

Kotnikova 5, 1000 Ljubljana

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ANTI-FRAUD POLICY STATEMENT

The anti-fraud policy statement, together with procedures for adequate fraud risk assessment, and the putting in place of effective and proportionate anti-fraud measures are key components of the managing authority's anti-fraud activities.

Introduction

The Managing Authorities (MA) for the programmes Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Austria, Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Croatia and Cooperation Programme Interreg V-A Slovenia-Hungary are committed to maintain high legal, ethical and moral standards, to adhere to the principles of integrity, objectivity and honesty and wish to be seen as opposed to fraud and corruption in the way that they conduct their business.

The objective of this policy is to promote a culture which deters fraudulent activity and to facilitate the prevention and detection of fraud and the development of procedures which will aid in the investigation of fraud and related offences and which will ensure that such cases are dealt with timely and appropriately.

The term fraud is commonly used to describe a wide range of misconducts including theft, corruption, embezzlement, bribery, forgery, misrepresentation, collusion, money laundering and concealment of material facts. It often involves the use of deception to make a personal gain for oneself, a connected person or a third party, or a loss for another – intention is the key element that distinguishes fraud from irregularity. Fraud does not just have a potential financial impact, but it can cause damage to the reputation of an organisation responsible for managing funds effectively and efficiently. Conflict of interests exists where the impartial and objective exercise of the official functions of a person are compromised for reasons involving family, emotional life, political or national affinity, economic interest or any other shared interest with e.g. an applicant for or a recipient of EU funds.

Responsibilities

Within the MA, overall coordination for managing the risk of fraud and corruption has been delegated to Irregularity Officer(s) who has the responsibility for coordinating: a regular self-assessment of fraud risks in coordination with fraud-risk assessment team, an effective anti-fraud policy and fraud response activities, notifications of irregularities and fraud, correction of all detected irregularities, fraud awareness activities and training for the staff, and follow-up of irregularities and fraud cases as well as of audit conclusions and recommendations.







Fraud can manifest itself in many different ways. The MA has a zero tolerance policy to fraud and corruption, and has in place a robust control system that is designed to prevent and detect, as far as is practicable, acts of fraud and correct their impact, should they occur.

All staff of the MA and Joint Secretariat are expected to share this commitment.

Prepared by: Dimitrij Pur Head of the Section,

Cross-border Programmes Management Division

European Territorial Cooperation and Financial Mechanism Office

Nina Seljak, MSc, Director





