



Supporting reforms in SLOVAKIA

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 Slovakia with 8 projects in the areas of healthcare, education, energy, green transition, taxation, anti-money-laundering and public spending. The Commission will also build capacities to help implement the national Recovery and Resilience Plan.

Examples of new projects adopted include:



Helping to reform the national health system



Reforming school curricula and digitalising education



Facilitating climate transition in a number of regions

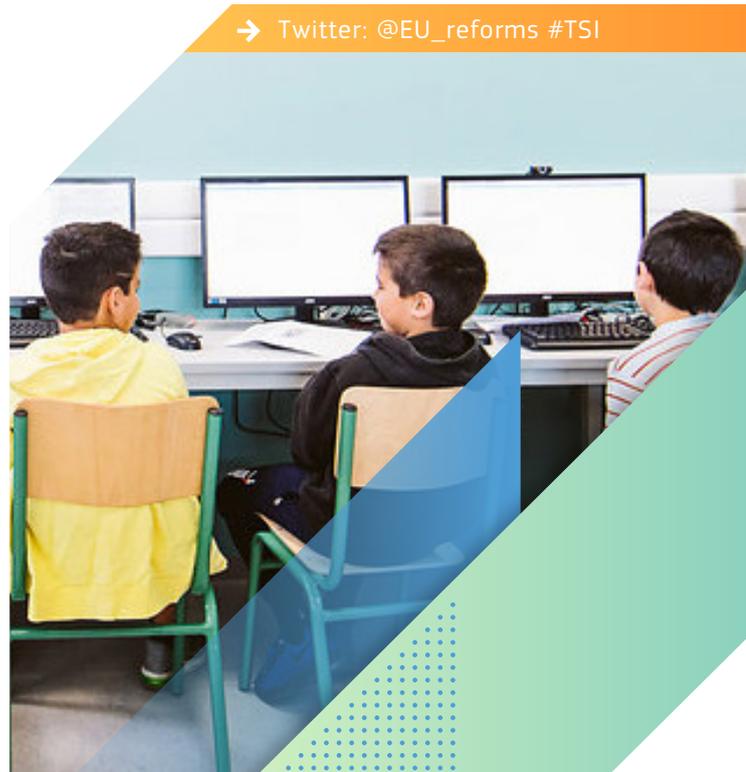


Improving management of cross-border tax issues in both Slovakia and Poland



Strengthening the capacity to tackle money laundering crimes

→ Twitter: @EU_reforms #TSI



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PROJECTS

COMPLETED AND ONGOING REFORM PROJECTS

Slovakia has so far benefited from 38 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, education, better regulation, business environment and investment, innovation, green transition, climate, labour market, justice, regional and local governance, digital strategy, public spending and tax compliance. A particular focus has been on addressing the quality of the healthcare systems, transition towards carbon-neutral economy, reform of the regional and local governance and review of public spending. To date, 14 projects have been successfully concluded. Examples of successful reform projects include the following:



→ Transitioning out of coal

The European Commission has been supporting Slovakia in preparing a strategy for transitioning out of coal in the Horná Nitra region, in cooperation with a wide range of stakeholders. The programme provided expertise to propose concrete steps for diversifying economic activities, stimulating job creation and mitigating environmental impacts. As a result of this project, in July 2019, an action plan proposed for Horná Nitra was adopted by the government. Additional support is currently being provided in this area to help prepare territorial just transition plans and facilitate the climate transition in a number of regions in Slovakia.

→ Strengthening e-government

The European Commission supported Slovakia in building the capacity of the Chief Information Officer responsible for the digital agenda in the country to help it develop a strategy on digital skills for small and medium-sized enterprises. Taking into account the views of the stakeholders, the programme facilitated the collection of EU best practices and provided a transition plan. The project resulted in a strategy with short and long-term recommendations to improve the digital skills of employees of small and medium-sized enterprises.

→ Reviewing public spending

Since 2016, the European Commission supports Slovakia in improving the efficiency and effectiveness of public spending through the national “Value for Money” reform. The SRSP provided expertise to build capacity of the Slovak administration to carry out sectoral spending reviews in the following areas: healthcare, transport, IT, environment, education, social benefits, agriculture and rural development, poverty and social exclusion. As a result of this project, Slovakia acquired a methodology for rolling-out spending reviews. Results are already visible - spending reviews are currently already helping to improve public expenditure, e.g. in healthcare.

