



EU Twinning Project "Strengthening Capacities of Internal Control in the Fight against Corruption within the Ministry of Interior"



SERBIA & EU

INTEGRITY AGAINST CORRUPTION

Project partners



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INTRODUCTORY WORDS

"The Internal Affairs Sector is an organizational unit within the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia with a long-standing tradition and extensive experience in fighting corruption and controlling the legality of work of police officers and other Ministry of Interior employees. The Sector wholeheartedly accepted this year-and-a-half-long exchange of experiences with its Lithuanian and Romanian partners, during which we had an opportunity to learn from each other, exchange skills related to the fight against corruption and the implementation of new anti-corruption institutes and measures. The EU Twinning project ended up being an excellent cooperation instrument that allowed all stakeholders to realize that they are not alone in their fight against corruption. As someone who represented the Internal Affairs Sector during the project implementation period in the capacity of the Resident Twinning Advisor Counterpart, I am certain that one of the greatest results of our common effort will be a more extensive and continuous cooperation with related friendly anti-corruption administrations of the Republic of Lithuania and Romania."

Ana Petrović

Resident Twinning Advisor Counterpart [RTA-C]

sukp@mup.gov.rs



"As someone who has been dealing with internal control and anti-corruption issues since 1998, being seconded to the position of Resident Twinning Advisor was a great honor and responsibility for me. During 18 or so months, I had the privilege to represent the Special Investigation Service of the Republic of Lithuania and the Anti-Corruption General Directorate of Romania whilst cooperating with colleagues from the Internal Affairs Sector of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia on implementing numerous important EU Twinning project activities. I hope that the goals and outcomes we achieved in the aforementioned activities will continue to shape and guide their future work. At this time, I would like to thank all project partners and convey my firm belief that we will continue to cooperate on issues of common importance and interest in the forthcoming period."

Simonas Grebelis

Resident Twinning Advisor [RTA]

dokumentai@stt.lt

ABOUT THE PROJECT

EU Twinning project "Strengthening Capacities of Internal Control in the Fight against Corruption within the Ministry of Interior" [SR 15 IPA JH 01 18] was jointly implemented by the Special Investigation Service of the Republic of Lithuania and the Anti-Corruption General Directorate of Romania, in cooperation with the Internal Affairs Sector [IAS] of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia [MoI RS].

The financial assistance for project implementation in the total amount of €1 million was provided from the EU's Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance [IPA], more precisely - the financial IPA package for 2015.



The project implementation commenced on 01 March 2019 and should have lasted 18 months, until 31 August 2020. Taken into consideration that the entire world, including the Republic of Serbia, was severely impacted by the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the resulting COVID-19 pandemic, the project implementation was suspended during the summer 2020. It restarted in the fall, until its official end on 20 December 2020.

Alongside the general goal of the project to support the Republic of Serbia in its fight against corruption in line with the recommendations from Chapter 23 and Chapter 24 action plans, the specific and concrete project activities sought to build and strengthen the existing capacities of IAS with a focus on corruption prevention mechanisms, investigation skills, property declaration checks, intelligence and operational data gathering and processing, IT system upgrading, etc.

ABOUT THE PROJECT PARTNERS

Beneficiary administration:
INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTOR,
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR [REPUBLIC OF SERBIA]

Established in 2003 as the Inspector General's Service of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia. Upon the adoption of the Law on Police in 2006, the Inspector General's Service received a name change to the Internal Police Affairs Sector with its mandate, tasks and competencies defined for the very first time.

However, once the new Law on Police came into force in 2016, the Internal Police Affairs Sector was renamed 'Internal Affairs Sector' in order to reflect the all-encompassing nature of its mandate revolving around controlling the legality of work of not just the police officers, but, rather, all the Ministry of Interior employees. In addition, the said new Law on Police expanded the Sector's competencies and introduced new corruption prevention institutes and measures.

For more information:
<http://prezentacije.mup.gov.rs/sukp/>



Senior project partner:
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION SERVICE
[Republic of Lithuania]

Main anti-corruption law enforcement agency accountable to the President of the Republic of Lithuania and the Lithuanian Parliament. It was established in 1997 under the Ministry of Interior. In 2000, it became an independent institution. The Special Investigation Service investigates high-level corruption cases that can cause considerable damage to the state. The key areas of the Service's activities are criminal investigations and criminal intelligence gathering related to high-level corruption crimes, corruption prevention, anti-corruption education and analytical anti-corruption intelligence endeavors.

For more information:
<https://stt.lt/en>

ABOUT THE PROJECT PARTNERS

Junior project partner:

ANTI-CORRUPTION GENERAL DIRECTORATE [ROMANIA]

Established as a general directorate within the Romanian Ministry of Internal Affairs fully funded from the Romanian state budget. Its main objective is the prevention and fight against corruption, as well as other offences, indirectly or directly connected to corruption, perpetrated by the Ministry of Internal Affairs employees. Among other competencies, the Directorate is in charge of anticipating and identifying corruption-related vulnerabilities and risk factors with an aim of eradicating corruption as such.

For more information:

<http://www.mai-dga.ro/eng/>



The strategic level of project management was entrusted to the Lithuanian Special Investigation Service Deputy Director Mr. **Egidijus Radzevičius** in the capacity of Member State Project Leader, his Romanian colleague from the Anti-Corruption General Directorate Ms. **Otilia Filip** in the capacity of Junior Member State Project Leader and **the Internal Affairs Sector leadership representatives**.

On the occasion of successful project completion, Mr. **Egidijus Radzevičius** stated: "Corruption is a societal disease that can cause harm no prosperous country can afford. The EU Twinning project, implemented together with IAS, represented a great opportunity for three similarly inclined services from different countries to synergize and coordinate their efforts in order to enhance the anti-corruption capacities and strengthen internal control mechanisms of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia in line with the examples of good practice from the European Union".

Alongside the aforementioned, the project implementation was monitored diligently by the contracting authority representatives - Mr. **Gerhard Salzer** and Mr. **Marcello Repici** of the **Delegation of the European Union to the Republic of Serbia**.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPONENT 1

**RESULT: ENHANCED CAPACITY OF IAS TO EFFICIENTLY
USE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES IN PROACTIVE
INVESTIGATIONS OF CORRUPTION AND INTEGRITY TESTING**

Implemented activities:

- **Activity 1.1** - Enhancing capacity of IAS to efficiently use special investigative techniques
- **Activity 1.2** - Enhancing capacity of IAS to efficiently use integrity testing
- **Activity 1.3** - Study visits to Lithuanian and Romanian institutions
- **Activity 1.4** - Drafting operational procedures for conducting integrity tests, developing manuals on special investigative techniques



PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPONENT 2

**RESULT: IMPROVED IT SYSTEMS OF IAS TO PROTECT AND
MANAGE DATA DURING INVESTIGATIONS**

Implemented activities:

- **Activity 2.1** - Assessment of current IAS IT system
- **Activity 2.2** - Maintenance and development of the IT system
- **Activity 2.3** - Training IT personnel



PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPONENT 3

**RESULT: ENHANCED INTERNAL INVESTIGATION CAPACITY
OF IAS AND ENFORCED ASSET/PROPERTY DECLARATION
CHECKS OF EMPLOYEES OF MOI**

Implemented activities:

- **Activity 3.1** - Assessment of IAS internal investigation capacities
- **Activity 3.2** - Countering internal corruption by IAS through criminal investigations
- **Activity 3.3** - Countering internal corruption by IAS through intelligence management
- **Activity 3.4** - Countering internal corruption by IAS through effective asset declaration checks
- **Activity 3.5** - Countering internal corruption by IAS through internal controls and checks of the legality of work
- **Activity 3.6** - Operational procedures preparation for conducting corruption investigations



PROJECT ACTIVITIES COMPONENT 4

RESULT: ESTABLISHED CAPACITIES OF IAS TO PROCESS INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONAL DATA, AS WELL AS TO CONDUCT CORRUPTION RISK ANALYSIS

Implemented activities:

- **Activity 4.1** - Organize cycle of trainings for IAS staff on how to process intelligence and analyze operational data
- **Activity 4.2** - Training of IAS staff on how to conduct corruption risk analysis and create a corruption risk register



- **Activity 4.3** - Preparation of operational procedures for corruption intelligence gathering, processing and transforming it into evidence
- **Activity 4.4** - Preparation of an operational procedure for creating a corruption risk register

PROJECT IN NUMBERS

- **4** project components comprised of **17** activities and **24** sub-activities
- **50** experts from the Republic of Lithuania and Romania
- More than **110** expert missions
- More than **500** working days
- More than **150** police officers trained
- **14** manuals, operational procedures, technical specifications and guidelines prepared

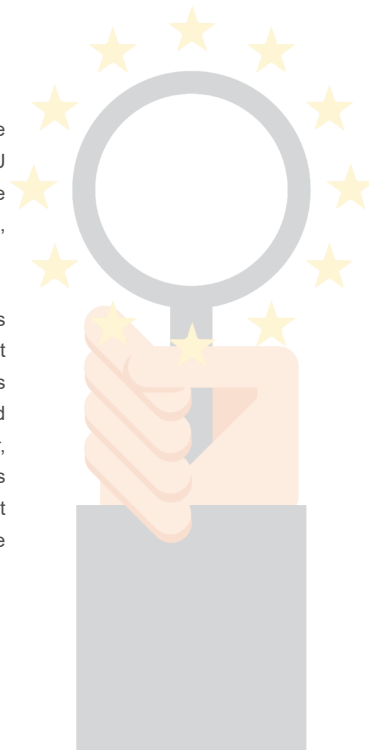


- **2** study visits
[Republic of Lithuania and Romania]
- **1** official project kick-off presentation
[01 October 2019]
- **6** Project Steering Committee Meetings
- **Synergy** with activities of other international organizations, such as OSCE & DCAF

INNOVATIVE PROJECT VISIBILITY APPROACH

Guided by the Lithuanian good practice examples, as well as the expressed needs of the beneficiary administration, the EU Twinning project implementation team decided to approach the process of visibility material development in a nontraditional, atypical and innovative manner.

Alongside the well-known, typical visibility materials, such as pens, notebooks, folders, and tote bags, the project implementation team decided to design and produce backpacks and wireless power banks that could be of significant use and importance during inspectors' fieldwork assignments. Moreover, in order to make the project as visible and recognizable as possible, white pocket-sized metal boxes filled with peppermint candies bearing the sign "Vitamin I - Immunity for Integrity" were also produced and disseminated.



The EU Twinning project "Strengthening Capacities of Internal Control in the Fight against Corruption within the Ministry of Interior", as well as the development of this electronic PDF publication, were financed by the European Union. The content of the present publication is the sole responsibility of the Twinning project implementing partners and does not necessarily reflect the opinion or the position of the European Union.



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For the task of developing the present electronic PDF publication, as well as other project visibility materials, the implementation team of the EU Twinning project "Strengthening Capacities of Internal Control in the Fight against Corruption within the Ministry of Interior" engaged the services of "DIMIS creating & improving brands" from Belgrade, Serbia.

DIMIS creating & improving brands