

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT INSTRUMENT (TSI) PROGRAMME
Regulation (EU) 2021/240 (TSI Regulation)[[1]](#footnote-2)**

**REQUEST FOR TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

**(Article 9 of the TSI Regulation)**

**DEADLINE: 31 October 2022**

**To be submitted [by/via]**

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| **Member State:** |  |
| **Title of the request:** | **TSI 2023 Flagship technical support project on the “Integration of environmental dimensions in public finances – Implementing the ‘Do No Significant Harm’ (DNSH) principle in public funding programmes”****Possibility to add subtitle** [maximum 15 words] |
| **Order of priority of the request:**  |  |
| **Total number of requests:** |  |
| **Date of submission:** | **dd/mm/yyyy** |

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| **COORDINATING AUTHORITY** |
| **Name** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Contact person**  | **[Mr/Ms x, y, z]** |
| **Email**  |  |
| **Telephone number** |  |

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| --- |
| **RECIPIENT NATIONAL AUTHORITY** |
| **Name** |  |
| **Address** |  |
| **Contact person**  | **[Mr/Ms x, y, z]** |
| **Position** |  |
| **Email**  |  |
| **Telephone number** |  |

Personal data provided in the request for technical support are processed in accordance with the applicable data protection rules. The privacy statement explaining the processing of personal data can be found in section 7 of the record at the following link: <https://ec.europa.eu/dpo-register/detail/DPR-EC-04667>

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| **MULTI-COUNTRY REQUEST** |
| **0.1** | **Is this a multi-country request?** **(a multi-country request is a request developed and/or submitted in collaboration with one or more authorities of other Member State(s))** |
| [ ]  Yes[ ]  No |
| If you select “Yes” in question 0.1., the platform will present questions 0.2 and 0.3.  |
| **0.2** | **Please indicate the type of this multi-country request**  |
| [ ]  The Member State submits this request on its behalf and on behalf of one or several authorities of other Member State(s); or[ ]  One or several authorities of other Member State(s) is/are submitting a similar/same request in parallel to this request, in a coordinated way. |
| **0.3** | **Please indicate the name of the other Member State(s) and Beneficiary Authority (s) concerned by this multi-country request.** |
| [Free text box] |

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| **1** | **DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM/NEED TO BE ADDRESSED**  |
| **1.1** | **What is the problem/need to be addressed with the support requested?** |
| **This general overview is providing the general scope of the Flagship technical support project. This general overview does not provide any information about the specific situation in the Member State submitting the request, nor about specific needs.****When filling-in the request template, you are therefore invited to outline your specific problems and needs, taking inspiration from the general overview and adapting it to your national context, and to provide any additional information relevant to your specific context.** **General overview:**This Flagship Technical Support Project aims to build Member States’ capacity to design and implement an environmental framework in the field of public financial management. The ‘Do No Significant Harm’ (DNSH) principle is a relatively new principle both for private and public finance. The flagship project provides technical support to Members States committed to improving their capacity to apply the DNSH principle to public investments from EU and national funds and programmes, including the Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF). The flagship project can support the development and piloting of national guidelines for the application of the DNSH principle, the integration of the DNSH principle into national public financial management processes, good practice exchanges and peer-learning. The support would be based on concrete needs defined at national level. The guidelines can be developed in a tailored manner, on the one hand for entities managing public investments, and for project implementers/grant beneficiaries on the other. The flagship project can assist in piloting the use of these guidelines with both target groups. *When filling in the template online, please explicitly provide information relevant to your specific national context and your required needs together with the relevant justification.*[between 350-400 words] |
| **1.2** | **How broad is the problem/need? Does it affect a significant part/sector of the economy or extend across several policy areas (‘spill-over’)?** |
| [Insert Text; between 250-300 words] |
| **1.3** | **How deep or severe is the problem/need? Were there any previous reform efforts? What was the impact of those efforts? What did not work and why?** |
| [Insert Text; between 250-300 words] |
| **1.4** | **How urgent is the need to address the problem? Is there a specific deadline (at national, European or international level)?** |
| [Insert Text; between 150-200 words] |
| **1.5** | **Provide relevant socio-economic (and environmental) indicators, data and evidence that demonstrate the extent of the problem/need to be addressed. Please make sure that the data provided is related to the problem to be addressed and the support requested.** |
| [Insert Text; between 150-200 words] |
| **1.6** | **Have other means / funding (at national, regional, EU, international level) been considered for addressing the problem identified? Which ones? If so, what is the complementarity of other funds with the technical support requested?** |
| [Insert Text; between 100-200 words] |

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| **2** | **INDICATIVE DESCRIPTION OF THE SUPPORT MEASURES REQUESTED AND THE ESTIMATED COST** |
| **2.1** | **Please select/identify the required support measures (outputs and related activities).** |
| **The TSI 2023 flagship technical support project “Integration of Environmental dimensions in public finances – Implementing the ‘Do No Significant Harm’ (DNSH) principle in public funding programmes” identifies seven work packages with measures that you can chose from and that can be tailor-made to your specific context. Additional measures can be added. Please note that the first technical support measure is included by default.****The list of proposed technical measures is intended to help beneficiary authorities describe the requested technical support measures by taking inspiration from the information provided.** **The list of proposed technical support measures do not provide any information about the specific context in the Member State submitting the request. Member States are therefore requested to provide a justification for each requested measure as to how it will help address the problems identified in section 1.1.** **When filling in the request, you are invited to only select** **and describe the technical support measures you are requesting, taking inspiration from the general overview, if you find it helpful, and to provide any additional information relevant to your specific context.****Proposed technical support measures** **pursuant to Art.8 of TSI Regulation:*** **Assessment of the extent to which [and how] the DNSH principle is to be applied to different EU and national funds and programmes and defining the scope of public investments to be covered in the TSI project**

Under this work package, support would be provided for a review of the type of public investments under EU and national funds and programmes to which DNSH is applied [and how] and can/will have to be applied in the future in a given country, based on national and/or EU fund/programme-specific requirements (defined in the respective legal bases). In discussion with the authorities, this activity would allow to identify the scope of public investments [and spending] to which subsequent work packages would apply.* **Review of existing legal framework and guidelines at national level for the application of DNSH for related EU and national funds and programmes**

Under this work package, support would be provided for reviewing existing national DNSH guidance documents; analysis of related EU and national legislation and existing tools and methodologies for assessment of climate and environmental impacts of public investments (including DNSH where already applicable). The review can also cover an assessment of existing monitoring and data collection mechanisms (where they exist). The objective is to identify to what extent already applicable guidelines and legislation safeguard DNSH in a national context and to identify gaps where this is not yet the case.* **Development of national guidelines for implementing the DNSH principle in practice in EU and/or national funds and programmes defined in work package 1**

Under this work package, support would be provided for the development of national DNSH guidelines - separately for entities managing public investments and for project implementers/grant beneficiaries. The guidelines can include elements such as methods to screen and assess investments against the DNSH principle; ways to integrate the DNSH principle in procurement and call for grants documentation, check-lists etc; monitoring of alignment with DNSH during implementation, data requirements for reporting, including on observed (individual and/or cumulative) impacts for investments, etc. It could also produce recommendations for establishing a common database for relevant data collection (and developing technical requirements for the database). The guidelines could be supplemented by training material and an opportunity to train a representative sample of authorities and project implementers/grant beneficiaries on train-the-trainers basis. They can also be supplemented with a communication strategy and support for awareness raising activities. * **Pilot implementation of national DNSH guidelines in a selected number of investments/sectors**

Under this work package, support would be provided to selected entities managing public investments and project implementers/grant beneficiaries to accompany them in piloting the guidelines to a limited number of public investments in selected sectors. Based on the lessons learned through the piloting, the guidelines could be adjusted and recommendations drawn on scaling up of the pilots. * **Development of in-depth sector-specific case studies on operationalising DNSH, building upon the RRF DNSH Technical Guidance**

Under this work package, support would be provided for applying the operationalisation of the DNSH principle on sector-specific case studies in the context of the RRF. This will build on concrete sector-specific examples in the application of the DNSH Technical Guidance for RRF (2021/C58/01). This work package would deliver on steps for DNSH assessment, as well as further implementation on this principle on the ground and development of DNSH compliant guidelines for calls for tenders, projects, contracts or agreements. It can also include cross-country comparisons of, for example, the 70% recycle/reuse waste construction target or the 30% energy efficiency savings target.* **Identification of options for further integration of the DNSH principle in public financial management systems**

Based on the outcomes of the above work packages and existing practices both at EU and national level, support under this work package would be provided for identifying possible entry routes for introducing DNSH considerations into national budgeting processes, where relevant. The support can cover a testing of a DNSH approach in selected sectors and/or with selected budgeting entities, for instance for co-development of a sectoral draft budget proposal which incorporates DNSH considerations. The support would also provide recommendations on when to apply DNSH and produce an action plan for introducing DNSH considerations into national public financial management systems. * **Peer-learning and exchange of practices between Member States**

Under this work package, support would be provided for facilitating short-term exchange of civil servants between national administrations and joint seminars/workshops to allow participating Member States to exchange practices and to learn from experiences of one another. The seminars and workshops would seek to mobilise expertise also from the Commission. * **Other**

*When filling in the request online, please explain the measures selected, and how you envisage the measures to be delivered and structured.*  |
| **2.1.1** | **Describe how these outputs/deliverables would help to address the problem identified. How would the envisaged outputs/deliverables contribute to deliver lasting policy results?** |
| **The general overview of results (see text below) is intended to help the beneficiary authority describe its own circumstances. It does not provide any information about the specific results linked to the technical support measures you requested.****When filling in the request, you are therefore invited to explain the results you expect to achieve through the measures you described under 2.1, taking inspiration from the text provided below, and to provide any additional information relevant to your specific context.**The technical support is expected to build Member States’ capacities to apply the DNSH principle to public investments supported through EU and national funds and programmes. The integration of the DNSH principle in national public financial management processes would contribute to higher quality and sustainability of public spending. By directing more public investments towards projects and activities that support climate and environmental objectives, it would also contribute to the implementation of the European Green Deal.*You may provide additional information on the results expected from carrying out measures requested under 2.1.* **[between 300 - 350 words]** |
| **2.2** | **Indicate the possible duration of the support requested (all measures together) and, if available, an indicative timeline of each individual measure.** |
| [Insert Text] |
| **2.3** | **Indicate the estimated total cost of the support measures requested (in EUR).** |
| [Insert number; numerical field only, no spaces, commas, any other characters] |
| **2.3.1** | **Additional information (if known, please provide further explanation and indicative cost estimation for each key output/deliverable, including the foreseen activities).** |
| [Insert Text between 50-100 words] |
| **2.4** | **What would be the indicator(s) to measure that the project was a success?** **Please indicate for:*** **the short term (i.e. after 1 year)**
* **the mid-term (i.e. after 3 years)**
 |
| [Insert Text; between 200-250 words] |
| **2.5** | **In case your entity has already received technical support under the SRSP or the TSI in the past, in an area relevant to the reform/support requested, please indicate how your entity has used the results of this support.**  |
| [Insert Text; between 200-250 words] |
| **2.6** | **Provide information on the administrative capacity of the recipient national authority (i.e. staff availability in relation with the requested support measures and the follow-up on their results). Please describe the team that will be responsible for coordinating/following the reform and the work of DG REFORM and its selected providers.**  |
| [Insert Text; between 150-200 words] |
| **2.7** | **Indicate the names of stakeholders (e.g. other Ministries or beneficiaries) which may need to be involved in the design or implementation of the requested support measures.**  |
| [Insert Text; between 50-100 words] |
| **2.8** | **(If applicable,) indicate any envisaged provider of support (please do not provide names of private providers). Include explanations as to their know-how/capacity.** |
| [Insert Text; between 50-100 words] |

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| **3**  | **CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE REQUEST** |
| The requested support is linked to: |
| [ ]  | Preparation, implementation, amendment and revision of Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRP) under the Recovery and Resilience Facility (including REPowerEU chapters if relevant) |
| [ ]  | Reforms in the context of economic governance process (e.g. CSR, Country reports, implementation of economic adjustment programmes, etc.) |
| [x]  | Implementation of Union priorities (e.g. CMU, Energy Union, Customs Union, etc.) |
| [ ]  | Implementation of Union law (e.g. infringements) |
| [ ]  | Implementation of Member States’ own reform priorities to support recovery, sustainable economic growth, job creation and enhance resilience |
| **3.1.**  | **Additional information** |
| **The general overview of RRF/RRP relevance is intended to help the beneficiary authority draw inspiration from. It does not provide any information about the national RRPs. When filling in the request online, you are invited to provide additional information relevant to your national context and national RRP.**At the EU level, the EU Climate Law sets the legally binding target for the Union to be climate-neutral by 2050, with an interim 2030 target of cutting emissions from 1990 levels by 55% reflected in the “Fit for 55” package. The Green Deal sets important objectives also in relation to resource efficiency; circular economy; protect, conserve and enhance the natural capital etc. Furthermore, the European Green Deal establishes the “do no harm” oath, as overarching principle of all the EU legislative and budgetary action[[2]](#footnote-3). The RRF Regulation (Article 5(2)) brings the horizontal principle that all measures (both reforms and investments) enshrined in each recovery and resilience plan (RRP) should be compliant with the DNSH principle. That means that no measure (i.e. no reform and no investment) included in a Member State’s RRP should lead to significant harm to any of the six environmental objectives[[3]](#footnote-4) within the meaning of Article 17 of the Taxonomy Regulation (the DNSH principle). This principle is also reflected to various degrees in Regulations governing the Just Transition Fund (JTF), the InvestEU Programme, and the EU funds under the EU cohesion policy[[4]](#footnote-5). Add relevant explanations as appropriate: i.e., number of the CSR; policy priority; relevant national strategy documents, etc.; additional information on the Recovery and Resilience Plans under the Recovery and Resilience Facility.[Insert Text; indicatively between 150-200 words] |
| If you select *“Implementation, amendment and revision of recovery and resilience plans under the Recovery and Resilience Facility”* |
| **3.2.**  | **Is there a direct link to the RRP (i.e. direct contribution to the implementation of a reform / investment in the RRP)?** |
| [x]  | Yes, there is a direct link |
| [ ]  | No, there is only an indirect link |
| **3.2.1** | **Please define for which reform/investment of the RRP this request has a direct link to *(add FENIX reference and corresponding deadlines when available)*** |
| If 3.2. is “YES”[Insert Text] |
| **3.2.2**  | **Please describe the indirect link of the requested support to the RRP** |
| If 3.2. is “NO”[Insert Text] |

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| **4** | **AGREEMENT TO COMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES BY BOTH THE COORDINATING AUTHORITY AND THE BENEFICIARY AUTHORITY** |
| DG REFORM may engage in communication activities to ensure the visibility of EU funding for support measures funded under the Technical Support Instrument. Such communications activities may include, but are not limited to, press releases, publication on the Reform support website, or the publication on the @EU\_reforms tweeter account. |
| **4.1.**  | **Do you agree that the Commission's communication activities may involve publicly indicating that your entity has submitted this technical support request, as well as the area of the request?** |
| [ ]  | YES |
| [ ]  | NO |
| **4.2.**  | **Should this request be selected, do you agree that the Commission communicates about the support measures?** |
| [ ]  | YES |
| [ ]  | NO |
| If 4.1 or 4.2 is “NO” |
| **4.2.1** | **In case you object to the communication on a support measure, please provide a short justification why you object.** |
| [Insert Text; between 50-100 words] |

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| DISCLAIMERS:Please note that the template request for support is fully subject to the principles governing the TSI Regulation and Regulation No 2018/1046 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the General Budget of the Union. In compliance with the principle of prohibition of double funding, the recipient national authority shall immediately inform the European Commission of other related on-going actions financed by the EU budget. **In no circumstances, shall the European Commission finance the same costs twice.** |
| By submitting this request, the Member State accepts that, should the request for support be selected for funding under the TSI, **the Member State will confirm to the Commission that there is no overlap between the request selected under the TSI and concrete actions funded under other EU instruments and that double funding is not present for this selected request.**  |
| Please note that the Commission shall establish a single online public repository through which it may, subject to applicable rules and on the basis of consultation with the Member States concerned, **make available final studies or reports produced as part of eligible actions set out in the TSI Regulation**. Where justified, the Member States concerned may request that the Commission not disclose such documents without their prior agreement. |
| Please note that the Commission promotes "zero tolerance to fraud and corruption". In this context, **the Commission implements controls to prevent, detect and address irregularities/fraud instances, whether these occur in connection with its activities and funds, and inside or outside its organisation**. In order to counter fraud affecting the financial interests of the Union (art. 325 TFEU), it is of paramount importance that our partners in the Member States and the providers of support strive to achieve an equivalent stand against fraud. |
| It is to be noted that the support provided is intended to assist the Member State in its efforts to identify suitable investments and reforms [and to develop action plans]. The Member State remains fully responsible for such investments and reforms [and action plans], including their implementation. The provision of the technical support does not commit the Commission in any way to further support, whether financial or otherwise. |
| **For the requests linked with the RRPs**: The provision of the technical support under the TSI is without prejudice to the responsibility of Member States in relation to the fulfilment of relevant milestones and targets of the RRP and is without prejudice to the assessment that the Commission carries out in relation to the Member State’s relevant request for payment.  |
| DG REFORM monitors the implementation of the Technical Support Instrument based on a performance reporting system for which data and results are collected in an efficient, effective and timely manner and, where relevant and feasible, in a gender-disaggregated form. To that end, proportionate reporting requirements are imposed on recipients of Union funding. As foreseen in the TSI Regulation, monitoring activities include, but are not limited to, the TSI mid-term and ex-post evaluations. Should this request be selected, the information provided therein may be used for evaluation purposes.  |

1. Regulation (EU) 2021/240 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 February 2021 establishing a Technical Support Instrument, OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 1–16. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. This has been further integrated in the inter-institutional agreement for the EU budget, which horizontally applies to all the EU instrument. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Climate change mitigation; sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources; pollution prevention & control protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystem; circular economy. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. According to Article 9 of the Common Provisions Regulation (EU) 2021/1060, objectives of the Funds shall be pursued in line with DNSH principle. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)