

## 2. NARRATIVE REPORT

### 2.1 Description of results achieved during the reporting period and the work and activities (both planned and unforeseen) that contributed to them.

The contract for the antiflood works was signed between the CA and the contractor on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The contract foresees that its total economic object amounts to € 5.270.678, 42(incl. VAT) {average discount rate of 58.98% from the estimated by the CA budget 12.2 2M €} and all works have to be completed within 30 months from the signature date.

The contractor also acceded the Integrity Pact by signing the relevant form. The Independent Monitor conducted the monitoring of the tender phase in April-May 2019 having access to relevant hard copies provided by the CA.

The Independent Monitor highlighted 2 main issues after the completion of its monitoring assessment:

- 1) The MA included a 4<sup>th</sup> sub project to the funding decision concerning publicity activities for the specific antiflood project. However, the Independent Monitor pointed out that a detailed description of the activities should be included in the technical note. The Managing Authority responded that supporting documentation of the technical note holds detailed description of the proposed action. However, there are two issues arising: a) The relevant supporting documentation is only available to a limited number of beneficiaries that have access right to the Monitoring Information System (M.I.S.), such as Special Management Services (Managing Authorities), Audit Authorities, Departments of Ministries, Regional Authorities and Beneficiaries, Services of the European Union – the general public does not have access to that information. On the contrary, the technical note that should include a detailed description of the actions to be funded, is publicly available online through the “DIAVGEIA” portal (Transparency Program according to which all government institutions are obliged to upload their acts and decisions on the Internet) and b) moreover, the description included in the supporting documentation is indicative and not exhaustive. The detailed description is essential to evaluate the actions and justify the costs incurred. Two contracts have already been signed under this sub project (event organization for 200 participants for 22.320,00 euro and catering services for 200 participants for 1.400,00 euro). Although the Independent Monitor is monitoring only sub project 1 (construction works) we felt it was essential to highlight this issue concerning sub project 4, as it concerns transparency and is closely linked to the sub project 1 and the Integrity Pact being implemented.
- 2) and The funding decision of the work "CONSTRUCTION OF ANTI FLOOD NETWORK IN AREAS OF MUNICIPALITIES OF NIKAIA - AGIOS IOANNIS RENTIS AND MOSHATO - TAVROS" provides for a term which stipulates that before the award of the Contract all procedures regarding expropriation of private properties should be completed. Non-completion of procedures may result in serious implementation delays since it concerns the downstream area of one of the two sub-basins (it is very close to one of the 2 outlets to Kifissos river) which is also the initial “spread” of the construction line of one of the two pipelines. Procedures were not completed before the signature of the contract; however, the MA stipulated that the Contracting Authority may proceed with the signature of the contract with the Contractor, providing its assent. When the Independent Monitor brought this to the CA and MA’ attention the MA responded that given a) the project's importance in the flood protection of the area, b) the efforts already taken to accelerate the process as a whole, c) the commitment of the Municipal Authority to complete the implementation of the urban plan, d) the cooperation of the Anti-Flood Protection Directorate of Attica Region with the relevant Municipalities and e) the existence of a sufficient work front for the Contractor on the S2 Collector (and the corresponding economic object that exceeds 65 % of the Contract), they estimated that there will be no impact on the timely completion of the project from any undesirable eventual delay in filling the special condition and

*that the Contracting Authority may proceed with the signature of the contract with the Contractor. The Independent Monitor is neither satisfied nor dissatisfied with the response and the impact of the non-fulfillment of the aforementioned term that will be assessed during the implementation of the project.*

*Both of the aforementioned findings (1&2), along with findings from the pretender phase will be included in the 1<sup>st</sup> Monitoring report currently being prepared (launch expected in September at the latest).*

*Currently the contractor is proceeding with the installation of the construction site in a space provided by the Municipality of Nikaia - Ag. Ioannis Renti and has already submitted all preliminary deliverables (ex. the study for temporary traffic arrangements, timeline for the construction works, insurance policy etc). Construction works are expected to begin in September. The Independent Monitor is pursuing the monitoring process after the signature of the contract. Monitoring procedures were affected in terms of time during May-June due to the local elections held in the end of May-beginning of June 2019, as many of the contact points in CA and MA were dispatched to facilitate the electoral process. Furthermore, national elections in July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as well as the transitional post-elections period are also expected to possibly create delays in project and monitoring activities.*

*During local elections Mayors of both areas where IP is implemented, were reelected from the first round, however a new Regional Governor (Head of the CA) will take office from September 1<sup>st</sup> onwards. The Independent Monitor will focus efforts on engaging the new Governor but will also preserve a good collaboration with the outgoing Governor, as she will be the head of the opposition party at the regional council.*

*On the social accountability factor TI Greece contacted CSOs in order to calculate the midterm value for the Non KPI MEL component of the project as well as participating bidders and contractor in order to establish the relevant baseline value and also held an introductory presentation session to post graduate students at the Panteion University.*

*In order to promote the IP the Independent Monitor supported and participated with two speakers at an event organized by the CA and MA in March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019, addressed to actors from the public procurement sector (ex. managing authorities' employees) in order to present the 1<sup>st</sup> Integrity Pact implemented on a European funded project. In addition, a video was also created by the CA with the participation of the Independent Monitor for the same purpose (video currently being subtitled in English). Finally, promotional material for the IP was handed out during a Business Integrity Forum roundtable organized by TI GR which hosted more than more than 10 major private companies.*

*Throughout the reporting period the project website ([www.integritypact.gr](http://www.integritypact.gr)) was following the tender's progress through the timeline page and the white list of acceded bidders/contractor was also uploaded. Throughout the reporting period 1333 new users visited the [integritypact.gr](http://www.integritypact.gr) website.*