

Republic of Croatia
Ministry of Regional Development
and EU Funds
IPA COMPONENT II

The experience in the Fight Against EU frauds in
support of the prevention and the counteraction in
order to protect the European Union's Financial
Interests

Rome, Italy 27th June 2012





CONTENT

- AFCOS System
- AFCOS Network
- Independent Service for Combating Irregularities and Fraud (ISCIF)
- IPA COMPONENT II – dealing with irregularities and how it is organized
- Irregularity Officer (IO)



AFCOS System

AFCOS System in the Republic of Croatia is the system through which the coordination of legislative, administrative and operational activities for the purpose of protection of EU financial interests is performed, together with the direct cooperation with the European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF)



AFCOS System

In the Republic of Croatia the AFCOS system includes:

- a network of accredited bodies managing and using EU pre-accession funds (The Irregularity Reporting System);
- a network of bodies dealing with combating fraud, corruption or some other form of illegal activities in the system (the AFCOS network);
- the Ministry of Finance - Independent Service for Combating Irregularities and Fraud, carrying out a coordinative role within the system and representing OLAF's contact point



AFCOS network

The AFCOS network has been established by Decision 92/2008 of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, establishing also the responsible persons who are to represent their bodies in the AFCOS Network and defining the tasks of the bodies in the AFCOS Network.



AFCOS network

- Ministry of Justice
- Ministry of the Interior
- Ministry of Economy, Labour and Entrepreneurship-
Management of the Public Procurement System
- Ministry of Public Administration
- National Audit Office
- The State Attorney's Office
- Ministry of Finance - Tax Administration, Customs
Administration, the Financial Police, the Department
for budgetary control

Independent Service for Combating Irregularities and Fraud

- The Service, as contact point of OLAF in Republic of Croatia, is responsible for the coordination of all legislative, administrative and operational aspects of the protection of EU's financial interests. This includes to act as a contact point of OLAF in relation to all OLAF actions with the aim to prevent irregularities and frauds
- responsibilities related to preventions of irregularities and frauds
- training activities with the general aim of protecting EU's financial interests

Transnational and Cross-border Cooperation Programmes

- IPA CBC programme Adriatic
- IPA CBC programme Slovenia - Croatia
- IPA CBC programme Hungary - Croatia
- IPA CBC programme Croatia – Bosnia & Herzegovina
- IPA CBC programme Croatia - Serbia
- IPA CBC programme Croatia - Montenegro
- ERDF transnational programme Mediterranean
- ERDF transnational programme South East Europe



DIFFERENT PROGRAMME



DIFFERENT PROCEDURE



PROGRAMMES WITH NON MEMBER STATES



**NATIONAL PROCEDURES ON
PREVENTION, DETECTION,
TREATMENT, REPORTING AND
FOLLOW-UP OF IRREGULARITIES**



NATIONAL PROCEDURES ON PREVENTION, DETECTION, TREATMENT, REPORTING AND FOLLOW-UP OF IRREGULARITIES

- Working procedure for alerts (suspicion on irregularities)
- Working procedure for established irregularities
- Working procedure for irregularity reporting
- Irregularity reporting using PAA Module of IMS



PROGRAMMES WITH MEMBER STATES



**PROCEDURES ACCORDING TO
PROGRAMME DOCUMENTS**



Irregularity Officer (IO) - tasks

- Cooperates with the Irregularity Officers from The Irregularity Reporting System, the employees within all institutions, representatives of the Service and of the institution from AFCOS network or EC auditors and investigators by providing available documents and information requested;
- Prepares, maintain and update an Irregularity Chapter in the Manual of Procedures in accordance with the Instructions provided by the Service;
- Follows the measures took by competent units and bodies in relation with irregularities;
- Carries out communication and prevention of irregularities role within Operative Structure (OS);
- Attends the regular meetings organised by the Service with the aim of protecting the EU's financial interests;
- Participates to trainings/seminars organized by the Service by itself or by the Service in cooperation with OLAF and/or other institutions;

Irregularity Officer (IO) - tasks

- Follows the Service requests to disseminate within OS the relevant information and documents received regarding the prevention and detection of irregularities;
- Provides support to the Service in conducting periodic risk assessments on irregularities and in the implementation of mid-term strategy on education;
- Promotes integrity and the culture of alerting irregularities;
- Receives information on irregularities and suspicion of fraud, and reports them to the Service;
- Opens and maintains Alerting File and Alerting Register
- Submits the information note on alert to HOS
- Receives the Report on the findings and the conclusions of the verification (in case that an irregularity was established, it will be used as PACA) and keeps it with Alerting File
- Receives reports on established irregularities (PACA) for reporting purposes



Irregularity Officer (IO) - tasks

- Opens, maintains and updates Irregularity Files, including an archive of Irregularity Reports, an Irregularity Register and supporting evidence and documentation, and obtains the follow-up status from NAO on how irregularities were resolved;
- Receives Irregularity Reports from the IO of ARD via HOS, and reviews them with the ARD IO before submitting them to the Department;
- Prepares Irregularity Reports and submits them to HOS for approving and then sends it to the Service for NAO;
- Prepares Irregularity Reports in the IMS according to the IMS User Manual and sends it (in electric format within IMS) to the Service for NAO
- Treats received documents and information with due care and follows the relevant provisions and internal procedures.



Future aspects

- Recoveries
- AFCOS network – legal framework for its activity
- Use of IMS



Thank you

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