# Workshop on Preparations for the European Social Fund (57708)

## Setting adequate European Social Fund structures

Nika Juvan Beograd, December 2014

# **Topics of Presentation**

Experience of MoLFSA in EU Decentralised Management Programmes

Key Points and Risk Factors

Key Messages

## Experience

### MoLFSA was/is:

- EQUAL 2004 2006 Managing Authority
- SPD 2004 2006 Intermediate Body
- OP HRD 2007 2013 Intermediate Body (one of nine) and Beneficiary
- <u>European Globalisation and Adjustment</u>
   <u>Fund</u> Managing and Certifying Authority
- OP 2014 2020 Intermediate Body
- OP 2014 -2020 for the Most Deprived -Managing Authority and Beneficiary

## Key Point 1: Financial Structure

- How will you manage financial flows, especially in relation to state budget implementation?
  - Several possibilities toward Final Beneficiaries and Final Recipients
  - Planning, Implementing, Reporting
  - IT system

## Key Point 2: Audit Trail

- Be sure to have a clear audit trail
  - Written procedures for every step (within the administration and toward beneficiaries)
  - Separate Accounting
  - Control sheets at every step
  - Efficient and computerised documentation system
  - Use simplifications with caution

## **Key Point 3: Allocation of Powers**

- The role of Managing Authority and Intermediate Bodies/Beneficiaries
- Clear and efficient division of tasks securing the regularity and effectiveness
- When dividing the tasks ask yourselves who has which responsibility and plan you system accordingly

## Key Risk Factor 1: Staff

- Different "types" of staff depending on tasks:
  - Horizontal tasks: system development and upgrading, reporting and evaluation, control, jurists, IT managers
  - Project "carers" big vs. small projects
- Skilled and professional "leadership"
- Use as much as possible Technical Assistance for trainings and team building
- Be cautious when setting standards for employees involved in ESIF - "TA and non TA" employees

## Key Risk Factor 2: IT system

- Plan well and well in advance
- Crucial for financial management as well as objectives/results (indicators) monitoring
- Be sensitive of differences between major / infrastructure projects and smaller / HRD project monitoring and financial flows
- Secure audit trail

## Key Messages

- Take good care of state/regional administration first (clear guidelines in time and good "project carers", beneficiaries will follow (learning by doing)
- MA should be professional and well organised with clear responsibility towards other actors (IBs, Bs, FRs)
- MA should manage within the existing system not create a new one

## Key Messages

 Positive impact on the development of public sector competence, transparency and accountability and reform

#### Thank you

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