



European Commission



Supporting reforms in AUSTRIA

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.



NEW PROJECTS UNDER TSI 2021

PROJECTS

In the first round of the TSI, the Commission will support Austria with 7 projects in the areas of education, taxation, financial sector supervision, national economic security and preparedness, digital public administration, healthcare and sustainable finance.

Examples of new projects adopted include:

→ Twitter: @EU_reforms #TSI



Strengthening the digital skills of teacher educators and the digitalisation of school material



Digitalising processes for tax audits



Introducing automation and digitalisation for the development of legislation



Improving patient access to medicines



Developing climate-change scenarios and assessing their impact on the financial sector



16

COMPLETED AND ONGOING REFORM PROJECTS

PROJECTS

Austria has so far benefited from 16 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 public administration, better regulation, public spending, financial literacy, healthcare and education. A particular focus has been on the digitalisation agenda in both private and public sectors. To date, 6 projects have been successfully concluded.



➔ Strengthening primary health care

The European Commission supports Austria in strengthening the capacity for setting up new units in primary health care. The programme provides advice for establishing individual primary health care units, trainings, and communication activities and helps to create a web platform and an updated start-up guide. As a result, of this project, Austria is moving forward with the implementation of its primary care reform, notably by enabling health professionals to start their own primary healthcare units with a multi-professional team.

➔ Modernising tax filing

The European Commission supported Austria in modernising and digitalising its tax filing system. The programme provided support to improve existing processes for submitting tax declarations and issuing assessment notices through an IT system. As a result of this project, Austria can implement a new IT solution, which will streamline and automate the assessment of taxes, provide faster results with a higher quality and reduce administrative burden for tax authorities.

➔ Strengthening the regulatory system for better policy impact

The European Commission supports Austria in strengthening its regulatory system for better policy results and impact for citizens and businesses. The programme provided an action plan as well as practical tools, such as visual management dashboards and agent-based models, to simulate the effects of certain policy measures prior to the actual implementation. As a result of this project, Austria will improve its capacity to better select and coordinate its public policies and improve its current system for regulatory impact assessment and regulatory oversight.

