

APAC LEAD EVALUATOR TRAINING - 2019

INTRODUCTION

Through 2017 and 2018, an ILAC Evaluation Team conducted an evaluation of APLAC. Out of this effort came a set of findings many of which were contentious.

It was agreed, during the 2018 APLAC/PAC General Assembly in Kyoto that APAC would undertake some training during 2019 to address the issues raised during the evaluation. This was viewed as the least onerous method of addressing the issues raised during the evaluation.

Two training sessions were planned and will include all of the Lead Evaluators within APAC, even though LAC findings were aimed only at APLAC evaluations of applicant and signatory members. It is believed by APAC senior leadership that we will all benefit from this exercise, regardless of which regional group trained us and in which we conducted most of our work for our own AB.

APAC is therefore required to provide evidence of such training to ILAC and their Team Leader, subsequent to the completion of this effort.

CONDUCT OF THE TRAINING

Sixteen separate issues have been filtered from the complete set of ILAC findings, not all of which are being presented during this training so that we may focus on the ones that were agreed as needing some training action by APAC MRAMC. We may also have some time at the end of the training to examine some changes in our evaluation processes caused by the creation of APAC from the ashes of PAC and APLAC.

Each issue is presented separately with the finding that caused it to be considered. Some findings apply to more than one issue. Some issues apply to more than one finding. It is hoped that we will be able to cover all sixteen issues within the three days provided.

The course syllabus is published separately.

EXAMINATION OF EACH ISSUE

Each issue is presented separately for consideration by the whole group. The presentation of each issue is structured as follows:

1. A training objective (wish and a prayer) are provided first.
2. The second section in each Issue is a presentation of the unaltered finding text, as well as the responses from both APLAC and the considerations of such responses by the team, until a resolution was achieved between the parties.
3. The third section in each issue is a cut and paste of the actual text of the requirements documents that governed the ILAC team that were germane at the time of the evaluation, or they may have considered but not cited. This first part of this section is followed by a similar cut and paste of the text of the CURRENT versions of these same sets of requirements. This is to allow our discussion to not be mired in reference to requirements that may have changed in the interim – and allow us to concentrate on what is required now – instead of yesterday.
4. The fourth section provides a suggestion that the group can consider in implementing actions that may address the finding and the issue under discussion.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES

A summary of issues is also provided to provide Lead Evaluators with an overview of the issues presented.

OUTCOME OF THE TRAINING

There are two potential outcomes from this training. The first is mandatory and the second may allow APAC to enhance the value of its evaluations.

Record of Training

The first outcome is a record of the issues examined by the evaluators so that this can be presented to ILAC and the ILAC Team Leader, demonstrating fulfillment of APAC responsibilities in addressing the issues that form the course material. The material presented and discussed during the training along with an attendance list are all that is needed to meet this obligation.

Enhancing our ability to evaluate

The second outcome may be a set of things we can agree are needed to modify what we do, especially with the merger of APLAC and PAC, so as to meet the needs of the merged organisation. While the ILAC evaluation of APLAC may have questioned our conformance to our international obligations during this evaluation, we should also consider the changes to our evaluation processes caused by the merger.

The training facilitators will establish and maintain such a list of things to be presented to the APAC Secretariat on completion of each of the two training sessions.