

Proposals for measuring progress in the implementation of the SSP

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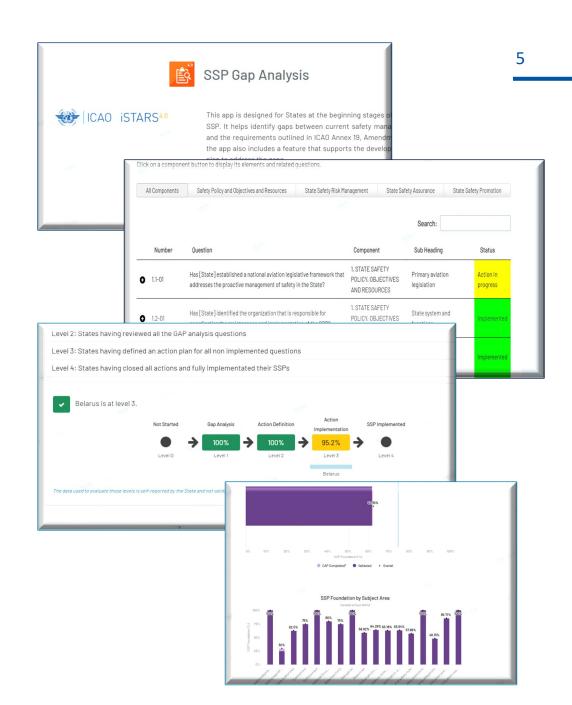




Current Situation

The current methodology for evaluating SSP implementation progress presents significant limitations. While the ICAO SSP GAP analysis serves as a reference point, it does not offer a fully accurate or up-to-date picture of the actual implementation status in States. A major concern is that the SSP Foundation indicators rely heavily on outdated data from USOAP audits, which often fail to reflect recent efforts and improvements made by States. This issue has also been acknowledged by ICAO Headquarters, which recently decided to remove the related iSTARS applications due to their limited reliability and outdated inputs.

As a result, the region is left without an objective, real-time mechanism to assess SSP progress effectively. There is a clear need for new tools and methodologies that provide continuous, data-driven monitoring—incorporating direct inputs from States, relevant safety performance indicators, and qualitative assessments from regional technical support. These enhancements are essential to ensure accurate, timely, and actionable evaluation of SSP implementation efforts.



Methodology Proposals





Methodology Proposals

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SSPIA Protocol Questions

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has developed the State Safety Programme Implementation Assessment (SSPIA) protocol questions (PQs) to evaluate the maturity of a State's implementation and maintenance of its State Safety Programme (SSP). These PQs are structured to assess various components of the SSP across multiple areas, including general aspects, safety data analysis, personnel licensing, aircraft operations, airworthiness, accident and incident investigation, air navigation services, and aerodromes and ground aids



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SSPIA Protocol Questions

the State Safety Programme Implementation Assessment (SSPIA) utilizes a total of 122 Protocol Questions (PQs) to evaluate the maturity of a State's SSP implementation.

These PQs are structured across eight key areas:

GEN – SSP General Aspects

SDA – Safety Data Analysis

PEL – Personnel Licensing and Training

OPS – Aircraft Operations

AIR – Airworthiness of Aircraft

AIG – Aircraft Accident and Incident Investigation

ANS – Air Navigation Services

AGA – Aerodromes and Ground

These PQs are assessed using a maturity model ranging from Level 0 (not present and not planned) to Level 4 (present and effective for years and in continuous improvement). It's important to note that the outcomes of SSPIAs do not affect a State's Effective Implementation (EI) scores within the USOAP framework. Instead, they provide insights into the SSP's maturity without generating findings or requiring corrective action plans.



USOAP SSP Protocol Questions

The USOAP SSP Protocol Questions provide a baseline for assessing the regulatory framework and organizational structure supporting SSP implementation. However, they focus primarily on compliance aspects rather than measuring the maturity or effectiveness of the SSP in practice. As such, while useful, they should be complemented with performance-based indicators and real-time data to capture a more accurate and dynamic view of a State's safety management capabilities.

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USOAP SSP Protocol Questions

16 USOAP Protocol Questions (PQs) specifically related to the State Safety Programme (SSP). These 16 SSP PQs are part of the USOAP Continuous Monitoring Approach (CMA) and are designed to evaluate the presence and implementation of the SSP framework within a State, aligned with Annex 19 − Safety Management. They cover areas such as: Regulatory framework for SSP Designation of the SSP Coordinator, Integration with the State's safety oversight functions, Safety data collection and analysis, Interfaces with service providers' SMS, Promotion of safety culture, SSP documentation and updates ◆

Note: These are compliance-based PQs

They are distinct from the SSPIA PQs, which assess maturity and do not impact the EI score.

- Emphasis on documentation and regulatory structure
- Less focus on practical implementation or effectiveness

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2014, 2018 | Mauritius: 2000, 2004, 2007, 2015 | Mexico: 2000, 2004, 2007

The State Safety Program (SSP) Assessment Tool

The State Safety Program (SSP) Assessment Tool, developed by the Safety Management International Collaboration Group (SM ICG), is designed to assist States in evaluating their safety management responsibilities and the implementation of their SSPs. This voluntary tool facilitates both initial assessments and continuous improvement efforts by providing a structured approach to analyze the effectiveness of a State's SSP



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The State Safety Program (SSP) Assessment Tool

The **SM ICG SSP Assessment Tool** is structured around the **11 elements** of the ICAO SSP Framework, encompassing areas such as:

- 1. State safety legislative framework
- 2. State safety responsibilities and accountabilities
- 3. Accident and incident investigation
- 4. Enforcement policy
- 5. Safety requirements for service providers' SMS
- 6. Agreement on service providers' safety performance
- 7. Safety oversight
- 8. Safety data collection, analysis, and exchange
- 9. Safety data-driven targeting of oversight
- 10. Internal training, communication, and dissemination of safety information
- 11. External training, communication, and dissemination of safety information



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The State Safety Program (SSP) Assessment Tool

Each element includes multiple **requirement statements**, and for each requirement, there are associated **expectations** to assess whether it is:

•Present: The requirement exists within the SSP.

•Suitable: Appropriate for the size and complexity of the State's aviation system.

•Operating: Being used and producing outputs.

•Effective: Achieving the desired outcomes.

The tool provides a comprehensive framework for assessing each component of the SSP. States can use this tool to evaluate the compliance and effectiveness of their SSPs, identify areas for improvement, and guide continuous enhancement efforts.



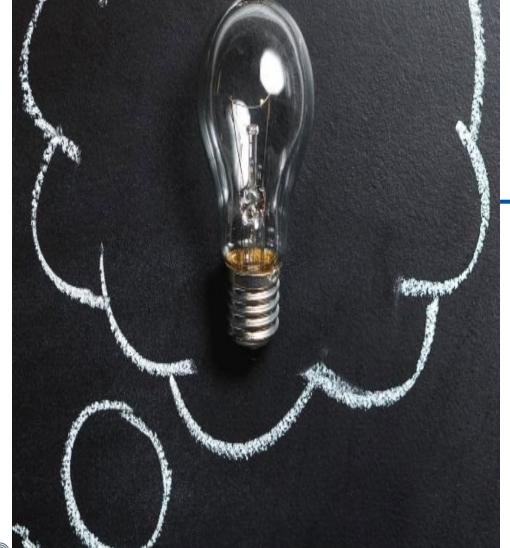
Evaluation tool comparison table

Tool	Focus Area	Output Type	Strengths	Limitations
USOAP SSP PQs	SSP compliance	EI-related findings	Specific to SSP; part of USOAP	Limited to 16 questions; lacks maturity context
SM ICG SSP Tool	Effectiveness	Narrative/self- assess	Promotes discussion & improvement	Not maintained after 2023
SSPIA PQs	Maturity	Non-El report	Measures actual implementation	Outdated



Conclusions





Conclusions

- No single tool is sufficient on its own
- Strategic use of multiple tools offers a more accurate picture
- Continuous assessment and adaptation are key to SSP success
- Combine tools for a comprehensive assessment?

Remember: Target 3.1 calls for all States to assess the level of implementation of their SSPs by 2026, while Target 3.2 requires that all States establish an SSP by 2028.

The meeting should define the way to go.







