The use of AI for EU funds

Testing the application of Artificial Intelligence tools to improve Management and Control

14-15 November 2024

Milan

Franck Sottou

Senior International Management and Control Expert

- Key international Expert

  - Management and control systems

  - Indicators and performance measurement (data collection)

  - Simplification and economic, social and environmental strategies

- Former Head of TA Team

  - Programming, negotiations with EC, management & control systems

- Trainer and Consultant for European Institutions, Managing and Certifying Authorities, IB and Implementing Agencies

- Currently working for Member States for technical assistance

  - Design of logframes and selection of indicators

  - Calculation and implementation of SCOs

  - Recommendations about simplification and efficiency of systems

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Tytti Yli-Viikari

Senior Public Financial Management Expert

- Key expertise in Public Financial Management Frameworks, Risk Management and Automated Control Systems
  - Financial data quality
  - Monitoring and audit
  - Design of control frameworks
- Former Auditor General of Finland
  - Ex-ante and ex-post financial control
  - International standards / accounting and audit
  - Integrating Artificial Intelligence tools in control systems
  - Professional training for public financial managers and auditors
- Currently conducting research on Digitalization in Public Administration

The use of AI for Public Funds
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- **Learning objective**
    - Explore the possibilities to use Artificial Intelligence for the management and control of Public funds
    - Test concrete applications, addressing the pros and the cons and success conditions
    - Focus on the improvement of performance and risk management
- **Learning points**
    - Scanning large volumes of data all throughout the Project Cycle Management
    - Focusing on data collection at project, beneficiary and programme level
    - Ensuring the accuracy and integrity of data
    - Tracking suspicious patterns and anomalies in financial transactions
    - Focusing on procedures that can be time-consuming, repetitive, and error-prone
    - Improving selection process (steps, scoring and weighting)
    - Insisting on efficiency and accuracy of targets and indicators
- **Learning outcomes**
    - Best practice information: practical examples of AI tools from EU Member States for PFM
    - Understanding the bias and possible erroneous interpretations of data
    - Exploring the national burdens for the use of AI tools
    - Gaining knowledge of the different AI tools ready to use and to be developed
    - Addressing EU funds and cohesion policy instrument specificities

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DAY 1 : Good practices in the steps of the selection process

Registration 9.00am **Morning session** 9.00am to 12.30pm	**Step 1: Presentation of options and user cases** • Available tools and logics of AI • Examples of use of AI in management of public funds • Limits and burdens at EU / national level • Bias and erroneous interpretations of data • Learning machines and potential processes
	Step 2: Enhanced efficiency and accuracy with AI • Identifying the targets and needs of the country • Practices for the improvement of the programming and calls • The source of data and means of verification of indicators • Use of AI for the SCOs / FNLC • The appraisal, selection and contracting phases
Lunch from 12:30pm to 2:00pm	
Afternoon session 2:00pm to 4.30pm	**Step 3: Better selection of operations and anticipation of risks – case studies** • The assistance to selection decision : Designing the selection decision / Principles, selection criteria, scoring and weighting / Competitive selection analysis using the Simple Multi-Attribute Rating Technique / Sensitivity analysis • Better risk assessment and control recommendations with AI

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DAY 2 : Awarding the contract and success conditions

Morning session 9.00am to 12.30pm	**Step 4: Improved Risk assessment and Control – case studies** • Identification of high-risk transactions and suspicious patterns • Sampling optimisation / 100% coverage • Use of robotic process automation (RPA), natural language processing (NLP), and optical character recognition (OCR).
	Lunch from 12:30pm to 2:00pm
Afternoon session 2:00pm to 4.30pm	**Step 5: Success conditions** • Adaptation and limits of the legal framework • Skills and qualifications – data analyst and new financial managers • Managing changes in the IT tools • Process of use at all stages : integrated / optional • Monitoring of risks and auditing
	Step 6: Specification in case of use for EU funds • Integration in the management and control system • Consequences for the MDA • Consequences for Audit • Specific alerts and supporting conditions **Step 7 : Action plan and concrete steps**

Days	Total net amount €	Discounts	Including
Face-to-face			
2-day	1235	15% early registration (up to 2 months before the event) ; 10% for 2 or more participants from the same institution	Training material, breaks, lunches, full access to ETCP platform and quizzes, certificate of qualification
discounted 10%	1111,50		
discounted 15%	1049,75		

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