PRACTICAL GUIDE FOR THE BENEFICIARIES OF PROJECTS FINANCED FROM EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS TO PREVENT THE OCCURRENCE OF IRREGULARITIES/FRAUD

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This *Practical Guide* is part of the project called *Effective coordination of control systems for preventing fraud with Structural Funds in New EU Member States*, which was implemented by the Institute for Public Policy (IPP) and financed under the HERCULE Programme III – 2014 – LEGAL TRAINING AND STUDIES of the European Anti-Fraud Office within the European Commission.

The Guide is primarily addressed to the beneficiaries of projects financed from EU funds (public and private entities) and it is aimed to provide useful information and recommendations with a view to ensuring sound financial management of the funds and measures to prevent irregularities and suspected fraud in the management of these funds.

The Guide is intended to supplement the current legal provisions regarding the rights and obligations of the beneficiaries of EU funds, as set out in Government Emergency Order No 66/2011 on preventing, finding and sanctioning irregularities in the granting and use of European funds and in Government Decision No 875/2011 approving the implementing rules of the Order, as subsequently amended and supplemented, with concrete examples of situations which, according to the legal regulations in force, are regarded as irregularities and sanctioned with financial corrections, as well as information on fraud indicators currently monitored by the control authorities in the field.

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With a total of 366.9 billion EUR allocated for the period 2014-2020, the structural and investment funds currently account for more than a third of the EU budget, being channelled towards sustainable investment in the Member States, in conditions of effective and transparent management by the beneficiaries. To this end, the European Commission undertook an ongoing effort to fight against fraud, corruption and all forms of illegal activity affecting the financial interests of the European Union. The management and control systems developed by the Member States aim to prevent, detect and correct irregularities and sanction fraud as regards the use of such funds, and the risks of damaging the reputation of those beneficiaries associated to suspected fraud and corruption have significantly increased compared to the previous period at all levels.

The total amount allocated to Romania for the period 2014-2020 adds up to **28 billion EUR**, of which **21 billion EUR** are allocated to the operational programmes financed from Structural Funds and **8 billion** go to the National Rural Development Programme.

The financial allocations for each programme are as follows:

- Regional Operational Programme (ROP): 6.47 billion EUR
- Large Infrastructure Operational Programme (LIOP): 9.07 billion EUR
- Competitiveness Operational Programme (COP):
 - More developed regions (Bucharest – Ilfov): 249 million EUR
 - Less developed regions: 1.08 billion EUR
- Operational Programme for Administrative Capacity (OPAC): 659 million EUR
- Operational Programme for Human Capital (OPHC): 3.44 billion EUR
- Operational Programme for Technical Assistance (OPTA): 0.3 billion EUR
- National Rural Development Programme (NRDP): 8 billion EUR

Unfortunately, the financial year 2007-2013 was marked by numerous management problems of the EU funds, leading to the suspension of some of the Operational Programmes and a massive volume of *financial corrections* applied to the beneficiaries, amounting to approximately 1 billion EUR, according to the estimates of the Ministry of EU Funds.

Quantitative highlights of the phenomenon of *irregularities* (sanctioned by financial corrections) and *suspected fraud* having marked the period 2007-2013:

- Total number of financing contracts signed: **17,034 contracts**
- Total number of financial corrections applied in projects financed from Structural Funds: 2,977 findings reports
- Number of findings reports settled administratively: 495
- Total number of suspected fraud recorded for projects financed from Structural Funds: 532 from the Managing Authorities and 686 by *exofficio* referral of the Anti-Fraud Department
- Total number of fraud referrals formulated to the criminal investigation bodies: 188 from the Management Authorities and 321 from DLAF.

- The Operational Programme under which most findings reports were applied: ROP – 1410, followed by SOP HRD – 662, SOP – Environment – 363; SOP IEC – 310, OP ACD – 229, OPTA – 3;
- Highest incidence of financial corrections compared to the number of contracts signed: SOP Environment 76%, followed by: OP ACD 49%, ROP 29%, SOP HRD 16%, SOP IEC 5%, OPTA 2%;
- Highest incidence of suspected fraud: SOP Environment – 9% and OP ACD – 9%, followed by SOP HRD – 5%, ROP – 2%, SOP IEC – 2%, OPTA – 1%;
- Highest incidence of referral to the criminal investigation bodies, compared to the number of suspected fraud recorded: SOP HRD 65%, followed by ROP 37%, SOP Environment 34% and OP ACD 33%

In this context, this Practical Guide is intended to serve as a tool to provide future beneficiaries of EU funds in this financial year with useful information to prevent the occurrence of *irregularities* in the management of projects and to eliminate the risk of applying sanctions in the form of *financial corrections*.

As regards *suspected fraud*, it is important that beneficiaries are aware of those indicators verified by the competent control authorities in order to determine the potential for fraud of an irregularity.



Irregularity: any deviation from the lawfulness, regularity and conformity with the national and/or European provisions and the provisions of contracts or other commitments legally undertaken based on these provisions, resulting from an act or an omission of the beneficiary or the competent authority in managing EU funds, which affected or may affect the EU budget/the budgets of the international public donors and/or the national public funds related thereto through an amount unduly paid.

Financial correction: an administrative measure taken by the competent authorities consisting in excluding the expenses for which an irregularity was found from the EU funding and/or national public funding;

Suspected fraud (intentional irregularity): an irregularity giving rise to the initiation of administrative or judicial proceedings in order to establish the presence of intentional behaviour, in particular fraud.

Fraud: an offense committed in relation to obtaining or using EU funds and/or related national funds, incriminated by the Criminal Code or other special

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN IRREGULARITY AND FRAUD DIFFERENCE BETWEEN SUSPECTED FRAUD AND FRAUD	
An irregularity is committed <u>unintentionally.</u>	<u>Suspected fraud</u> contains a subjective element from the beginning. In order to become suspected fraud, there must be <u>a reference to the notification of the</u> <u>Prosecutor's Office</u> or <u>a court case pending</u> .
<u>Fraud</u> is an irregularity committed <u>intentionally.</u>	Suspected fraud only becomes fraud after the court of justice has delivered its ruling!

The national legal framework regulating the protection of the EU financial interests – preventing, finding and sanctioning irregularities in using EU funds

Irregularities affecting the financial interests of the EU:

- Government Emergency Order No 66/2011 on preventing, finding and sanctioning irregularities in the granting and use of European funds and/or national public funds related thereto, as subsequently amended and supplemented;
- Government Emergency Order No 47/2014 amending and supplementing Government Emergency Order No 66/2011 on preventing, finding and sanctioning irregularities in the granting and use of European funds and/or national public funds related thereto
- Government Decision No 875/2011 approving the implementing rules of Government Emergency Order No 66/2011, as subsequently amended and supplemented
- Government Decision No 261/2012 amending and supplementing the implementing rules of Government Emergency Order No 66/2011

Offences affecting the financial interests of the EU:

 Law No 78/2000 on preventing, discovering and sanctioning corruption acts

Obligations of the beneficiaries of EU funds to prevent irregularities/fraud:

Effective project management:

Develop and implement management and control procedures to ensure correct use of the funds (*Article 3 of GEO No 66/2011*);

- Where the beneficiary of EU funds detects – as a result of his own management and control activity – an irregularity in the management of his own project, he is required to report such irregularity, within 5 working days as of finding, to the competent authority in managing EU funds with whom the same entered into contract, regardless of whether the expense claimed for payment was reimbursed to him or not (*Article 29 of GEO No 66/2011*);
- Organize and carry out the internal and preventive control activity and the risk identification and management activity (Article 4 of GEO No 66/2011);

Preventing conflicts of interest:

- The beneficiaries are not entitled to contract consulting services to individuals/legal entities participating in the verification/assessment process of the funding applications (Article 10 of GEO No 66/2011);
- The beneficiaries, either individuals or private legal entities, are not entitled to employ individuals or legal entities who have been involved in the verification/assessment of the funding applications in the selection process for a period of at least 12 months from the signing of the financing contract (Article 13 of GEO No 66/2011);
- Throughout the implementation of the procurement procedure, the

beneficiaries, either individuals or private legal entities, are required to take all necessary measures to avoid situations likely to give rise to a conflict of interest, namely the case where there are links between the ownership of the beneficiary and his bidders, between the members of the assessment committee and the bidders, or when the successful bidder holds the majority of shares in two companies competing for the same kind of procurement (Article 14 of GEO No 66/2011);

Preventing irregularities in public procurement:

In order to prevent irregularities in public procurement – in fact, the largest source of financial corrections also having the potential to generate suspected fraud – beneficiaries should be aware of and avoid committing the deviations described in the *Annex* of GEO No 47/2014.

A) Contracts whose value is equal to or greater than the ceiling/threshold prescribed by the national law on public procurement, which is mandatory to be published in the Official Journal of the European Union

CONTRACT NOTICE AND TENDER DOCUMENTS

Type of deviation/irregularity found:

1. Failure to publish a contract notice;

2. Artificial splitting of the works/goods/ services contracts;

3. Failure (by the contracting authority) to comply with the deadline for submitting the bids or with the date for receiving applications (from potential bidders);

4. Potential bidders/candidates have too little time at hand to obtain the tender documents;5. Failure to publish an erratum with the extension of the deadlines for submitting the bids or the extension of the term for receiving applications

6. The case when awarding a contract by

negotiated procedure with prior publication of a contract notice is unjustified.

7. Holding an award procedure in matters of defence or national security for which the provisions of Directive 2009/81/EC or national law are applicable and there is no adequate justification for the omission to publish a contract notice.

8. The contract notice and/or tender documents do not list the selection criteria and/or award criteria, as appropriate.

9. The contract notice or tender documents establish unlawful and/or discriminatory selection/award criteria.

10. Selection criteria unrelated and/or disproportionate to the scope of contract.

11. Discriminatory technical specifications.

12. Insufficient definition of the scope of contract.

ASSESSMENT OF THE BIDS

Type of deviation/irregularity found:

1. Amending the selection criteria after opening the bids, leading to incorrect selection of a participant

2. Amending the selection criteria after opening the bids, leading to incorrect rejection of a participant

3. Assessing the bids based on illegal selection or award criteria

4. The principles of transparency and equal treatment are not complied with during the assessment.

- 5. Modifying a bid during the assessment
- 6. Negotiation during the award procedure

7. Negotiated procedure with prior publication of a contract notice, following which the conditions in the contract notice or in the tender documents were substantially modified

8. Rejecting a bid with an unusually low price

9. Conflict of interest

CONTRACT IMPLEMENTATION

Type of deviation/irregularity found:

1. Substantial amendment of the contract compared to the contract notice or tender documents

2. Narrowing the scope of contract.

3. Awarding additional works/services/goods contracts (if such award is a substantial modification of the original contract terms, with no competitive procedure if the following conditions are not complied with):

- an emergency situation arising from an unforeseeable event;

- an unforeseen circumstance in the case of additional works, services or goods.
4. Additional works or services, whose value exceeds the limit set by the legal provisions applicable

B) Contracts whose value is below the ceiling/threshold established, according to the laws in force, for publication in the Official Journal of the European Union

According to the EU law and ECJ case law, in the case of contracts where the implementation of the public procurement directives is not mandatory or is only partially mandatory and where deviations are found from the implementation of the national public procurement laws, the competent authorities in managing EU funds/control structures shall apply percentage reductions/financial corrections, as provided under a).

PART 2 – Contracts entered into by private beneficiaries of EU funds who lack the capacity of contracting authorities, according to the laws in force, but who are required to comply with the provisions of certain procurement guidelines/instructions, if they are an integral part of the financing contract/agreement/order/decision or of Order No 1050/2012 of the Minister for European Affairs.

Type of deviation/irregularity found: 1. Failure to comply with the requirements on ensuring adequate levels of publicity and transparency; 2. Procurement contracts (addenda) for additional goods, works or services awarded without adequate competition, in the absence of extreme urgency determined by unforeseeable events or in the absence of unforeseeable circumstances.

3. Application of unlawful qualification and selection criteria and/or award criteria (assessment factors).

4. Failure to comply with the principle of equal treatment.

PART 3 – Contracts entered into by private beneficiaries of EU funds who lack the capacity of contracting authorities, according to the laws in force, but who are required to comply with the provisions of Order No 1120/2013 of the Minister of European Funds.

Type of deviation/irregularity found:

1. Failure to comply with the requirements on ensuring adequate levels of publicity and transparency in the publication of the simplified procedure.

2. Failure to comply with the requirements on ensuring adequate levels of publicity and transparency when designating the winner;

3. Failure to comply with the requirements on ensuring sound financial management by applying the principles of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

Preventing the incidence of suspected fraud:

As regards **fraud in public procurement contracts**, there are **16 common fraud schemes** (with related indicators) provided for in the COCOF Guideline and GD No 875/2011 respectively:

- ✓ Corruption bribery and kickbacks
- ✓ Undisclosed conflicts of interest
- Bid rigging (courtesy bidding, bid suppression, bid rotation, market sharing)
- ✓ Discrepant bids
- ✓ Manipulating specifications
- ✓ Disclosing data on the bidding
- ✓ Manipulating bids
- ✓ Unjustified single source awards
- ✓ Splitting purchases
- ✓ Combining contacts
- ✓ Cost mischarging
- ✓ Manipulating prices
- ✓ Failure to meet contract specifications
- ✓ False, duplicate or inflated invoices
- ✓ Dummy service providers
- Product substitution

To avoid situations in which the competent control authorities formulate suspected fraud, the beneficiaries should avoid any of the practices below that constitute *fraud indicators*, as provided in GD No 875/2011:

✓ Corruption – bribery and kickbacks

Indicators: unjustified favourable treatment shown to a contractor by a contracting officer within a period of time.

✓ Undisclosed conflicts of interest

Indicators:

- Inexplicable or exceptional bias of a particular contractor or seller;
- Continued acceptance of high-priced and poor-quality works;
- The contracting officer fails to submit or complete the statement on the conflicts of interest;
- The contracting officer refuses to hand over the responsibilities related to the

contract in question and take over other similar responsibilities;

- The contracting officer conducts a parallel activity.
- ✓ Bid rigging

Indicators:

- The winning bid is too high-priced compared to cost estimates, published price lists, similar works or services or industry-wide averages and fair market prices;
- All bidders maintain their prices high;
- Prices drop when a new bidder joins the tender;
- Rotation of winning bidders by region, type of activity and type of works;
- Rejected bidders are engaged as subcontractors;
- Unusual configuration of bids (e.g. exact percentages separate the bids, the winning bid is slightly below the acceptable price threshold, fits exactly the allocated budget, is too high, too close, the difference is disproportionate, the amounts are rounded, incomplete, etc.)
- Apparent connections between bidders, such as common addresses, staff or phone numbers;
- The contractor's bid includes subcontractors competing for the main contract;
- Qualified contractors suppress the bid and become subcontractors or the lowest price bidder withdraws and becomes a subcontractor;
- Some companies always bid against each other, while others never do;
- Rejected bidders cannot be found on the Internet or the nomenclatures of companies, they have no addresses (dummy companies)

✓ Discrepant bids

Indicators:

- Seemingly low bid for particular activities;

- Following the award of the contract, the requirements for activities are modified or eliminated;
- The activities for which bids are submitted differ from the actual contract;
- The bidder is closely connected to the procurement staff or participated in the drafting of the specifications.

✓ Manipulating specifications

Indicators:

- Only one bidder or a few bidders respond to the calls for proposals;
- There are similarities between the specifications and the products or services of the winning contractor;
- Complaints are received from the other bidders;
- Specifications are significantly narrower or broader than in previous calls for proposals;
- Unusual or unreasonable specifications;
- High number of contracts awarded to a single supplier;
- Socialization or personal contacts between the contracting staff and the bidders throughout the award procedure;
- The buyer defines an item using a brand name rather than a generic description without using the phrase or equivalent or without justifying the need in terms of technical incompatibility;

✓ Disclosing data on the bidding

Indicators:

- Ineffective control measures of award procedures, unjustified shortening of legal time limits;
- The winning bid has a price slightly lower than the following low price bid;
- Some bids are opened in advance;
- Bids are accepted after the expiry of the deadline;
- The bidder having submitting the bid after the expiry of the deadline is declared the winner;

- All bids are rejected and the contract is re-bid;
- The winning bidder communicates privately with the contracting staff (email or other means) during the award procedure.

✓ Manipulating bids

Indicators:

- Complaints from the bidders;
- Poor control methods and inadequate bidding procedures;
- Indications of bids having been modified following submission;
- Some bids are cancelled for errors;
- A qualified bidder is disqualified for questionable reasons;
- The activity is not re-bid although the number of bids received is smaller than the minimum required.

✓ Unjustified single source awards

Indicators:

- Awards in favour of a single bidder at prices above or slightly below the competitive bidding thresholds;
- Public procurement previously conducted on competitive terms became uncompetitive;
- Splitting purchases so as to avoid the competitive bidding threshold;
- The call for proposals is submitted to a single service provider.

✓ Splitting purchases

Indicators:

- Two or more consecutive and similar procurement from the same contractor, the value of which is slightly below the competitive bidding thresholds or the limit allowing management staff to conduct investigations;
- Unjustified splitting of purchases, for example, separate contracts for labour and materials, each with a value below the bidding thresholds;
- Consecutive procurement with values immediately below the thresholds.

✓ Combining contracts

Indicators:

- Similar invoices submitted for different activities or contracts;
- The contractor invoices more than one activity for the same period.

✓ Cost mischarging

Indicators:

- Unusual or excessive amounts charged for labour;
- The amounts charged for labour are not reflected in the progress of works provided for in the contract;
- Apparent changes to timesheets;
- No timesheets available;
- Same costs for materials are charged in several contracts;
- Indirect costs are charged as direct costs.

✓ Manipulating prices

Indicators:

- The contractor refuses/postpones or is unable to provide supporting documents for the costs;
- The contractor provides inaccurate or incomplete documents;
- The pricing information is no longer valid;
- High prices compared to similar contracts, price lists or industry-wide averages.

✓ Failure to meet contract specifications

Indicators:

- Discrepancies between the results of tests and inspections, on the one hand, and the contract terms and specifications, on the other hand;
- Lack of testing/inspection certificates or documents;
- Low quality, poor performance and high number of complaints.

✓ False, duplicate or inflated invoices

Indicators:

- The goods or services invoiced are not in stock or cannot be located;
- No acknowledgments of receipt for particular goods or services invoiced;
- The purchase orders for particular goods or services invoiced are questionable or inexistent;
- The records of the contractor do not show if the works were completed or the required expenses were made;
- The invoicing prices, amounts, item descriptions or data exceed or do not match the contract provisions, the purchase order, stock cards, inventory or production reports;
- Multiple invoices with identical amounts, numbers, and data;
- Cascade subcontracting;
- Cash payments;
- Payments to offshore companies.

✓ Dummy service providers

Indicators:

- The service provider cannot be found in the nomenclatures of companies, on the Internet, Google or other search engines;
- The address of the service provider cannot be found;
- The address or phone number of the service provider are incorrect;
- An offshore company is used.

✓ Product substitution

Indicators:

- Unusual or generic packaging: packaging, colours or design different from the rules;
- Discrepancy between the expected and the actual appearance;
- The product identification numbers differ from the published numbers or the catalogue numbers or the numbering system;
- Number of failures recorded during testing or in service above average, early replacements or high maintenance and repair costs;

- Certificates of conformity signed by unqualified or unauthorized persons;
- Significant differences between estimated and actual costs for materials;
- The contractor failed to comply with the schedule, but he recovers quickly the delays;
- Unusual serial numbers or removed: serial numbers not matching the numbering system of the genuine product;
- The numbers or descriptions of the invoice or inventory items do not match the purchase order data.

Main institutions with control powers:

- Managing Authorities they have control structures established therein for this purpose or they may delegate activities of finding irregularities and establishing budgetary debts to Intermediary Bodies operating within a public institution.
- Certifying and Paying Authority Ministry of Public Finance – it is required to implement the financial corrections based on the debt securities issued by the competent authorities.
- Audit Authority it conducts system and operations audit actions. The European Commission is informed of the results of these actions through the annual control report, which is accompanied by the audit opinion formulated at operational program level. The report covers both the effective functioning of the management and control system and the lawfulness, reality and regularity of incurred expenses under the programme by the beneficiaries and declared to the EC.
- Anti-Fraud Department

 a) it ensures and facilitates cooperation between the national institutions involved in protecting the financial interests of the EU in Romania, among which the European Anti-Fraud Office -OLAF and the relevant public authorities of the other EU Member States or those countries which receive financial assistance from the EU;

b) it undertakes or coordinates control actions to detect irregularities, fraud and other illegal activities related to the management, the obtainment and the use of EU funds and the related cofinancing activities, and any other funds covered by the financial interests of the EU, including loans and guarantees granted by the European Investment Bank;

c) it undertakes or coordinates control actions to detect irregularities, fraud and other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the EU in Romania through the illegal reduction of one's own resources;

d) it collects, analyses and processes data and conducts statistical research regarding the protection of the EU financial interests in Romania;

e) it initiates or endorses draft legislative acts aimed at protecting the financial interests of the EU in Romania;

 f) it develops and coordinates antifraud professional development and training programmes;

g) as a central unit, it settles the administrative assistance applications, in accordance with the international cooperation agreements aimed at protecting the financial interests of the EU, to which Romania is a signatory;

 National Anticorruption Directorate – it investigates and prosecutes fraud cases involving EU funds, based on *ex*- officio referrals or by the Anti-Fraud Department.

DG OLAF – European Anti-Fraud Office

OLAF is authorized to conduct:

- Internal investigations: administrative investigations within the EU institutions and bodies in order to detect fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the EU, including any serious misconduct in relation to the performance of their professional duties.
- External investigations: administrative investigations outside the EU institutions and bodies in order to detect fraud or other irregularities by natural persons or legal entities. The cases are classified as external investigations under which OLAF provides most of the related materials.
- Coordination: OLAF contributes to the investigations conducted by the national authorities or other EU bodies, by enabling the collection and exchange of information and by establishing contacts.
- Legal assistance: the relevant authorities of a Member State or third country conduct a criminal investigation with assistance from OLAF.

Useful contacts of the competent authorities in the field:

Managing Authority for the Sectoral Operational Programme Human Resources Development

Address: Tower Center, Bd. Ion Mihalache, nr. 15-17, Sector 1, Bucharest. Tel: 0372614417, 0372614360 Fax: 0372.838.502 Email: <u>posdru@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Website: www.fonduri-ue.ro/posdru

North-East Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Bd. Republicii nr. 12, Piatra Neamţ, post code 610005, Neamţ County Tel: (+40 233) 231 950, 0233/23.19.56, 0233/23.19.57 Fax: (+40 233) 231 950, 0233/23.19.56, 0233/23.19.57 Email: <u>office@fsenordest.ro</u> Website: <u>www.fsenordest.ro</u>

South-East Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Piața Independenței nr. 1, 3rd and 5th floors, Brăila, Brăila County Tel: (+40 239) 613 301, (+40 239) 610 749 Fax: (+40 239) 613 301 Email: <u>office@fsesudest.ro</u> Website: <u>www.fsesudest.ro</u>

South-Muntenia Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Str. Portului nr. 2A, Călărași, Călărași County Tel: (+40 242) 314 048, (+40 242) 314 042 Fax: (+40 242) 314 431 Email: <u>oirposdrusm@fsesudmuntenia.ro</u> Website: www.fsesudmuntenia.ro

South-West Oltenia Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Str. Traian Demetrescu nr. 14, Craiova, Dolj County Tel: (+40 351) 442 203 Fax: (+40 351) 442 202 Email: <u>office@oirsvfse.ro</u> Website: <u>http://www.oirsvfse.ro</u>

West Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Str. M. Kogălniceanu nr. 1, Timişoara, post code 300125, Timiş County Tel: (+40 256) 293 686 Fax: (+40 356) 080 248 Email: <u>fsevest@oirposdru-vest.ro</u> Website: <u>http://www.oirposdru-vest.ro/</u>

North-West Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Bd. 21 Decembrie 1989 nr. 58, 2nd floor, Cluj-Napoca, Cluj County Tel: (+40 264) 402594, (+40 264) 403 054, (+40 264) 402 592, (+40 264) 530 191, (+40 264) 402 593 Fax: (+40 264) 402 591, (+40 264) 530 191, (+40 264) 402 592 Email: <u>office@runv.ro</u> Website: <u>www.runv.ro</u>

Central Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Str. Nicolae Titulescu nr. 10D, Alba Iulia, post code 510096, Alba County Tel: (+40 0358) 401 656 Fax: (+40 0358) 401 655 Email: <u>posdru@oirposdrucentru.ro</u> Website: <u>www.oirposdrucentru.ro</u>

Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Intermediate Body

Address: Bd. Carol I nr. 34-36, 7th floor, Sector 2, Bucharest Tel: (+40 21) 319 12 80; (+40 21) 319 12 81 Fax: (+40 021) 313 42 43 Email: <u>office@oiposdrubi.ro</u> Website: <u>www.oiposdrubi.ro</u>

Managing Authority for ROP (MA ROP)

Ministry of Regional Development and Public Administration Address: Str. Apolodor nr. 17, Bucharest, Sector 5 Tel:(+40 37) 211 14 09 Email: <u>info@mdrap.ro</u> Website: www.mdrap.ro

North-East Regional Development Agency (North-East RDA)

Address: Str. Lt. Draghescu nr. 9, Piatra Neamţ, Neamţ County, post code 610125 Tel: 0233 224167 Fax: 0233 218071 Email: <u>info@adrnordest.ro</u> Website: <u>www.inforegionordest.ro</u>

South-East Regional Development Agency (South-East RDA)

Address: Str. Anghel Saligny nr. 24, Brăila, Brăila County, post code 810118 Tel: 0339 401018 Fax: 0339 401017 Email: <u>adrse@adrse.ro</u> Website: <u>www.adrse.ro</u>

South-Muntenia Regional Development Agency (South-Muntenia RDA)

Address: Str. General Constantin Pantazi nr. 7A, post code 910164, Călărași Tel: 0242 331769 Fax: 0242 313167 Email: <u>office@adrmuntenia.ro</u> Website: <u>www.adrmuntenia.ro</u>

South-West Oltenia Regional Development Agency (South-West Oltenia RDA)

Address: Aleea Teatrului nr. 1, Craiova, Dolj County, post code 200402 Tel: 0251 411869/0251418240/0251414904 Fax: 0351463966/0351463967 Email: <u>office@adroltenia.ro</u> Website: <u>www.adroltenia.ro</u>

West Regional Development Agency (West RDA)

Address: Str. Proclamaţia de la Timişoara nr. 5, Timişoara, Timiş County, post code 300054 Tel: 0256 491923, Fax :0256 491981 Email: <u>office@adrvest.ro</u> Website: <u>www.adrvest.ro</u>

North-West Regional Development Agency (North-West RDA)

Address: Radaia Village, Baciu Commune, Cluj County Tel: 0264 431550 Fax: 0264 439222 Email: <u>comunicare@nord-vest.ro</u> Website: <u>www.nord-vest.ro</u>

Central Regional Development Agency (Central RDA) Address: Str. Decebal nr. 12, Alba Iulia, Alba County, post code 510093 Tel: 0258 818616/int. 131 Fax: 0258 818613 Email: office@adrcentru.ro Website: www.adrcentru.ro

Bucharest-Ilfov Regional Development Agency (Bucharest-Ilfov RDA) Address: Str. Mihai Eminescu nr. 163-165, Sector 2, Bucharest Tel: 021 313 80 99 Fax: 021 315 96 65 Email: <u>contact@adrbi.ro</u> Website: <u>www.adrbi.ro</u>

Managing Authority for the Sectoral Operational Programme "Increase of Economic Competitiveness" (MA SOP IEC) Ministry of EU Funds Tel: 0372 614 408 Fax: 0372 838 502 Website: <u>http://www.fonduri-ue.ro/poscce/</u>

Managing Authority for SOP Environment

Address: Calea Şerban Vodă nr. 30-32 (access via Principatele Unite Street), Sector 4, Bucharest

Bacău Intermediate Body – Region 1 North-East Address: Str. Oituz nr. 23, Bacău Email: <u>office.oi-BC@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Tel: 021/300 63 82 Fax: 0234/515 501

Galaţi Intermediate Body – Region 2 South-East Address: Str. Portului nr. 23, Galaţi Email: <u>office.oi-GL@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Tel: 0236/325 325 Fax: 0236/325 515 **Piteşti Intermediate Body** – Region 3 South-Muntenia Address. Str. Craiovei nr. 32, Piteşti Email: <u>office.oi-Pit@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Tel: 0248/211 433 Fax: 0248/211 435

Craiova Intermediate Body – Region 4 South-West Address: Str. Amaradia nr. 93-95, Craiova

Email: <u>office.oi-Crv@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Tel: 0251/598 170 Fax: 0251/598 170

Timişoara Intermediate Body – Region 5 West

Address: Str. C Brediceanu nr. 8, Timişoara Email: <u>office.oi-TM@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Tel: 0256/486023 Fax: 0256/486018

Cluj-Napoca Intermediate Body – Region 6 North-West Address: Str. Minerilor nr. 47, Cluj-Napoca Email: office.oi-CJ@fonduri-ue.ro Tel: 0264 /418 714 Fax: 0264-481110

Sibiu Intermediate Body – Region 7 Centre Address: Str. Cristian nr. 21, Sibiu Email: <u>office.oi-SB@fonduri-ue.ro</u> Tel/Fax : 0269/211 512

Bucharest Intermediate Body – Region 8

Bucharest-Ilfov Address: Calea Şerban Vodă nr. 30-32, (access via Principatele Unite Street), Sector 4, Bucharest Tel: 021/315.77.17 Fax: 021/315.77.18 Email: <u>simona.marin@fonduri-ue.ro</u>

Managing Authority for the Sectoral

Operational Programme Transport Address: Bd. Dinicu Golescu nr. 38, Sector 1, post code 010873, Bucharest Tel: 021/319.61.47 Fax: 021/319.61.78 Website: <u>www.ampost.ro</u> Email: postransport@mt.ro

Certifying and Paying Authority – Ministry of Public Finance

Address: Str. Apolodor nr. 17, Sector 5, post code 050741, Bucharest Email for notifications: <u>nao@mfinante.ro</u>

Audit Authority

Address: Str. Lev Tolstoi nr. 22-24, post code 011948, Sector 1, Bucharest, Romania Tel: 004 021 3078 731 Fax : 004 021 3078 875

Anti-Fraud Department

Address: Bd. Regina Elisabeta nr.3, Sector 3, post code 030015, Bucharest Tel: +40 21 318 11 85 Fax: +40 21 312 10 05 Email for notifications: <u>contact.dlaf@antifrauda.gov.ro</u>

National Anticorruption Directorate

Address: Str. Știrbei Vodă 79-81, Bucharest 010106 Tel: 021 312 1497 Email: <u>anticoruptie@pna.ro</u>

European Anti-Fraud Office

Address: OLAF - European Commission Rue Joseph II, 30, 1049 Brussels Tel: 32-2-298.82.51/32-2-299.62.96 Email: <u>OLAF-FMB-SPE@ec.europa.eu</u> Online form for notifying potential fraud to OLAF: <u>https://fns.olaf.europa.eu/cgi-</u> bin/disclaimer cgi?p=q&lang=en