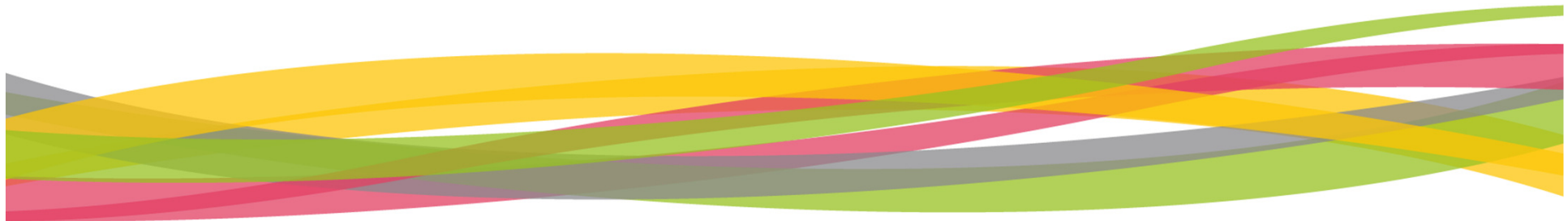




Second Level Control

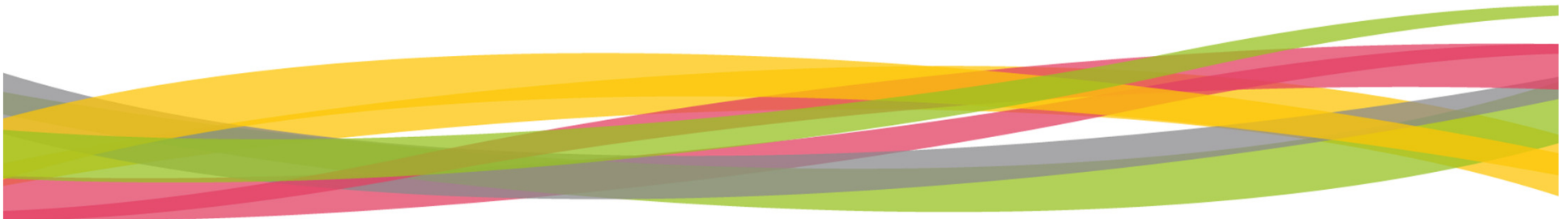
Christian Byrith
Head of secretariat





Different layers of control!

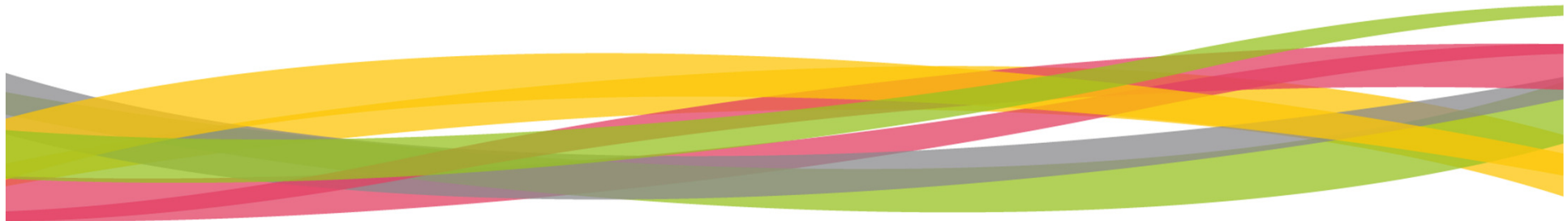
- First Level Control – 100% checks
- Second Level Control – sample checks
- Commission Control – sample checks
- The European Court of Auditors – sample checks





Who does Second Level Control?

- The Audit Authority
- The Group of Auditors



What is the purpose of Second Level Control?

To verify the effectiveness of the First Level Control

- Can I explain how I arrived at the figures I have reported?
- Have I observed the tender rules? Did it all go to my uncle because he is the only one in the world who has access to a laboratory?
- Does the First Level Controller actually know what he/she is doing? Have they ever heard of the Fact Sheets or Commission Regulations and do they just sign and send an invoice?



How can I prepare for Second Level Control?

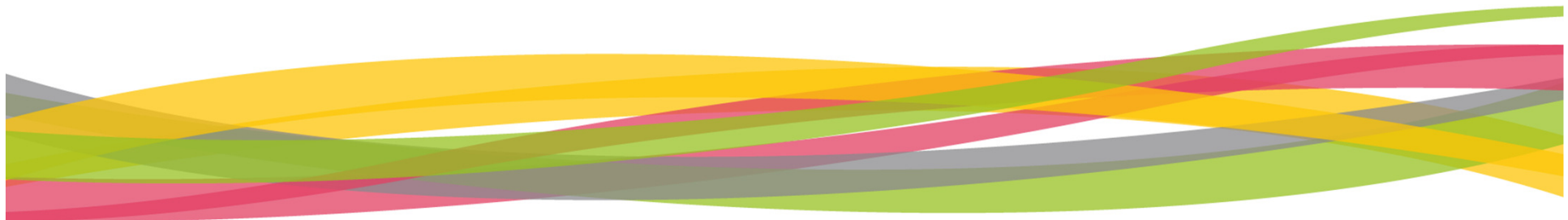
- Be prepared to explain why expenditure was incurred! E.g. was my trip to Timbuktu necessary for my project on shipping routes in the North Sea?
- Do I adhere to the principles of sound financial management? E.g. did I really need that helicopter ride?
- How did I arrive at the percentage staff time that I have indicated? Did I roll the dice or did I actually calculate it?





What happens if I get it wrong?

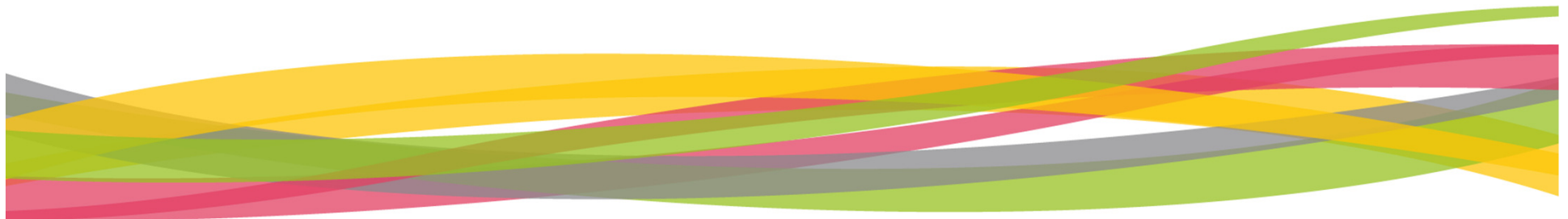
- ERDF triggered by way of ineligible expenditure will need to be paid back. Your reputation will suffer and in severe cases the project may be closed down.
- Interruptions/freezing of funding from the Commission → you will have cash flow problems.
- Extrapolation of errors → other people will also suffer as a result of your errors.





Does it ever go wrong?

Yes, the interreg IVB programme was interrupted 4 times during implementation. The first interruption lasted 18 months, the next two 6 months and the last one 3 months.





Have I got a chance?

Yes, errors in Denmark are relatively few and we have a highly qualified Second Level Control with a good understanding of the real world.

