



European Commission

## Supporting reforms in

# PORTUGAL

DG REFORM

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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

PROJECTS

## 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, wildfire management, environment, investment, insurance supervision, capital markets, digital financial education, anti-money-laundering and counter-terrorism financing.

### Examples of new projects adopted include:

→ Twitter: @EU\_reforms #TSI



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



# 31

PROJECTS

## COMPLETED AND ONGOING REFORM PROJECTS

Portugal has so far benefitted from 31 projects financed under the predecessor of the TSI, the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP). This support has addressed a broad range of policy areas, including revenue administration and public financial management, public administration, justice, better regulation, water supply and sanitation, circular economy, education, migrant integration, capital markets, insolvency and financial literacy. To date, 9 projects have been successfully concluded. Examples of successful reform projects include the following:



### → Implementing a budget framework law

The European Commission supported Portugal in the implementation of the budget framework law for cash management, commitment controls and non-tax revenue collection. The programme provided expertise to help define and implement appropriate processes and methodologies by taking into account good practices of and lessons learned by other countries in addressing similar situations. The project is expected to result in a more effective cash management and a better non-tax revenue accounting and collection. Further support is being provided to help develop medium-term and performance budgeting and support the public financial management and accounting reform in Madeira.

### → Improving impact assessments for better regulation

The European Commission supported Portugal in its efforts to improve the way legislation is prepared by helping strengthen its regulatory impact assessment system. The programme provided expertise that led to present detailed recommendations for the improvement of the system, along with training on how to get there. As a result, new legislation was adopted which improve the quality of legislation. By way of example, the new rules require compulsory impact assessments, and seek to enhance the underlying support for the measures through stronger stakeholder engagement.

### → Developing national capital markets

The European Commission supported Portugal in the development of its capital market. The programme provided expertise to help the Portuguese authorities to identify barriers in access to finance. As a result of this project, Portugal is better enabled to lift numerous barriers. These measures will strengthen the ability of Portuguese firms to raise non-bank financing and eventually increase their growth potential and resilience.

