



European
Commission

Supporting reforms in

LATVIA

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.

11

PROJECTS

NEW PROJECTS UNDER TSI 2021

In the first round of the TSI, the Commission will support Latvia with 11 projects in the areas of public financial management and budget preparation, justice and effective rule of law, business environment and small and medium-sized enterprises, skills, affordable housing, accessible and resilient health systems, energy system integration, and finance and regulation.

Examples of new projects adopted include:



Helping to access financing for affordable housing



Strengthening access to justice



Improving cancer care coordination and screening



Improving IT systems to identify and resolve financial distress for SMEs and entrepreneurs



Developing pathways for energy system integration

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PROJECTS

COMPLETED AND ONGOING REFORM PROJECTS

Latvia has so far benefited from 42 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 healthcare, anticorruption, anti-money-laundering, tax compliance, tax fraud and evasion, better governance and public administration, justice, capital markets, energy and climate. A particular focus has been on the reform of the health system, the governance of central and local administrations, and the taxation policy. To date, 19 projects have been successfully concluded. Examples of successful reform projects include the following:



➔ Innovation lab and reform supervision

The European Commission supported Latvia in designing and setting up an innovation lab in the public administration. The lab is now fully operational and assists services across the administration in identifying innovative solutions to improve the quality of public services and policymaking. Furthermore, the programme supported the set-up of a governance system to supervise the implementation of reforms, and a system for identifying and disseminating innovation into public administration.

➔ Attracting foreign direct investments

The European Commission supported Latvia in attracting foreign direct investment, by helping to map the legal framework and analyse the processes that investors go through to access investments. The programme contributed to strengthening the capacity of the authorities to target potential investors and improve the exchange of information between the public and the private sectors. The project helped to streamline procedures, align responsibilities between the Ministry of Economics and the Latvian Investment Agency, ultimately improving Latvia's administrative capacity to attract foreign investors in priority sectors.

➔ Improving the performance of the health system

The European Commission supported Latvia in setting up a framework to assess the performance of the health system, identifying areas of improvement and designing tailored reforms. The programme also trained staff of the Ministry of Health to improve their management skills and implement policy reforms. Moreover, it contributed to strengthening cooperation between hospitals, and ensure that the best care is provided in the right place at the right time, in line with the needs of the patients.

