Challenge
The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has changed the economic outlook for years to come in the EU and in the world. The effects of the crisis in the medium and long term will depend on the resilience of Member States’ economies. There is a need to plan strategically the recovery, revitalise our economies and get back on a path of sustainable and inclusive growth, geared towards the green transition and digital transformation objectives.

Smart, sustainable and socially responsible reforms can help to strengthen the resilience of our economies and societies. They contribute to keeping our economies flexible and competitive, and help improve the quality of public services. Moreover, given that the economies of Member States are strongly intertwined, the successful implementation of well-designed reforms in each Member State benefits the EU as a whole.

However, the process of designing, developing and implementing reforms is complex and Member States have different levels of in-house expertise and capacity to tackle it. Strengthening Member States’ institutional and administrative capacity to design and implement reforms is essential.

In line with the subsidiarity and proportionality principles, the EU’s intervention can bring added value by offering strengthened technical support for the design and implementation of the resilience-enhancing reforms. This support helps to increase the capacity of Member States to carry out their national reforms, in line with overall EU objectives.

Mission
The Technical Support Instrument is the main EU funding programme providing technical support to EU Member States in their reform agendas.

The general objective of the Technical Support Instrument is to promote the Union’s economic, social and territorial cohesion by supporting Member States’ efforts to implement the necessary reforms to achieve economic and social recovery, resilience and upward economic and social convergence.

These reforms may be either identified in the European Semester process of economic policy coordination, or by the Member States’ own initiative. They could be in a broad range of policy domains, including public financial and asset management, institutional and administrative reform, business environment, the financial sector, markets for products, services and labour, education and training, sustainable development, public health and social welfare. Specific emphasis will be given to the actions that foster the green and digital transitions.

The instrument will also provide technical support to Member States for the preparation and implementation of their recovery and resilience plans in the framework of the new Recovery and Resilience Facility.

Objectives
The Technical Support Instrument has the specific objectives of assisting national authorities in improving their capacity to:

1. Design, develop and implement reforms;

Those specific objectives shall be pursued in close cooperation with the Member States concerned, including through exchange of good practices, processes and methodologies, stakeholder involvement where appropriate, and a more effective and efficient human resources management.

Actions
The type of actions eligible for financing under the Technical Support Instrument include, among others:

- Expertise related to policy advice and/or change, formulation of strategies and reform roadmaps, as well as to legislative, institutional, structural and administrative reforms;
- The short-term or long-term provision of experts, to perform tasks in specific domains or to carry out operational activities;
- Capacity building and related supporting actions at all governance levels, also contributing to the empowerment of civil society.

Delivery mode
The Technical Support Instrument is mainly implemented under direct management, in particular through grants and procurements, but also through internal expertise. In some cases, it is implemented through indirect management, entrusting tasks to international organisations or other bodies in accordance with the Financial Regulation.

Link to the 2014-2020 MFF
The Technical Support Instrument is the successor of the Structural Reform Support Programme, with a larger budget and broader scope. The Technical Support Instrument is consistent, coherent and complementary to the other Union programmes supporting capacity building and technical assistance.
# Performance Framework

To assist national authorities in improving their capacity to:

(a) design, develop and implement reforms;
(b) prepare, amend, implement and revise recovery and resilience plans pursuant to Regulation (EU) 2021/241.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Dimension measured</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Data availability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation and support plans concluded</td>
<td>Level of support provided to the Member States</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>DG REFORM internal monitoring system</td>
<td>First data in 2021; estimated lag 1 year; annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support measures provided</td>
<td>Extent of support provided to the Member States authorities</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>DG REFORM internal monitoring system</td>
<td>First data in 2022; estimated lag 1 year; annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical support activities carried out</td>
<td>Type of support provided to the Member States authorities</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>DG REFORM internal monitoring system</td>
<td>First data in 2022; estimated lag 1 year; annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deliverables provided by the technical support activities such as action plans, roadmaps, guidelines, handbooks, and recommendations</td>
<td>Effectiveness of TSI in improving Member States' capacity to design, develop and implement reforms</td>
<td>Output</td>
<td>DG REFORM internal monitoring system</td>
<td>First data in 2023; estimated lag 2 year; annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outcomes of the technical support activities provided, such as adoption of a strategy, adoption of a new law / act or modification of an existing one, adoption of (new) procedures and actions to enhance the implementation of reforms</td>
<td>Implementation level of the technical support in the Member States</td>
<td>Result</td>
<td>DG REFORM internal monitoring system</td>
<td>First data in 2024; estimated lag 3 year; annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The objectives set in the cooperation and support plans, which have been achieved due, inter alia, to the technical support received.</td>
<td>TSI contribution to Member States structural reforms</td>
<td>Impact</td>
<td>DG REFORM internal monitoring system</td>
<td>First data in 2024; estimated lag 3 year; annually</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Estimation of baselines and targets

### Baseline

The baseline for output, outcome and impact indicators is zero.

### Target

Target values for outputs, results and impacts will be based on the SRSP relevant data available, and adjusted in light of the resources assigned for the programme period, once known.

Target values for outputs and results will be reassessed after the start of the implementation period of the new instrument and when projects have delivered the first outputs and results. Targets for impact, related to the efficiency and effectiveness of the reforms, will be reassessed in the longer term, by means of the mid-term and ex-post evaluations, once the results of the implemented reforms can be objectively observable.