



Integrity Pacts in Cohesion Policy 2021-2027

8 AM, 9 PM, 10 PM, 11 PM
April 2024
Online

The training has been organised by EIPA and CPVA under the Framework Contract Nr 2023CE160AT004.

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House rules on Zoom

- Make sure your name is the same as the one you have used for the registration : **otherwise pls rename yourself**
- Keep **muted while listening** but do raise your **Digital Hand** for a question or a comment !
- Use the **Zoom Chat function to share** any good practice of interest to everybody !
- **Break Out Rooms**: accept the invitation, download the file from the chat, save it to your desktop, activate your camera/microphone and start discussions
- **Recordings done for DG REGIO**



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Trainers ... and you !

- **Antonio Greco and Irina Lonean** – Public contracting specialists, TI
- **Haralds Beitelis** – Head of Foreign Financial Instruments Department, Latvian Chancellery
- **Kristina Vasileva** - Expert Bulgarian Procurement Agency, BG
- **Cosmin Nedela** – Head of irregularities unit, West Regional Development Agency, RO
- **Dimitris Drosis** - Head of the Managing Authority of Regional Operational Program Attica Region, Athens, EL
- **Karina Carvalho** - Executive director of TI Portugal
- **Marco Lopriore** - Expert EIPA and **Lucrezia Tombelli** - Research Assistant EIPA



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IPs	Sample of EU Cohesion Programmes 2021-2027
Horizontal approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ES: Aragon (both ERDF & ESF+), Castille y Leon (ERDF); NPs JTF and ERDF • PT: Lisbon (ERDF & ESF+), Azores (ERDF & ESF+) • IT: Capacity for Cohesion (ERDF, ESF+), Cultura (ERDF), Metro+(ERDF, ESF+) • MT: Cohesion Programme (ERDF, CF, JTF) • CZ: Technical Assistance (ERDF, CF) • HU: Environment & Energy Efficiency (ERDF, CF, JTF); Transport Development (ERDF, CF) • HE: Attika Programme ERDF/ESF+
Targeted approach (TA priority or partnership chapter)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PT: Centro (ERDF, ESF+ & JTF), Alentejo (ERDF, ESF+ & JTF), Algarve (ERDF & ESF+) in TA; both Madeira (ERDF & ESF+) and NP for Climate Action and Sustainability (CF) mention in the partnership chapter • IT: RP Campania (ERDF) in TA • HR: National Competitiveness (ERDF, CF) and integrated programme (ERDF, JTF) in partnership chapter. • HU: national Implementation Operational Programme (ERDF, CF, ESF+, JTF) in TA; national Economic Development and Innovation (ERDF, ESF+) in PA; Digital Renewal (ERDF, ESF+) in PA; Human Resources Development (ERDF, ESF+) in partnership chapter • SK: National Programme (ERDF, CF, ESF+, JTF) in partnership chapter
No mention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT: 37 programmes, ES: 23 programmes, PT: 4 programmes, CZ: 6 programmes • HU: Territorial and Settlement Development (ERDF, ESF+) • HE: 11 programmes and 4 NP



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Agenda

MONDAY 8 April 2024

Day 1

- 08.45 **Access of the participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 09.00 **Opening of the Seminar: Introduction to the programme, method and objectives**
Stefan Appel, Head of Unit DG REGIO, EC and *Marco Lopriore*, Expert, EIPA
- 09.10 **Step 1 – Integrity Pacts (IPs) initiation, Transparency International**
Antonio Greco, Public contracting specialist, Transparency International Secretariat
Irina Lonean, Project coordinator, researcher, trainer and consultant on anticorruption and public integrity; Transparency International Romania
 - Role of IPs in safeguarding EU Funds
 - Procurement project identification and selection
 - Budgeting and financing
 - Identification and selection of the civil society monitor
 - IP project inception
- 10.30 Virtual Coffee Break
- 10.50 **Planning an IP project in the 2021-2027 period**
Haralds Beitelis, Head of Foreign Financial Instruments Department, Latvian Chancellery
- 11.20 **Break-out rooms' interactive session on Integrity Pact initiation**
Antonio Greco, *Irina Lonean*, *Marco Lopriore* and *Lucrezia Tombelli*
- 13.00 End of the day



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Day 2

TUESDAY 9 April 2024

- 13.45 **Access of the participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.00 **Recap day 1 by EIPA**
Marco Lopriore
- 14.05 **Step 2 – Integrity Pact design and preparation, Transparency International**
Antonio Greco & Irina Lonean, Project coordinator, researcher, trainer and consultant in the field of anticorruption and public integrity; Transparency International Romania
 - Type of Integrity Pact documents and core elements
 - Good governance and public integrity pledge
 - Supplier transparency and integrity pledge
 - Civil society monitoring mechanisms
 - Dispute resolution mechanisms, sanctions, and incentives
- 15.30 Virtual coffee break
- 15.50 **IP pilot application in Bulgaria: recap, actions in places and perspectives**
Kristina Vasileva, Expert Bulgarian Procurement Agency Bulgaria
- 16.30 **Break-out rooms' interactive session on designing Integrity Pacts**
Antonio Greco, *Irina Lonean*, *Marco Lopriore* and *Lucrezia Tombelli*
- 17.30 End of the day



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Day 3

WEDNESDAY 10 April 2024

- 13.45 **Access of the participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.00 **Recap day 2 by EIPA**
Marco Lopriore
- 14.05 **Step 3 – Key aspects in Integrity Pact execution**
Antonio Greco and Irina Lonean
- Risk management
 - Strategic communications
 - Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning
- 15.00 **Operational arrangements from an IP project (Romania) and the selection process of the IP**
Cosmin Nedela, Head of irregularities Unit, West Regional Development Agency, Romania
- 15.30 Virtual Coffee Break
- 15.45 **Operational arrangements from an IP project (Portugal)**
Karina Carvalho, Executive director of TI Portugal
- 16.05 **Break-out rooms' interactive session on Integrity Pact implementation**
Antonio Greco, Irina Lonean, Marco Lopriore and Lucrezia Tombelli
- 17.30 End of day



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Day 4

THURSDAY 11 April 2024

- 13.45 **Access of the participants to the Zoom online platform**
- 14.00 **Recap day 3 by EIPA**
Marco Lopriore
- 14.05 **Step 4 – Integrity Pact scaling up**
Antonio Greco and Irina Lonean
- Formal recognition of IPs in legislative, regulatory, and policy framework
 - IP incorporation in large-scale collective action initiatives
 - Boards or committees for strategic IP application
 - Mechanisms of accreditation of civil society monitors
 - IP data management systems
- 15.00 **Operational arrangements from an IP project (Greece)**
Dimitris Drosis, Head of the Managing Authority of Regional Operational Program Attica Region (Athens, EL)
- 15.30 Virtual Coffee Break
- 15.45 **Break-out rooms' interactive session on scaling up Integrity Pacts**
Antonio Greco, Irina Lonean, Marco Lopriore and Lucrezia Tombelli
- 17.00 **Presentations of the workshop outcomes by participants and plenary discussion**
Antonio Greco, Irina Lonean & Marco Lopriore
- 17.30 **End of the online course**



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Your needs!

General framework:

- Institutional and legal framework; Legal framework **enabling/hindering** implementation of the IP
- Threats, **risks and drawbacks** of the IP
- **How many parties** to an agreement for the implementation of an IP
- How to **oblige** beneficiaries/executors of their activities to enter into IP
- Increase transparency, accountability and good governance in **public contracting** setting up a model to better address relations with civil society
- Scope of responsibilities and duties of the NGO within the IP
- Know-how related **to structure of the IP** - involvement of beneficiary and contractors (legal basis to take them aboard)

Your needs!

Selection of NGOs:

- **Selection criteria** for organization/s which should implement IP without infringement to PP rules; How should monitoring organizations be selected?
- Mechanism how to implement IP - how to identify the NGOs for process monitoring
- Finding a **good Partner** to IP with enough **capacity** (NGO's that will not depend entirely on external experts); **Capacity** of NGO to run the IP
- **Experience** of the MS to select NGO as a partner in the IP and the lesson learned
- How to avoid **conflict of interest** when NGO's hire external experts who can have their personal interest

Your needs!

Financing:

- Financing of IP: sources, budget
- MA which is financing the IP, MA which is financing the project/s, contractor/s, implementing the project/s, organization, implementing the IP;
- Is it possible to fund under the Technical Assistance Programme IP implemented under other programs?

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Question

1. When selecting suitable projects for IP: can we select projects where the external contractor is required to be selected by the potential beneficiary in advance?
2. Can we involve have an IP focused on the implementation stage of the projects? Is it appropriate for the IP 'monitoring' organisation to be only involved at the implementation stage? If so, how can the different actors collaborate in such case and are there any MS good practices in such cases?



What are the monitoring implications, risks and alternatives?

- **Project stage** refers to the phase in the development of the contracting procedure in which the IP starts. Ideally, a project will be paired with an IP during the planning stage, when the contracting authority is gathering all relevant information to assess the identified needs and design a contracting project that will meet them. Projects in the pre-tendering stage can be considered since they still offer the opportunity to review the conditions that will define the award and execution of the associated contracts. **Those in which the tender has already been published or those at a later stage are not suitable for an IP. In these cases, other alternatives for monitoring could be considered, such as an audit or public evaluation.**

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Thank you!

Marco Lopriore

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The training has been organised by EIPA and CPVA under the Framework Contract Nr 2023CE160AT004. The opinions expressed are those of the contractor only and do not represent the EC's official position.

