Interreg ABH: an example of the collaboration with the controllers to develop a new tool for the Risk-based management verifications

RISK-BASED MANAGEMENT VERIFICATIONS AT INTERREG BUDAPEST, 7TH NOVEMBER 2024 MARGUERITE LARGANT AND ZUHAL SARI

## Introduction

WHO ARE WE?

WHICH PROGRAMME ARE WE WORKING FOR?

### Who are we?

Interreg VI-A Germany – Austria – Switzerland – Liechtenstein (Alpenrhein – Bodensee – Hochrhein)



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# From the idea to the implementation

HOW LONG DID THE PROCESS TAKE?
WHAT WORKED WELL AND DIFFICULTIES?

### How long did the process take?

End 2022 – Beginning 2023

Team meeting to define the main features required for our RBMV Tool

#### May 2023:

First draft from Rechenwerk defining the scope of the feature Meetings with Rechenwerk to correct a few things













February 2023:

First ticket at
Rechenwerk to ask
about the
possibility of the
implementation

December 2023: First version available in the testing environment April 2024: Feature was deployed in Jems

# Main aspects that had to be in our RBMV Tool

- Expenditures under 50€ will be taken out of the sample
- A minimum of 50% of the list of expenditures has to be part of the sample, and to two highest cost positions will automatically be part of the sample.
- Procurements above the EU-threshold will have to be part of the sample.
- For the rest: random choice by an IT-generator.
- The 50% of the liste of expenditures have to represent at least 25% of the total submitted costs. If it's not the case, more cost positions will be inserted.
- The tool checks if a same invoice has been submitted twice, based on the invoice number, the invoice amount and the invoice date.
- The summary of the controller's work will be available in an automatically generated .pdf export.

# Involvement of the ABH-Controllers and the Audit Authority

- The Audit Authority of our programme was also involved in the process to ensure the right implementation of the tool and that the tool would meet the audit authority's expectations and wishes.
- The Audit Authority also participated in some of the meetings organised with Rechenwerk when the situation started becoming critical as regards of the time.
- The Audit Authority also amended and corrected Rechenwerk's proposal regarding the tool.

# What worked well? Where did we face difficulties?

- Difficulties regarding the communication with Rechenwerk and deadlines not always respected => the process took more than a year. And several meetings
- Time pressure: the first partner reports were due to End February 2023 and the RBMV tool was not ready in Jems => we forbid the submission of partner reports during a few weeks i.e. frustration and pressure from the beneficiaries who urgently needed money
- Coordinating our wishes and the IT-implementation
- ABH-Controllers are part of the JS: the MA and the JS are all located in Tübingen, in the same office => communication and work are then easier, close contact between all the branches and good atmosphere among the colleagues. Controlling is not externalised.
- For the first partner reports the controllers did a "double-check" to see how the tool reacts with "real data" => works well!!
- Testimonies from the controllers: this RBMV is a big improvement and is also saving a lot of time.

# How does it work in practice? Jems demonstration

A few adaptations to the core code of Jems were needed:

- New column with a number for each cost position
- New questions regarding the procurement in the list of expenditures for the beneficiary, to help defining what should be part of the sample or not
- .pdf export will be automatically generated and contains a few information.

### JEMS Demonstration

Let's show you how it works in practice!!!

https://jems.rpt.landbw.de/no-auth/login?ref=%2Fapp%2Fdashboard

### Thanks a lot for your attention!!

#### **Marguerite Largant**

Managing Authority, responsible of the development of Jems for the programme

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