

Use of integrated and cooperative IT tools capable of combining heterogeneous data coming from different information systems: the Integrated Anti-Fraud Platform (PIAF)

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Motivation and background

The correct use of financial resources provided by the European Union is one of the most important commitments to all Member States.

The problem of fraud has always been of particular concern to Europe.

Member States "must adopt, in order to combat fraud affecting the financial interests of the EU, the same measures they normally use to combat fraud affecting their national financial interests"

ex art. 325 of the Treaty on the Functioning

of the European Union

According to the provisions of Art. 125, paragraph 4, letter c) of **EU Reg**. n. **1303/2013**, Member States have to define and guide their **national strategies** for the **fight against fraud** and the prevention of illicit phenomena, by carefully planning control activities based on risk analysis and the **support of adequate IT** tools.





In 2019, the **Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance**, in partnership with **COLAF**, submitted the proposal SEP-210594505 as a response to the call for tender HERCULE-TA-AG-2019



The Integrated Anti-Fraud Platform (PIAF) - 1/3

PIAF collects data from **heterogeneous external sources** (both national and European) by providing technical and operational support to national and transnational investigations, in order to strengthen the **fight against fraud** and other illegal activities to the detriment of the EU budget.



PIAF has been developed by the **Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance**, with its IT partner **Sogei**, in partnership with **COLAF**, and co-financed by the **European Anti-fraud Office (OLAF)**.



- COMPLEMENTARY to other anti-fraud tools (e.g., ARACHNE)
- **INFORMATION** tool that allows information to be retrieved from national and European sources; the collection in a central system allows considerable **time savings** for the Administrations;
- EXTENSIBLE tool that allows the integration of additional data sources in future developments.



Who is it for?

- Managing Authorities, i.e., the administrative structures responsible for the implementation and control of Programmes co-financed by the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)
- Public Administrations responsible for the supervision and second level control of Community funding (COLAF, MEF-RGS-IGRUE and Audit Authorities)

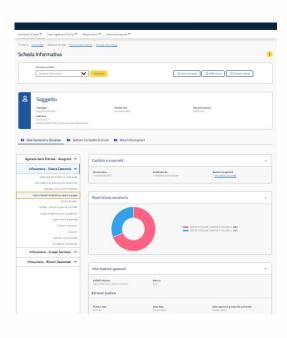


The Integrated Anti-Fraud Platform (PIAF) - 2/3

Main Tool Information Card

The core of the new Anti-Fraud Platform is identified in the Information Card

By extracting and regrouping the information collected from different data sources, the Information Card makes the Platform a sort of "registry" of the recipients of Community funds.



The user is able to access a series of useful information to understand the sanctioning situation and the inclination towards fraud of a legal entity.

The card is composed of 4 macro-sections:

- 1.Chamber of commerce information
- 2. Financing data (EU strategic planning)
- 3. Sector of treasury accounting
- 4. Other information





The Integrated Anti-Fraud Platform (PIAF) - 3/3

Main Tool Information Card

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Why?



- Prior to the allocation of funding, an evaluation phase of the recipient is necessary.
- During this phase, it is extremely important to collect as much information as
 possible in order to carry out a correct assessment of the sanctions, debt and
 personal data situation of the beneficiary.

The Information Card allows the above information to be concentrated in **one place**



Time saving due to the collection that the platform handles with external data sources

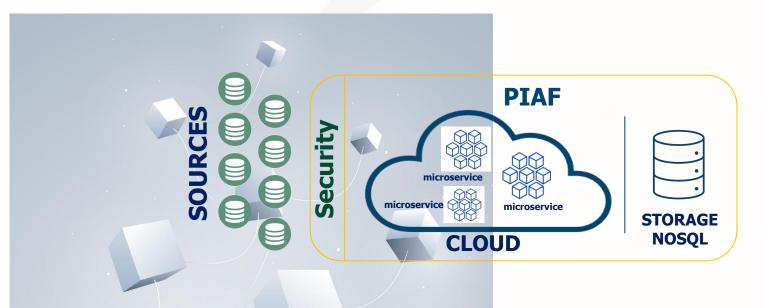


Simplification of the evaluation phase through an overall view provided within a single platform





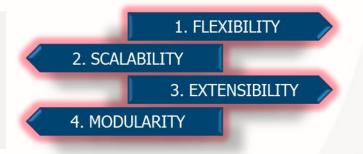
Architecture - 1/2



Technology based on **microservices**.

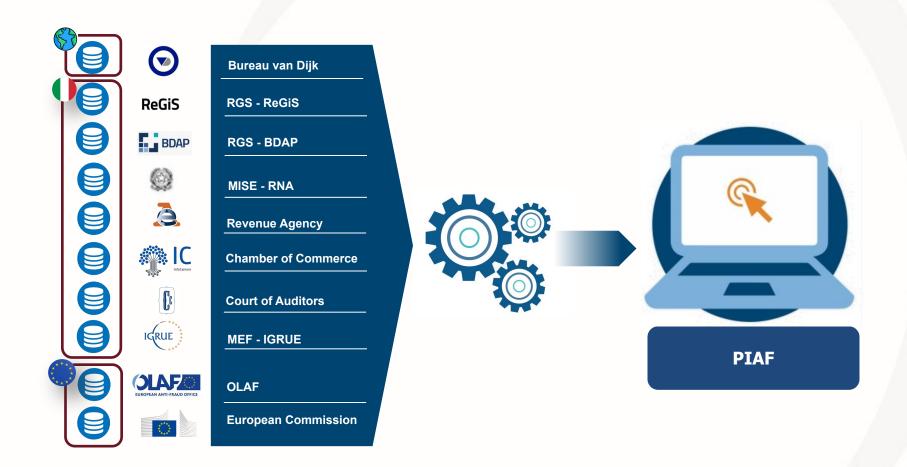
Data stored in databases capable of hosting a large amount of data.

Highly extensible towards the integration of other data sources





Architecture - 2/2







Data sources - 1/2

Source of data	Data Base	Data type	Purpose	
Revenue Agency	Tax Registry	Personal data of the subjects Information on the activity of the entiry	- More Control - the tax registry is the largest tax database available to the tax authorities. It plays an important role in the assessment and financial control against tax evasion; - Existence - through PIAF, the tax existence of any subject is verified: physical, legal, company, association or organization of persons; - Truthfulness and certification - PIAF recovers certified personal data on physical or legal entities	
Infocamere	Chamber of Commerce registration	Business or company registration data Financial statements filed Notarial deeds Shareholders, administrators and other administrative offices	- Existence - The Chamber of Commerce search guarantees the effective legal existence of the company as well as the legal publicity of all the documents concerning it. - Solidity of a company - through PIAF, the notarial deeds of the company, the previous history and the bankruptcy provisions are recovered, in order to obtain specific official information and assess financial viability;	
Corte dei Conti	Digital Accounting Justice (Giudico) Irregularities and Fraud Information System (SIDIF)	Final judgments for tax damages Irregularities found at community level received by I.M.S. (Irregularities Management System)	- Sanctioning situation - the integration with the Court of Auditors makes it possible to get the final judgments of the companies by accessing the "Judicial" database, providing an assessment tool on the risk and fraudulent reliability of the company. PIAF verifies the presence of final judgments also for individual physical subjects such as directors, shareholders, and holders of other offices within the company. - Verification at community level - in addition to the national "Giudico" data, PIAF also recovers irregularities found at Community level through the Cogrt of Auditors, allowing for a more comprehensive picture	
IGRUE MEF - IGRUE	Banca Dati Unica (BDU)	1) Funding Programming 07-13 2) Funding Programming 14-20 3) My Audit	Double funding check - the recovery of financial data by PIAF makes it possible to verify whether the parties involved have received indirectly managed funding in the past, monitored within the IGRUE Database (BDU); Presence of audit sanctions - PIAF also retrieves information related to the controls carried out by the Audit Authorities on financing projects, allowing operators to verify the results.	





Data sources - 2/2

Source of data	Data Base	Data type	Purpose
European Commission	Direct Management Financing (Financial Transparency System)	1) Directly managed funding	Double funding check— the data relating to directly managed funding by the European Commission are annually entered within PIAF.
MIMIT - RNA	State Aid National Registry	National aid received	Double funding check – the collected data allows to check whether national aid has been received.
BDAP RGS - BDAP	Public Administrations Data Base (BDPA)	National construction projects	Double funding check – the collected data allows to check whether the operator has been funded for national construction projects.
ReGiS RGS - ReGiS	NRRP Monitoring and Reporting (ReGiS)	1) NRRP projects	Double funding check – the collected data allows to check whether the operator has been funded for NRRP projects.
Bureau van Dijk	Orbis	Corporate ownership structures	- Check on corporate ownership structures – the collection of data regarding more than 400 million companies worldwide allows to understand corporate ownership structures.





Functionalities



MACRO FUNCTIONS



Card Management



Online Queries



Reporting



Administration

Information Card Generation Massive Generation of Cards Processing Requests Search

Ordinary Company Registration
Person card
Direct Management Financing



Configuration Management Business Unit Management User Management

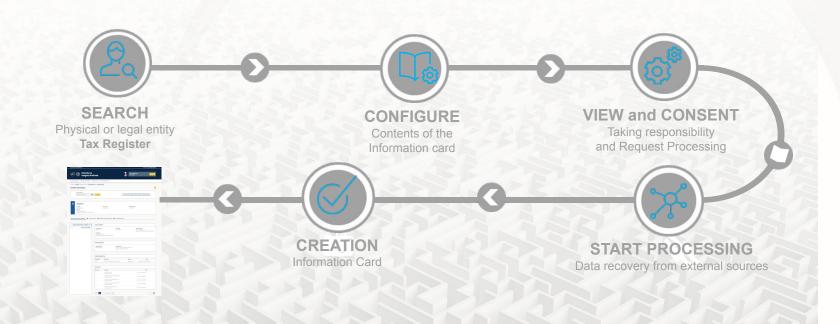
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Card Management

Information Card Generation



The **Massive Generation** function allows the creation of more Information Cards, by entering a list of Tax Codes / VAT numbers acquired from external searches / systems (e.g., Arachne) and uploaded via a template.

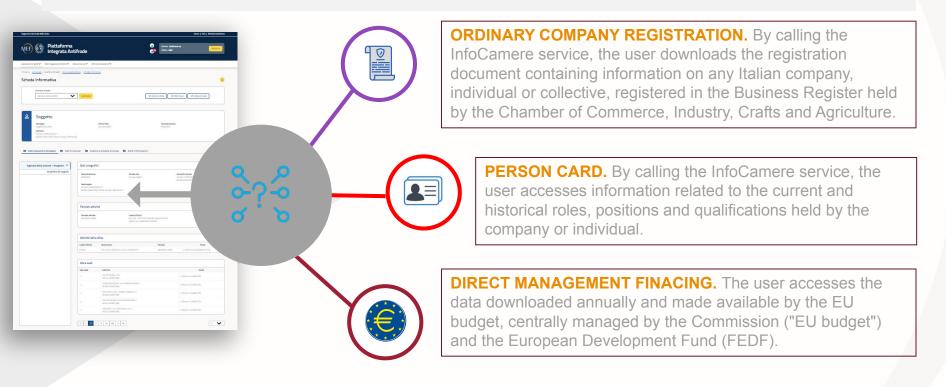
The **Processing RequestsSearch** function allows to check the processing status of the Information Cards and access the information content of all the user-generated Cards





Online Queries

Online queries allow the operator to directly access online services made available by external sources in real-time. The results obtained from the queries can be saved within the **information cards**.

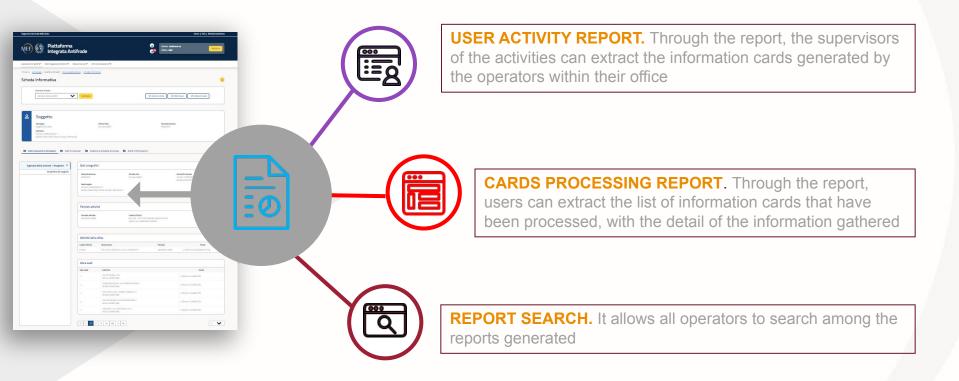






Reporting

Through the reporting functions, operators can take advantage of basic and preset reports that can be downloaded in excel / CSV format







Administration

The **Administration** functions are used to configure the platform and manage users

Configuration Management



It allows the System Administrator to manage the configurations of the Information Card, to define which data to include among those available.



It allows the System Administrator to manage the Business Units, i.e., the offices where users can operate.

Business Unit Mgmt

User Enablement



It allows the System Administrator to search for a user in order to enable them to a new Business Unit and to assign the required roles and permissions.



It allows the System Administrator to create a new user.

Create new User

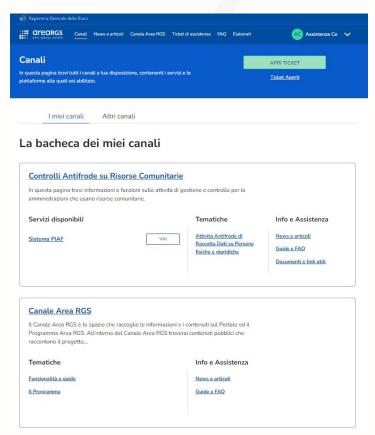




Access via Area RGS



https://area.rgs.mef.gov.it/canali/bacheca



PIAF is integrated within the RGS Portal "**Area RGS**".

Within Area RGS there is a specific **channel** which is dedicated to **anti-fraud** where users can find documentation, guides, news and other material related to the topic.

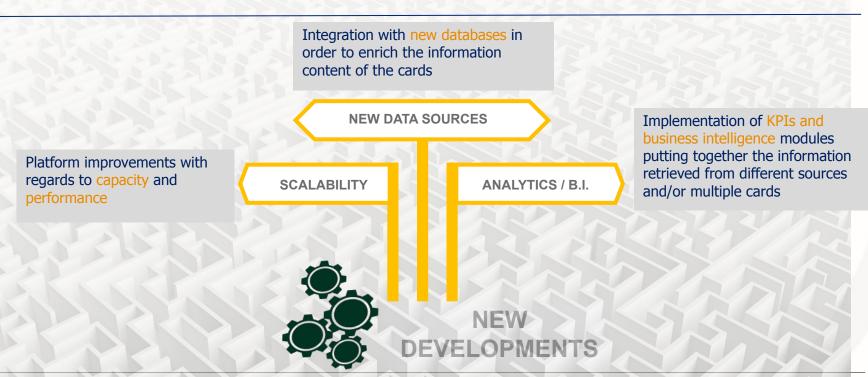
PIAF is directly accessible from Area RGS in **Single Sign-On.**



Current status and what's next



As of today, about 200 admin users and more than 1.300 Information cards generated





Thank you for your attention





