



Technical Support Instrument Regulation (EU) 2021/240 (TSI Regulation)¹

GUIDANCE - GENERAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT REQUEST FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RRP_s

Accompanying the template for request for technical support (Article 9 of the TSI Regulation)

The request for technical support (hereunder “the request”) should be filled in after careful reading of these instructions and the TSI Regulation.

The purpose of these instructions is to facilitate the submission of requests for support **under the dedicated TSI 2021 call** to the Commission. The Commission will analyse the request for support in line with Article 9 of the TSI Regulation. The information submitted will also serve as a basis for reaching an agreement with the Member State concerned, resulting in a Cooperation and Support Plan.

The information included in the template for the request will be considered sensitive or confidential to the Member State insofar as it concerns the public interest of the Member State, unless otherwise specified by the authorities submitting the request.

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>.

DEDICATED TSI 2021 CALL - INTRODUCTION

Who submits the request for support?

Requests selected under the dedicated TSI 2021 call need to be formally submitted by the **TSI Coordinating Authority**.

The Coordinating Authority is responsible for submitting requests for technical support on behalf of the Member State concerned, for coordinating the planning and submission of the requests for support, as well as for the overall implementation of the support measures, in cooperation with the Commission.

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.

The Coordinating Authority is the single contact point for the interaction with the Commission on the matters related to the TSI. Member States designate the Coordinating Authority in accordance with their legal framework.

For this dedicated TSI 2021 call, TSI Coordinating Authorities are strongly encouraged to submit **no more than three requests** in total. The national authority responsible for the overall coordination of the RRP is strongly encouraged to be involved as the recipient authority or together with the recipient authority.

In case there are several requests from one Member State for this dedicated TSI 2021 call, the TSI Coordinating Authority should indicate **the order of priority** decided by the Member State.

Please note that each request should be submitted separately through the DG REFORM portal.²

This dedicated TSI 2021 call offers the possibility for Member States to submit a **request for general technical support for the implementation of the Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs) under the Recovery and Resilience Facility³ (RRF)** – capacity building to further enhance implementation, monitoring, reporting, control and audit mechanisms. This type of request has a separate template, with parts already pre-filled (see annex I).

The following sections of the template should therefore not be amended:

- 1.1. *Problem/need to be addressed with the requested support*
- 1.4. *Urgency of the need to address the problem*
- 2.4. *Expected results/use of the support measures*
3. *Circumstances of the request*
- 3.1 *Additional information*

Member States are invited to provide input for the remaining sections, in line with the guidance described below.

General information: contact details and title of the request

Please indicate the relevant **contact details** of recipient national authority and the relevant contact persons, including their contact details (name, address, function, email, phone number, etc.).

The **recipient national authority** is the authority of the Member State that requests the support, and, in case of selection, that will be responsible for its implementation, in cooperation with the Commission (i.e. DG REFORM).

² <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/srss-portal/>

³ Regulation (EU) 2021/241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 February 2021 establishing the Recovery and Resilience Facility, OJ L 57, 18.2.2021, p. 17–75.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROBLEM/NEED TO BE ADDRESSED

Article 9(5) of the TSI Regulation **defines the criteria for analysis by the Commission of the request for support: urgency, breadth and depth of the challenges identified, support needs** in respect of the policy areas concerned, analysis of **socio-economic indicators and institutional and general administrative capacity of the Member State.**

The Commission will use the information requested herewith, and that must be provided by the Member State, to carry out the analysis of the requests.

1.1 What is the problem/need to be addressed with the support requested?

Input from Member State is not required as the content has been pre-filled.

1.2 Breadth of the problem/need

Please explain how broad is the problem/need? Does the problem that the request is trying to address affect a significant part/sector of the economy, which is particularly important for the Member State? Does it extend across several policy areas (i.e. could the results of the action also have an impact on other policy areas)? Is the problem/need likely to spread to other policy areas ("spill-over")? Does it cover different aspects of a specific policy area?

[The need to coordinate and monitor sound implementation of the RRP covers a broad range of reforms and investments in different policy areas. A sufficient capacity to implement, monitor, report on, control and audit the overall implementation of the RRP is necessary to ensure the successful implementation of the broad range of reforms and investments foreseen.]

1.3 Depth of the problem/need

How deep is the problem/need? Is the problem/need severe (e.g. having potential negative consequences for the economy, if so – which ones)? Were there any previous reform efforts? What was the impact of those efforts? What did not work and why? What still needs to be addressed?

[The challenge underpinned by the need to put in place sound implementation, monitoring, reporting, control and audit mechanisms is significant. The availability of the necessary technical expertise and/or of sufficient capacity to implement, monitor, report on, control and audit the overall implementation of the RRP is key for the successful implementation of the individual reforms and investments foreseen and smooth preparation and submission of payments requests under the RRF.]

1.4 Urgency of the request for support

[NOTA BENE: the urgency of the request should not be confused with the request for (temporary) "special measures" under urgency]

Input from Member State is not required as the content has been pre-filled.

1.5 Socio-economic and environmental indicators

The relevant socio-economic indicators will also be taken into consideration when analysing the request. These socio-economic indicators may be macro-economic indicators, general indicators or indicators related to the implementation of the RRP. These data will back-up the request for support. Detailed quantitative evidence can also be submitted as attachment on the platform of DG REFORM, or at a later stage.

1.6 Other means/ funding

Please, provide a short description of other means/funding that the Member State considered to support the overall implementation of the RRP. If such options have been explored, please specify which ones. If possible, indicate also what is the complementarity of other funds with the technical support requested.

Please note that this section refers not only to means/funding at EU level, but at international, regional and national levels as well (capacity at national level to carry out the measures).

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE SUPPORT MEASURES REQUESTED AND ESTIMATED COST

2.1 Indicative description of the support measures requested

The pre-filled template lists three areas in which support could be provided (capacity building to further enhance implementation, monitoring, reporting, control and audit mechanisms). Please provide relevant justification for each element to be covered by the support measure.

If already envisaged, please also provide an outline of possible support activities, e.g.: provision of ad hoc experts; placing resident experts on the ground; capacity building: seminars, conferences, workshops, working visits, training; collection of data; development of methodologies; studies and expertise related to policy advice, policy change, legislative, institutional, structural and administrative reforms, etc.

The full list of eligible actions is provided in Article 8 of the TSI Regulation.

If possible, indicate also the envisaged key outputs (e.g. diagnostic report, comparative analysis, recommendations, feasibility study, technical specifications for an IT tool, guidelines)

2.2 Indicative duration of the support measures requested

Please provide the overall estimated starting and end date of the requested technical support (covering all proposed measures). If possible, please provide also an indicative starting and an end date of each individual requested support measure/activity and/or their estimated duration.

Please mention also if there are important deadlines at national level for the preparation of the overall RRP implementation.

2.3 Indicative estimated total cost of the support measures requested (in EUR)

Please indicate how much you estimate the support measures/activities would cost. Please note, however, that this is only an estimation, which can help determine the final costing. It does not bind the Member State nor the Commission in any way.

Indicate the estimated total cost (in EUR) of the support measures (number). Please note that this is a numerical field – only enter numbers – no letters, spaces, full stops, nor commas.

➤ 2.3.1 Additional information (indicative cost items/indicative budget breakdown)

Please provide (if known) a more detailed budget breakdown of the estimated total cost or information on the indicative cost items of requested support measures.

Indicative cost items are supposed to assist in quantifying the effort required to deliver the requested support measures (if already known and indicated in point 2.1.) and breaking down the request into tangible tasks/steps. It can be the form of expertise that would be needed, for example:

- capacity building seminars, conferences and workshops (X working days for Y participants and with Z experts);
- benchmarking analysis, studies, research (finalised in a report and dissemination workshop for X participants);
- short-term experts, long-term experts (X experts for Y amount of time);
- study visits to other Member States (to approx. X countries), expert mission/workshop (X number of days for Z participants to approx. X countries).

2.4 Expected results/use of the results of the support measures requested

Input from Member State is not required as the content has been pre-filled.

2.5 Administrative capacity of the Member State

(this refers to the recipient national authority and its capacity to implement and absorb the requested support measures).

The administrative capacity should take into account the capacity of the Member State to implement and absorb the support measures to be provided and to carry out the reforms for which support is requested.

Please indicate if there is any structure/team within the recipient national authority to manage the project and to follow-up on the results after the project completion. Please also elaborate on the wider inter-institutional cooperation

envisaged for the technical support project and subsequent reform (i.e. how will relevant stakeholders, such as other ministries or implementing agencies, be involved).

In addition, please indicate the resources (staff, budget for complementary activities, etc.) that the recipient national authority requesting support is ready to dedicate for these purposes.

2.6 Envisaged provider(s) (if applicable)

If applicable, please indicate suggestions you may have for support provider(s) for certain support activities (a Member State authority or public body, international organisations, other public-sector entities, etc.). Indicate also which entity/organisation (and why) could help carry out the support measures. If more than one and/ or if you envisage to use both public and private providers, please indicate accordingly. Please do not provide names of private providers.

Please note also that this is only a suggestion; the final selection of the provider is undertaken by the Commission on the basis of the applicable rules, notably, the relevant rules stemming from, inter alia, the Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU) No 2018/1046).

3. CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE REQUEST

*According to Article 9(3) of the TSI Regulation, the request can be related to **different circumstances** ("triggering factors").*

Input from Member State is not required as the applicable has been ticked.

3.1. Additional information

Input from Member State is not required as the content has been pre-filled.

Disclaimer:

Please note that the request is fully subject to the principles governing the TSI Regulation and Regulation No 2018/1046 on the Financial Rules 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 ongoing 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 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.

It is to be noted that the support provided is intended to assist the Member State through expertise and capacity building in its efforts to further enhance suitable monitoring, reporting, control and audit arrangements. The Member State remains fully responsible for the national implementation, monitoring, reporting, control and audit mechanisms.

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.
