iMonitor:
Supporting law enforcement with public procurement data analytics and civil monitoring

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iMonitor
select • monitor • report

Agenda

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I. iMonitor overview

II. Project results:

    – Opentender.eu (data, indicators and functionalities)

    – Reporting template and process

    – Training programme

III. Future and sustainability

I. iMonitor overview

The iMonitor project

iMonitor aims to combat corruption and fraud in public procurement coupling data-driven risk assessment with an innovative model of network-based civic monitoring of public contracts in collaboration with public actors

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Data driven risk assessment

Citizen monitoring of contract implementation

Actionable reports to law enforcement

iMonitor partners

❏ Consortium of 7 NGOs and oversight agencies in 4 European countries

❏ Supported by 2 further law enforcement agencies: ANAC & STT

The iMonitor project - Scope

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❏ Key activities:

  ❏ Further development of **opentender.eu**: more frequent data updates, new integrity sub-indicators and improved functionalities

  ❏ Reporting tool for monitoring public contracts on **monithon.eu**

  ❏ Skill development for civic monitors, covering basics on how public procurement works, how it can be affected by corruption and how to monitor public contracts locally
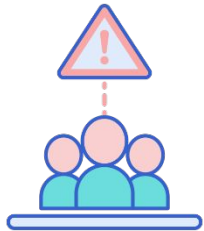
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iMonitor monitoring approach

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SELECT

We draw on an established risk assessment methodology to select contracts where corruption might be more likely to happen

MONITOR

Monitors collect information on contracts and suppliers, conduct field visits and assess the state of contract implementation

REPORT

Findings are submitted through reporting tool; reports are made public and, in case of uncovered irregularities, also forwarded to law enforcement partners for further action
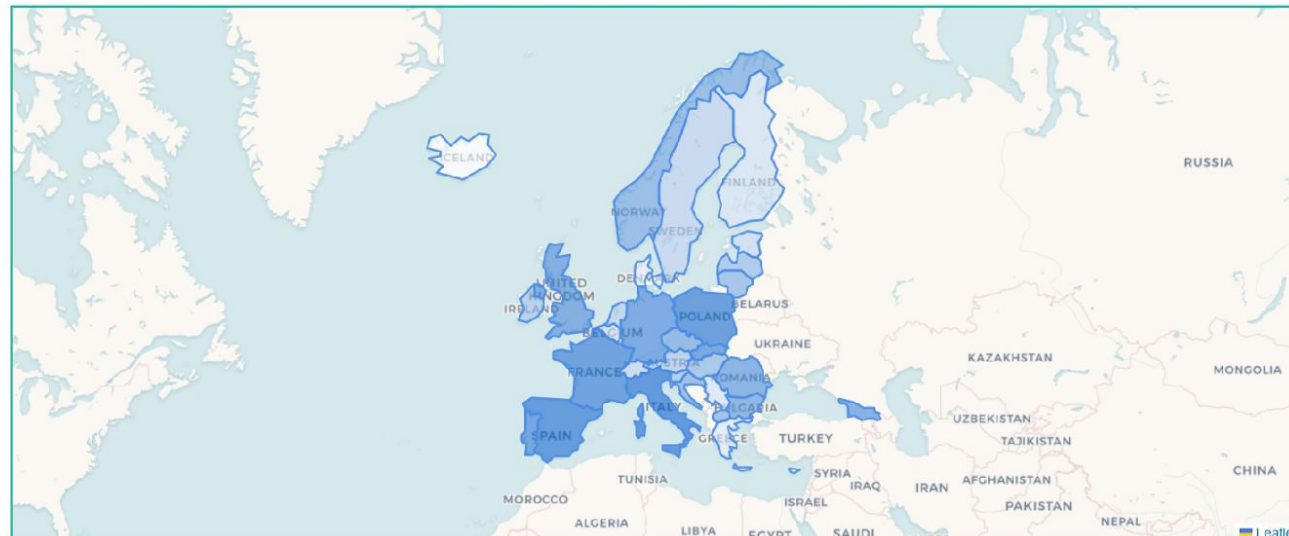
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II. Project results

Opentender.eu

Country coverage: EU and the wider neighborhood (EEA, Accession, etc.)

- Weekly/monthly data updates for iMonitor countries - Spain, Italy, Romania and Lithuania

Select by country

Austria	135,203		Germany	576,932		Norway	276,538
Belgium	106,846		Greece	63,819		Poland	2.9 Million
Bulgaria	291,757		Hungary	188,592		Portugal	1.5 Million
Croatia	275,461		Iceland	3,236		Romania	371,216
Cyprus	9,924		Ireland	142,129		Serbia	66,475
Czech Republic	283,031		Italy	5.9 Million		Slovakia	680,978
Denmark	52,289		Latvia	160,242		Slovenia	143,278
Estonia	119,963		Lithuania	207,891		Spain	3.2 Million
EU Institutions	22,273		Luxembourg	10,024		Sweden	132,372
Finland	69,001		North Macedonia	229,489		Switzerland	125,240
France	2.8 Million		Malta	8,949		United Kingdom	539,999
Georgia	381,127		Netherlands	132,878			

Using this website, you might be also interested in visiting the following our other open data portals:

Uganda	69,681	Kenya	96,980	Jamaica	141,315

Opentender indicators

Integrity indicator	Level of calculation	Integrity Risk	Values
Single bidder tender	Contract	Single bidding is the simplest indication of restricted competition reflecting our corruption definition when only one bid is submitted for a tender on a competitive market.	100: more than 1 bid received 0: 1 bid received
Call for tenders is published	Tender	Not publishing the call for tenders makes it less likely that eligible bidders notice the bidding opportunity, weakening the competition and allowing the contracting bodies to more easily award contracts repeatedly to a well-connected company.	100: call for tender/ prior information notice is published 0: no call for tender/prior information notice is published
Use of non-open procedure types	Tender	Less transparent and less competitive procedure types can indicate the deliberate limitation of the range of bids received as well as creating more opportunities for contracting bodies to repeatedly award contracts to the same well-connected company.	100: open; procedure type is not a red flag for the country 50: limited; procedure type is a mild red flag for the country 0: non-open; procedure type is a red flag for the country
Length of adver-tisement period	Tender	A short submission period, i.e. the number of days between publishing a tender and the submission deadline, leaves less time and thus makes it harder for non-connected companies to bid successfully, whereas a well-connected firm can use its inside knowledge to win repeatedly as the buyer can informally inform the favored bidder about the opportunity ahead of time.	100: number of days between publication of call for tenders and submission deadline is in an interval not considered a red flag for the country 50: number of days between publication of call for tenders and submission deadline is in an interval considered a mild red flag for the country 0: number of days between publication of call for tenders and submission deadline is in an interval considered a red flag for the country
Length of decision period	Tender	An excessively short or long decision period, i.e. the number of days between the submission deadline and the contract award decision, can signal integrity risks. Snap decisions may reflect premeditated assessment, while long decision periods may signal extensive legal challenges to the tender, suggesting that the issuer attempted to limit competition.	100: number of days between submission deadline and the tender award decision is in an interval not considered a red flag for the country 50: number of days between submission deadline and the tender award decision is in an interval considered a mild red flag for the country 0: number of days between submission deadline and the tender award decision is in an interval considered a red flag for the country

Opentender indicators (cont')

Integrity indicator	Level of calculation	Integrity Risk	Values
Supplier is registered in a tax haven	Supplier	Awarding public contracts to companies registered in tax havens presents a risk that anonymous company ownership could be concealing a conflict of interest in the award of a contract to a politically connected beneficial owner. This indicator relies on an independent ranking by the Tax Justice Network of countries' legal frameworks with regards to banking and corporate secrecy.	100: supplier is not registered in tax haven country 0: supplier is registered in tax haven country
Benford's law	Buyer	Benford's law is an observation about the leading digits of a naturally occurring collection of numbers. It states that the first digit is likely to be small, for example, in sets that obey the law, the number 1 appears as the leading digit about 30% of the time, while 9 appears as the leading digit less than 5% of the time. If this indicator has high value, it indicates that the price of the contract obeys Benford's law, thus it's similar to naturally occurring collection of numbers, and it's less likely that the price is manipulated.	100: tender price is less likely manipulated 0: tender price is most likely manipulated
Supplier's contract share of buyer spending on public procurement	Supplier	Suppliers' share in a buyer's total spending in a given year can be used as a measure of market competitiveness and openness. A high share of supplier spending can signal that a supplier or a group of suppliers are part of a network, potentially leading to higher prices, and/or lower quality and value for money.	Continuous number between 0 and 100. 100: the winner's share is close to 0% 0: the winner's share is 100%
Distinct markets	Supplier	The number of distinct markets a supplier is present, weighted with the number of contracts they win can catch implausibly broad supplier market presences. If a supplier is present in a relatively high number of different markets compared to the total number of contracts it has won, this may indicate that the main reason for winning contracts in some markets is due to some form of corruption, e.g. political connections with the buyer in a particular market. Participation in fewer markets with many contracts results in a very low ratio, while participation in many markets with few contracts results in a higher ratio.	100: The supplier is present in a reasonably small number of markets compared to their total contract volume 0: The supplier is present in a suspiciously large number of markets compared to their total contract volume

Opentender.eu new functionalities

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Opentender All Data

Making Public Tenders More Transparent

Welcome to the portal for All Data!
Subscribe to our [mailing list](#)

Data overview

Market Analysis

An overview of public procurement markets, such as market volume broken down by sectors and years, as well as Good Procurement Scores.

Indicators

Integrity

Analyse and benchmark the degree of integrity in public procurement tenders.

Indicators

Transparency

Analyse and benchmark the degree of transparency in public procurement tenders.

Search and find

Search

You can search for specific public procurement contracts by criteria of your interest.

iMonitor reporting template

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- ❏ Inspired by Monithon's current reporting tool
- ❏ Collaborative design by law enforcement and NGO partners
- ❏ Balance between comprehensiveness and accessibility to non-experts

Step 1. Desk analysis: Opentender data + additional information
Step 2. Contract implementation
Step 3. Results and impact

iMonitor reporting process

STEP 1
Contract and supplier information

STEP 2
Implementation monitoring on the field

STEP 3
Results of monitoring work

New report

Submission Steps 1 and 2

Review, adjustments, approval

Submission Step 3

Reports with signs of irregularities are forwarded to enforcement partners

iMonitor training programme

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Module 1: Assessing corruption risk in public contracts

- Module 1.1: Understanding corruption and risk indicators in public procurement
- Module 1.2: How to assess corruption risks in public procurement using opentender.eu

Module 2: Monitoring public contracts in depth

- Module 2.1: Part 1 - Getting the information
- Module 2.2: Part 2 - Contract implementation

III. Future and sustainability

Next steps in the project

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1. Selection of contracts to monitor
2. Establishment of monitoring networks
3. Implementation of training programme
4. Monitoring and reporting

Completion by April 2025

Sustainability

iMonitor

- Low cost monitoring
  - Reliance on volunteers
  - Online training activities and materials
- Some cost intensive elements remain
  - Infrastructure maintenance: i.e. source data changes
  - Extending to new countries in Europe or beyond
- **Key challenge: (sustainable) engagement of volunteers and establishment of lasting networks**