



European  
Commission



# TWINNING

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER  
WITH EU EXPERTISE



## What is Twinning?

Twinning is an EU assistance delivery tool supporting capacity building through **peer-to-peer** cooperation between public administrations in EU Member States and partner countries.

Twinning is **unique in pairing** EU Member States public institutions with their counterparts in beneficiary countries, leveraging EU Member States' experience in support of transitional reforms.

## Why Choose Twinning?

Twinning was initially created to assist candidate and potential candidate countries on their **path to EU membership**. Countries that benefitted from Twinning now provide first-hand experience to accession countries on how to transpose, implement and enforce the EU acquis.

Twinning acts as a **catalyst for investments**. Twinning projects are highly complementary and conducive to investment initiatives such as the Global Gateway and the Economic and Investment Plans. Twinning follows the "policy first" principle and contributes to the promotion of fundamental rights. By focusing on essential reforms, Twinning enhances investor confidence.

Twinning is complementary to other development tools such as TAIEX, budget support, technical assistance and investments.

Twinning's offer to partner countries:

- ▶ **Stronger Institutions:** Make your organisations more effective.
- ▶ **Align with EU standards:** Match EU norms for better collaboration.
- ▶ **Enduring Reforms:** Achieve lasting institutional change.
- ▶ **Expertise Exchange:** Gain technical skills from EU Member States experts.
- ▶ **Build Relationships:** Forge long-term ties with EU Member States building trust and durable bonds.

## Who Can Benefit?

- ▶ Candidate and potential candidate countries for EU membership;
- ▶ Partner countries and territories in the European Neighbourhood;
- ▶ Partner countries and territories covered by the Directorate-General for International Partnerships (DG INTPA).

## Activities and sectors

Twinning helps **modernise public administrations** through analysis and policy development, legal guidance, technical expertise, drafting laws and regulations, system and procedure design and development, as well as facilitating job shadowing, workshops, and study visits.

Twinning is deployed to support the transition towards a green, digital and inclusive economy. Twinning covers all sectors of the EU body of legislation and is used to share best EU Member States' practices.

## How does Twinning work?

- ▶ **Standard Twinning:** Partner countries work together for 1 to 3 years with EU Member States' experts, the average budget for the projects is EUR 1-2 million. One of these experts, the Resident Twinning Adviser, is seconded to the beneficiary administration throughout the project.
- ▶ **Twinning 'light':** A shorter option, up to 8 months, with a maximum budget of EUR 250 000. Twinning Light can be used to tackle any institutional issue with a more limited scope without the secondment of a Resident Twinning Adviser.

## Steps to follow

- 1** A **partner country and the EU Delegation decide** that Twinning is the most suitable tool to support reforms within the public administration. The project is programmed.
- 2** The partner country administration prepares a **Twinning fiche** with support from the EU Delegation.
- 3** The Twinning fiche is circulated to all EU Member States through a **call for proposals**.
- 4** Interested EU Member States submit their project proposals, and a **selection committee** assesses them.
- 5** The **project is awarded** to a single Member State or to a consortium of Member States.



“Twinning brings the self-confidence – that we are doing things according to best practices. I think this is one of the best benefits we are receiving from the project.”

Giorgi Chitadze  
Deputy Director General  
Georgian Accreditation Centre

## For more information



[ec.europa.eu/twinning](https://ec.europa.eu/twinning)



[near-twinning@ec.europa.eu](mailto:near-twinning@ec.europa.eu)



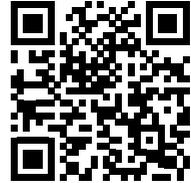
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