



Understanding the roles and functions of Certifying and Audit Authorities in European Territorial Cooperation Programmes

28-29 April 2009 | Lisbon

Auditorio, IGF - Inspeção-Geral de Finanças, Rua Angelina Vidal, 41 - 1199-005 LISBOA

Participants European Commission (DG REGIONAL POLICY), INTERACT (INTERACT Points VALENCIA and VIENNA), INTERACT Secretariat, INTERREG IV Southern and Eastern European Programmes (MAs, JTSs, AAs and CAs).

Outline

Due to the high importance of the European Territorial Cooperation Objective in the current programming period, all bodies involved in the monitoring, control, and implementation of Territorial Cooperation programmes must secure high quality and standards. This applies not only to institutions managing projects and programmes but also to control and audit procedures. Since many programmes have already been present in previous programming period(s), it is now possible to build upon existing experience and know-how in order to continue to improve the system.

As pointed out by Commissioner Hübner, networks of communication between main programme stakeholders must be established in order to guarantee effective flow of information and to avoid systemic errors.¹ One important factor of success is a combination of both top-down and bottom-up transfer of know-how and information as an effective means to prevent severe deficiencies in programme implementation. Another important factor is an institutional learning process also supported through guidance provided by the European Commission.

This INTERACT event acts as a platform for the exchange of knowledge and experience between main programme bodies, namely the European Commission, Audit Authorities, Certifying Authorities and Managing Authorities, including Joint Technical Secretariats and intermediate bodies.

The aim of this event is to shed light on the different roles and tasks of Certifying and Audit Authorities and their interactions with other programme bodies. Good practices as well as critical issues will be presented by the European Commission and experienced Audit and Certifying Authorities and further elaborated in plenum discussions.

The first day of the event will be devoted to discussions on the roles of Certifying Authorities and the second day will focus on the roles of Audit Authorities.

¹ Opening speech of Commissioner Huebner, Control of Structural Actions - Meeting the Challenge, Brussels, 10 June 2008



Understanding the roles and functions of Certifying and Audit Authorities in European Territorial Cooperation Programmes

28 April 2009 | Lisbon

Auditorio, IGF - Inspeção-Geral de Finanças, Rua Angelina Vidal, 41 - 1199-005 LISBOA

Agenda – Roles and Functions of the Certifying Authority

Tuesday 28 April 2009 – 13:00-18:15

13.00 - 13.30 Registration and welcome coffee

13.30 - 14.00 Welcome

- Opening speech by the Portuguese representative. Mr. Carlos Trigacheiro. Inspeção-Geral de Finanças, Portugal
 - Introductory note by the European Commission. Mr. Francis Rawlinson, European Commission, DG Regional Policy
 - Introduction by INTERACT to the objectives of the seminar. Ms. Marta Roca, INTERACT Point Valencia & Ms. Katrin Stockhammer, INTERACT Point Vienna
-

14.00 - 15.00 Session 1: How to obtain and deliver assurance?

- How the Certifying Authority can deliver assurance? Mr. Francis Rawlinson, European Commission, DG Regional Policy
 - Assurance of the eligibility of the claimed expenditure, Experience of a Certifying Authority. Mrs. Alesta, Head of Financial Flow Unit, Ministry of Economy and Finance. Greece
 - How to obtain serious and reliable data for control purposes? Experience of a Certifying Authority. Ms. Elfriede Kober, ERP-Fonds on behalf of the Austrian Federal Chancellery
-

15.00 - 15.30 Plenary discussion

15.30 - 16.00 Coffee break

16.00 - 17.15 Session 2: The certification and payment function of the CA

- The submission of payment claims to the Commission. Recoveries and Withdrawals. Mr. Francis Rawlinson, European Commission, DG Regional Policy
 - Assurance of good management of funds - Accounting systems and audit trail. Experience of a Certifying Authority. Caisse des Dépôts et Consignations, France (tbc).
-

17.15 - 18.00 Plenary discussion

18.00 - 18.15 Conclusion of the Seminar

20.00 Networking dinner - INTERACT invitation



Understanding the roles and functions of Certifying and Audit Authorities in European Territorial Cooperation Programmes

29 April 2009 | Lisbon

Auditorio, IGF - Inspeção-Geral de Finanças, Rua Angelina Vidal, 41 - 1199-005 LISBOA

Agenda – Roles and functions of the Audit Authority

Wednesday 29 April 2009 09:00-13:30

8.30 - 9.00	Registration and welcome coffee
9.00 - 9.15	Introduction by INTERACT to the objectives of the seminar. Ms. Marta Roca, INTERACT Point Valencia & Ms. Katrin Stockhammer, INTERACT Point Vienna
9.15 - 10.30	The role of the Audit Authority in European Territorial Cooperation programmes <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the Audit Authority's functions. Mr. Benoît Entzminger. European Commission, DG Regional Policy, Audit Unit• Assurance of the management and control system: Experience of an Audit Authority: Ms. Susanna Rafalzik, Federal Chancellery of the Republic of Austria, Austria• The Audit Strategy: Experience of an Audit Authority. Mrs. Daam, Commission Interministérielle de Coordination des Contrôles (CICC), France
10.30 - 11.30	Plenary discussion
11.30 - 12.00	Coffee break
12.00 - 12.30	Working with International audit standards Presentation by an expert (tbc)
12.30 - 13.15	Questions and discussion Conclusions of this seminar
13.30	End of the seminar
