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# The Italian Anti-fraud Coordination Service

Follow-up of 'AFCOS 2022 annual reports' and development of National anti-fraud strategy

Presented by Col. Cruciano Cruciani

Project FRED2: 'Mapping knowledge in the fight against fraud'

Venice, 19-20 February 2024

# OVERVIEW

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**ITALIAN  
ANTI-FRAUD  
COORDINATION  
SERVICE  
(AFCOS)**

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**FOLLOW-UP OF  
'AFCOS 2022  
ANNUAL REPORT'**

**03**

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**NATIONAL  
ANTI-FRAUD  
STRATEGY  
(NAFS)**

**04**

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**DIGITALIZATION IN  
THE FIGHT  
AGAINST FRAUD**



# What is an Anti-fraud coordination service (AFCOS)?

EU Member States are requested to designate an [AFCOS](#) in agreement with [Article 12a of Regulation 883/2013](#) to facilitate effective cooperation and exchange of information, including information of an operational nature, with [OLAF](#) (as required by [Article 325 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU](#)).

Pursuant to [Article 54 of Law No. 234 of 24 December 2012](#), the [Italian AFCOS](#) operates within the

[Department for European Affairs of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers](#).

The European Union budget finances a wide range of programmes and projects. OLAF fulfils its mission by investigating fraud against the EU budget, corruption and serious misconduct within the European institutions, and develops anti-fraud policy for the European Commission



# ABOUT US: MAIN TASKS OF THE ITALIAN AFCOS



Performing the functions of “Technical Secretariat”



Info-operational coordination with OLAF



Participation to GAF and COCOLAF meetings



Monitoring the flow with OLAF of the data relating to the cases of Irregularity/fraud (IMS)



Organization of training and study visits with national and UE institutions (AFCOS, Universities)



Taking care of the drafting of the “National Anti-Fraud Strategy” on the activities carried out and future lines of action



Carrying out projects and partnership activities aimed to share and exchange experiences and best practices

# FOLLOW-UP OF 'AFCOS 2022 ANNUAL REPORT'

- » DATA ANALYSIS 2022
- » IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2022
- » ANALYSIS COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR 2023



# FOLLOW-UP OF 'AFCOS 2022 ANNUAL REPORT'



## "PIF" REPORT 2022

### RECOMMENDATION 2 – DIGITALISATION OF THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD HIGH ON MEMBER STATES' AGENDA

Digitalisation of the fight against fraud needs to be at the heart of anti-fraud strategies. It represents both a resource and a threat, as fraudsters are also increasingly using and exploiting new technologies in order to commit their crimes. Member States should ensure that the digitalisation of the fight against fraud is part of their NAFS. That approach should define strategies to: (i) identify existing and future threats arising from new technologies; (ii) develop the necessary IT architecture (inventorying existing tools, developing new ones, ensuring appropriate interoperability between them); and (iii) identify and address existing gaps, also in terms of the skills needed.

# ITALIAN NATIONAL ANTI-FRAUD STRATEGY (NAFS)

The Italian *National Anti-Fraud Strategy -NAFS* aims, in adherence to the indications of the European Commission, to effectively and comprehensively oversee all phases of the anti-fraud cycle:

PREVENTION

IDENTIFICATION

INVESTIGATION

APPLICATION OF SANCTIONS

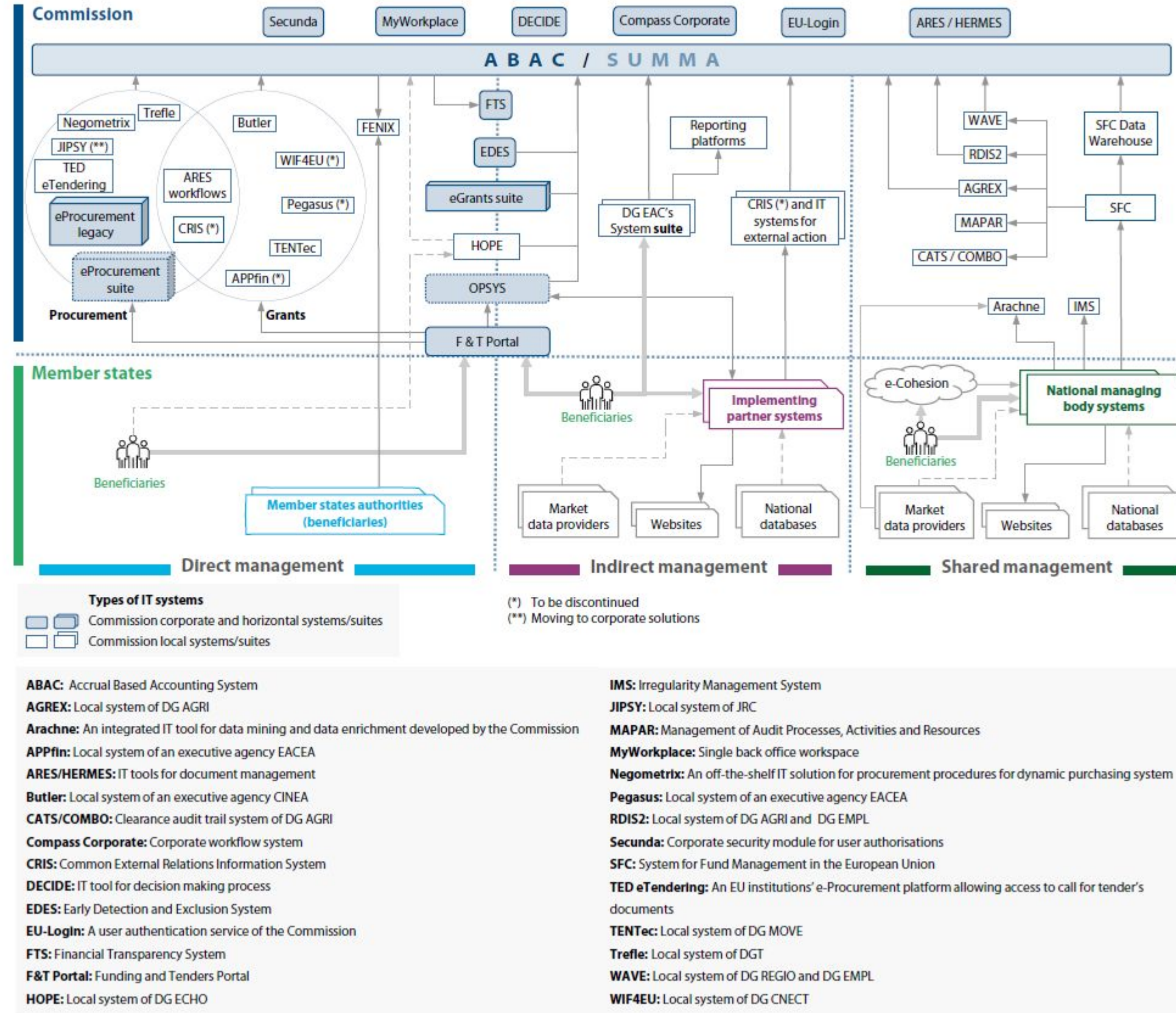


# ITALIAN NATIONAL ANTI-FRAUD STRATEGY (NAFS)





# KEY 'IT' SYSTEMS USED IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EU FUNDS



Source: ECA, based on Commission information.

# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

## European IT systems

- ARACHNE
- IMS
- EDES

## Italian IT systems

- ADMINISTRATIVE
- POLICE

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# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD



## Administrative



- THESEUS – CREDIBILITY – COGNOS**  
(Customs and Monopolies Agency)
- OWNRES**  
(Customs Agency)
- InDEX VIES/Ser.P.I.Co – TNA – TAXNET**  
(Revenue Agency)
- SIAN**  
(AGEA)
- ReGiS**  
(Ministry of Economy and Finance)
- PIAF-IT**  
(Ministry of Economy and Finance)

## Police (GdF)

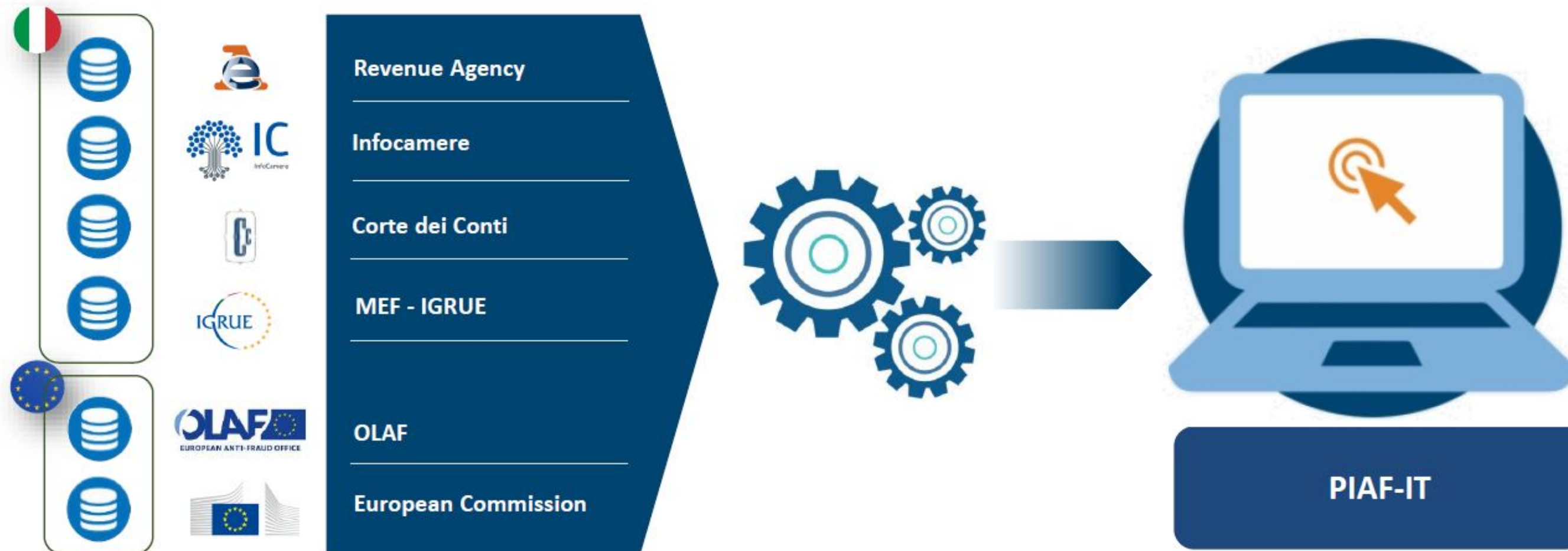


- ST.A.F.**
- @-FATTURA**
- P.Ris.M.A.**
- Moni.C.**
- S.I.A.F.**
- Mo.Co.P.**

# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

## PIAF-IT Information context

**PIAF - IT** is an innovative anti-fraud project that interacts and collects data from heterogeneous external sources at national and European level. The purpose of the platform is to consolidate and strengthen the fight against fraud and other illegal activities to the detriment of the EU budget through technical and operational support for national and transnational investigations, with the creation of an **Information Card** relating to the subject to analyze.





# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

## PIAF-IT The data sources (1/3)

Source of data	Data Base	Data type	Purpose
 <p>Revenue Agency</p>	Tax Registry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Personal data of the subjects</li> <li>2) Activity information</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>More Control</b> - the tax registry is the largest tax database available to the tax authorities. It plays an important role in the assessment and financial control aimed at combating tax evasion;</li> <li>- <b>Existence</b> - through the PIAF, the tax existence of any subject is verified: physical, legal, company, association or organization of persons;</li> <li>- <b>Truthfulness and certification</b>- the PIAF recovers <b>certified personal data</b> on physical and / or legal subjects</li> </ul>
 <p>Infocamere</p>	Chamber of Commerce registration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Business or company registration data</li> <li>2) Financial statements filed</li> <li>3) Notarial deeds</li> <li>4) Shareholders, administrators and other administrative offices</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Existence</b> - The Chamber of Commerce search guarantees the effective <b>legal existence</b> of the company as well as the legal publicity of all the documents concerning it.</li> <li>- <b>Solidity of a company</b>- through the PIAF, the notarial deeds of the company, the previous history and the bankruptcy provisions are recovered, in order to obtain specific official information and <b>assess their soundness</b>;</li> </ul>
 <p>Corte dei Conti</p>	<p>Digital Accounting Justice (Giudico)</p> <p>Irregularities and Fraud Information System (SIDIF)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Final judgments for tax damages</li> <li>2) Irregularities found at community level received by I.M.S. (Irregularities Management System)</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Sanctioning situation</b>- the integration with the Court of Auditors makes it possible to recover the final judgments of the companies by accessing the "Judicial" database, providing an assessment tool on the risk and fraudulent reliability of the company. The PIAF verifies the presence of final judgments also for individual physical subjects such as directors, shareholders, and holders of other offices within the company.</li> <li>- <b>Verification at community level</b>- in addition to the national "Giudico" data, the PIAF also recovers irregularities found at Community level through the Court of Auditors, allowing for a more comprehensive picture</li> </ul>

# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD




## PIAF-IT The data sources (2/3)

Source of data	Data Base	Data type	Purpose
 MEF - IGRUE	Banca Dati Unica (BDU)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Funding Programming 07-13</li><li>2) Funding Programming 14-20</li><li>3) My Audit</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Double funding check</b>- the recovery of financial data by the PIAF makes it possible to verify whether the parties involved have received indirectly managed loans in the past, monitored within the IGRUE Single Database (BDU);</li><li>- <b>Presence of audit sanctions</b>- the PIAF also retrieves information related to the controls carried out by the Audit Authorities on financing projects, allowing operators to verify the results.</li></ul>
 European Commission	Direct Management Financing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Directly managed loans</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <b>Double funding check</b>- the data relating to directly managed loans by the European Commission are annually entered within the PIAF, allowing operators to consult the data and check whether amounts have been received.</li></ul>

# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

## PIAF-IT Data sources (3/3)

NEW

Data Fote	Data Bank	Type of data	Purpose
 <p><b>MISE - RNA</b></p>	<p><b>National State Aid Register</b></p>	<p>1) State aid granted</p>	<p>- <b>Double funding verification</b> - the PIAF's retrieval of financial data makes it possible to check whether those involved have received state aid in the past, which is monitored within the National State Aid Register (RNA);</p>
 <p><b>RGS - BDAP</b></p>	<p><b>Public Administration Database (BDAP)</b></p>	<p>1) Public works funding</p>	<p>- <b>Double Funding Verification</b> - - the retrieval of financial data by the PIAF, makes it possible to verify whether those involved have received funding for public works in the past, monitored within the RGS Public Administration Database.</p>
<p><b>ReGiS</b> RGS - ReGiS</p>	<p><b>NRP Monitoring and Reporting (ReGiS)</b></p>	<p>1) Funding PNRR projects</p>	<p>- <b>Double Funding Verification</b> - the retrieval of financial data by the PIAF, makes it possible to verify whether those involved have received funding in the past for PNRR projects, which are monitored within the PNRR Monitoring and Reporting System (ReGiS) of the State General Accounting Office.</p>
 <p><b>Bureau van Dijk</b></p>	<p><b>Orbis</b> (ad-hoc consultation service with periodically updated data)</p>	<p>1) Shareholder companies</p>	<p>- <b>Verification of shareholder companies</b>- PIAF's retrieval of shareholder company data makes it possible to verify whether stakeholders are controlled by companies and in what percentage, extracted from Bureau Van Dijk's Orbis database, which has information on over 400 million companies and entities worldwide.</p>

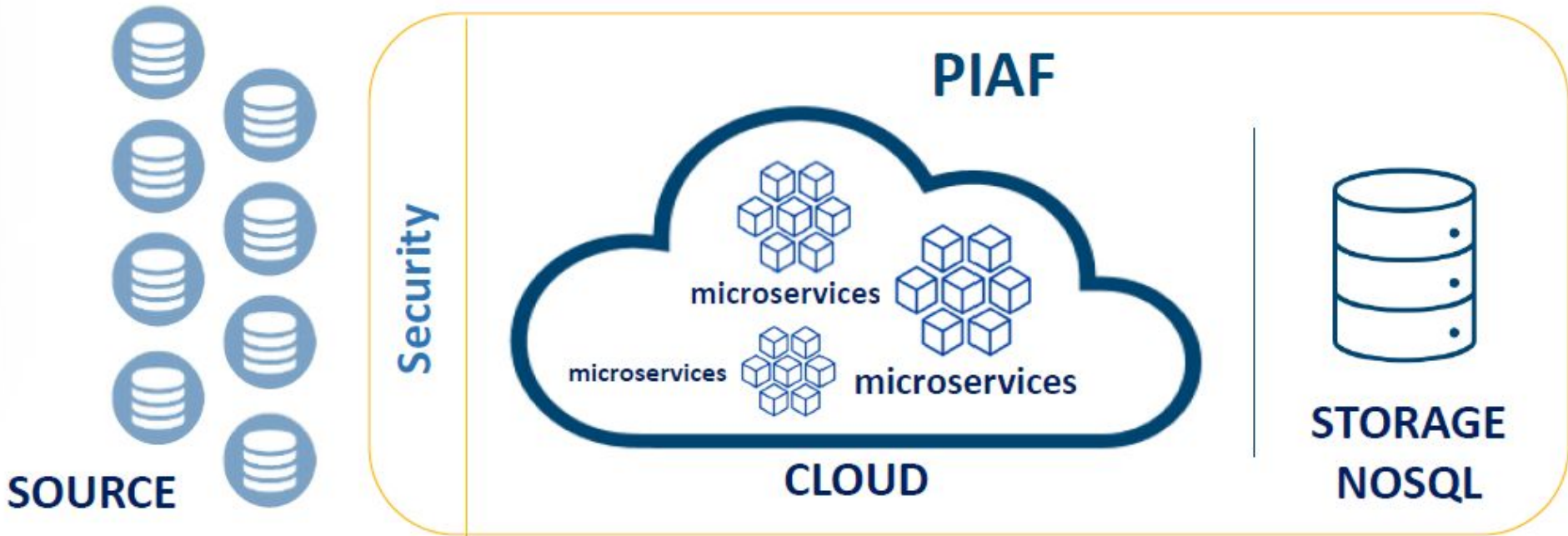
# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD

## PIAF-IT Technical context

The **PIAF** was developed within an innovative technical context, based on research and selection of an architecture capable of supporting user requirements and ensuring

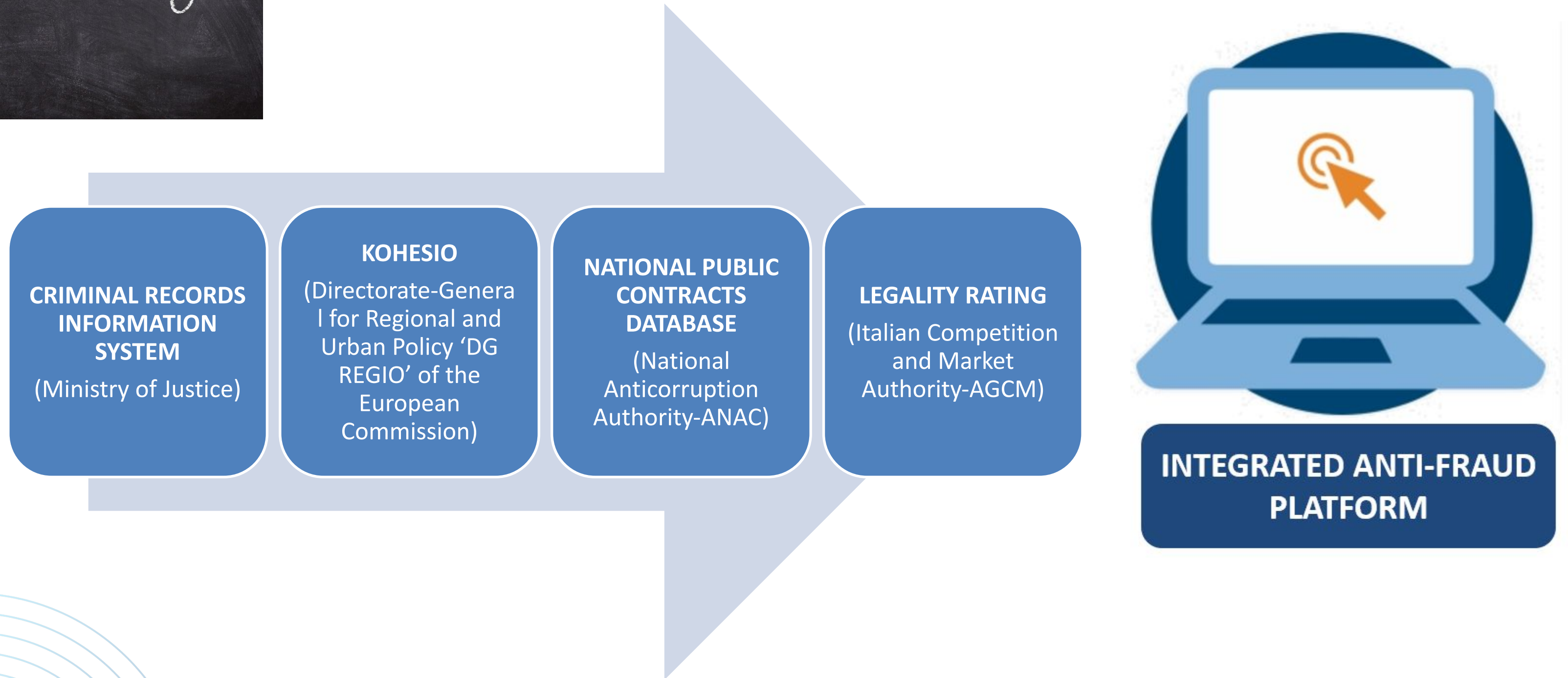
- 1. FLEXIBILITY
- 2. SCALABILITY
- 3. EXTENSIBILITY
- 4. MODULARITY

The technical context of the PIAF includes a technology based on **microservices** and allows data to be archived through databases capable of hosting a large amount of data or "big data". The technical context in which it is placed allows to present a **highly extensible solution in the future towards other data sources**





# DIGITALIZATION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST FRAUD



# Thanks For Your Attention

**Connect with us.**



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