



Supporting reforms in **BULGARIA**

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.



PROJECTS

NEW PROJECTS UNDER TSI 2021

In the first round of the TSI, the Commission will support Bulgaria with 7 projects in the areas of green transition, fight against corruption, tax policies and compliance, public investment, as well as revenue administration.

Examples of new projects adopted include:



Supporting the establishment of the National Decarbonisation Fund



Enhancing integrity checks in national anti-corruption authorities



Improving public investment efficiency and effectiveness



Increasing the network and information security in the revenue agency

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PROJECTS

COMPLETED AND ONGOING REFORM PROJECTS

Bulgaria has so far benefited from 32 projects financed under the predecessor of the TSI, the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP), and from 4 projects financed through Bulgaria's voluntary transfers from shared management funds. This support has addressed a broad range of policy areas, including public administration reform, green and digital transition, revenue administration and tax policy, labour reform, competitiveness, small and medium-sized enterprises, financial sector, also in relation to the preparation for euro-area accession. A particular focus has been on addressing financial sector reforms needed also to prepare for euro-area accession, insolvency, governance of state owned enterprises and labour market challenges. To date, 15 projects have been successfully concluded.



→ Modernizing national disability policies

Since 2020, the European Commission is supporting Bulgaria in improving the coordination of disability policies and modernising its approach to disability assessment, taking individual needs into account. Through this project, the programme is contributing to a better inclusion of people with disabilities into society and the labour market, in line with international conventions.

→ Improving the governance framework of state-owned enterprises

The European Commission supported Bulgaria in improving the governance framework of its state-owned enterprises according to good international practices. In partnership with the OECD, the project helped review the regulatory and operational framework, align state ownership legislation with OECD Guidelines, and prepare a draft law on public enterprises. As a result, Bulgaria adopted the law on public enterprises and set up an Agency for Public Enterprises and Control, aiming to boost productivity and improve resource allocation.

→ Improving early childhood education

The European Commission is helping Bulgaria develop a strategy for the reform of early childhood education and care. The programme assists the assessment and the improvement of the quality of the current system through the establishment of a national quality framework inspired by the European quality framework. As a result, Bulgaria will be able to introduce transparent indicators and benchmarks for quality measurement, thus also improving overall quality of childhood education.

