

# Abstracts of presentations delivered during the visit to Padua (Italy)

A short visit report from the study visit of the 19th and 20th of November 2021

## List of covered topics

**Day 1:** 19th November 2021 – theme: Taking stock of good practices related to the protection of financial interests

	Presentation name	Presented by
Presentation 1	Presentation of AVEPA, the Paying Agency of Veneto Region	Francesco Rosa, Head of the Territorial Integration Department
Presentation 2	AVEPA's integrated strategy for the management of irregularities and all infringements	Francesco Rosa, Head of the Territorial Integration Department
Presentation 3	Data-driven Internal audit risk assessment	Marco Popolizio, Internal Auditor
Presentation 4	Revising the managing system to tackle the creation of artificial conditions to receive funds	Francesco Rosa, Head of the Territorial Integration Department
Presentation 5	Farm's data management in AVEPA: implementing a preventive approach to tackle irregularities and ease the payment procedures	Andrea Francesco Marcon, Delegated Activities Unit
Presentation 6	The use of SENTINEL data in the control process	Dennis Romeo Milani, IT Department; Giovanni Lusiani, LPIS Department
Presentation 7	Reasonableness of machineries' costs: AVEPA's experience	Marco Trevisan, Territorial coordination of intangible interventions
Presentation 8	Risk based control sampling for the prevention of irregularities	Davide Bortolozzo, Sampling Unit

**Day 2:** 20th November 2021 – theme: Exploring innovative methods and data mining tools

	Presentation name	Presented by
Presentation 9	OTSC in ROP ERDF 2014-2020 – Practical experiences and lessons learned from an innovative IT approach	Laura Brocco, ERDF ROP Intermediate body

Presentation 10	Implementing ARACHNE in CAP 2021-2027 programming period in AVEPA: First results	Vittorio Benetti, IT Department; Francesco Rosa, Head of the Territorial Integration Department
Presentation 11	ARACHNE Risk Analysis Model – Croatian experience	Mario Sabljčić, Head of Sector at APPRRR (HR)
Presentation 12 - <i>in videoconference</i>	The use of Arachne in the frame of ROP ERDF 2014-2020 – Practical experiences and lesson learned	Linda Dal Maso, Managing Authority of 2014-2020 ERDF ROP of the Veneto Region
Brainstorming session	Topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IT tools for the prevention of fraud (Arachne)</li> <li>● Data-driven land monitoring</li> <li>● Farms data analysis for the prevention of potential frauds</li> </ul>	Moderators: Mario Sabljčić, Francesco Rosa, Dennis Romeo Milani

## Summary of the visit

**Visit title:** State-of-the-Art and future perspectives for the protection of EU financial interests through data analysis

### **Day 1:** 19th November 2021 - theme: **Taking stock of good practices related to the protection of financial interests**

The meeting started with an opening speech by the Director of AVEPA and several topics were addressed during the day with the purpose of sharing and discussing AVEPA's experiences related to the protection of financial interests from different points of view. After a presentation of the Agency, the only Regional PA participating in the project and the system in which it is operating, the integrated strategy bringing together obligations and initiatives related to anti-corruption, anti-money laundering and anti-fraud has been outlined. A risk assessment tool based on data analysis and objective criteria for internal audit purposes has been then touched upon. An overview on compliance with accreditation criteria and the importance of establishing and maintaining an effective internal control system as a first step towards the protection of financial interests and for the protection against fraud has been provided. A first insight on possible risky areas which can be more prone to potential frauds based on experience gathered through previous OLAF projects was also under discussion. A systematic approach to tackle the creation of artificial conditions embedded in PA's procedures, documents and checklists has been then presented before going into more details of what different Agency's sectors are doing for protecting the financial interests by acting at Regional level. Notably, a broad overview of the management of Farm's data collected through the

Farm Register and the use of Sentinel data for control activities was delivered. A demo was also shared with participants during the presentation on the land monitoring system. Finally issues such as the reasonableness of costs (related to machineries) which were already touched upon during previous project meetings have been also deepened from AVEPA's perspective and risk-based sample selection procedures further explored. The overall idea was to provide participants with an in-depth overview of procedures and methods and to further discuss some issues during the second day (namely the analysis of farm data and data-driven land monitoring) with the purpose of exploring new ways forwards in these fields.

**Day 2:** 20th November 2021 – theme: **Exploring innovative methods and data mining tools**

The second day started with the presentation of an innovative method used in the frame of ERDF ROP for remote OTSCs which has been introduced in time of pandemics (i.e. Video call checks) and could bring a positive contribution, among other things, in terms of prevention of corruptive risks. Main topic of the day was the presentation and discussion of different experiences in the use of Arachne. The first experience of AVEPA in using this tool has been unveiled and future implementation steps, particularly from the IT perspective, have been deepened. The Croatian experience was also shared and to enrich the discussion during the subsequent brainstorming session, the point of view of the ERDF Managing Authority at the Veneto Region also added in videoconference mode. Project participants have been split into three thematic sub-groups during the brainstorming session discussing IT tools for the prevention of fraud (notably Arachne), Data-driven land monitoring and Farms data analysis for the prevention of potential frauds. The day was concluded with a quick wrap-up session contributing to map the acquired know-how on data-driven risk-analysis (software and other methods).

## List of attachments/appendixes with files added

1. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-1\_AVEPA.pdf
2. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-2\_Strategy.pdf
3. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-3\_IARiskAssessment.pdf
4. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-4\_ArtificialConditions.pdf
5. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-5\_FarmDataManagement.pdf
6. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-6\_SentinelData.pdf
7. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-7\_ReasonablenessCosts.pdf
8. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-8\_RiskBasedControlSampling.pdf
9. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-9\_OTSC-ERDF.pdf
10. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-10\_ArachneAVEPA.pdf
11. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-11\_ArachneHR.pdf
12. SmartPro\_Italy\_presentation-12\_ArachneERDFVeneto.pdf