented by the government of Ghana, in particular the implementation of GIFMIS computerized financial management system. It became imperative to build capacity of staff to conduct audits in IT environments and to use IT-based audit tools such as CAATs and audit management software to effectively perform its oversight functions on the GIFMIS platform as well as other automated government systems.

As a result, GAS has automated its audit processes and procedures through the adoption of an audit management information system (AMIS) that runs on RSA Archer Platform.

The World Bank, after a request from Management in 2018, hired Ernst and Young Global Limited (EY) to develop and implement the AMIS for GAS as one of the interventions under the PFM RP. Forty officers of GAS worked with EY to configure the audit processes of FAM, CAM, ITAM and PAM into a computerized system.

AMIS has five modules, namely:

- ⇒ Overall Annual Audit Plan – OAAP
- ⇒ Financial Audit Manual – FAM
- ⇒ Compliance Audit Manual – CAM

- ⇒ Performance Audit Manual – PAM
- ⇒ IT Audit Manual – ITAM

Objectives for developing AMIS include:

- * Operationalize audit management and monitoring system that is fully integrated with GAS audit methodologies and business processes
- * Enhance the ability of GAS Management to develop risk-based annual audit plans and monitor the progress of the audit assignments
- * Support customizable electronic working papers
- * Automate audit workflow, management and execution processes, enabling access to timely and relevant audit information
- * Automate audit follow-up process and preparation of audit reports

Benefits of AMIS

- * Allows for the use of automated system to limit human errors and biased judgments
- * Provides easy and quicker review of audit assignments
- * Provides evidence of work done for scrutiny (Activity Tracker)
- * Reduces cost of audits, as man-hours spent on audits will be reduced drastically

- * Helps fish out non-performing officials for informed management decision (Activity Log)
- * Provides paperless working environment

Expected challenges and mitigating measures

Internet availability

- ⇒ provision to procure 500 MiFi for all audit offices
- ⇒ offline version to allow working without internet
- ⇒ automatic synchronization of offline data with online system to update documentation

Staff appreciation of computer skills & Microsoft Office applications

- ⇒ training need assessments to identify staff limited in the use of computers and Microsoft Office applications (Word, Excel, etc.)

Inadequate computers (Laptops)

- ⇒ 500 AMIS configured laptops for deployment to all audit offices
- ⇒ configuring functional official laptops in good condition
- ⇒ sourcing for funding to procure more laptops



Login page of the AMIS platform

AMIS has come to stay

Join the AMIS train and don't be left out!!

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BOSS to an employee:

Do you believe in life after Death?

EMPLOYEE:

Certainly not, there's no proof of it

BOSS: Well, there is now

After you left early yesterday to go to your uncle's funeral, he came here looking for you



COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

HOW TO STAY SAFE



WASH HANDS
THOROUGHLY
WITH SOAP



USE ALCOHOL
BASED SANITIZER



AVOID CROWD



WEAR NOSE MASK



AVOID
HANDSHAKES



PRACTICE
PHYSICAL
DISTANCING



UPCOMING EVENTS

- * Presentation of Auditor-General's reports for June 2019 – June 2020

WORK AT HOME ADVENTURES

Stella Mamavi Vinyo Dekey (AD/EID)



OUCH!!!!!!!

The earth has a fever,

Keep calm and work from home!

Many of us made ambitious New Year resolutions for 2020, which promised to be good: great things we planned for, but alas! The year began not as blissful as envisaged, as the saying goes, man proposes but God disposes! The year started normally, and we worried only about traffic in the capital and how to keep body and soul together.

Suddenly, **BOOM COVID-19!** Lives changed and the usual hustle and bustle of life suddenly came to a screeching halt. To curb the spread of the virus, the country was placed on partial lockdown in some key cities around the country. Workers were encouraged to work remotely from home to encourage social distancing, and also to ensure work did not come to a complete halt.

Personally, this was a significant

change from my normal routine. I had to quickly adjust to the new work plan. I was on the field with colleagues, auditing one of the Technical Universities when we were recalled. This caused disruptions, which affected our auditing schedule and reporting timelines. Working from home has been both fascinating and challenging, and it meant juggling between professional work, home schooling children and others. Telecommuting from the comfort of my home has been eye opening. The novelty of interacting virtually with colleagues even though away from the office, did not compromise any form of camaraderie. It has also been challenging, due to myriads of distractions from the children.

Getting dressed up for work normally sets the tone for the day for me, so to wake up and just stay at home, and taking a long break from my high heels was not pleasant. I miss the hugging, shaking of hands and connecting physically with colleagues, but this too shall pass.

"I cannot say whether things will get better if we change; what I can say is they must change if they are to get better" – George C. Lichtenberg.

COVID-19 BLUES

Roberta Ntim (AD/PSAD)



"Learn hard" these are the routine words of a mother anytime she drops off her kids at school and the response is "mummy please pick us up on

time". I miss the scenery and mood of these angelic faces during drop off and pick-ups. I guess they enjoyed the freedom that out of school brings as well as time with mum and dad.

But guess what? The lockdown of COVID 19 brought the reality of a dream come true - having mum and dad, 24 hours, 7 days a week.

The routine now was brush, bath, breakfast, brunch, books, ball and bedtimes. Then one afternoon, I was in the kitchen, buying boredom with pastry making, when ...

My 5year old: "what is the meaning of bored?" (smiling tone)

Me: when you are tired of doing the same things over and over again. (assuring tone)

My 5year old: Like staying in-doors all the time? (enquiry voice)

Me: Yes, kind of. (dragging voice)

My 5year old: Mum I am bored! (disappointment in his tone)

Me: okay... what do you want to do, son? (awakening voice)

My 5year old: Go back to school! (a stern voice)

Me: Me too, I want to go back to work

Then, I knew C19 has over stayed its welcome. When are you going to go away for us to return to our routine of drop off and pick-ups which gave us some time with peers, work colleagues apart from family.

My kids and I are all bored staying at home!

Articles and contributions are welcome from staff

COVID-19 DONATIONS

The Greater Accra Branch of the Audit Service Union has donated thermometers to support efforts of Management in managing the spread of COVID-19. The Service also donated PPEs to three health institutions as its contribution towards the fight against the pandemic.



From left to right: Section of Management and representatives of the Union; AG receiving the thermometers; the PPEs donated to the health institutions; DAG Winful presenting the PPEs to representatives of the health institutions.

Tips on maintaining a healthy immune system

Your lifestyle can affect how well your immune system can protect you from germs, viruses, and chronic illness.

Replacing bad health habits with good ones can help keep your immune system healthy. Check this list to see where you could use some improvement.

Improve on sleep

Your body heals and regenerates while you sleep, making adequate sleep critical for a healthy immune response. Although researchers aren't exactly sure how sleep boosts the immune system, it's clear that getting enough - usually 7 to 9 hours for an adult - is key for good health.

Get more exercise

Regular exercise lowers your risk of developing chronic diseases as well as viral and bacterial infections. Try to get regular, moderate exercise, like a daily 30-minute walk. It can help your immune system fight infection.

Retune diet

The nutrients from food particularly, plant-based foods like fruits, vegetables, herbs, and spices are essential to keeping your immune system functioning properly. Drinking high amounts of alcohol, cigarette smoking and too much sugar can also affect immune health.

Put off stress

Chronic stress exposes your body to a steady stream of stress hormones that suppress the immune system.

Get connected

People who feel connected to friends - whether it's a few close friends or a large group - have stronger immunity than those who feel alone, studies show.

Lighten your sense of humour

Laughing is good for you. It curbs the levels of stress hormones in your body and boosts a type of white blood cell that fights infection.

Source: www.webmd.com

COVID-19: IMMUNE SYSTEM BOOSTERS



Zinc



Vitamin C

Lean meats, seafood, milk, whole grains, beans, seeds, and nuts • Important for wound healing

Broccoli, cantaloupe, kale, oranges, strawberries, tomatoes, guava, and lychee • Protect cells from oxidative stress, a product of infection or chronic inflammation



Iron



Vitamin E

Lentils, spinach, tofu, and white beans • Aids in non-specific immunity, the body's first line of defense

Nuts, seeds, wheat germ, green leafy vegetables, avocado, and shrimp • Helps protect cells from oxidative stress



Vitamin A



Vitamin B6

Sweet potatoes, carrots, red bell pepper, spinach, black-eye peas, and mango • Helps regulate our immune response

Green vegetables, chickpeas, cold-water fish such as tuna or salmon • Supports more efficient reactions between different parts of our immune system

Health corner

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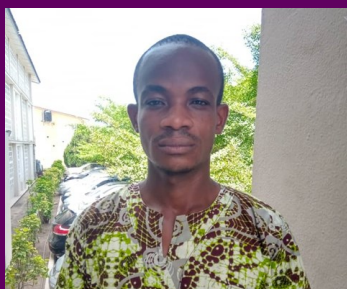
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CHRISTOPHER MORTEY(MENSAH)

- * Head Labourer
- * Hails from Akatsi Abor in the Akatsi South District in the Volta Region
- * Joined the Audit Service in 2002
- * Enjoys Fufu with Light Soup and Akplen
- * Likes watching religious programmes and news mostly on weekends