

The Access to Insurance Initiative (A2ii) is a unique global partnership working to inspire and support insurance supervisors to promote inclusive and responsible insurance. As the implementation arm of the **International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS)**, we identify supervisory needs, develop tailored capacity building programmes, translate knowledge gained from the regions into global learning tools, contribute to the IAIS standard setting activities and support the development and implementation of sound regulatory frameworks. Our ultimate aim is to advance insurance markets globally and reduce the vulnerability of low-income populations against risk.

01

**The importance of insurance**

In many parts of the world, people and businesses live and operate without the security of insurance. However, when loss strikes, it does not discriminate between the rich and poor. In the event of a shock, past development efforts may be reversed and the near-poor may fall (back) into poverty. Even those in a relatively secure position may find themselves dragged into financial hardship. Insurance protects against unforeseen losses and financial vulnerability. In areas such as agriculture, innovative insurance products can provide solutions to deal with the impact of climate change and catastrophic events. In this way, insurance can also reduce the likelihood of food and economic crises.

02

**The power of insurance regulation**

Too often, insurance providers may not see a compelling business opportunity to offer products to the low-income population, and individuals or companies do not fully understand the benefits.



“A robust supervisory framework creates incentives for industry involvement and helps build consumer confidence through effective policyholder protection, particularly for low-income households.” Peter Braumüller, Chair of the Governing Council A2ii

Supervisors play a vital role in overcoming these barriers and in encouraging private and public stakeholders to work together to enhance access to insurance for all. However, this requires specific skills that many supervisory authorities in developing countries lack.

03

**Our solutions**

The Access to Insurance Initiative (A2ii) is a unique global partnership with the mission to inspire and support supervisors to promote inclusive and responsible insurance, thereby reducing vulnerability.

“We strengthen the capacity of supervisors seeking to advance inclusive insurance markets, particularly for low-income clients, by promoting sound, effective and proportionate regulation and supervision based on globally accepted insurance standards.” Matthias Range, Executive Director A2ii



The core fields covered by the A2ii are knowledge generation and dissemination, dialogue and learning, inputs for the development of global standards and guidance, support for country implementation processes in the area of regulatory and supervisory reform, support for regional implementation and capacity development of insurance supervisors.

“The A2ii is a key strategic partner of the IAIS. In working towards the goal of effective and globally consistent supervision of the insurance industry, the A2ii’s implementation and capacity building support to emerging market supervisors is most valuable to the process.” Jonathan Dixon, Secretary General IAIS



04

**How A2ii works: partnerships**

We are the key implementation partner of the global standard setting body for insurance supervision, the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), on access to insurance. The IAIS determines the necessary standards and structures for a strong industry. We listen to and work closely with insurance supervisors and provide guidance on how to implement those standards. A2ii’s close relationship with insurance supervisors and the IAIS enables us to better identify areas where support is needed and to feed what we learn on the ground back into the IAIS’s standard setting process. The A2ii works closely with its development partners leveraging off our comparative strengths.

## 05

**Our achievements:**

- We contributed to **13 supervisory papers** of the IAIS, which provide supervisors with guidance on how to implement inclusive regulatory and supervisory approaches.
- We conducted **20 country assessments**, from Colombia to Ethiopia to the Philippines, which have set in motion regulatory changes in at least **15 countries**.
- We have worked with local and global partners, insurance organisations and agencies to build the capacity of insurance supervisors and regulators. Today, there are at least **39 countries** with inclusive regulatory framework, with at least **16 under development** in the process of developing their frameworks, as compared to only **6** in 2009.
- As affiliated members of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion we have contributed to the work of the G20 on financial inclusion and raised the awareness of the need for insurance to be included in national financial strategies.
- Supervisory Dialogues are a closed format for supervisors only, while Public Dialogues are open to all stakeholders. In 2023 we held **3 Dialogues** reaching **220 participants**, including **142 supervisors** and **1 Supervisory special**.
- A2ii has published **34 Blog posts** since launching the blog in 2020. Recent blog posts were published on index insurance, risk-based capital and supervision, climate change, and the role of supervisors in innovating for financial inclusion.

**→ Gender**

As a result of the partnership with SDC, A2ii has developed a **toolkit** ↪ to collect and analyse gender-disaggregated data on women's access to and use of insurance and organisational diversity in the industry.

**In 2023 A2ii organised:****13 Events****Topics included**

Index insurance, digitalisation, diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), climate change and the protection gap, climate change and data, data and the gender protection gap, and risk modelling



With **1,082 participants**  
From **139 countries**  
**39% of them female**

**Our capacity building highlights:**

A2ii has **4 self-paced trainings** on the Connect.A2ii learning platform on Climate, Actuarial Skills for Supervisors, Gender, and Index Insurance



A2ii held **2 virtual trainings** in 2023



**80 participants**

**1 Actuarial Training for Supervisors from Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean**  
**1 Inclusive Insurance Training for Supervisors from Asia-Pacific**



**The Fourth Inclusive Insurance Innovation Lab (iii-lab) 2023 – 2024**

**50 participants**

- insurance supervisors
- industry representatives
- intermediaries
- consumer representatives

**3 countries:**

Armenia, Nepal and Senegal

**94% of lab participants believe that the lab process provided them with actionable insights that they can apply to their work.**

Implementation Partner:



Supported by:



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