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The Bulgarian Project:

Strengthening the Tax Fraud Investigation Capacity of the Bulgarian National Revenue Agency

Phase I

Anti-Fraud Unit

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& Crew

IOTA Workshop
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(or what we want to share with you)

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Why do we start the initiative?

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Replace the outdated data analysis software

Improve cross-checking of taxpayers' data available (big data)

Avoid so many manual operations

&

Increase effectiveness and efficiency in fighting against tax fraud

Provide sufficient analytical capabilities

Automate processing taxpayers' data

What does it mean?

AFU has an urgent need of **high-tech and modern IT solution** based on cutting-edge technologies including AI, ML, network analysis, graphic visualisation, etc.

How the SG REFORM was involved

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(TSI) PROGRAMME

TECHNICAL SUPPORT INSTRUMENT
Regulation (EU) 2021/240

REQUEST for Technical Support (Art. 9 of the TSI Regulation) in **October 2023**.

APPROVAL of the project candidature in **November 2023**.

Why Phase 1

The effective project implementation will take place following the Commission's support (SG REFORM).

The SG REFORM role
Main responsibilities

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SG REFORM

- Ensure contract implementation
- Monitor the progress of the work within the deadlines
- Ensure all deliverables have been produced
- Ensure confidentiality and personal data protection
- Provide guidance on the implementation of the contract
- Formally approve the deliverables after consultation with the Beneficiary authority (BA)
- Participate in meetings

Aim of the Project

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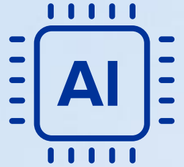
To provide technical assistance for developing a concept, IT technical documentation and implementation approach for new technologies



Enhance the Agency's efficiency in investigating organized tax and social security frauds



Identify suitable software solutions and IT tools for data processing and analysis



Implementing modern AI technologies

Expected outcomes

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Direct goals



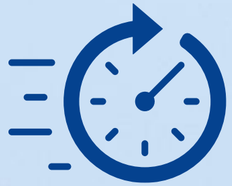
Enhanced analytical capacities



Optimized internal processes

** concerning efficiency of organized tax and social security frauds

Longer-term goals



Faster detection of fraudulent behavior and tax fraud schemes.



More efficient and effective tax fraud investigations.



Higher revenue collection and tax compliance.

Expected outcomes (2)

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01

Evaluation of existing analytical IT tools on the market

02

The costs in case of possible implementation and use in the NRA.

03

Technical specification and expert assessment of development costs for:

- A „one-stop-shop system“ to identify and investigate organized frauds;
- A system based on state-of-the-art IT solution that gives an added value to the efficiency of fraud investigation

The project should give sufficient awareness of the parameters of the new IT solution,

for making a subsequent management decision on how to implement and deploy it (Phase 2).

Duration and methodology

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The Project (Phase I)

has started on **19th September 2024**

and ended on **30th May 2026**

20 months

Total duration
In accordance with the Contract and the approved Tender Specifications

The project is structured into coherent and integrated Deliverables.

- **specific objectives**
- **scope of activities**
- **methodology (activities' plan)**
- **expected results and outcomes of the process**

Key Deliverables and Activities

Project Component 1 – expert support (procurement)

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1.Preparation

D1 D2 D3

1: Inception report

2: Analytical report on current situation

3: Questionnaire for EU benchmarking

2.Benchmark & explore

D4 D5

4: Feasibility study on cutting-edge technologies

5: Analytical report on design and architecture of the new IT tool

3.Design

D6 D7

6: IT specifications and preliminary IT procurement documentation

7: Roadmap and implementation plan

4.Implement & Report

D8 D9 D10

8: Report on training activities

9: Progress reports

10: Final report

Key Deliverables and Activities (2)

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Project Component 1 – expert support (procurement)

A logical link was established between the analytical work, project management activities, and capacity-building activities.

An extra advantage of the Instrument for the TS:
All the documents (deliverables/reports) were prepared in English and Bulgarian.

Key Deliverables and Activities (3)

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Project Component 2 – TAIEX event

Technical Assistance and Information Exchange

Workshops/experts' missions: Unrealized activities

What’s next

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Following the steps in the Road map and the Action plan

Pre-project phase of the deployment

The most important condition: **FUNDING**



Currently, a project proposal was prepared and submitted in May 2026
to apply for funding under the 2026 "Technical Assistance" procedure
of the EU Anti-Fraud Program **(EUAF**), administered by the European Anti-Fraud Office **(OLAF).**

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THANK YOU!

That’s all from us.
See you again - someday, somewhere.