



*Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM)*

# **Technical Support Instrument 2022 – Main features and novelties**

**TSI Annual Conference, 30 June 2021**

# Agenda

## Discussion Session

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- **General presentation of the Technical Support Instrument**
- **Multi-country projects**
- **Flagship Technical Support Projects**
- **Q&As**

# The Technical Support Instrument at a glance

Judit Rozsa

Director, Directorate “Coordination, Resources and Aid Programme”  
Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support

# The Technical Support Instrument

“ *The Technical Support Instrument is a powerful tool that can enable Member States to carry out the reforms they need for a sustainable growth*”

– Elisa Ferreira, Commissioner for Cohesion and Reforms



# What is the Technical Support Instrument?

- The Technical Support Instrument (TSI) is the EU programme that provides **taylor-made technical expertise** to EU Member States to **design and implement reforms**
- The **support is demand driven** and **does not require any co-financing** from Member States
- It is an **important pillar of the EU recovery plan**, which helps Member States **mitigate the economic and social consequences** of the outbreak of the **COVID-19 crisis**

# What is the Technical Support Instrument?

**€ 864 million of budget** for the period 2021-2027<sup>1</sup>

**27 Member States** involved

**Wide range of reform areas** covered by technical support

**Any reform phase**, from design to implementation and evaluation

# Reform areas covered (1/3)

## Green transition

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## Digital transition

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## Health and long-term care

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# Reform areas covered (2/3)

## Skills, education and training



## Governance and public administration



## Competitiveness



# Reform areas covered (3/3)

## Financial sector and access to finance

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## Revenue administration and public financial management

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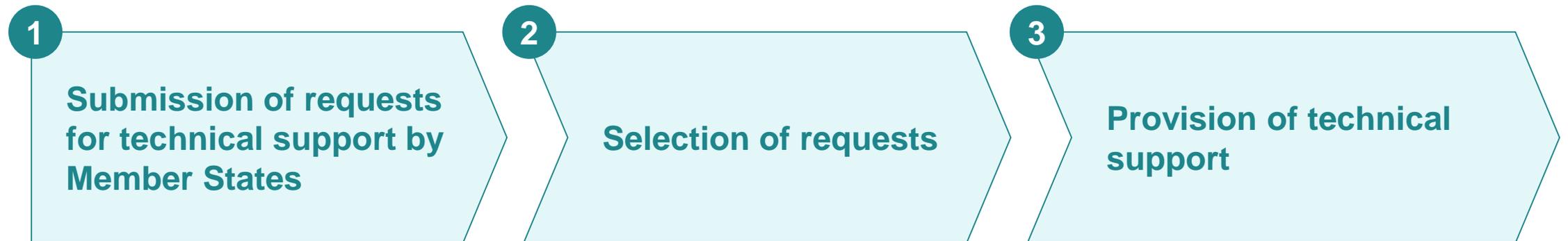


## Labour market and social protection

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# How does the Technical Support Instrument work?



# Provision of tailor-made technical support to Member States

## Direct provision

European Commission's in-house expertise



## Indirect provision

Other international organisations

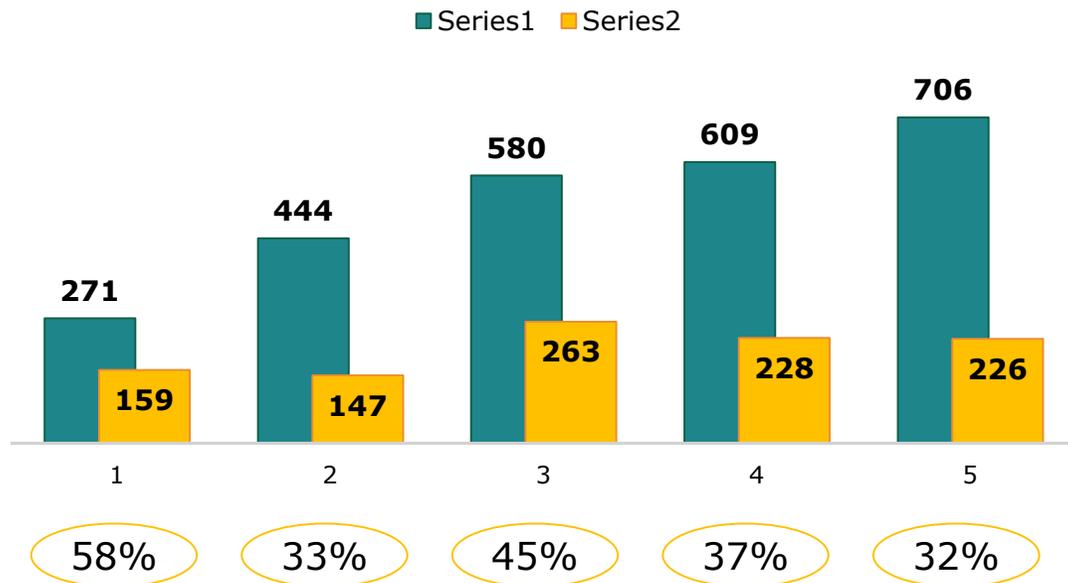
Member States' experts

Private sector experts

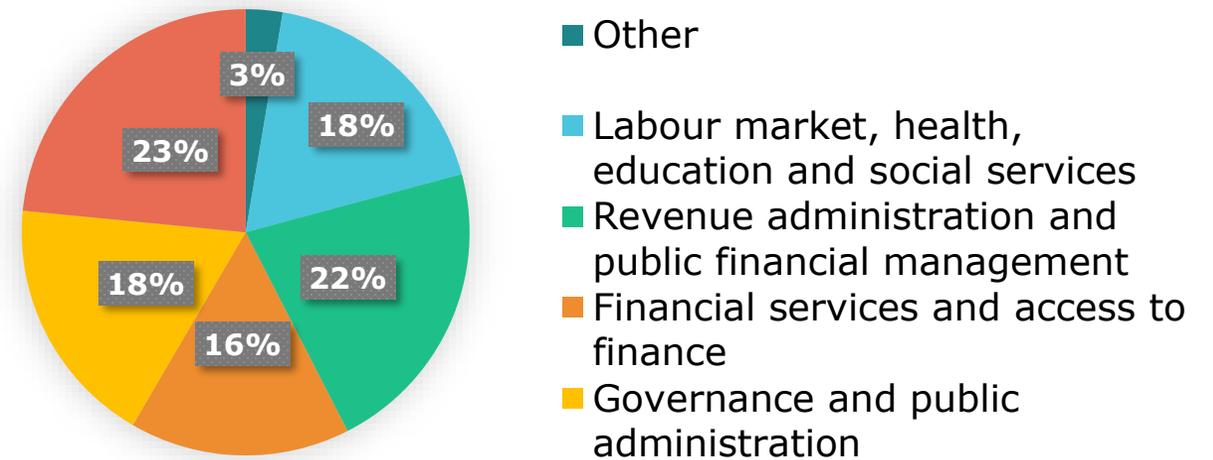
**DG REFORM involved throughout the duration of the project**

# Technical Support Instrument 2021 – 1<sup>st</sup> call

Received and selected requests,  
nr. of requests and selection rate (%)



Selected requests by policy area,  
% of selected requests



# Technical Support Instrument 2021 – dedicated call for Recovery and Resilience plans

**Call dedicated** to the **implementation of RRP**s

**€ 9 million** of budget

**38 requests** received – **selection** of requests currently **in progress**

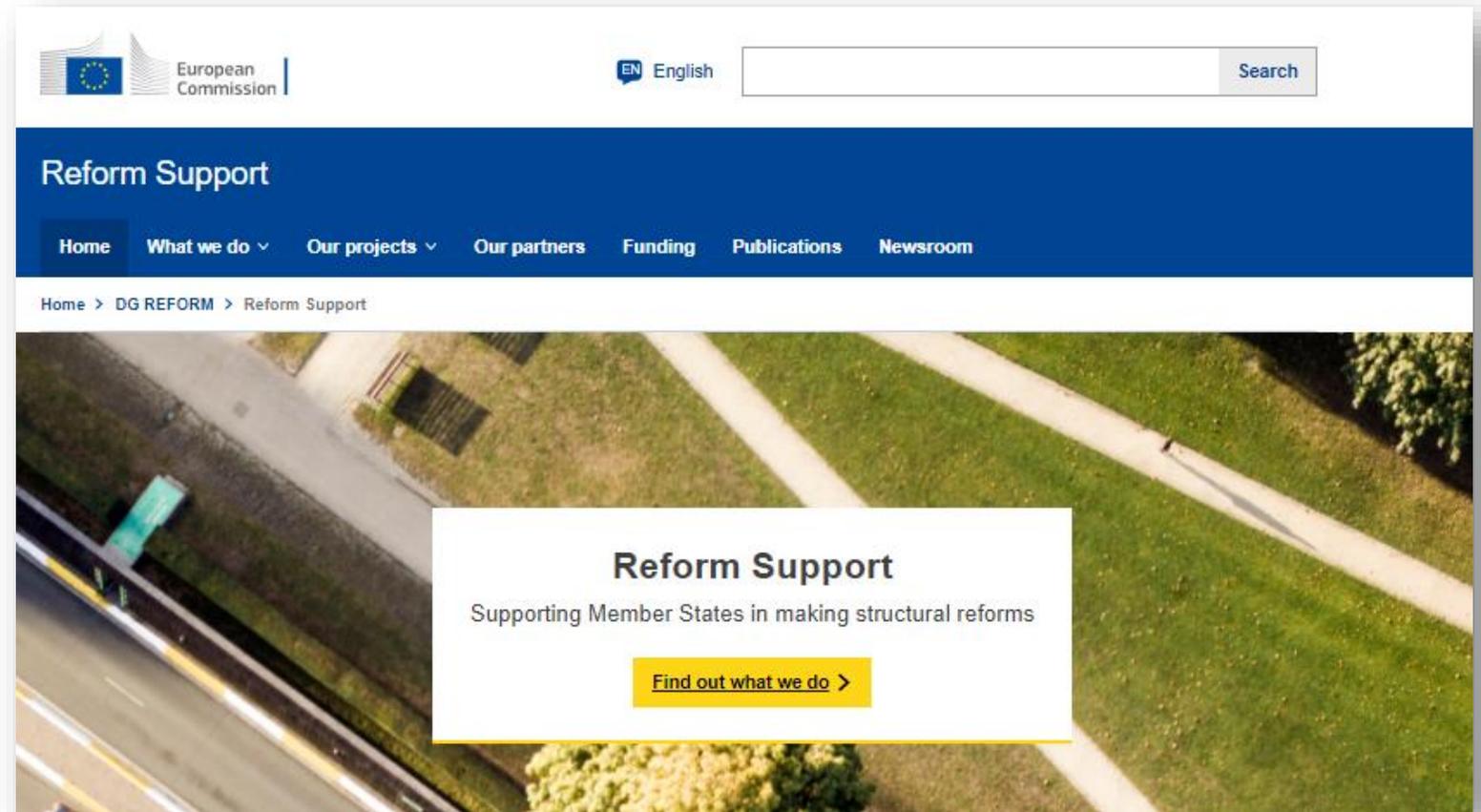
**20 Member States** requested technical support

# Communication

# New Commission's website for Reform Support

New website on **all technical support measures provided by the Commission in Member States** with information on:

- Commission's activities
- Real-life projects
- Commission's partners
- Funding
- Publications
- Latest news



Visit [ec.europa.eu/reform-support](https://ec.europa.eu/reform-support)

# Where to find further information on TSI projects

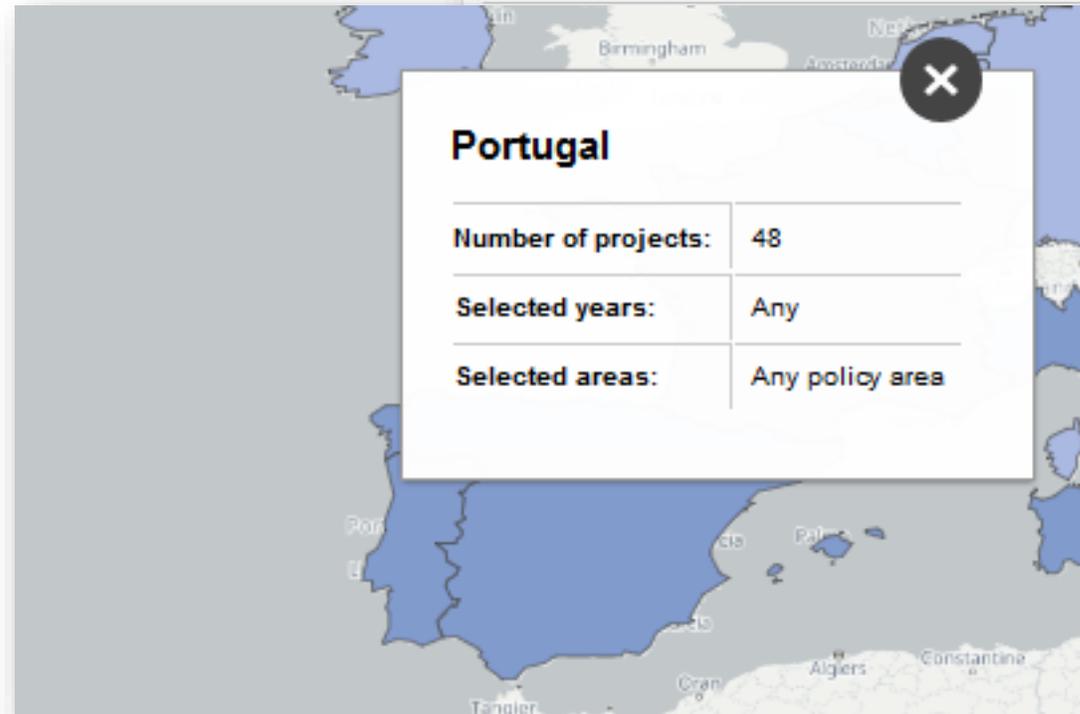
- DG REFORM's website ([link](#))
- TSI webpage ([link](#))
- Selected TSI 2021 requests (1<sup>st</sup> call) ([link](#))

## Examples of reform support projects

### Design of a system to monitor the implementation of the law on inclusive education in Portugal

The Commission is supporting the Portuguese Ministry of Education to stir the discussion with all relevant stakeholders to define standards, indicators and procedures.

[Details](#)



# For each Member State, TSI 2021 country factsheets have been published in English and national languages

Supporting reforms in  
**FRANCE**

DG REFORM  
February 2021

Since 2017, the European Commission has provided expertise to help design over 1000 reform projects in 27 Member States through the Structural Reform Support Programme. As of 2021, the Technical Support Instrument (TSI), its successor, continues to support reforms with an emphasis on the green and digital transitions. The TSI can also support the preparation and implementation of Member States' Recovery and Resilience Plans.

**4**  
NEW PROJECTS UNDER TSI 2021

In the first round of the TSI, the Commission will support France with 4 projects in the areas of sustainable development in public policies, social inclusion, better integration of regions, and public financial management.

Examples of new projects adopted include:

- Integrating sustainable development in public administrations and public policies
- Improving the autonomy of the elderly and people with disabilities
- Improving the attractiveness of public services in regions
- Facilitating better management and use of public real estate management

Twitter: @EU\_reforms #TSI

Supporting reforms in  
**PORTUGAL**

DG REFORM  
February 2021

Since 2017, the European Commission has provided expertise to help design over 1000 reform projects in 27 Member States through the Structural Reform Support Programme. As of 2021, the Technical Support Instrument (TSI), its successor, continues to support reforms with an emphasis on the green and digital transitions. The TSI can also support the preparation and implementation of Member States' Recovery and Resilience Plans.

**16**  
NEW PROJECTS UNDER TSI 2021

In the first round of the TSI, the Commission will support Portugal with 16 projects in the areas of fiscal oversight, tax and fiscal policies, green taxation, accounting and financial management, smart cities, digitalisation of the justice system, better regulation, wildlife management, environment, investment, insurance supervision, capital markets, digital financial education, anti-money-laundering and counter-terrorism financing.

Examples of new projects adopted include:

- Increasing the effectiveness and efficiency of tax courts
- Supporting the implementation of smart cities at regional and local level
- Providing a better understanding of the regulatory obstacles holding back investment
- Helping to operationalise the national plan for integrated wildland fire management
- Developing a risk based methodology to prevent money laundering and terrorism financing

Twitter: @EU\_reforms #TSI

Supporting reforms in  
**SPAIN**

DG REFORM  
February 2021

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**15**  
NEW PROJECTS UNDER TSI 2021

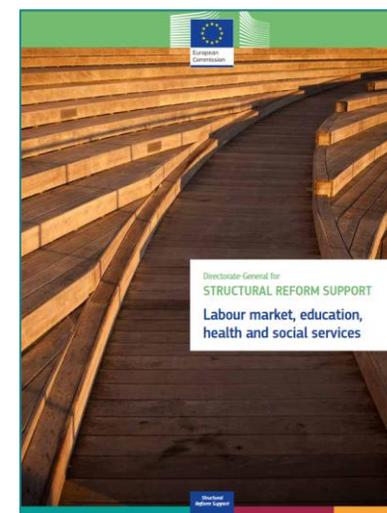
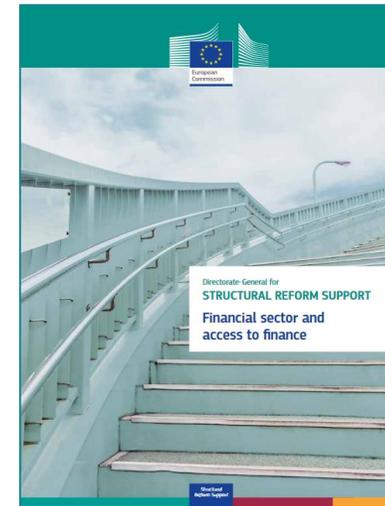
In the first round of the TSI, the Commission will support Spain with 15 projects in the areas of green transition, environmental taxation and green finance, transport systems, support to small and medium sized enterprises, health services, employment and social protection, education, digital public administration, justice and fight against fraud.

Examples of new projects adopted include:

- Digital transformation of the public administration
- Implementing the green transition strategies of the Recovery and Resilience Plan
- Setting up a framework for green taxes and sustainable debt
- Improvement of the minimum income scheme system
- Implementing a new strategy to address early school leaving

Twitter: @EU\_reforms #TSI

# Brochures – general and per policy area



# News about the TSI programme is also published on the Commission's official social media channels

EU Reform Support a retweeté

**European Commission** @EU\_Commission · 2 mars

Reforms are necessary for economic growth and resilience.

226 projects will support national reforms across Europe, thanks to the EU's technical tools and support.

More: [europa.eu/IRQ63QM](https://europa.eu/IRQ63QM) #EUReformSupport



Elisa Ferreira et EU Reform Support

5 68 148

Ευρωπαϊκή Επιτροπή @EEAthina

Η #DGReform υποστηρίζει την καλή διακυβέρνηση & αειφόρο ανάπτυξη σε όλο τον κόσμο. Το 2ο διαδικτυακό σεμινάριο #EUtaix με τις Αρχές Πολιτικής Αεροπορίας συμβαίνει τώρα. Η @AesaSpain ανταλλάσσει πληροφορίες σχετικά με τη διοίκηση της πολιτικής αεροπορίας.

#EUReformSupport

Translate Tweet

EU Reform Support @EU\_reforms · Mar 18

#DGReform supports good governance and sustainable growth all over the world. The second #EUtaix webinar w/ Civil Aviation Authority, happening now, features @AesaSpain exchanging information on civil aviation administration.

#EUReformSupport



EU Reform Support @EU\_reforms

#DGReform is pleased to continue the partnership with #Poland in supporting reforms. Do you want to know more about the results of this fruitful collaboration, and new reform projects under the first round of #TSI?

[europa.eu/!Yt84FT](https://europa.eu/!Yt84FT)

#EUReformSupport



Komisja Europejska and 8 others

11:28 AM · Mar 5, 2021 · Twitter Web App

EU Reform Support @EU\_reforms

#DGReform is pleased to continue the partnership with #Belgium in supporting reforms. Do you want to know more about the results of this fruitful collaboration, and new reform projects under the first round of #TSI?

[europa.eu/!BG97kg](https://europa.eu/!BG97kg)

#EUReformSupport



EC Representation BE and 6 others

6:44 PM · Mar 2, 2021 · Twitter Web App

On Twitter, @EU\_reforms, #EUReformSupport, and #TSI

# Technical Support Instrument 2022 – Multi-country projects

# Multi-country (multi-region) requests

A **multi-country** or **multi-region project** is a **technical support project** that is **relevant** or **common** to **more than one Member State** as it belongs to the **same policy area** and addresses the **same priorities for technical support**



# Example of a multi-country project (1/2)



## General Law of Customs & Excise in Belgium and Luxembourg

The Commission supported the **Customs and Excise Administrations of Belgium and Luxembourg** in the area of **Revenue Administration & Public Financial Management**.



### Description of the support

In particular, the support helped national authorities **assess** and **modernise** the 1977 **General Law on Customs and Excise**, with a focus on reforming sanctions, fines and prosecution.

This **multi-country project** ultimately aimed at **creating** a comprehensive, modern, efficient and effective **customs penalty system** in **both countries**.

# Example of a multi-country project (2/2)



## Designing a financial literacy strategy in Greece, Poland and Portugal

The Commission supports **Greece's Ministry of Finance, Poland's Ministry of Finance, and Portugal's Banco de Portugal** in the area of **Financial Sector & Access to Finance**.



### Description of the support

This is a **multi-country project** that ultimately aims to support **three different Member States** in the **development of a national strategy for financial literacy**.

# Multi-country projects – A case study from Belgium

Isabelle Verschueren

Organisation Advisor,  
Federal Public Service Strategy and Support, Belgium

## A multi country project

**Strengthening the resilience  
of public administration after  
COVID19 crisis with  
CAF2020**



Gert De Smet  
Isabelle Verschueren  
Trees Battiau  
DG Budget Policy Evaluation

30/06/2021

BOSA.be

# Who? Why? + Added value



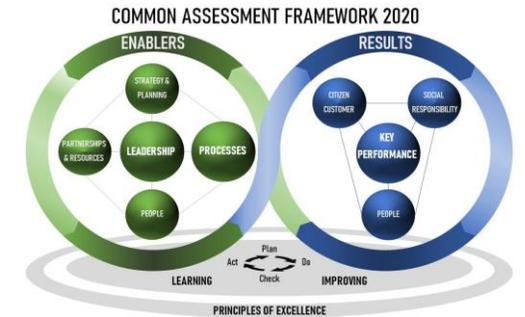
- ▶ 1. Member States involved
- ▶ 2. Project
- ▶ 3. Added value of multi-country project
- ▶ 4. Recommendations

# 1. Objectives of the project

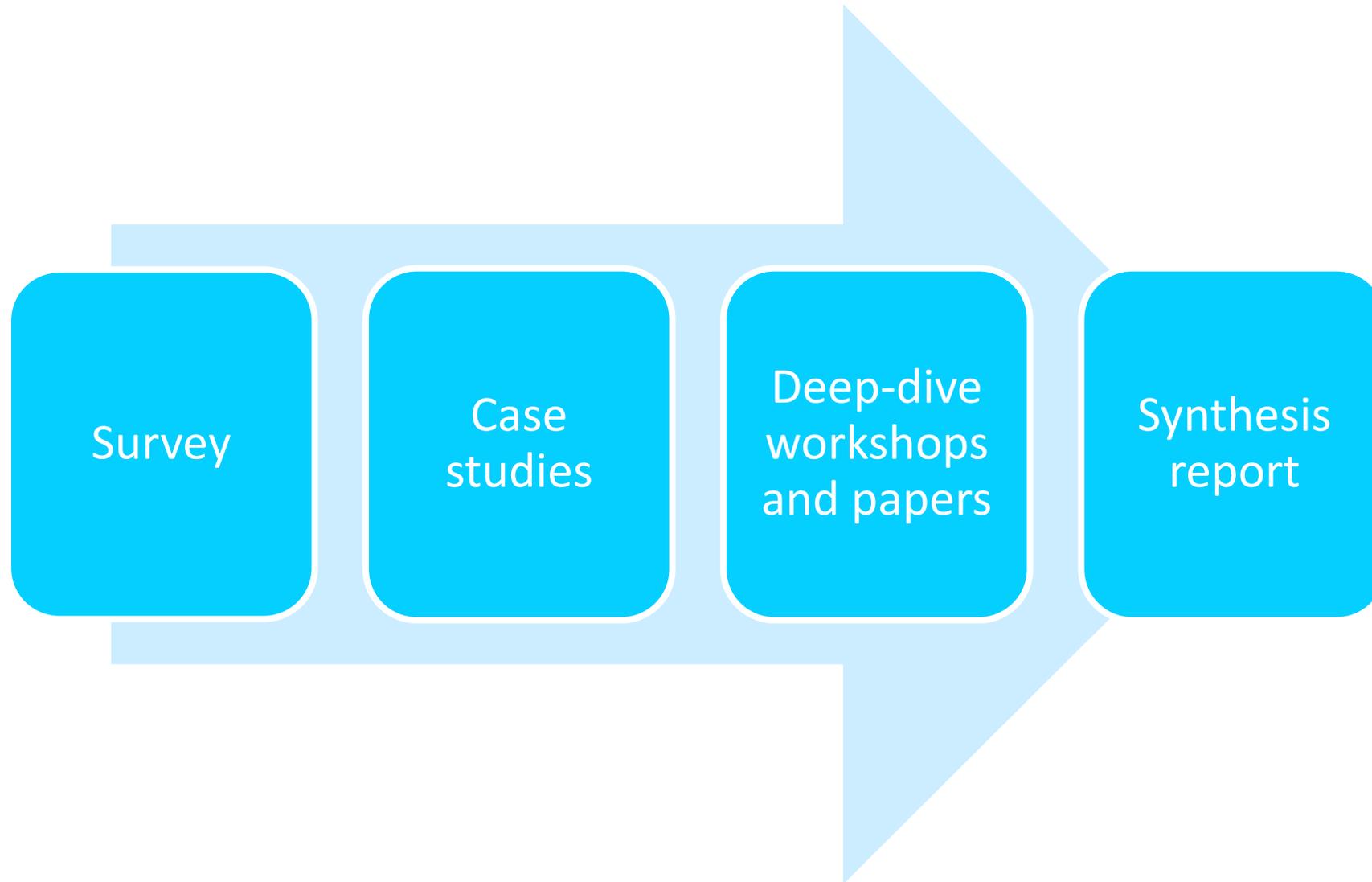
## Common Assessment Framework

### Objectives of the project:

- **A more resilient public administration** in European member states
  - Improved organisational enablers of resilience
  - Improved innovation and learning
- **Various activities through several perspectives:**
  - Look back: To generate and share learning
  - Look forward: To identify what a more resilient future looks like



## 2. Project outputs and activities



### 3. Governance and coordination



# 4. Added Value of the multicountry project



**National CAF strategy**

Promotion



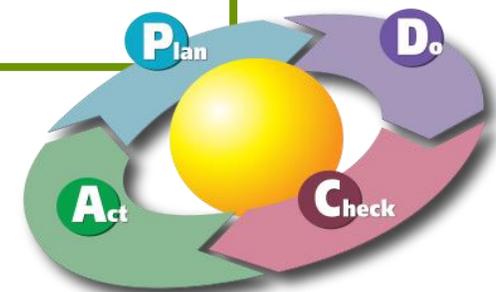
**LEARNING AND EXCHANGES CAF**

10 organizations in 3 sectors



**EUPAN, DG, MINISTERIALS, TOP involvement**

- Top managers, Ministers, State secretaries
- Directors General, Directors, head of unit



## 5. Recommendations

- **Coordinating Member State**
- **Member States who would like to work together** and define a project
- **Good contact point** in the different Member States
- **Political and Management support**
- **Operational agreement with Member States** and in the organizations involved
- **Peer review, benchlearning and benchmarking**



# Technical Support Instrument 2022 – Flagship technical support projects

Nathalie Berger

Director, Directorate “Support to Member States’ Reforms”  
Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support

# Flagship technical support projects

## Definition

- Flagship technical support projects are **projects proactively proposed by DG REFORM** that:
  - Are **largely needed across Member States**
  - Meet a top **EU / Commission priority**
  - Are designed in a way that **can easily be fitted to various national contexts**
- Their uptake is **voluntary**

# Flagship technical support projects

## Format

Flagship technical support projects:

- May be taken up **individually** by different Member States **or jointly** as a multi-country project;
- Can cover issues of **horizontal priority** for the Commission (e.g. equality);
- May comprise technical support modules that you can opt-in and be **tailored-made to your national context**

For TSI 2022, we are proposing **13 flagship technical support projects**

# Flagship technical support projects for TSI 2022

EU Supervisory Digital Finance Academy:  
Strengthening Supervisory Capacity in innovative  
Digital Finance

Digital Skills for Digital Transformation of Health and  
Care System

Development of resilient, innovative and human-  
centric digital government services

Bridging the climate financing gap with public policy  
instruments

Recharge and Refuel - Clean, smart and fair urban  
mobility

Support to Renovation Wave

Greening taxes - applying polluter pays principle in practice

Support to the implementation of the Just Transition

Support to the Tourism ecosystem: towards a more sustainable,  
resilient and digital tourism

Integration of Third Country Nationals in EU Member States

Implementation of the European Child Guarantee in EU Member  
States

Gender mainstreaming in public policy and budget processes

Regional and local authorities – Enhancing cooperation &  
Quality of public administration

# Flagship technical support projects in the field of Digital



“Strengthening supervisory capacity in innovative digital finance ”



“Digital skills for digital transformation of health and care systems ”



“Development of resilient, innovative and user-centric digital government services”

# Flagship technical support projects in the field of Green



# Flagship technical support projects in line with EU priorities



“Support to the Tourism ecosystem”



“Integration of Third Country Nationals in EU Member States”



“Support to the Implementation of the European Child Guarantee”



“Gender mainstreaming in public policy and budget processes”



“Regional and local authorities – Enhancing cooperation & Quality of public administration”