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**Comparative research on  
functional reviews and  
audits: “Government action in  
response to economic  
downturn”**

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# Key point

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- *understand if FR can help as a part of the response to crisis*



# Objectives: focus on crises time

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- ❑ gathering data about past experiences in FR
- ❑ comparative analysis of the country reports and information
- ❑ drawing lessons regarding implementation of FR
- ❑ understanding if and how FR can help the governments with the response to a crises
- ❑ collecting good practices on the FR tools and methods and reforms followed



# Note on methods and scope

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- ❑ The methodology has been agreed, similar to others within the project
- ❑ Discussion on the questions and time-frame
- ❑ Study based on the understanding and perception of the FR by the participants
- ❑ Get an understanding of the core issues rather than comprehensive and detailed



# Participants

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- Azerbaijan
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Estonia
- FYR Macedonia
- Hungary
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Moldova
- Serbia
- Ukraine
- Russia



## Tools for research: collection of data

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- Questionnaire
- Debriefing based on the information presented (by e-mail, telephone, if possible, in person)
- Review of additional: secondary data information and reports on FR undertaken
- Case studies (examples from within the country reports)



# Tools for research: analysis

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- Analysis of the country reports and preparation of the comparative report
- Analysis of the some additionally collected information and data
- Comparative quantification along agreed criteria/aspects based on the country reports



# Limitations

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- Time-frame
- Inherited limitation given the choice and types of tools
  - Questionnaires are filled in by the participants based on their best knowledge and from the available information
  - Additional available information reviewed is not systematically selected

# Time-frame: subject to agreement

| No. | Activity  | Due date      |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 1.  | The participants of the workshop present country cases accordingly the given template                                       | 04-05/02/2010 |
| 2.  | Workshop and discussion of the draft methodology, agreement on final methodology  | 18/02/2010    |
| 3.  | The country representatives finalize country contributions accordingly the questionnaire and e-mail them to the researcher. | 28/02/2010    |
| 4.  | The researcher prepares the first draft of the comparative research.  | 22/03/2010    |
| 5.  | The researcher submits the final draft of the comparative research.   | 01/04/2010    |



# The results

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- *Information and data collected* on the type, nature and scale of activities done by countries in FR
- *Comparative analysis* of the collected information
- *Conclusions and lessons* drawn
- *Presentation* of the conclusions of the comparative research



# Discussion on questions-1: 1-5 (10)

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- 1. What have been the primary considerations for the engaging into the FR? Where the pressures come from (cost-cutting, efficiency)?
- 2. What has been the political support for the process and at what level?
- 3. Was FR part of the larger government-wide or sector-wide initiative?
- 4. What has been prior experience and length of FR?
- 5. How comprehensive and what aspects covered by FR?



## Discussion on questions-2: 6-10 (10)

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- 6. What was the methodology of FR?
- 7. Have the FR findings and results been discussed?
- 8. What have been major material findings of FR?
- 9. Have the FR findings and results been incorporated into the relevant decisions and decision-making processes?
- 10. What has been the impact and sustainability of changes proposed by FR findings and results?