



Future-proof internal auditors – How to stay ahead of the curve

Ediola Biçaku

Head of Internal Audit / Intesa Sanpaolo Bank Albania
Board Member / Albanian Institute of Internal Auditors

ediola.bicaku@intesasanpaolobank.al

Context

- While, we **cannot** create the "superhuman auditors"
- We must aim to **create future-proof** internal audit **teams**, where **collective wisdom** is valued **over individual ego**.
- This is true for huge audit corporations, but also smaller, more agile audit teams.

Internal Audit Function at ISP Bank Albania



- Maximizing impact with focused, thoughtful actions
- Approaching each task—whether it's adopting data analytics, improving cyber resilience, or tackling new regulatory challenges—with **passion, strategy** and a clear **sense of purpose**.

The story of the man who slept through the storm

- **Failure** is often the result of **unseen preparedness**. We, internal auditors are at the **forefront** to building that preparedness, ensuring the resilience of our organizations, before the storm hits.
- **Risk prevention** is an **invisible victory!**



The Complexity of non-recognized Audit Value

• Call for Action

- Uncover the **purpose of the company** and **integrate** it in our audit strategy (charter, mandate)
- Adopt a **solution-driven mindset**: nurture collaboration with stakeholders.
- **Translate risks into business impact**: Shift the conversation to “what happens if we don’t prepare?”
- **Communicate the cost of inaction**: Frame audit findings in terms of **missed opportunities, unrecognized vulnerabilities, or the cost of reacting too late**.
- Use data, AI for **risk modeling** and **scenario analysis**, apply even **gamification**, to **simulate** the potential fallout of unaddressed risks.
- Promote **Agility and Preparedness** within and **beyond audit frontiers**.

Future – Proof Internal Auditors



Take charge of your **professional evolution**!



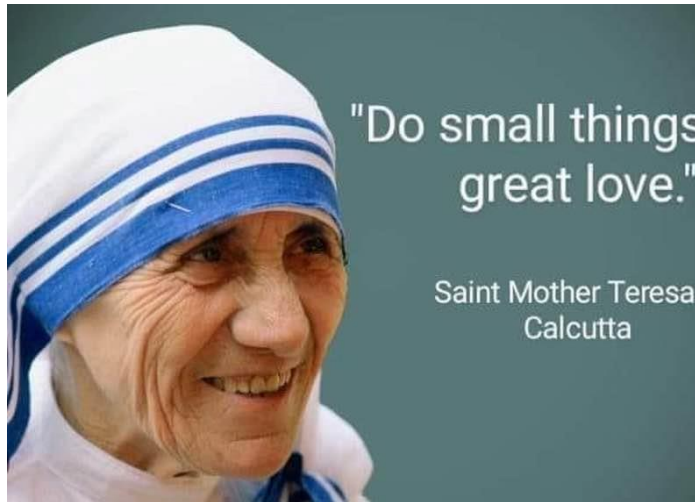
Uphold the **highest ethical standards** in all your professional endeavors!



The future belongs to those who are **adaptable, purpose-driven** and possess a **strategic mindset**,
to those who are not only compliant, but **courageous**!



Future – Proof Internal Auditors



DO NOT WAIT FOR LEADERS; DO IT ALONE,
PERSON TO PERSON.
- MOTHER TERESA -

Thank you for your attention!

Gladly available for questions and to connect

