



REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

**EVALUATION REPORT**  
**Implementation of 2018-2020**  
**Work Plan**

**Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative**



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## List of Acronyms

ADA	Austrian Development Agency
APIK	Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight Against Corruption in BiH
BiH	Bosnia and Herzegovina
CEI	Central European Initiative
CEF	Centre for Excellence in Finance
CPL	Corruption Proofing of Legislation
CRA	Corruption Risk Assessment
CSO	Civil Society Organization
EC	European Commission
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ECTHR	European Court on Human Rights
EU	European Union
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption (Council of Europe)
HJPC	High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, BiH
IISG	Integrative Internal Security Governance
LEA	Law Enforcement Agencies
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OECD	Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
OECD- ACN	OECD-Anti-Corruption Network
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
RACVIAC	Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre
RAI	Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
ReSPA	Regional School of Public Administration
SEE	South Eastern Europe
SELDI	Southeast European Leadership for Development and Integrity
SG	Steering Group
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
WB	Western Balkans



## Background

RAI is a regional inter-governmental organization which in the past decade has become primary regional anti-corruption hub in the SEE region. RAI has built a common regional platform for discussions among the governments and civil society and has efficiently addressed its activities through training, peer-to-peer learning and sharing of good practices in a multidisciplinary setting.

RAI Secretariat planning and implementation process operates on two-year cycles in line with its internal documents. In 2015, RAI Secretariat introduced an evaluation process of the work plans as a practice for coupling the evaluation with the strategic planning as a basis for designing more achievable and measurable objectives and for advancing the organizational transparency and accountability.

As a Regional Coordinator for Anti-Corruption Dimension of South East Europe 2020 Strategy (hereinafter: the SEE 2020 Strategy), RAI is also committed to the objectives identified under the SEE 2020 Strategy which represent a compilation of national needs, regional demands and international commitments of RAI member countries. For these reasons, the Work Plan 2018-2020 was an ambitious planning document covering the period of three years linking with the 2020 Strategy timeframe.

One of the internal RAI strengths in the planning processes is the regular consultation with the member states in line with the key strategic goals embedded in their anti-corruption strategies and advocated by the Steering Group members. RAI Secretariat has cultivated a practice of transparent relations with the SG members, a practice of sharing all relevant documents related to the work and project processes which fosters good working relations between the member states.

The purpose of the Evaluation Report of the Work Plan (2018-2020) is to present the results achieved and challenges during the implementation period which will feed into the preparation of the new Work Plan (2021-2022). In addition to this, RAI Secretariat will utilise findings and recommendations of the programmatic external evaluation. The involvement of external stakeholders in the process will lead to an independent, objective and multi-approach evaluation of all components of the RAI work and will lead to a more result-oriented programming process.

Amending the internal rules and procedures is a complex task that the Secretariat has conducted on number of occasions in the past. The results of such changes always positively impacted the organization.

In the same light, in 2019, RAI made the largest update of its internal policies to date that touched upon almost all segments of the Organization. The amendments were an upgrade of RAI policies and are a part of the continuous effort in organizational development and strengthening of professionalism, responsibility and inclusive approach to delivery of RAI's mandate. The amendments were developed with the vision of preparing RAI for its third decade. The adopted amendments will enable expansion of the Secretariat, modernize the existing policies and introduce new ones, and will demonstrate more transparency of RAI's work.

When it comes to the implementation of the *SEE Regional Programme on Strengthening the Capacity of Anti-corruption Authorities and Civil Society to Combat Corruption and Contribute to the UNCAC Review Process* funded by Austrian Development Agency, the implementation timeline was adjusted on two occasions during the evaluation period. The first programme extension (2018) was related to expanding the framework activities under the Objective 2 of the Work plan 2018-2020, the second extension was introduced to enable the negotiating parties to the Treaty to perform necessary preparatory steps for the accession to the Treaty, while the third extension was directly caused by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, whereby the Programme was extended by additional three months. Continuance of processes



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initiated under the Programme was addressed in the proposal for the follow-up phase of the Regional Programme submitted to ADA in August 2020.

However, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on implementation of RAI's activities are not limited only to this regional programme and postponement of the signing ceremony of the International Treaty on Exchange of Data for Verification of Asset Declarations. It has also affected organisation of the 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the Summer School, Regional workshop in partnership with RACVIAC, a number of events planned under other projects implemented by the RAI Secretariat, as well as inevitably altering implementation of RAI's activities.

New forms of corruption request for new approaches, strategies and for engagement of broader coalitions of actors, including the CSOs and youth population in the anti-corruption action. The last challenge is the global health crisis caused by the COVID-19. Due to its unpredictable consequences, this new reality requires adaptation to new work and program modalities. The pandemic outbreak provoked new corruption risks, especially in the public health procurement and in the disposal of the national and international financial aid, demanding for greater mobility of the anti-corruption bodies in connection with the CSOs and independent media. All these challenges will be reflected in the future strategic decisions.

In conclusion, the overall evaluation of the last three years shows a significant increase in targeted actions delivered and results achieved at the regional level as well as at the sub-regional level, number of partnerships established, increase in visibility, as well as improved program management in order to respond efficiently to the members' needs in all areas of RAI actions. Positive achievements in relation to the strategic and organizational capacities should be capitalized in the enhancement of the organization in the international for a through signing a new international agreement between the RAI member states.

### Strategic Objectives

Strategic objectives stipulated in the Work Plan 2018-2020 are:

1. Strengthening regional cooperation in conflict of interest & asset disclosure
2. Strengthening integrity through transparent rules and procedures
3. Whistleblowing – raising public awareness & strengthening national capacities
4. Build capacities of law enforcement agencies and improve their regional cooperation
5. Strengthening national capacities through cooperation in asset recovery

Other Objectives are:

1. Revision and control, and public procurement
2. Oversight of political parties financing
3. Corruption prevention through education
4. Corruption in public sector human resources management
5. Corruption in sport
6. Gender and corruption
7. Digitalization of anti-corruption
8. Anti-corruption in Public Service Delivery (such as Health Sector)
9. Integrity in Private Sector

The in-depth analysis of the Work Plan (2018-2020) implementation led to the review of the objectives and further prioritization of actions, considering available human and financial resources as well as available capacities of the member states, observers and partners. Lessons



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learned led RAI Secretariat towards setting tangible and measurable operational targets for the next planning period ahead, meaning that certain objectives for their relevance will remain strategic while others will be rephrased and some will be discontinued.

RAI will keep the pace with the key international and EU documents related to the euro-integration process of its member states and their strong commitment to deliver sustainable results in the fight against corruption and organized crime, justice reforms, regional cooperation and inclusion of the civil society.<sup>1</sup>

### SO 1 -Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Conflict of Interest & Asset Disclosure

The Strategic Objective 1 encompasses the Strategic Target stipulated in the SEE2020 Strategy that is to strengthen regional cooperation and data exchange in the field of asset disclosure and conflict of interest (O1). RAI commitment to strengthening regional cooperation on data exchange in asset disclosure and conflict of interest has been developed through the activities realized under the Joint RAI and UNODC Regional Programme (hereinafter: Regional Programme) implemented in the period 2015-2020.

The action towards introduction and enforcement of the regional instrument on data exchange in asset disclosure has marked the RAI profile in the recent decade. RAI has led the process of developing and preparation of the Signing ceremony for the International Treaty for Exchange of Data for Verification of Asset Declarations (hereafter the International Treaty) as novel legal regional instrument aiming to facilitate the civil and administrative exchange among the integrity bodies related to the financial disclosure in line with the Article 43 of the UNCAC.

In the course of 2016 and 2017, RAI Secretariat, in cooperation with its member states and partners, has completed the technical negotiations for the Draft International Treaty on three regional meetings of integrity bodies from Southeast Europe and of international stakeholders. In continuation, the planning activities in the period of 2018-2020 were dedicated to the finalization of the Treaty text with the accompanying Explanatory Notes, the political negotiations, translation in the beneficiaries' languages, preparation for the signing event, including the agreement on the Treaty depository.

In early 2018, RAI, with the support of ADA, initiated the cooperation with the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs (hereafter Austrian Federal Ministry). Two rounds of political negotiations were held. On October 3-4, 2018 RAI Secretariat organized the [1st Negotiation Meeting in Laxenburg](#), Austria and on March 27, 2019 RAI Secretariat and Ministry of Justice of Montenegro organized the [2<sup>nd</sup> Negotiation Meeting on International Treaty in Podgorica](#). All RAI member states took an active and qualitative participation in the technical negotiations and agreed on the value of regional sharing of data on asset declarations. Beside the finalization of the Treaty text, the Meeting in Podgorica was focused on the selection of the Treaty's depository. Republic of Serbia reiterated their commitment to be the depository, as already proposed on the 1st negotiation meeting in Laxenburg in 2018. During the political negotiations, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia have

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<sup>1</sup>[EU-Western Balkans Zagreb summit Zagreb Declaration](#), 6 May, 2020, [2019 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy](#)



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expressed their commitment for accession to the Treaty. In addition to this, Bulgaria expressed their readiness to be the Treaty's depository during the Podgorica negotiations. Nevertheless, RAI countries agreed to that Republic of Serbia shall be the Treaty's depository country. By the scheduled Treaty signing ceremony, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia have completed the necessary steps for the accession to the Treaty, including the appointment of the signatories on behalf of these countries.

The [International Treaty](#) has become widely recognized by the professional community and partners as a positive example of tangible regional cooperation. The International Treaty was initially supported by the EU through endorsement by the Directorate-General for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations (DG NEAR) and mentioned in the 2018 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy from April 2018, as well within the Berlin Process through Trieste and London Western Balkan Summits in 2017 and 2018. However, in June, 2019 EC brought to RAI's attention the legal concerns in view of the intention of concluding this treaty between an EU Member States and non-EU Member States referring to the Article 3(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and the case law of the European Court of Justice<sup>2</sup>.

RAI remains open for further discussion on the issues highlighted by the EC.

The public health crisis necessitated postponing the Treaty Signing Ceremony for the first three signatory countries (Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia), scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020, hosted by the RAI Secretariat and the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs. Accordingly, the implementation and monitoring of the International Treaty as foreseen in the Work Plan 2018-2020 has been postponed. Still, several forms of regional dialogue were generated, from informal networking at events and trainings organized, to formal regional negotiations regarding the International Treaty as a basis for the future networking in exchange of data in asset disclosure.

RAI Secretariat held a number of bilateral meetings with the anti-corruption bodies in all RAI member states to adequately address the requirements stipulated in the International Treaty.

RAI Secretariat representatives promoted the Treaty at some 35 regional and international events over the course of the Regional Programme implementation targeting, amongst others, EU institutions and number of regional and international organizations. (please see the Annex 3).

The Regional Programme received positive external evaluation in terms of relevance,

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<sup>2</sup>Member States must refrain from undertaking international commitments, which could undermine the uniform and consistent application of Union law and the proper functioning of the system established thereby and that the EU has already enacted legislative measures largely covering matters regulated under the draft treaty mentioning the EU legal framework related to the prevention of money laundering, and in the field asset tracing, seizure and confiscation and on data protection and that the participation of an EU Member State in such an international treaty could be contrary to EU rules, in particular Article 3(2) TFEU. This risk could be avoided if Member States interested in such a regional framework participated on a bilateral basis through administrative arrangements between their competent verification authorities and those in the Western Balkan partners concerned, in accordance with Article 57a of Directive (EU) 2015/849.



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effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability<sup>3</sup> including the Strategic Objective 1. According to the Evaluation Report, the beneficiaries are prepared to work on the same objective in the future Regional Programme (planned to commence in late 2020) as it aligns with the national strategies and priorities for strengthening capacities for in-depth verification of the veracity of the asset declarations as the key preventive tool for illegal enrichment and conflict of interest of public officials.<sup>4</sup>

### SO 2 - Strengthening Integrity Through Transparent Rules and Procedures

The Strategic Objective 2 encompasses the Strategic Target stipulated in the SEE2020 Strategy Dimension “O”: Use best practice methodologies for assessing corruption risk in public institutions in SEE 2020 economies (03) and Enhance ‘corruption-proofing’ of legislation in SEE economies (04).

In the evaluation period RAI Secretariat focused its efforts on introducing and strengthening the corruption risk assessment (CRA) in public administration and anti-corruption assessment of laws - corruption proofing of legislation (CPL).

The IT tool for CRA (integrity plans) was developed in order to assist the national authorities and strengthen their capacities in conducting corruption risk assessment. The IT tool was successfully implemented at the Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight Against Corruption (APIK) in BiH, as the main beneficiary and the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council (HJPC) in BiH which additionally joined the Programme activities.

In parallel, the IT tool for CPL was developed in order to assist the national authorities and strengthen their capacities in conducting the corruption proofing. The IT tool was successfully implemented within the APIK in BiH and the Agency for Prevention of Corruption Montenegro.

In this period, RAI Secretariat started building the sectoral approach for identifying specific corruption risks in the health sector, with a focus on practical implementation in other areas. Main activities towards fulfilling the Strategic Objective 2 under the Regional Programme were:

- January, 2018, Draft Methodology on Corruption Proofing of Legislation for Kosovo\* was translated and shared with authorities in Kosovo\*;
- April, 24-26th, 2018 RAI, RCC and the Agency for Prevention of Corruption in Montenegro organized two Trainings on Corruption Proofing of Legislation in Montenegro, in Budva and in Podgorica, Montenegro ([LINK](#));
- April, 26<sup>th</sup> 2018, RAI and RCC co-organized a session on corruption risk assessment for health sector institutions in Montenegro;
- May, 22-23<sup>rd</sup> 2018, in partnership with UNDP Kosovo\* and Anti-Corruption Agency of

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<sup>3</sup>[Final External Evaluation](#) of the Joint RAI and UNODC Southeast Europe Regional Programme on Strengthening the Capacity of Anti-corruption Authorities and Civil Society to Combat Corruption and Contribute to the UNCAC Review Process (hereafter the Regional Programme) financed by the Austrian Development Agency,

<sup>4</sup>According to the Final External Evaluation Report, in 2016, 84% of beneficiaries saw the International Treaty (Outcome 3) as either ‘very relevant’ or ‘fairly relevant’ (with the remaining 16% choosing ‘don’t know’). 12% of respondents thought in 2016 that the Treaty was not very relevant but this had dropped to 0% in 2020.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244(1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.



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Kosovo\*; the 2<sup>nd</sup> module of the training on corruption proofing of legislation for authorities from Kosovo\* was held in Zagreb, Croatia;

- June, 2018, APIK in BiH adopted the Methodology on Corruption Proofing of Legislation, and the new Guidelines for development of Integrity Plans for public institutions in BiH, RAI Secretariat took an active role in its development;
- September, 12-13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, RAI Secretariat in partnership with the National Anti-corruption Centre (NAC) of the Republic of Moldova, organized the Regional Workshop on IT tools in Preventing Corruption, Chisinau, Moldova;
- September, 18<sup>th</sup> 2018, Secretariat organized jointly with the APIK and the RCC a one-day Training on Corruption Risk Assessment for representatives of health care institutions in Herzegovina-Neretva Canton;
- October, 19<sup>th</sup> 2018, RAI Secretariat organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> training module on corruption risk assessment for health sector institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Herzegovina-Neretva Canton), which took place in Mostar, BiH;
- April, 2019, expert team on CRA developed a training manual, which will serve as a guideline for further trainings on how to conduct corruption risk assessment in public institutions;
- September, 2019, the IT tool for CPL has been successfully implemented within the Agency for Prevention of Corruption in Montenegro;
- January, 2020, the user manuals for IT tools on CRA and CPL have been developed and shared with the beneficiaries involved;
- March, 2020, the IT tools for corruption risk assessment and corruption proofing of legislation were successfully implemented within the APIK in BiH;
- April, 16<sup>th</sup> 2020, the IT tool for Corruption Risk Assessment was successfully implemented within the HJPC of BiH;
- May, 26<sup>th</sup> 2020, an online presentation of the Regional Programme external evaluation and findings was organized by RAI and UNODC Programme team, representatives of UNCAC Coalition Office and SELDI CSO Network;
- May & July, 2020, experts engaged on the Programme outcome related to CPL and CRA submitted the final reports, which reflect on the implementation of the activities, recommendations and next steps for future actions;
- July, 2020, final delivery of CRA IT tools to the HJPC and APIK was completed;
- July-August 2020, production of user video tutorials for implementation of the CRA IT tool.

In parallel with the core project activities, RAI Secretariat promoted the project results at many regional and international events (please, see the Annex 3).

As for the evaluation, the Strategic Objective 2 was a subject of the abovementioned independent Final External Evaluation (the Outcomes 1 and 2 of the Regional Programme). According to the [Report](#), the beneficiaries are committed and prepared to sustain the positive effects (for the CRA, 93 % would continue to be applied over the next three years, for the CPL this figure raises to 100 %). In all beneficiaries, CRA and CPL mechanisms have been greatly or somewhat strengthened and the overall target of 3 beneficiary countries introducing or



strengthening the CRA mechanisms was achieved.

In conclusion, the goals set up by the Strategic objective 2 embedded in the Outcomes 1 and 2 of the Regional Programme were achieved in terms of relevance, efficiency, sustainability, effectiveness.

### SO 3 - Whistleblowing – Raising Public Awareness & Strengthening National Capacities

The Strategic Objective 3 encompasses the strategic target stipulated in the SEE2020 Strategy to actively support researches, whistleblowers, media and other agencies and for their findings to be considered and given ample publicity. This Strategic Objective is aligned not only with the national priorities and beneficiaries' needs, but as well with the other regional and international organizations action in this field. RAI follows the newest GRECO practice for enhancing the sectoral whistleblowing policies and the whistleblowers protection in the LEA under the Fifth Round Evaluation.<sup>5</sup>

In the Evaluation period, RAI activities were focused on the process of negotiating and contracting the [EU-funded Regional Project for WB and Moldova](#). The project is in line with the three-fold intervention avenues stipulated in the Work Plan 2018-2020 (strengthening the capacities of targeted public institutions regarding the safe disclosure channels and protection of whistleblowers, promotion and support to the civil society in advocacy and promotion of whistleblowing).

Most significant activities in this period were:

- Starting on 19 April 2018, and continuing throughout 2019, RAI Secretariat had multiple meetings and consultations with DG NEAR, DG HOME and OLAF to prepare the project proposal and secure funding for the implementation of RAI Secretariat 2018-2020 Work Plan;
- May, 28<sup>th</sup> 2018, the Secretariat together with the Ministry of Justice of Croatia organized a Regional Round Table on the Protection of Whistleblowers to share practices and experiences from the region with Croatian authorities, which at that time was working on the draft legislation in this field.
- March, 21<sup>st</sup> 2019, SEE on Whistleblower Protection organized the 3<sup>rd</sup> International Whistleblower Day in Tirana. Head of RAI Secretariat took part in the event as a speaker in the panel titled Challenges to implementing legislation on whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers: European and Balkan Perspectives;
- May, 7-8<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Secretariat organized the Regional Workshop on Whistleblowing in the Security Sector. The event was organized in partnership with RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro.

In December 2019, RAI Secretariat signed the contract with the European Commission for the Regional Project titled *“Breaking the Silence: Enhancing the whistleblowing policies and culture*

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<sup>5</sup> GRECO Fifth Round Evaluation <https://www.coe.int/en/web/greco/evaluations/round-5-new>



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*in Western Balkans and Moldova*” (hereafter: the EU-funded Regional Project on Whistleblowing). The 1 million EUR project implementation commenced on April 2020 and will last 3 years. It aims at enhancing the whistleblower disclosure channels and protection mechanisms by working with both targeted public institutions and CSOs, paired with a regional public awareness campaign aiming to sensitize general public and public authorities about whistleblowing, targeting more specifically the youth and scholars. Since the start of the implementation in April 2020, project activities were followed in line with project schedule, and adjusted given the obstacles posed by the COVID-19 outbreak.

Finally, it can be concluded that during the evaluation period, the Strategic Objective 3 was successfully realized and will continue to be featured in the upcoming Work Plan 2021-2022 during which period the EU-funded Regional Project on Whistleblowing will be implemented. In line with core outcomes and outputs defined by the Project, the focus will be on further developing national capacities to effectively respond to whistleblower reports, as well as to facilitate regional knowledge and experience sharing, and promote integrity leaders and best practices in the area of whistleblowing, all of which will be reflected in the title of this Strategic Objective in the next Work Plan.

All of the consulted beneficiaries expressed their commitment to participate in the Project activities, in line with their national strategies. Public institutions found both outcomes of the Project relevant as most of them have in the past years introduced the law on whistleblower protection and continue to be interested in improving their legal framework, institutional capacities and the culture of whistleblowing, in line with the newest EU Whistleblowing Directive standards.<sup>6</sup>

Well aware of the possible difficulties in the regular and timely implementation of the planned activities due to the COVID-19 Outbreak, RAI will accordingly adhere to the remote online modalities (webinars and other forms of online conferences).

### SO 4 - Build Capacities of Law Enforcement Agencies and Improve their Regional Cooperation

Strategic Objective 4 was realized in cooperation and synergy with several partners. The most significant activities in this period in chronological order were:

- July, 9-12, 2018 - 13<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School, Belgrade - “Investigation of corruption and confiscation of proceeds of crime - effective tools and methods”;
- July, 1-4, 2019, 14<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School, Sarajevo - “Investigation of Corruption Cases – Innovative mechanisms and tools”;
- May, 8-9, 2018, two-day Regional workshop “Integrity and Control Measures in Defence and Law Enforcement Institutions” jointly organized by RAI, RACVIAC and the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro;

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<sup>6</sup> DIRECTIVE (EU) 2019/1937 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 23 October 2019 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law



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- May, 7-8, 2019, Regional workshop “Whistleblowing in the Security Sector” jointly organized by RAI, RACVIAC and the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro, Podgorica, Montenegro.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School was organized in Belgrade, Serbia on 9-13 July 2018, hosted by the Ministry of Justice of Republic of Serbia and in partnership with the OSCE on the topic “Investigation of corruption and confiscation of proceeds of crime – effective tools and methods”. Lectures were delivered by respected trainers, coming from institutions: Customs Service of the Republic of Moldova, State Border Guard Service of Ukraine, Austrian Ministry of Interior, USKOK (Croatia), OLAF and Directorate for the Administration of seized assets of Republic of Serbia.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School for young anti-corruption practitioners from the SEE took place in Sarajevo (30<sup>th</sup> June to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2019). The School was hosted by the High Judicial and Prosecutorial Council of BiH. The topic of the 2019 Summer School edition was “Investigation of corruption cases- Innovative mechanisms and tools”. Lectures were delivered by the RAI Secretariat experts, national prosecutors, and experts on financial investigation.

The 15<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School scheduled for 23 to 27<sup>th</sup> June in partnership with RACVIAC and Judicial Academy of Croatia, but due to the COVID-19 outbreak was postponed and modified to an online series of webinars (5 to 15 October).

Both 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> editions of the Summer School have been evaluated with the highest grades from the participants in all components of the Program, starting from the quality of the lecturers, methodology and techniques applied that is a combination of lectures and practical exercises and for the relevance of the training for the future professional work.

In the framework of the established cooperation with the RACVIAC, two regional workshops on promoting whistleblowing policies in the security sector we organised in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro (2018 and 2019). These workshops were attended by representatives of the defence sector, LEAs and anti-corruption agencies from the RAI and RACVIAC member states. The Regional Workshop on integrity in the defence sector, scheduled for 6-8, May, 2020, was cancelled due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat held extensive consultations about the current activities and plans for the future with IISG, GRECO, PCC-SEE, UNODC, OSCE Vienna, OLAF and RACVIAC with the objective of avoiding overlaps and identifying synergies and participated in many events with these organizations which served to discuss current activities, as well as to plan, consolidate and co-ordinate future activities related to law enforcement integrity in the SEE. As one of the Integrative Internal Security Governance (IISG) partners, RAI activities have been integrated into the Integrative Plans of Action for the period 2018 – 2020 and participated at the Brdo Process Ministerial 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PCC SEE Committee of Ministers, as well as the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the IISG Board held at Brdo pri Kranju, Slovenia, hosted by the Brdo Process Ministerial Meeting and PCC-SEE Expert Working Group in June 2019. RAI had an intensive cooperation with the OSCE in the field of strengthening the resilience of the Border and LEAs in the SEE, through promoting the regional cooperation and networking among the internal control units and promoted its new



project on whistleblowing as a key preventive tool. Cooperation with the Network for Enhanced Regional Cooperation of Internal Security Units (NERCISU) was also initiated.

### SO 5 - Strengthening National Capacities through Cooperation in Asset Recovery

In the evaluation period RAI has intensively worked on the strengthening the capacities of law enforcement and judiciaries and promoting the regional cooperation in the field of the asset recovery, and especially with regards to financial investigation and extended confiscation, in line with the international standards and aligned with the SEE 2020 Strategy Dimension 05 (Capacity building for law enforcement agencies and judiciary). Two regional projects on asset recovery have been implemented. In addition, asset recovery has been an integral part of the annual RAI Summer Schools. RAI Secretariat has continued to further develop the regional cooperation in the field of asset recovery by establishing solid partnerships with all national and regional key stakeholders.

In the beginning of 2018, RAI Secretariat in cooperation with the Advice on Individual Rights in Europe (AIRE) Centre, with the financial support of the United Kingdom (UK) Government and Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), implemented a short-term regional project on combating corruption in the SEE through strengthening regional cooperation in the field of asset recovery. The project analysed the effectiveness, efficiency and adherence to human rights in criminal justice systems of Southeast Europe in relation to seizure and confiscation of the proceeds of crime. Within the framework of the project two studies *“Asset Recovery in the Western Balkans – A Comparative Analyses of Legislation and Practice”* and *“Asset Recovery: A Comparative Analysis of Legislation and Practice Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova and Romania”* were conducted and published<sup>7</sup>. The main outcomes and findings of the studies were presented and endorsed by the key stakeholders from the region at the Regional Conference on Strengthening Cooperation in the Field of Asset Recovery which was held on 28 March 2018 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Based on the comprehensive review and analysis of the asset recovery systems in the SEE region and the key findings and recommendations endorsed the Regional Conference in March 2018, RAI Secretariat in partnership with AIRE Centre developed a two-year regional project *“Strengthening the anti-corruption in the South East Europe through improving asset seizure measures”*, which started in October 2018. The Project is financed by the UK government, RAI’s own financial resources and supported by Konrad Adenauer Foundation. The project aims to foster regional cooperation through capacity building of prosecution and courts for effective asset recovery in line with international and European standards, strengthening international cooperation in asset recovery process and developing a regional methodology for monitoring implementation of asset recovery measures.

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<sup>7</sup> The publications are available of RAI website



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Two handbooks<sup>8</sup> for prosecutors, judges and asset recovery practitioners and a comprehensive report<sup>9</sup> on effective implementation of asset recovery measures in the Western Balkans have been developed, translated in all local languages and disseminated in the region through to the judicial training centres. Handbooks were distributed print and electronic format.

Four regional trainings on effective asset recovery and mutual legal assistance and international cooperation in asset recovery cases were conducted. Overall, eighty-six judges and prosecutors from SEE region attended these trainings.

In the last quarter of 2019, organisation of bi-lateral (multi-lateral) meetings addressing problems and needs in international cooperation among Western Balkans jurisdictions was initiated. The first [trilateral meeting](#) was organised in Belgrade in February 2020, following the submission of the briefing paper agreed with the Serbian MoJ, supporting organisation of the trilateral working expert meeting between Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. Meeting focused on the need for a regional asset sharing agreement, as substantiated with examples from practice<sup>10</sup>.

While the establishment of the Regional Alumni Network was not encompassed by the project proposal, development of this network happened organically. Alumni Network, as an original project product represents a valuable resource for perpetuating the regional action on asset recovery and international cooperation, and should be carefully cultivated and provided with the appropriate options for exchange of experience and dissemination of the knowledge, including the online Forum. This model can be applied to a wide range of capacity building projects to foster exchange of knowledge and development of self-sustaining networks and professional relations.

Continuous coordination and consultation process with the direct stakeholders, members of the Alumni Network, and relevant national authorities was perpetuated, bearing substantial weight in terms of the support and ownership and sustainability of the project. Judges and prosecutors confirmed application of newly obtained skills and knowledge in their work towards a direct contribution to improvement of the international cooperation on asset recovery, as well as more coherent application of best practice on the national level in line with the relevant ECHR case-law that proves the sustainability of the project results.

In the remainder of 2020, following adjustments made due to COVID -19, RAI Secretariat will pursue implementation of further three capacity building events and the issuance of the new Regional Asset Recovery Report.

Overall, this project matches the scope of the Objective 5 of the Work plan, and is assessed as successful in terms of timelines and deliverables within the evaluation period. That being said, it

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<sup>8</sup> Handbook on Effective Asset Recovery in Compliance with European and International Standards - [http://www.rai-see.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Handbook-asset\\_recovery\\_eng.pdf](http://www.rai-see.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Handbook-asset_recovery_eng.pdf)

Tools and Best Practices for International Asset Recovery Cooperation Handbook - <http://www.rai-see.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/Handbook-int-coop-ENG-web.pdf>

<sup>9</sup>“Effective Implementation of Asset Recovery Measures in the Western Balkans: an overview of a regional monitoring methodology, key benchmarks and case studies of good practice”

<sup>10</sup>The proposed initiative is in line with the international (FATF Recommendations) and EU standards (Regulation 2018/1805 on mutual recognition of freezing and confiscation orders) in the field.



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can be concluded that this Objective 5 was successfully realized in continuity through the implementation of the short-term project (October 2017-February 2018) and the two-year Regional Asset Recovery Project (October 2018-November 2020). In capitalising on this success and relevance for judicial practitioners, concrete efforts will be put forward towards contracting a follow-up project and further development of cooperation with UNODC Regional Asset Recovery Project (2020-2023).

### Other Objectives

The 2018-2020 Work Plan also contained a number of Other Objectives or more explicitly Themes. These objectives did not have clearly stipulated results but were nevertheless pursued in order to identify potential fields of intervention and/or partners. The Other Objectives were not, or were only partly realized due to the lack of resources. Still, most of these objectives have not lost in their importance, on the contrary, some of them became increasingly important and will be considered in the next Work Plan.

#### Revision and control, and public procurement

RAI Secretariat invested a substantial effort into exploring potential avenues for establishing partnerships and development of activities in the area of the Revision and control, and public procurement.

To that end, RAI Secretariat established a cooperation with the CEF in relation to the possible actions related to Financial Management Control and Transparency of Public Finances. RAI held multiple meetings with the CEF in 2018 which resulted in development of a regional project proposal submitted for funding of the Norwegian Government (NORAD). The proposal was not accepted for funding by the NORAD.

While previously this objective was set up very broadly, in the future, RAI will focus primarily on the area of public procurement and will pursue to define activities on a sectoral level, with health sector being identified as a priority by RAI member states.

#### Oversight of political parties financing

In the evaluation period RAI has not engaged in the realization of this matter due to the implementation of the projects related to the core strategic objectives.

#### Corruption prevention through education

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat pursued multiple avenues related to establishment of activities related to this objective.

On 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 RAI Secretariat participated at the Meeting of the South-Eastern Europe Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative (SEE ACAD), under the UNODC held in Ljubljana, Slovenia to explore potential fields for cooperation with the SEE ACAD.

RAI Secretariat established the cooperation with the Law Faculty of Sarajevo in order to provide classes on specific anti-corruption topics connected with the programmatic activities with a goal for introducing an anti-corruption curriculum. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the discussions were interrupted and planned to be continued.



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The EU Project on whistleblowing has an educational segment within the public awareness campaign as one of the outcomes of the project. The project focuses on the younger population in order to start the process of education about the importance and meaning of whistleblowing as a human rights issue, and to tackle the issues of socio-cultural barriers as most common reasons for hostility towards whistle-blowers. This project targets specifically youngsters, students, social media activists, etc. to engage them in the fight against corruption.

### Corruption in public sector human resources management

In the evaluation period RAI has not been engaged in the realization of this objective.

RAI Secretariat continued discussions with the ReSPA on the possible channels for future cooperation in the field of prevention of corruption in the procedures for recruitment and promotion of the public administration, including integrity tests as mechanisms for promoting the integrity and developing the merit-based selection of the candidates for entrance and promotion in the career.

### Corruption in sport<sup>11</sup>

In the evaluation period RAI Secretariat has put efforts to establish cooperation with the UNODC related to the organization of a regional conference on this topic, however this activity could not be organized due to lack of financial and other resources, as well as the lack of adequate partners for targeting specific topics related to corruption in sport.

### Gender and corruption

RAI incorporated a human rights-based approach in its internal policies in 2016. Ever since, RAI Secretariat promotes anti-discrimination by promoting that the impact of corruption is looked at from all perspectives, including gender, disability and poverty. The Secretariat strengthened the principle of equal opportunity in all segments of internal processes, starting from the selection procedures, providing for achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Qualified women, individuals from minority groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply to the positions in the Secretariat. (3.3.1 of the Office Policy Manual).

All projects and programmes developed by the RAI Secretariat integrate gender mainstreaming approach in the Project Cycle Management. Corruption-prevention tools and mechanisms developed in the course of projects are gender mainstreamed, while the beneficiaries are encouraged to assume a gender aware approach in the implementation of projects activities and beyond. In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat partook at two events:

- On May, 14-15, 2018 in Sarajevo, BIH, representatives of RAI Secretariat participated at the Regional forum on Gender Equality and Corruption organized by OSCE. Secretariat presented its views and experiences in ensuring that the regional anti-corruption agenda is committed to upholding fundamental rights and freedoms guaranteed by the European Convention on Human Rights and other relevant internationally recognized standards.

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<sup>11</sup>See [UNODC section on Safeguarding Sport from Corruption and Crime](#)



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- On October, 10- 11, 2018, Vienna, RAI Secretariat participated at the Launch Event of the On-line training on Gender Mainstreaming in Border Security and Management in OSCE Vienna, which is available for wider law-enforcement sector.

The participation of women in RAI activities is higher than 30% (which is a target minimum). The gender mainstreaming was as a cross-cutting issue successfully achieved in the Regional Programme funded by ADA and positively evaluated in the abovementioned Final External Evaluation Report. This objective will be included in the next Work Plan as a cross-cutting issue.

### Digitalization of anti-corruption

RAI Secretariat tackled this objective in the evaluation period through the ADA-funded Regional Programme by development and implementation of specialized IT tools for CRA and CPL, which will continue in the follow-up of the current Programme. Novel IT tools for CRA were developed and implemented in Bosnia and Herzegovina in two versions of the software – one being general (implemented at APIK) and the other one adapted for use in the BiH judiciary (implemented at HJPC). The IT tool for CPL was developed and implemented in APIK BiH and Montenegro ASK.

In April 2020, RAI Secretariat submitted an application to the CEI Extraordinary Call for Applications, applying for establishment of an online education platform that would include establishment of an online Learning Management Solution platform and development and publication of an initial set of three online courses on anti-corruption. Despite the fact that the RAI Application was not accepted for funding, the pandemic has incited the RAI Secretariat to seek options for developing alternative learning formats to traditional in-person capacity building.

In May, 2020, within the cooperation with the international organizations (OECD, Council of Europe, UNODC, OSCE, and U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre), RAI enabled access to their online resources (online trainings, webinars), which courses are now available on the RAI web site: <http://www.rai-see.org/online-training/>. In addition to promoting available online courses, RAI shares information on upcoming on-line trainings provided by the OECD and UNODC.

In addition to this, 15<sup>th</sup> edition of the RAI Summer School is sought to be organized in an online format.

RAI Secretariat endeavours on devising modalities for the 'remote' maintenance of the regional dialogue, training and new online learning formats to help mitigate obstacles induced by the COVID-19 pandemic in RAI's activities.

### Anti-corruption in Public Service Delivery (such as Health Sector)

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has implemented activities related to detection of corruption risks in the health sector through the activities presented under the Strategic objective 2.

### Integrity in Private Sector

RAI Secretariat has been partly engaged in this field through the Outcome 5 of the ADA-funded Regional Programme, for involvement of the private sector in cooperating with the CSOs for more transparent UNCAC reviewing process. The efforts under the mentioned Outcome resulted



in the endorsement of the Belgrade Outcome Statement<sup>12</sup>, where representatives of nine Civil Society Organizations and six Private Sector entities from the SEE, at a meeting convened by UNODC on 1 February 2019 in Belgrade, Serbia, affirming the fundamental importance of active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and raising public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption. One of the proposed actions of the Statement is to promote integrity as pivotal to the business community and a key observance among all in the business, government and civil society.

### **Strengthening Organizational Capacities**

In the previous three years, RAI Secretariat addressed a number of organizational capacity issues. This is particularly valuable since RAI has transitioned from a member country contribution-based organization to projects-based organization in addition to its core funding. Below are some key interventions that took place.

#### **Communications and partnerships**

RAI Secretariat continuously works on promotion of the achievements and milestones achieved by its member countries. This is part of the RAI Secretariat communication strategy as well as an overall mission to engage with CSOs in addressing the common goals. The Secretariat is committed to avoiding overlapping and ensuring synergies with comparable activities and processes implemented by different international organizations, beneficiaries and stakeholders.

RAI website serves as a main visibility and communication tool of the organization, along with its social media profiles. As the global health crisis made online solutions and tools crucial for communication and operations, RAI Secretariat has engaged into redesign and upgrade of its website in 2020. The new platform will enable focus and promotion of activities implemented in RAI member states, integrates up to date tools which make search and browsing easier and more user-friendly, and enables any future upgrade for online forums, data bases, or similar.

Throughout the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has been engaged into building new partnerships and continuing the existing ones. The cooperation with the EC, which resulted in the 3-year regional project worth 1 million EUR, is a product of numerous outreach activities and coordination with the DG NEAR, DG HOME and OLAF. The project itself has numerous activities dedicated to public policy advocacy, public education, legal aid, and other support to whistleblowers, as well as raising the public awareness about whistleblowing. In 2020, the RAI Secretariat has been working on development of visibility materials for the project, including info-graphics, protective face masks that were distributed across the region, and has made initial steps towards development of the awareness-raising campaign.

Through ADA-funded 3-year Regional Programme, RAI Secretariat maintains strong partnership with the UNODC. The international Treaty developed under the auspices of the Regional Programme has been a strong visibility and outreach tool for RAI throughout the years. Following

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<sup>12</sup>[https://www.unodc.org/documents/NGO/Outcome\\_Statement.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/NGO/Outcome_Statement.pdf)



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the WB Trieste Summit in July 2018, where in the joint declaration, governments are encouraged “to endorse and adopt the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative’s International Treaty on Data Exchange on Asset Disclosure and Conflict of Interest”<sup>13</sup>, the RAI Secretariat used numerous opportunities to promote and advocate for the Treaty. List of events and activities available in Annex 3.

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat representatives took active participation as panellists in numerous regional and international events, conferences, workshops organized by the other partners including ReSPA, OSCE Vienna, EPAC/EACN, BAK (Anti-Corruption Agency of Austria as Chair of the EPAC), NATO, the Network for Enhanced Regional Cooperation of Internal Security Units (NERCISU), CEF, has established a cooperation with the UNODC-Judicial Integrity Group for cooperation in promoting the judicial integrity in the SEE region and partnership in the organization of the RAI Summer School and promoting the RAI and UNODC knowledge resources; with the OECD-ACN in the areas of development of anti-corruption performance indicators and their possible implementation in the RAI core programmatic activities. The list of conferences and events where the RAI Secretariat had active participation are listed in the Annex 3 under the “RAI participation in regional and international events (2018-2020)”.

Towards expanding the number of member states, RAI has held an active dialogue with the Slovenian Anti-Corruption Commission, but in April 2019 the Secretariat has received a note from the Commission that although there are no sufficient funds for the annual membership in RAI for 2019, the Commission is committed to achieving the full membership status. New President of the Commission, took the position as of 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2020 and it was agreed that the further consultations for promoting the cooperation will proceed with the new leadership. In February 2020, RAI Team held a working meeting with the Greek Ambassador in BiH to discuss the possible cooperation and partnership with the Greek Anti-Corruption Agency.

### Regional and international cooperation

RAI has a strong anti-corruption portfolio and a leading role in enhancing the regional and international cooperation. In the past period, RAI Secretariat has strengthened its partnership and good relations with the other regional and international organizations, but in parallel searched for new partners, collaborators and initiatives.

### **Regional coordinator for anti-corruption dimension (Dimension 0)**

As the sole Regional Dimension Coordinator on Anti-Corruption, in the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has actively participated in realizing the strategic objectives embedded in the SEE Strategy Programming Document for 2018-2020, as they were included as objectives in the Work Plan 2018-2020 (Dimension 01, 03, 04 and 05). RAI Secretariat submitted its inputs for the 2018, 2019 and 2020 Annual Report on Implementation (ARI) of the SEE 2020 Strategy to the RCC who administers the process.

### **RCC**

RAI Secretariat has continued its cooperation and partnership with the RCC in the evaluation period as well. On April, 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018 RAI signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with

<sup>13</sup><https://berlinprocess.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Joint-Declaration-Against-Corruption-1.pdf>



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the RCC in Belgrade. The MoU was signed to recognize the years of partnership between the two organisations. It acknowledges that the regional cooperation is a prerequisite for promoting stability, security and social and economic development in SEE and recognizes the importance of strengthening partnerships between regional organizations dedicated to the EU Accession Process and strengthening the rule of law in SEE.

As the regional dimension coordinator, RAI Secretariat on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 took an active participation at the 4th Meeting on Donor Coordination in the Western Balkans, organized by the RCC in Brussels, Belgium.

Since 2019, when IISG has become integrated under the auspice of the RCC, RAI Secretariat has intensified the dialogue with the RCC related to furthering the cooperation with the IISG in line with the strategic objectives of the both organizations and for RAI participation in the negotiations for the IPA 2020-2024 Multi-action Plan.

### **UNODC**

RAI Secretariat held regular consultations with the UNODC and UNODC Civil Society Team and the ADA in the course of preparation and in implementation of the Regional Programme (2015-2020) and in the planning process for the new Programme (2020-2023) where the cooperation is planned to further intensify.

UNODC has attended both political-level negotiation meetings on International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations in that way showing their support to the treaty.

RAI's partnership with the UNODC Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Department is a long-standing relationship that precedes the ADA-funded Regional Programme but it helped solidify the links between the two organizations. In June 2018, RAI Secretariat participated in the peer review at UNODC Expert Group Meeting for development of the Practical Guide to Corruption Risk Assessment and Management in Public Sector Organisations. RAI Secretariat participated at the Ninth Intersessional Meeting of the UNODC Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption, held in Vienna on 5–7 September 2018.

### **GRECO**

RAI participated at the GRECO Plenary meetings in 2018 and 2019. In 2019, at the occasion of 20 years of GRECO, RAI Secretariat participated at the high-level conference in Strasbourg, the presence at the conference was used to discuss matters of mutual interest and future cooperation. Head of RAI Secretariat met with the GRECO's Secretary General and re-initiated the dialogue on RAI status in the GRECO.

### **Central European Initiative (CEI)**

RAI Secretariat, in partnership with the CEI and the *Libera Università degli Studi Sociali*, LUISS, co-organized the International Conference on Anti-corruption "Curbing corruption: learning from the decade behind us and looking into the decade ahead" in Rome (November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019). Both organizations signed the MoU towards planning and realization of joint activities and



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exploring new formal and informal methods of regional cooperation and exchange of knowledge and good practices in the field of anti-corruption.

In 2020, the implementation of the MoU with CEI was pursued to the best extent possible, having in mind the circumstances brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic. The CEI financially supported the 15<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School that was held online.

### **Berlin Process**

RAI Secretariat took a part in preparation process of the 2018 Western Balkans Summit in London, United Kingdom. The issues primarily discussed in London included increasing economic stability within the scope of improving the business environment, promoting entrepreneurship, curbing youth unemployment, promoting regional inter-connectivity and strengthening regional security co-operation to help tackle common threats, including corruption, serious and organised crime, trafficking of people, drugs and firearms, and terrorism and violent extremism. In this respect, RAI Secretariat has been recognized as a Regional Organisation contributing to the stated commitments in the field of anti-corruption.

In January, 2020, RAI Secretariat team took part in the Berlin Process Security Commitments Steering Group Meeting. In February, 2020, RAI Secretariat team was invited to take part in the consultations regarding the WB6 Anti-corruption and Illicit Finance Roadmap initiative following the Berlin Process Security Commitments Steering Group Meeting in Sofia. During the meeting, RAI Secretariat gave a presentation of the RAI's activities and achievements on the anti-corruption cooperation in the South East Europe, announcing the signing of the International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations, as the most significant milestone in the regional anti-corruption cooperation in the SEE. At the meeting, the UNODC presented the proposal to launch a regional anti-corruption platform in the Western Balkans. Further consultations on this matter were announced for the remainder of 2020.

### **Cooperation with the CSOs and CSO networks**

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat participated at a number of events organized/co-organized by the CSOs. RAI in its portfolio has put efforts for enhancing the capacities of the civil society in their role as correctors of the governmental politics and their oversight and monitoring role and their regional cooperation and networking.

In May 2018, RAI Secretariat became an Associate Partner on the three-year project by the DG NEAR (Full project title: Civil Society for Good Governance and Anti-Corruption in Southeast Europe: Capacity Building for Monitoring, Advocacy and Awareness Raising) and used the network for dissemination of its results and actions. In June 2018, RAI Secretariat joined, as an expert organization, Centre for Study of Democracy CSD Bulgaria, RCC, SELDI and U4 on a Project Proposal for EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Regional Cooperation with a focus of the Project on public procurement and regional cooperation. In February, 2019 SELDI Network invited RAI Secretariat as its Associate Partner to participate in the peer review of the Advocacy and Engagement.



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In 2020, together with the RCC, RAI will actively cooperate with the SELDI in the implementation of the project developed by joint efforts in 2019, with the focus on the pillar: Established Regional Good Governance Public-Private Partnership Platform (R2G4P).

Under the framework of the Regional Programme, RAI with the UNODC together, on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2019, held a one-day follow-up meeting for around 30 civil society and private sector representatives from the SEE Region as a follow up to the Multi-Stakeholder Workshop held in Belgrade, Serbia on 24-27 September 2018.

As a result of the RAI and UNODC partnership on UNCAC review process, in 2019 the Belgrade Outcome Statement was developed and endorsed by 23 entities from the SEE region, affirming the importance of the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector (CSOs and private sector) in the prevention of and the fight against corruption.

In 2020, under the auspices of the EU-funded Regional Project on Whistleblowing, RAI Secretariat has intensified the cooperation with the SEE Coalition on Whistleblower Protection and will continue doing so in the future.

### Human Resources

In the light of imminent growth and challenges that every organization must face at some point, organization's functions and the way the functions jointly implement the mandate of the organization must evolve to reflect the current and future challenges. A need for RAI's development, including organizational effectiveness, transformation and restructuring was recognized in the previous evaluation reports and Work Plans in order to ensure more value is delivered to RAI member countries.

RAI Secretariat commenced the process of upgrading its HR policies and procedures in line with conclusions from the 27<sup>th</sup> Steering Group held in Zagreb, Croatia on May 28, 2018.<sup>14</sup> The Secretariat has worked on the amendments following the report finalized by the HR Expert and the inputs from the member states and were subject to discussions and amendments at the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> SG meeting. Amendments of the internal documents were adopted at the 30<sup>th</sup> SG meeting in Skopje and entered into force as of November, 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 and are available online.

The upgraded Secretariat's internal regulations are a part of the organizational development and strengthening the professionalism, responsibility and inclusive approach to delivery of RAI's mandate. New policies enabled expansion of the staff, more transparent, open, competitive and merit-based recruitment procedures for the core/ project local and international staff, improvement of remuneration and performance management processes, staff training, disciplinary management and other HR issues.

The amendments introduced an organizational distinction between the Strategic level which is composed of the RAI Steering Group and the RAI Chairperson, core level that is composed of Secretariat Core Staff: Head of Secretariat with executive powers, and Senior Anti-corruption Adviser, Chief Finance and Operations Officer, and Chief Programme and Communications

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<sup>14</sup>[http://rai-see.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/27-SG-Conclusions-Decisions\\_final-version32.pdf](http://rai-see.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/27-SG-Conclusions-Decisions_final-version32.pdf)



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Officer. Project/Operational level is composed of different staff that supports the core level in implementing RAI mandate.

In parallel with the provisions, accompanying templates were developed for all the internal procedures as a part of the quality management system and standardization of all internal procedures.

New policies in line with the RAI core anti-corruption mission introduced advanced and most recent prevention of corruption and conflict of interest rules, among them, on disclosure of conflict of interests and outside activities, gifts, confidentiality, moonlighting, whistleblowing and anti-nepotism policies.

In the further development of the policies, RAI has drafted the Guide for pre-vetted experts in line with the article 3.3.11 and Annex II of the RAI Office Policies Manual and published together with the Call for Roster for pre-vetted experts in April 2020. The Call was widely distributed through the social media and among the professional community.

Until end of 2020 RAI Secretariat will introduce the WB policies using the expertise of the whistleblowing experts selected for the EU Regional Project on whistleblowing.

### Gender Mainstreaming

RAI incorporated a human rights-based approach in its internal policies in 2016. Ever since, RAI Secretariat promotes anti-discrimination by promoting that the impact of corruption is looked at from all perspectives, including gender, disability and poverty. The Secretariat strengthened the principle of equal opportunity in all segments of internal processes, starting from the selection procedures, providing for achieving workforce diversity in terms of gender, nationality and culture. Qualified women, individuals from minority groups and persons with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply to the positions in the Secretariat. (3.3.1 of the Office Policy Manual).

All projects and programmes developed by the RAI Secretariat integrate gender mainstreaming approach in the project cycle management. Corruption-prevention tools and mechanisms developed in the course of projects are gender mainstreamed, while the beneficiaries are encouraged to assume a gender aware approach in the implementation of projects activities and beyond.

RAI Secretariat staff was also engaged in raising awareness about the need and importance of gender mainstreaming, including the formal communication to beneficiaries, by using gender sensitive language, ensuring all documents are gender mainstreamed, etc. RAI Secretariat actions has had sporadic success. Institutions who are targeted as beneficiaries in the projects do not have mainstreaming policies or gender focal points, with few exceptions.

The Chief Program and Communications Officer has the position of a gender focal point to ensure that the amendments and the new capacity remains sustained and embedded into organizational structures, as well as the Programme.



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## Fundraising

In line with the fundraising strategy laid out in the RAI Work Plan 2018-2020, RAI Secretariat has managed to maintain the influx of project-based funds in the evaluation period through regional programmes and medium-sized projects.

In the course of 2018 and 2019, RAI Secretariat's fundraising efforts were focused on the process of negotiating and contracting the EU-funded Regional Project for WB and Moldova. The negotiations process was successfully concluded after a year and a half, followed by signing the contract with the European Commission for the Regional Project titled *"Breaking the Silence: Enhancing the whistleblowing policies and culture in Western Balkans and Moldova"* finalised in December 2019. The project is worth 1 million EUR, with the implementation period of 3 years with the commencement in April 2020.

With the implementation of the ADA-funded Regional Programme, RAI Secretariat and UNODC have managed to have the funds for the follow-up phase of the Regional Programme earmarked. Towards the finalisation of the Regional Programme's implementation, RAI Secretariat developed the proposal for the next phase of the implementation of the programme in cooperation with the UNODC. The proposal for a 3-year programme, with the overall funding of EUR 1 million from Austrian Development Cooperation was developed and submitted to ADA in August 2020. The projected start of the follow-up programme is November 1, 2020, given successful negotiations with the donor.

Following completion of the short-term project *"Combating corruption in the Western Balkans and strengthening regional cooperation in the field of asset recovery"* (October 2017-February 2018) in partnership with the AIRE Centre, funded by the British Government, implementing partners have negotiated and secured OSCE funding for the follow-up project. The short-term project was additionally supported by the OSCE Vienna who financed the development of regional study titled *Asset Recovery: A Comparative Analysis of Legislation and Practice in Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova and Romania*. The total funds utilized for the short-term project were 23,835.00 EUR from the British Government and 9.931,96 from OSCE.

The follow-up project *"Strengthening anti-corruption work in Western Balkans through improving asset seizure measures"* worth GBP 564.410 (AIRE: GBP 310.650, RAI: GBP 253.760) with the implementation period from 15 October 2018 until 1 November 2020 was contracted. Due to the donor's geographic funding restrictions, additional funds were sought with the intention of including Moldova as the additional project beneficiary. To that end, RAI partnered with Konrad Adenauer Foundation RLPSEE who supported the participation of representatives from Moldova and additional representatives from BiH in the project. The funding received from KAS: EUR 5,514,94 in 2018, EUR 11.369 in 2019 and up to EUR 12.000 in 2020.

As a part of the consortium led by the SELDI Network, together with the RCC and a number of other regional partners, in the role of an expertise partner, RAI Secretariat applied for the project *"Implementing shared anti-corruption and good governance solutions in Southeast Europe: innovative practices and public private partnerships"* to the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Regional Cooperation. Following the general approval of the project, its finalisation and contracting are underway. The projected start of the project is January 1, 2021 with the three-



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year timeframe. While RAI Secretariat's share in the project value is rather low (EUR 9.000), the main value of this project for RAI is in its approach and regional networking.

The Central European Initiative - Executive Secretariat (CEI-ES) supported the online edition of RAI Summer School with a grant of EUR 2.000.

### Financial Outlook

RAI Secretariat is responsible for preparation of all financial statements and ensuring effective financial accounting, reporting, and transparency of the financial actions undertaken within the approved RAI and donor budgets. In accordance with the MoU, and its Article 3 – Financial reports and audit, RAI Secretariat provides the Steering Group annually with reports describing programme implementation and all budgetary expenditures involved. Also, RAI Secretariat reports to all donors in accordance with their financial requirements. The Secretariat organizes its activities in accordance with the principles of sound financial and technical management and good practice to provide for an efficient control system of the entire Secretariat, taking into account the importance, magnitude and complexity of activities managed under its authority.

RAI primarily uses its member country contributions for financing operational expenses and activities, while the programmatic activities are supported by other donor's funds. During the 2018-2020 period, RAI had a total member countries' budget of €658,066 (€224,000 for 2018, €218,000 for 2019 and €216,066 for 2020). Budget execution was 100% in 2018 (€224,021.59), 96% in 2019 (€209,240.40), while it is expected that in 2020, there will be up to 60% budget execution due to disruptions caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. Hence, there will be savings in travel and event organization budget items. All of the saving will be shifted in budget planned for 2021.

In addition to the annual contributions by member countries, RAI Secretariat invested significant efforts into co-partnering with different organizations on implementation of different events and activities. These efforts resulted in funds being directed into implementation of activities that were part of RAI Work Plan.

As indicated in the fundraising section, RAI Secretariat has continuously sought donor support for specific programmatic activities within its program. Consequently, RAI Secretariat was managing funds from multiple sources during the reporting period. RAI Secretariat utilized approximately €925,000 received from other donors (ADA, British Government, KAS, EU) in the period 2018-2020.



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The below table represents the overall utilization of financial resources during the reporting period:

Item	€ amount
<b>RAI MEMBER COUNTRIES' FUNDS 2018-2020*</b>	<b>562,901.59</b>
<b>Other sources:</b>	
Other donor funds in 2018	250,214.40
Other donor funds in 2019	386,148.44
Other donor funds in 2020*	288,499.04
<b>TOTAL OTHER SOURCES</b>	<b>924,861.88</b>
<b>TOTAL IN 2018-2020</b>	<b>1.487,763.47</b>

\*projection for 2020

### Lessons Learned and Recommendations for the Next Work Plan

The lessons learned and gained experience in the reporting period can be grouped under two categories. First one, related to circumstances surrounding the beneficiaries and the external RAI environment. This includes, but is not limited to, the political and socioeconomic context, operations of other regional/national organizations, and health or security threats. The latter one is related to state of affairs within RAI, or internal factors that affect performance.

RAI Secretariat staff displays a deep understanding of the possible risks deriving from the SEE political and social context. In the period of 2018-2020, many of the states in the SEE underwent through regular or early elections, dysfunction of the national anti-corruption bodies, amendments in the composition and in election of the members of the anti-corruption bodies, establishment of new AC bodies, turnover of the staff, absence of political will to measure corruption and to involve CSOs in the process, etc. The programmatic results have been closely linked with the messages sent by the international community, primarily, the EC Progress Reports that “the states in the region have strong legislative framework, but there is a stagnation of meaningful implementation in the areas of the rule of law and anti-corruption”<sup>15</sup>. As a lesson learned from this, RAI Secretariat had to adjust the course of its activities due to turbulent political/social climate(s) in the region. For example, RAI Secretariat adjusted the programmatic approach in relation to strengthening the implementation of corruption prevention mechanisms (CRA and CPL) to the sector-focused implementation that would enable achieving more tangible results in improving the transparency and integrity of the public sector, as well as in strengthening the CSOs capacities in their control function. In parallel with the core programmatic activities, RAI will work on strengthening the promotion and advocacy policy and public awareness campaigns towards tackling the corruption as a deeply embedded social norm.

<sup>15</sup>EU-Western Balkans Zagreb summit Zagreb Declaration, 6 May, 2020 <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2020/05/06/zagreb-declaration-6-may-2020/>; 2019 Communication on EU Enlargement Policy, [https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20190529-communication-on-eu-enlargement-policy\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20190529-communication-on-eu-enlargement-policy_en.pdf)



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RAI has developed a respectable thematic expertise and has for the first time engaged in the field of digitalization of corruption-prevention through development of the IT tools. Through development and implementation of IT tools supporting implementation of CRA and CPL mechanisms in the region, RAI gained substantive experience in terms of the IT project management, as well as the process of user needs' assessment that is essential for development and improvement of any IT tool. Based on these lessons, RAI Secretariat revisited and developed and improved approach to improvement of the previously developed IT tools, which was incorporated in the proposal for the next ADA-funded project.

Given the different needs of RAI beneficiaries, their capacities and context they are operating in, it has become evident that all anti-corruption tools developed by RAI need to be adjusted to specific national-needs. Therefore, RAI has embraced the top-down approach to implementation of actions, where experts would first develop a general solution/tool, and then adjust it to national needs through consultations with beneficiaries. Although this approach demands more resources to be allocated, it has proved as more efficient, effective, and giving more value to the beneficiaries. On the same note, some tools cannot be implemented across different sectors, and hence have to be adjusted to a sector-specific conditions. This is another reason to be looking into sectoral approach to implementation of activities in the future, when applicable.

Another risk is the overlapping of the projects and interventions in the SEE. Although RAI Secretariat observes a trend of consolidation of anti-corruption efforts, the overlaps in implementing of projects with the same beneficiaries and same or similar objectives are still present. RAI Secretariat attempts to mitigate such circumstances by partnering with regional and sub-regional projects wherever possible by proactively creating synergies and sharing of resources. Inputs from the SG members could be a more effective way to proactively map any other relevant projects or programs implemented in the respective countries.

Finally, starting with early 2020, the world and RAI is facing the biggest health threat of the modern time, the COVID-19 pandemic. This external threat has made turbulences in every segment of RAI's work. With inability to travel, physically gather people for events, and reach beneficiaries and partners that were mostly working from home, RAI Secretariat was facing a serious bottleneck that affected implementation of most activities that were planned for 2020. Just as an example, the Signing Ceremony for the International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations was scheduled for March 24, 2020. Only 15 days prior the event, countries started introducing travel restrictions and bans, followed by the mandatory 2-week quarantine. The RAI Secretariat, in consultations with the Austrian Ministry for European and International Affairs as the host of the event, had no choice but to postpone the entire event indefinitely. Summer School for junior AC practitioners from the SEE is just another example of an event that had to be totally rethought in order to be implemented under the COVID-19 conditions. There are numerous lessons learned and realizations that the RAI Secretariat has drawn. First is that, regardless of good planning and timely implementation, there can always be a *force majeure* that hinders the entire intervention. In moments like that, effective communication is the key to overcome challenges and to realize how the postponement or cancelation of an activity will impact beneficiaries, project implementation, etc. Moreover, having activities that can be implemented in parallel is very beneficial once the situation



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normalizes. Finally, the COVID-19 pandemic has revealed that IT technology can play the most significant role in keeping the activities and communication going. Not only has the RAI Secretariat staff fully leaned on the IT during the work-from-home period, but it was also necessary to have events with beneficiaries organized online. Having online events presents a novelty and has been challenging for RAI Secretariat from the technological and content aspect. RAI website could play a greater role in future by having the closed-group sections for formats such as forums, exchange of information, webinars, etc. On a positive note, online events can gather much larger number of participants and experts from all over the world and can be implemented on a faster pace.

When it comes to lessons learned from the internal RAI environment, throughout the years, it has become evident that a continuous investment into staff development is a key for keeping pace with novelties brought upon by the donors, challenges of coordination and building partnerships. Hence, during the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has permanently developed the skills for fundraising, for monitoring and evaluation of the projects, and for coordination with the other organizations in order to reduce overlapping and duplications. RAI Secretariat will continue investing into the internal capacities, with primary focus on a successful IPA programming and utilization of EU funds.

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has developed a regular coordination and consultation process with the SG members which resulted in a more structured monthly reporting. The communication could be further enhanced through holding regular bilateral meetings and a two-way dialogue to better target and more eagerly react to the beneficiaries' needs and priorities.

There were two changes of the SG Chairperson and multiple changes in the composition of the SG. Although every core staff change affects the delivery capacity of the RAI Secretariat in the short-term, there were no delays in implementation of any activities. Nevertheless, there is an evident need to have SG members nominated on a permanent basis in order to have a continuous dialogue and ownership of RAI activities. As the mandate of the core staff is limited, this risk could be anticipated well in advance and any potential delays absorbed sufficiently.

This report will be used as basis for preparation of the subsequent Work Plan for 2021-2022 as well as to inform the Member Countries, partners and stakeholders on the progress made against set objectives. While most of the recommendations were emphasized in elaborating the particular section of the Report, the following recommendations related to the internal organizational, program and communication capacities are suggested for the next planning period:

- Focusing on enhancing the capacities of the beneficiaries through train-the-trainer sessions, analysis of the impact of the trainings (post-training evaluation) and evaluation of the impact of the written deliverables;
- Investing in internal capacities of RAI Secretariat by enhancing the its skills for result-oriented project management with a focus on monitoring and evaluation, impact assessment, developing and implementing anti-corruption qualitative indicators and benchmarks, project risk management, etc.;



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- Nominating SG members on a permanent basis in order to have a continuous dialogue and ownership of RAI activities, and organising regular bilateral meetings and a two-way dialogue to better target and more eagerly react to the beneficiaries' needs, priorities and grasp other ongoing projects;
- Upgrading RAI website with a view to support more online interventions that might be necessary in the future;
- Developing a regional database of experts (Roster of pre-vetted experts), training materials and other knowledge sources towards upgrading the RAI as a regional anti-corruption hub;
- Enhancing the PR, external communication and advocacy policy, including the existing social media outreach, strengthening social accountability mechanisms and moving away from passive provision of information to active citizen engagement;
- Further designing the RAI activities built in a certain degree of flexibility to allow for adaptation to changing circumstances and to include unforeseen institutions as beneficiaries.

RAI Secretariat team addresses all lessons learnt and mitigates identified risks by ensuring ample communication with and presence in the respective institutions, when applicable, thorough monitoring of any arisen situation. This strategy has had limited success but paired with more effective, horizontal approaches towards stakeholders and peers, has proven efficient to ensure safe implementation.



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## Annex 1 – Logical Framework

<b>Objective 1: STRENGTHENING REGIONAL COOPERATION IN CONFLICT OF INTEREST &amp; ASSET DISCLOSURE</b>					
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Implemented Activities</b>	<b>Achieved Results</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Key Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Executed Budget</b>
<p>1.1 Enhancing regional cooperation on data exchange in asset disclosure and conflict of interest (International Treaty on Data Exchange in Asset Disclosure and Conflict of Interest hereafter referred to as International Treaty)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Organizing and facilitating negotiations on the Treaty</li> <li>- Finalizing the text of the Treaty</li> <li>- Organizing the Signing ceremony of the International Treaty</li> <li>- Promotion of the International Treaty</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Treaty is negotiated and finalised</li> <li>- Three signatories to the International Treaty completed steps for accession to the Treaty</li> <li>- Awareness raised about the benefits of the International Treaty</li> <li>- Regional cooperation of integrity experts strengthened</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNODC</li> <li>National governments</li> <li>Austrian Ministry of European and International relations</li> <li>Relevant national public institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Oversight Bodies</li> <li>Ministries of Justice</li> </ul>	<p>95,494.84 (ADA + RAI funds)</p>
<p>1.2 Strengthening the capacities of the national oversight bodies are enhanced</p>	<p><i>Due to postponed signing of the International Treaty, activities related to 1.2 will be implemented in the next implementing period</i></p>	-	-	-	-



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<b>Objective 2: STRENGTHENING INTEGRITY THROUGH TRANSPARENT RULES AND PROCEDURES</b>					
<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Implemented Activities</b>	<b>Achieved Results</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Key Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Executed Budget €</b>
2.1 Strengthening National Capacities in Anti-corruption Assessment of Legislation (CPL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued support to member countries developing and strengthening national methodology based on Regional Methodology</li> <li>- Continued training for respective government officials</li> <li>- Introducing new IT tool</li> <li>- Strengthening regional cooperation and exchange</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National officials trained in conducting CPL</li> <li>- IT and technical capacities of national institutions strengthened</li> <li>- Regional cooperation and peer to peer exchange fostered</li> </ul>		National AC Bodies	29,970.06 (ADA)
2.2 Strengthening National Capacities in Corruption Risk Assessment in Public Administration (CRA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continued support to member countries in strengthening legal framework</li> <li>- Continued training for respective government officials in selected sectors</li> <li>- Continued training of CRA practitioners</li> <li>- Introducing new IT tools and solutions and strengthening existing ones</li> <li>- Strengthening regional cooperation and exchange</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- National legal frameworks on CRA strengthened</li> <li>- Capacities of national institutions in selected sectors strengthened</li> <li>- Regional cooperation and peer to peer exchange fostered</li> </ul>		National AC Bodies Judicial bodies	41,213.11 (ADA)



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Objective 3: WHISTLEBLOWING – RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS & STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES					
Objectives	Implemented Activities	Achieved Results	Partners	Key Beneficiaries	Executed Budget
3.1 Strengthening capacities of relevant public institutions in protecting whistleblowers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mapping of public institutions the EU-funded project could partner with in order to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of their response to whistleblower reports, by strengthening their internal reporting mechanisms or their capacity to act as external reporting authority if under the law they are mandated to receive whistleblower reports and provide the required whistleblower support and protection</li> <li>- Development of methodology, performing the needs assessment, and formulation of the organisational</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Needs assessment and organisational development plan for improvement of capacities of the national institutions for implementing their mandate in the field of whistleblowing developed</li> </ul>		National institutions with competence in WB	35,000.00 (EU, RACVIAC) (all events pending due to COVID-19)



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	development plan for the support to the national institutions in implementing their mandate in the field of whistleblowing				
3.2 Enhancing advocacy capacities of CSOs in Whistleblower Protection	- Organisation of Third Whistleblowers Day supported	- Regional cooperation in the field of WB fostered	SEE Whistleblowing Coalition Media	Regional CSO Networks National CSOs	All events pending due to COVID-19
3.3 Raising General Public Awareness about Whistleblowing in the SEE	- Regional Documentary aired during the third Whistleblowing Day event - Awareness-raising materials developed and distributed in the SEE jurisdictions (digital materials and protective masks) - Development of public awareness and information campaign	- Improved perception about whistleblowing	SEE Whistleblowing Coalition Media	General Public	37,000.00 (EU)

**Objective 4: BUILD CAPACITIES OF LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES AND IMPROVE THEIR REGIONAL COOPERATION**



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<b>Objectives</b>	<b>Implemented Activities</b>	<b>Achieved Results</b>	<b>Partners</b>	<b>Key Beneficiaries</b>	<b>Executed Budget</b>
4.1 Building integrity capacities and strengthening internal control mechanisms, professional standards and essential elements of codes of conducts (linked with objective 2)	- Identifying and responding to training needs on transparency, ethics, integrity and protection of whistleblowers	- Officials trained on ethics and integrity, corruption risk assessment, conflicts of interest and whistleblower protection	OLAF RACVIAC	National law enforcement bodies	10,000.00 (RACVIAC & RAI)
4.2 Strengthening regional cooperation of law enforcement agencies	- Fostering regional exchange of best practices with peer-to-peer exchange and expert missions	- Regional cooperation of law enforcement agencies, border police and units for internal control in particular, fostered	OLAF RACVIAC	National law enforcement bodies	10,000.00 (RACVIAC & RAI)
4.3 Strengthening investigative capacities of Law Enforcement Agencies	- One Summer School Edition dedicated to investigation of corruption related crime (2018) - Identifying and responding to training needs on specific aspects in dealing with corruption cases	- Law enforcement officials trained and better equipped for investigation of complex corruption cases and confiscation of proceeds of crime	OSCE OLAF Ministry of Justice of Serbia	National law enforcement bodies	20,000.00 (RAI, OSCE Vienna)



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### Objective 5: STRENGTHENING NATIONAL CAPACITIES THROUGH COOPERATION IN ASSET RECOVERY

Objectives	Implemented Activities	Achieved Results	Partners	Key Beneficiaries	Executed Budget
5.1 Strengthening regional cooperation between asset recovery bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fostering regional exchange of best practices with peer-to-peer exchange and expert missions</li> <li>- Assisting the institutions with implementation of relevant international instruments and standards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Platform for implementation of the long-term capacity building efforts in the field of asset recovery established</li> </ul>	OSCE Vienna AIRE Centre KAS UNDP national offices	National Asset Recovery Bodies Judiciary	143, 183.40 (British Government (including through AIRE centre), KAS, OSCE Vienna)
5.2 Strengthening national capacities in asset recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identifying national needs</li> <li>- Addressing the specific national needs through technical assistance</li> <li>- At least one Summer School Edition dedicated to Asset Recovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Strengthening capacity of all institutions involved in asset confiscation</li> <li>- Implementation of the Asset Recovery competences improved</li> </ul>	OSCE Vienna AIRE Centre KAS	National Asset Recovery Bodies Judiciary	163,453.1 (British Government (including through AIRE centre), KAS, OSCE Vienna)



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### Annex 2 – List of Events Organized or Co-organized by RAI Secretariat (2018-2020)

No	Title/date/location	Objective(s) addressed
1.	Workshop on consolidating the national inputs and developing the regional recommendations-RAI/AIRE Asset Recovery Project Team Sarajevo BiH, January 9, 2018	5
2.	Workshop with the State Parliamentary Commission for Deciding on Conflict of Interest in Bosnia and Herzegovina Sarajevo, BiH, January 18, 2018	1
3.	Winter School on Fighting Corruption with Administrative Measures and Supporting Development of New Anti-Corruption Policies ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Rome – Perugia, Italy, 22 January – 2 February, 2018	Overall anti-corruption
4.	Working visit to the Commission for Prevention of Corruption of Slovenia and the Centre for Excellence in Finance (CEF) Ljubljana, Slovenia, March 14, 2018	General - partnership
5.	Regional Conference on Strengthening Cooperation in the Field of Asset Recovery ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Sarajevo, BiH, March 28, 2018	5
6.	RAI signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the RCC ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Belgrade, Serbia, April 17, 2018	General - partnership
7.	Training on Corruption Proofing of Legislation ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Budva-Podgorica, Montenegro, April 24-25, 2018	2
8.	RAI Secretariat co-organized a session on corruption risk assessment for health sector institutions jointly with RCC Podgorica, Montenegro, April 26, 2018	2
9.	Working Meeting with the Agency for Prevention of Corruption in Montenegro jointly with the IT expert team selected within the Regional Programme Podgorica, Montenegro, April 26-27, 2018	2
10.	Regional Workshop – Integrity and Control Measures in Defence and Law Enforcement Institutions with the RACVIAC ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Podgorica, Montenegro, May 8-9, 2018	4
11.	Corruption Proofing of Legislation Training for Kosovo* authorities ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Zagreb, Croatia, May 22-23, 2018	2
12.	Round table on Legislative Framework and Best Practices in Whistleblowers Protection with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Zagreb, Croatia, May 29, 2018	3
13.	Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption in BiH (APIK) adopted the Methodology on Corruption Proofing	2



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No	Title/date/location	Objective(s) addressed
	of Legislation developed by RAI and the new Guidelines for development of Integrity Plans for public institutions under the RAI Regional Programme June, 2018	
14.	Summer School for Junior Anti-Corruption Practitioners from South-East Europe <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Belgrade, Serbia, July 9-12, 2018	4, 5
15.	Working meeting with the Slovenian Commission for Prevention of Corruption, discussing the potential application of Slovenia for full membership in RAI Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 5, 2018	General - partnership
16.	Workshop on IT Tools in Prevention of Corruption with the National Anti-Corruption Centre of the republic of Moldova under the Regional Programme <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Chisinau, Moldova, September 12-13, 2018	2
17.	Training on Corruption Risk Assessment for representatives of health care institutions <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Mostar, BiH, September 18, 2018	2
18.	Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on the United Nations Convention against Corruption <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Belgrade, Serbia, September 24-27, 2018	Other
19.	Negotiations Meeting on International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Laxenburg – Vienna, Austria, October 3-5, 2018	1
20.	2nd Training on Corruption Risk Assessment <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Mostar, BiH, October 19, 2018	2
21.	Peer-to-Peer Visit to Romania National Authorities involved in asset recovery process: Investigation of corruption and confiscation of proceeds of crime - effective tools and methods <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Bucharest, Romania, December 4-6, 2018	5
22.	Coordination meeting for international organizations and donors, Ministry of Justice of Republic Srpska (BiH) regarding RAI inputs for the Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan Banja Luka, BiH, January, 15, 2019	Other
23.	One-day follow-up meeting for around 30 Civil Society and Private Sector representatives from the region <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Belgrade, Serbia, February 1, 2019	Other
24.	Working meeting with the President and the members of the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption of Republic of North Macedonia Skopje, North Macedonia, February, 25, 2019	General - partnership



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No	Title/date/location	Objective(s) addressed
25.	3rd International Whistleblower Day, Southeast Europe Coalition on Whistleblower Protection participation in the panel titled Challenges to implementing legislation on whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers: European and Balkan Perspectives ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Tirana, Albania, March, 21, 2019	3
26.	2nd Negotiation Meeting on Draft Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declaration ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Podgorica, Montenegro, March 27, 2019	1
27.	Workshop on Whistleblowing in the Security Sector ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Podgorica, Montenegro, May 7-8, 2019	3, 4
28.	Training on Effective Asset Recovery: Legal Standards and Good Practices ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Becici, Montenegro, May 14-15, 2019	5
29.	Asset Recovery Project, Peer-to-Peer Visit to the British Authorities ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) London, UK, May 20-24, 2019	5
30.	Regional Mutual Legal Assistance and Asset Recovery Training ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Skopje, Macedonia, June 11-13, 2019	5
31.	14th RAI Summer School for Junior Anti-corruption Practitioners from SEE ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Sarajevo, BiH, June 30 - July 4, 2019	5
32.	Working meeting with the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integrations of Republic of Moldova, Director of National Anti-corruption Centre and Director of the National Integrity Authority of Moldova ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Chisinau, Moldova, September, 4, 2019	General - partnership
33.	Second round 3-days training on International Cooperation ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Tirana, Albania, October 15-17, 2019	5
34.	Central European Initiative (CEI) Conference "Curbing Corruption": learning from the decade behind us and looking into the decade ahead", RAI participation as panellists and moderator; RAI and CEI Secretariat have signed the MoU ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Rome, Italy, November, 26, 2019	Other
35.	Second round of 2-days training on effective asset recovery ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Belgrade, Serbia, November 28-29, 2019	5
36.	Meetings with Kosovo* authorities in the field of asset recovery ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Pristina, Kosovo*, January 21-22, 2020	5
37.	Working meeting with RAI Chairperson Ms. Laura Stefan and representatives of Romanian Ministry of Justice and a Senior Representative to the RAI Steering Group Head of RAI Secretariat	General - partnership



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No	Title/date/location	Objective(s) addressed
	Bucharest, Romania, January, 23-24, 2020	
38.	Experts Working Meeting between Serbia, BiH and Montenegro on the need of Trilateral/Regional Asset Sharing Agreement in cooperation with the MoJ of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia, February, 11, 2020	5
39.	Preparation meeting to the Treaty Signing Ceremony with the representatives of Austrian Ministry for European and International Affairs on 24 February in Vienna, in order to define all necessary details regarding protocol, visibility, venue, organization ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Vienna, Austria, February, 24, 2020	1
40.	RAI Secretariat held a series of consultative meetings with government representatives, partners and other stakeholders, to present different aspects of ongoing activities and projects and discuss modalities of future collaboration May-September, 2020	3
41.	15th Edition Summer School for Junior Anti-corruption Practitioners from South-East Europe (online) October, 2020 - tbc	1, 2, 3, 5 - tbc



### Annex 3 – RAI participation and promotion in Regional and International Events (2018-2020)

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has promoted the project and programme activities at number of conferences and workshops that did not directly, but indirectly impact the anti-corruption agendas on national level. They in return provide and promote the visibility for RAI and even these interventions are not country specific, they need to be given adequate strategic context and to demonstrate their value and importance for RAI and its member states. For these reasons, given the number of these events, the importance of the communication, outreach and advocacy policy for the organizational profile, all the RAI promotion activities, presentations and interventions through participation at numerous regional and international events in the period of 2018-2020 are shown below.

No	Title/date/location
1.	Consultation process with the RCC for the next planning cycle for implementation process of strategy SEE 2020 in line with RAI Secretariat work plan 2018-2020, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Sarajevo BiH, January, 2018
2.	4 <sup>th</sup> Meeting on Donor Coordination in the Western Balkans, organized by the RCC and the EU <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Brussels, Belgium, March 13, 2018
3.	18 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the PCC SEE Committee of Ministers and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the IISG Board Meeting <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Kranj, Slovenia, March 15-16, 2018
4.	First Consultative Forum on Anti-Corruption in organization of the Ministry of Justice of Albania, OSCE and Council of the European Union, Presentation of the RAI Regional Documentary “Medal of the Loud”, Tirana, Albania, March 20, 2018
5.	FATF Meeting, co-organized with Council of Europe and the OSCE, Strasbourg, Presentation of Conclusions and Recommendations from the Comparative Analysis on Asset Recovery <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Strasbourg, France, March 26, 2018
6.	Conference “Towards Qualitative Signs of the Anti-Corruption Efficacy”, organized by NGO Institut Alternativa <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Podgorica, Montenegro, May, 5, 2018
7.	RAI Secretariat took part at the preparatory meeting for the upcoming Western Balkan Summit <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Podgorica, Montenegro, May 9, 2018
8.	Regional Forum on Gender Equality and Corruption organized by OSCE <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Sarajevo, BiH, May 14-15, 2018
9.	ReSPA Ministerial Conference on Good Governance <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Mostar, BiH, June, 12-13, 2018
10.	OSCE Regional Workshop on Asset Recovery efforts in the Region, Presentation of the RAI/AIRE Regional Study on Asset Recovery at the <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Belgrade, Serbia, June, 13-14, 2018



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11.	Participation in UNODC Expert Group Meeting for development of the Guide on Fraud and Corruption Risk Management, Vienna, Austria, June, 28-29, 2018
12.	EU PATR-PFM-NET Meeting, Presentation of the concept and RAI efforts in the field of Regional Corruption Proofing of Legislation, Brussels, Belgium, June 29, 2018
13.	Working meeting with the Centre of Excellency in Finance and participation at its Advisory Board and Partners Meeting, Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 4, 2018
14.	Ninth Intersessional Meeting of the UNODC Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption, Presentation of the project activities ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Vienna, Austria, September 5-7, 2018
15.	International Parliamentary Seminar on the Western Balkans, Presentation of the ongoing activities ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), London, UK, September 10-12, 2018
16.	Roundtable on Promoting Integrity of Border and Law Enforcement Agencies in South East Europe-Way Forward, organized by OSCE Secretariat, RAI Secretariat considered future activities related to law enforcement integrity in South East Europe at the ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Vienna, Austria, October 1-2, 2018
17.	Launch Event of the On-line training on Gender Mainstreaming in Border Security and Management , RAI Secretariat shared its experiences and lessons learned with gender mainstreaming at the ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Vienna, Austria, October 10-11, 2018
18.	GRECO Conference – Strengthening and Accountability to Ensure Integrity, RAI Secretariat referred to RAI Treaty in the context of international cooperation in curbing corruption at the ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Sibenik, Croatia, October, 15-16, 2018
19.	18 <sup>th</sup> EPAC/EACN Annual Professional and General Assembly, Presentation on the activities in the field of healthcare sector ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Rust, Austria, October 22-24, 2018
20.	South-Eastern Europe Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative (SEE ACAD), RAI Secretariat promoted its activities and explored potential fields for cooperation ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Ljubljana, Slovenia, October, 26, 2018
21.	High-level ministerial conference in Sophia, Bulgaria- Regional Forum of the Ministries of Interior/Security/on Counteraction to Internal Corruption, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Sophia, Bulgaria, November, 26-27 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
22.	High-level ministerial conference in Sophia, Bulgaria- Regional Forum of the Ministries of Interior/Security/on Counteraction to Internal Corruption, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Sophia, Bulgaria, November, 26-27 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
23.	Regional Anti-Corruption Conference organized by OSCE and Anti-Corruption Agency of Republic of Serbia, Presentation of the activities ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ) Belgrade, Serbia, December 13-14, 2018



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24.	CILC/GIZ event for presentation of the main findings and recommendations of the Comprehensive Asset Recovery Assessment Report (Regional Project IPA2017), Presentation of the Regional Asset Recovery Project, Sarajevo, BiH, January, 22, 2019
25.	Brdo Process Ministerial Meeting - 3rd IISG Board Meeting, Presentation of the RAI activities, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Skopje, North Macedonia, February, 26, 2019
26.	11 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the SEE2020 Coordination Board, organized by RCC, on the state of play of the SEE2020 Strategy and cooperation of the regional dimension coordinators, Presentation of RAI role and future strategic plans as regional dimension coordinator on anti-corruption, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Sarajevo, BiH, March 21, 2019
27.	Regional round table on Strengthening Integrity in State Authorities and Electoral Processes, organized within Montenegro presidency of the Ionian Adriatic Initiative, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Budva, Montenegro, April, 16-17, 2019
28.	Regional Conference “Balkan Perspectives: Adapting the partnership and integration paths” organised by the NATO Defence College Foundation, Presentation on the topic "Implementing anti-corruption measures by political and moral suasion- Results achieved, shortcomings and future opportunities <a href="#">LINK</a> , Rome, Italy, May 16, 2019
29.	Round Table “The Right of Public to Know: Asset declarations of public officials in judiciary” organized by Centre for Investigative Journalism CIN, Presentation of the RAI activities with a focus on the SEE comparative review on the asset disclosure for judges, Sarajevo, BiH, May 16, 2019 <a href="#">LINK</a>
30.	First Meeting of the EPAC/EACN Working Group “EU Integrity”, hosted by the Austrian Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAK), Presentation of the RAI activities, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Vienna, Austria, May 27–28, 2019
31.	OSCE High Level Conference on Security Sector Governance Reform under the Slovak Presidency, Presentation of the RAI activities, Belgrade, Serbia, June, 5-6, 2019
32.	PCC-SEE Expert Working Group, Presentation of the RAI ongoing and future activities ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Vienna, Austria, Vienna, June 26, 2019
33.	3-day training, organised by the SELDI anti-corruption initiative, Presentation of RAI activities, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Sarajevo, BiH; June 12-14, 2019
34.	Delegation led by the Commissioner of the Hong Kong Anti- Corruption Agency visited RAI Secretariat with the objective to explore potential for cooperation in providing experts for the 15 <sup>th</sup> Edition of the Summer School. The Commission has adopted a new International Cooperation Strategy and South East Europe is in its focus, Sarajevo, BiH, July, 16, 2019



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

35.	International Workshop on Exchanging Best Practices on Professional Integrity Testing and Corruption Risk Assessment, Presentation of the regional approach in strengthening national capacities in regards to corruption risk assessment, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , September 4 <sup>th</sup> , Chisinau, Moldova;
36.	Coordination meeting with Mark Worth Executive Director of European Centre for Whistleblowing Rights and Mr. Tom Devine Director of GAP Project for establishing of synergies between the upcoming RAI Regional Project and EU efforts on implementation of the Directive, Belgrade, Serbia, September, 8, 2019
37.	Launch Event of the Regional Anti-Corruption Platform of Internal Oversight /Control Departments of Border and LEA Agencies from the WB states, Ukraine and Moldova, Presentation of the ongoing and upcoming RAI activities with a focus on the EU project on whistleblowing, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Vienna, Austria, September, 19-20, 2019
38.	Third Plenary Session on National Convention on the European Union in the Republic of North Macedonia, Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia, Presentation of RAI programme activities, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Skopje, North Macedonia, September, 26, 2019
39.	ReSPA launching event of the Programme Committee, Presentation of the ongoing and future activities and projects and identifying possible avenues for joint cooperation <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Ohrid, North Macedonia, October, 16-17, 2019
40.	Round table organized by the Court of BiH, the AIRE Centre and the British Embassy, Presentation on the activities and thematic publications and presentation on the topic of “Corruption risks in processing cases of organized crime and corruption”, Jahorina, BiH, October, 22, 2019
41.	OECD Expert meeting on developing Anti- Corruption performance indicators, Presentation of the RAI current work and projects in the fields where the indicators and benchmarks could be implemented and further promoted, Paris, France, October, 30- 31, 2019
42.	Fourth regional meeting of the Network for Enhanced Regional Cooperation of Internal Security Units (NERCISU), Presentation of ongoing activities, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Stara Zagora, Bulgaria November, 4-6, 2019
43.	High-level International Anti-Corruption Conference, Presentation of project activities, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> , Belgrade; November, 4-6, 2019 19 <sup>th</sup>
44.	19 Annual Conference and General Assembly of the EPAC/EACN, hosted by the Swedish Police Authority, RAI participation as panellist, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Stockholm, Sweden, November, 10-12, 2019
45.	Berlin Process Security Commitments Steering Group Meeting, Presentation on RAI activities at the panel session “The state of the nation: illicit finance and anti-



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

	corruption in the Western Balkans” and a working meeting with the Bulgarian Commission for Anti-corruption and Illegal Assets Forfeiture (CAIAF), <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Sofia, Bulgaria, January, 2020
46.	WB6 Anti-corruption and Illicit Finance Roadmap initiative following the Berlin Process Security Commitments Steering Group Meeting Sofia, Bulgaria, February, 2020
47.	OSCE Regional Conference organized within the OSCE Albanian Chairmanship: “Preventive measures and enforcing the law: building resilience to corruption in South East Europe, Presentation of the ongoing activities and the International Treaty on Exchange of Data on Asset Declarations, <a href="#">(LINK)</a> Skopje, North Macedonia, February, 10-11, 2020
48.	OSCE Regional Conference, organized within the Albanian OSCE Chairmanship, Presentation of the activities with a focus on the International Treaty, Vienna, Austria, February, 17-18, 2020
49.	Online coordination meeting with the RCC with a presence of the representative of the European Commission, DG NEAR, discussion on potential synergies for joint activities with a focus on RAI’s potential engagement with the IISG, Sarajevo, BiH, May, 5, 2020
50.	OECD-ACN 25 <sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting, via Zoom, Presentation of the cooperation activities with the ACN network regarding developing the anti-corruption performance indicators, and on the procedure for signing the International Treaty on Exchange of Data for Verification of Asset Declarations and other on-going program activities, Sarajevo, BiH, May, 28,2020
51.	Series of (on-line) lectures to University Parthenope, Napoli, presentations on preventive measures in the fight against corruption, the role and work of RAI in SEE, including whistleblower protection, asset forfeiture, asset declarations, corruption proofing of legislation and corruption risk assessments; Sarajevo, BiH, May, 2020;
52.	RAI Secretariat had a working meeting with the Dean of the Law Faculty in Sarajevo, considering the possibility for promoting the RAI mission and activities among the students through legal clinics; Sarajevo, BiH, May, 2020
53.	Remote meeting with the representatives of the UNODC Judicial Integrity Network considering a possible avenue for cooperation and partnership in the organization of the RAI Summer School, Sarajevo, BiH, May, 2020



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

54.	Online RCC Annual Meeting, RAI emphasized the potential synergies for joint activities with the IISG, ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Sarajevo, June, June, 25 2020
55.	RAI participation at the UNODC Judicial Integrity Group Webinar on the topic of financial disclosure for judges, Sarajevo, BiH, July, 2, 2020
56.	OSCE Albanian Chairmanship, High-level Conference via Zoom, , Presentation of the current stay of play with the process of signing of the International Treaty on Exchange of Data for Verification of Asset Declarations ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), Sarajevo, BiH, July, 6-7, 2020
57.	Working Meeting via zoom with Virginia De Abajo Marques - UNODC Regional Anti-Corruption and Asset Recovery Advisor in South Eastern Europe and Kari Ann Rotkin - Associate Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer to discuss the possibilities for cooperation, Sarajevo, BiH, 17 July, 2020
58.	Zoom working meeting with the RCC and new IISG Head of the Secretariat, Mr. Agron Sojati, Presentation of ongoing and planned activities and discussion about the possible avenues for cooperation, Sarajevo, BiH, July, 21, 2020



## Annex 4 – List of Actions per jurisdiction<sup>16</sup>

The table below represents instances of actions delivered in RAI member states, observers and other beneficiary jurisdictions. The listed instances directly impacted the capacity of the targeted beneficiaries in the public administration as well as civil sector. Presented actions were organized by the RAI Secretariat in most instances with some being co-organized with partners and other stakeholders.

It can be evaluated that the actions are relatively spread out over the SEE region, with strong focus on actions that gather representatives from multiple countries. Most of the instances are related to the government beneficiaries, however civil society has been encompassed and participation has raised in comparison to the last evaluation period.

During the Evaluation Period, RAI Secretariat tracked beneficiaries' gender ratio. Collected data indicates that the ratio between women and men varies between 30 to 50 percent. RAI Secretariat collects gender data only as of the beginning of current evaluation period.

The Table below specifies the direct interventions only. It does not account for a range of instances that indirectly impact the anti-corruption agendas on the national level and in the SEE overall. Such instances are sessions of the RAI Steering Group, participation of RAI in the UNCAC Evaluation Cycles, participation of RAI in GRECO evaluation process and OECD evaluations, presence of RAI in implementing of Strategy SEE2020, as well as appearances, presentations, interventions etc.

In the evaluation period, RAI Secretariat has promoted its activities at number of conferences and workshops that did not directly, but indirectly impact the anti-corruption agendas on national levels. They in return provide and promote the visibility for RAI and even these interventions are not country specific, they need to be given adequate strategic context and to demonstrate their value and importance for RAI and its member states. For these reasons, given the number of these events, the importance of the communication, outreach and advocacy policy for the organizational profile, all the RAI promotion activities, presentations and interventions through participation at numerous regional and international events in the period of 2018-2020 is listed in the separate section of the Annex 2 under the "RAI participation in regional and international events (2018-2020)".

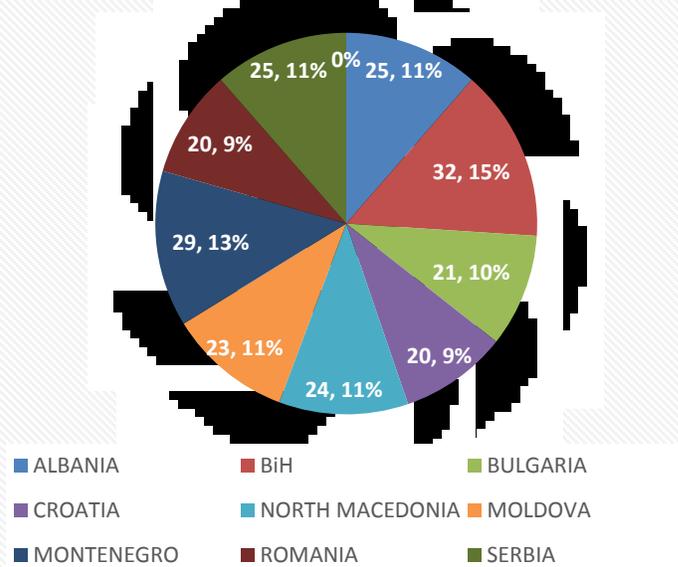
*Chart below indicates the disbursement of RAI Secretariat's actions per member countries*

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<sup>16</sup> Separate sheet is supplied to enable perusal per location



### ACTIONS PER MEMBER COUNTRY





## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

Action Description / Beneficiary	Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	N. Macedonia	Moldova	Montenegro	Romania	Serbia	Kosovo*	Poland	Georgia	Slovenia
Workshop on consolidating the national inputs and developing the regional recommendations-RAI/AIRE Asset Recovery Project Team, Sarajevo BiH, January 9, 2018		X											
Workshop with the State Parliamentary Commission for Deciding on Conflict of Interest in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo, BiH, January 18, 2018		X											
Winter School on Fighting Corruption with Administrative Measures and Supporting Development of New Anti-Corruption Policies, Rome – Perugia, Italy, 22 January – 2 February, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Working visit to the Commission for Prevention of Corruption of Slovenia and the Centre for Excellence in Finance (CEF), Ljubljana, Slovenia, March 14, 2018													X
Regional Conference on Strengthening Cooperation in the Field of Asset Recovery, Sarajevo, BiH, March 28, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
RAI Secretariat with AIRE Centre London published a Regional Study-Asset Recovery in the Western Balkans – A Comparative Analysis of Legislation and Practice, Sarajevo, BiH, March, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
RAI signed the Memorandum of Understanding with the RCC Belgrade, Serbia, April 17, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Training on Corruption Proofing of Legislation, Budva-Podgorica, Montenegro, April 24-25, 2018							X						
Working Meeting with the Agency for Prevention of Corruption in Montenegro jointly with the IT expert team selected within the Regional Programme, Podgorica, Montenegro, April 26-27, 2018							X						



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

Action Description / Beneficiary	Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	N. Macedonia	Moldova	Montenegro	Romania	Serbia	Kosovo*	Poland	Georgia	Slovenia
RAI Secretariat co-organized a session on corruption risk assessment for health sector institutions jointly with RCC, Podgorica, Montenegro, April 26, 2018							X						
Regional Workshop – Integrity and Control Measures in Defence and Law Enforcement Institutions with the RACVIAC, Podgorica, Montenegro, May 8-9, 2018	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X			
Corruption Proofing of Legislation Training for Kosovo* authorities, Zagreb, Croatia, May 22-23, 2018										X			
Round table on Legislative Framework and Best Practices in Whistleblowers Protection with the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia, May 29, 2018				X									
Agency for Prevention of Corruption and Coordination of the Fight against Corruption in BiH (APIK) adopted the Methodology on Corruption Proofing of Legislation developed by RAI and the new Guidelines for development of Integrity Plans for public institutions under the RAI Regional Programme, June, 2018		X											
Summer School for Junior Anti- Corruption Practitioners from South-East Europe, Belgrade, Serbia, July 9-12, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
RAI Secretariat had a working meeting with the Slovenian Commission for Prevention of Corruption discussing the potential application of Slovenia for full membership in RAI, Ljubljana, Slovenia, September 5, 2018													X
Regional Workshop on IT Tools in Prevention of Corruption with the National Anti-Corruption Centre of the Republic of Moldova under the Regional Programme, Chisinau, Moldova, September 12-13, 2018	X	X				X	X		X				



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

Action Description / Beneficiary	Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	N. Macedonia	Moldova	Montenegro	Romania	Serbia	Kosovo*	Poland	Georgia	Slovenia
Training on Corruption Risk Assessment for representatives of health care institutions, Mostar, BiH, September 18, 2018		X											
Multi-Stakeholder Workshop on the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Belgrade, Serbia, September 24-27, 2018	X	X			X		X		X	X			
Negotiations Meeting on International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations, Laxenburg – Vienna, Austria, October 3-5, 2018	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X			
2nd Training on Corruption Risk Assessment, Mostar, BiH, October 19, 2018		X											
The RAI/AIRE regional study on asset recovery has been translated into Romania language with support of the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Foundation, November, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Peer-to-Peer Visit to Romanian Authorities, Bucharest, Romania, December 4-6, 2018	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Coordination meeting for international organizations and donors, Ministry of Justice of Republic Srpska (BiH) regarding RAI inputs for the Anti-Corruption Strategy and Action Plan, Banjaluka, BiH, January, 15, 2019		X											
One-day follow-up meeting for around 30 Civil Society and Private Sector representatives from the region, Belgrade, Serbia, February 1, 2019	X	X			X		X		X	X			
Working meeting with the President and the members of the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption of Republic of North Macedonia, Skopje, North Macedonia, February, 25, 2019					X								
3rd International Whistleblower Day, Southeast Europe Coalition on Whistleblower Protection participation in the panel titled Challenges to	X												



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

Action Description / Beneficiary	Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	N. Macedonia	Moldova	Montenegro	Romania	Serbia	Kosovo*	Poland	Georgia	Slovenia
implementing legislation on whistleblowing and protection of whistleblowers: European and Balkan Perspectives, Tirana, Albania, March, 21, 2019													
2nd Negotiation Meeting on Draft Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declaration, Podgorica, Montenegro, March 27, 2019	X	X	X		X	X	X		X	X			
Workshop on Whistleblowing in the Security Sector, Podgorica, Montenegro, May 7-8, 2019	X	X			X	X	X	X		X			X
Training on Effective Asset Recovery: Legal Standards and Good Practices, Becici, Montenegro, May 14-15, 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Asset Recovery Project, Peer-to-Peer Visit to the British Authorities, London, UK, May 20-24, 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Regional Mutual Legal Assistance and Asset Recovery Training, Skopje, Macedonia, June 11-13, 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
14th RAI Summer School for Junior Anti-corruption Practitioners from SEE, Sarajevo, BiH, June 30 - July 4, 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Presentation of RAI Work in regards to Integrity of Public Officials Working, International Conference, IPA Programme, meetings with the representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integrations of Republic of Moldova, Director of National Anti-corruption Centre and Director of the National Integrity Authority of Moldova, Chisinau, Moldova September, 4 - 5, 2019						X							
Two handbooks prepared and published under the Regional Asset Recovery Project were delivered to the Judicial Training Institutions of the beneficiaries and published on their websites, September and October 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

Action Description / Beneficiary	Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	N. Macedonia	Moldova	Montenegro	Romania	Serbia	Kosovo*	Poland	Georgia	Slovenia
Second round 3-days training on International Cooperation, Tirana, Albania, October 15-17, 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Central European Initiative (CEI) Conference “Curbing Corruption”: learning from the decade behind us and looking into the decade ahead”, RAI participation as panellists and moderator; RAI and CEI Secretariat have signed the MoU, Rome, Italy, November, 26, 2019		X	X	X	X		X		X				
Second round of 2-days training on effective asset recovery, Belgrade, Serbia, November 28-29, 2019	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Meetings with Kosovo* authorities in the field of asset recovery, January 21-22, Pristina, Kosovo*										X			
Working meeting with RAI Chairperson Ms. Laura Stefan and representatives of Romanian Ministry of Justice and a Senior Representative to the RAI Steering Group Head of RAI Secretariat Bucharest, Romania, January, 23-24, 2020								X					
Experts Working Meeting between Serbia, BiH and Montenegro on the need of Trilateral/Regional Asset Sharing Agreement in cooperation with the MoJ of Serbia, Belgrade, Serbia, February, 11, 2020		X					X		X				
An online presentation of the Regional Programme external evaluation and findings was organized on 26 May. The presentation was attended by RAI and UNODC Programme team, as well as representatives of SELDI CSO Network, May 26, 2020	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
RAI Secretariat held a series of consultative meetings with government representatives of the beneficiaries of the project, such as meetings with representatives of Serbia, North Macedonia, Montenegro and Moldova to present the project and discuss modalities of collaboration on project activities, May-June, 2020	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				



## REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

Action Description / Beneficiary	Albania	B&H	Bulgaria	Croatia	N. Macedonia	Moldova	Montenegro	Romania	Serbia	Kosovo*	Poland	Georgia	Slovenia
All language version of the Report “Effective Implementation of Asset Recovery Measures in the Western Balkans: an overview of a regional monitoring methodology, key benchmarks and case studies of good practice” are now available on RAI website ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), June, 2020	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Handbook on Effective Asset Recovery in Compliance with EU and International Standards and Tool and Best Practices for International Cooperation in Asset Recovery Cases Handbook were uploaded and now are available on the NIJ e-learning platform, Bulgaria ( <a href="#">LINK</a> ), July, 2020			X										