

## Q&A from the 2024 TSI Conference

Here are the questions and answers from our TSI Annual Conference's livestream chat, which took place on 24-25 of April 2024.

### DAY 1 – 24<sup>th</sup> of April 2024

1. What is your understanding of possible peace-strengthening impact of TSI in Europe? Thank you!
2. TSI reminds me of the first period of regional policy back at the beginning of the 1980s. Too many small-scale individual projects. I think that sooner or later it might be useful to streamline them into operational programs - like planning in very key policy areas such as AI, Climate Change, Public Administration and Regulation. Would that be a future consideration of DG Reform?

*ANSWER:* Thanks for putting this relevant question for all to reflect on. Unfortunately, there was no time to pick it up with the speakers, but the consideration will be part of our own internal reflections on the future TSI.

3. I would like to develop and implement a strategic plan for how national accreditation bodies, accrediting conformity assessment bodies in the EU, can integrate AI solutions into their business processes to make the accreditation process increasingly efficient and consistent. Could this project be implemented through the TSI, given the need for both professional knowledge in deploying AI solutions and experience in managing similar projects, to effectively identify and implement AI solutions in the accreditation process? Thank you in advance and best wishes from Latvia.

*ANSWER:* DG REFORM colleagues would be glad to discuss your reform support needs, feel free to contact us at [REFORM-TSI@ec.europa.eu](mailto:REFORM-TSI@ec.europa.eu)

All consortia qualified under the framework contract have demonstrated sufficient qualification for delivering various types of projects. Financing projects through international organizations has led to delays and procrastination due to the absence of capacities and infrastructure in member countries, subcontracting of experts, unreliability of their functioning, and lower productivity. As a result, outputs are mostly very theoretical, with little hands-on expertise and limited involvement of local stakeholders. How does DG REFORM ensure practical added value in these projects?

*ANSWER:* DG REFORM takes care to select the technical support provider that best fits the specific reform need of the Beneficiary Authority. DG REFORM accompanies the technical support project throughout, from design through implementation, to ensure that the expertise provided meets the need of the beneficiary authority. The testimonies beneficiary Member States today paid tribute to this joint effort!

### DAY 2 – 25<sup>th</sup> of April 2024

1. What is the reason for the Digital Financial Literacy flagship termination? How many projects have been financed under this flagship in 2024? Is it the lack of competence in the evaluation process the reason for that?

*ANSWER:* Every MS can still submit general requests inspired from flagships proposed under previous TSI rounds. DG REFORM has approved projects on financial literacy also prior to the introduction of the Flagship. More than half of all MS have received technical support on Digital Financial Literacy.

2. When will the 2024 list of prioritised requests for support under the TSI be published?

*ANSWER:* The list of TSI24 selected requests is already published under each country factsheet. You can find the link here: [Country Factsheets - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/europa/europa_en/country-factsheets)

3. Is there any opportunity for Ukrainian governmental bodies, public institutions to join these Flagships?

*ANSWER:* The TSI regulation is limited to EU MS. However, in view of contributing to the accelerated accession of enlargement countries, DG REFORM launched a TSI pilot for enlargement countries allowing them to participate as observers in flagship/multi-country projects of EU MS. For the first pilot, all enlargement countries participate with the exception of Ukraine and Montenegro. The pilot will continue in 2024/25 and both Montenegro and Ukraine have expressed strong interest to participate.

4. How and when will it be published which selected projects are intended for international partners and which will be intended for public competition? Thank you.

*ANSWER:* Thank you for your question. We do not provide such information, but the tender for procurement is published on the European Commission Funding and Tender portal.

5. Are there specific priority areas for the PACE?

*ANSWER:* Thank you for your question. PACE is open to all policy areas, and we welcome those linked to EU priorities as well as concrete national and regional priorities. As an example, exchanges done in previous years spanned the following areas: Digital transformation, green transformation, Improvement of public administration performance, Professionalisation of public administration, Management of investment and implementation of EU Instruments.

6. Creating a Flagship Project" Library to inform the MS not only about the Flagship Projects but also for the results and good practices applied. Thus, might be duplicated in other countries with the adjustments needed."

*ANSWER:* Thank you for your suggestion. We are already considering how to further extend the sharing of past projects and good practices.

7. Is there a dedicated platform for the multi-country projects please?

*ANSWER:* DG REFORM developed a platform to gather ideas on individual support needs uploaded by the different Member States, and to provide a space for discussion. See link to the relevant page: [Repository of reform support needs under TSI - TSI Projects - EC Extranet Wiki \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/europa/europa_en/repository-of-reform-support-needs-under-tsi)