

### SPRING 2015 REFORM BAROMETER - IRELAND

		Q1 : the recommendation is	Q2 : Implementation on effort is :	Detailed comments
CSR 1	Fully implement the 2014 budget	Important	Excellent/no further progress needed	Ireland has made excellent progress to date on fiscal adjustment and it continued to outperform expectations in 2014. It remains on track to deliver a deficit well below 3% in 2015.
CSR 2	Advance the reform of the healthcare sector	Extremely important	Unsatisfactory	Progress on healthcare reform remains unacceptably slow. Outcomes remain suboptimal and while expenditure reductions have impacted on some aspects of service delivery, the absence of more structural reforms remains the main barrier to improved service delivery.
CSR 3	Pursue further improvements in active labour market policies,	Extremely important	Satisfactory	Good progress has been made on labour market reforms, including the introduction of new model of apprenticeships and contracting of employment support services to the private sector
CSR 4	Tackle low work intensity of households	Important	Mixed	Progress to date has been mixed. Labour market policies have been supportive but further reform of interaction between tax and social welfare is needed.
CSR 5	Advance policies for the SME sector including initiatives to address the availability of bank and non-bank financing	Extremely important	Unsatisfactory	Progress in addressing SME debt legacy has been slow and has hindered a return to investment growth. Positive developments have included the launch of a new state backed investment bank which will support SME lending.
CSR 6	Monitor banks' performance against the mortgage arrears restructuring targets.	Extremely important	Satisfactory	Performance has been closely monitored and good progress has been made. Some arrangements delivered are not yet evident in the official data.
CSR 7	Reduce the cost of legal proceedings and services and foster competition	Important	Unsatisfactory	Legal services reform has been advanced but at mid-January has not yet been passed by the second chamber.