



Economic Research & Policy Institute
"Finance Think" - Skopje

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Accredited by the
European
Commission



Second World
Prize for Development
Research



First Prize for
Social Innovation
for Development



ABOUT US

Finance Think is an independent and non-for-profit economic research and policy institute, founded in 2012.

Our Vision

To steer economic thinking for increased wellbeing tomorrow.

Our Mission

To enhance the impact of economic and social trends and policies on citizens in Macedonia and the Western Balkans, through economic research, evidence-based and data-driven advocacy, and steering critical debate on economic processes.

The research of Finance Think helps policymakers, policy advocates, opinion makers, journalists, and the public understand the issues affecting ordinary citizens.

Programmatic Domains

- Growth and development policies
- Poverty, employment and skills
- Fiscal transparency and accountability
- Competitiveness and EU accession
- Gender and income inequalities
- Municipal finance and policies
- Green economy

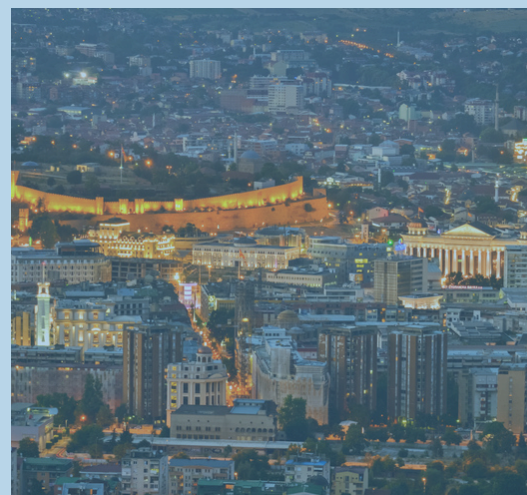
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FINANCE **THINK**
OUT OF THE BOX

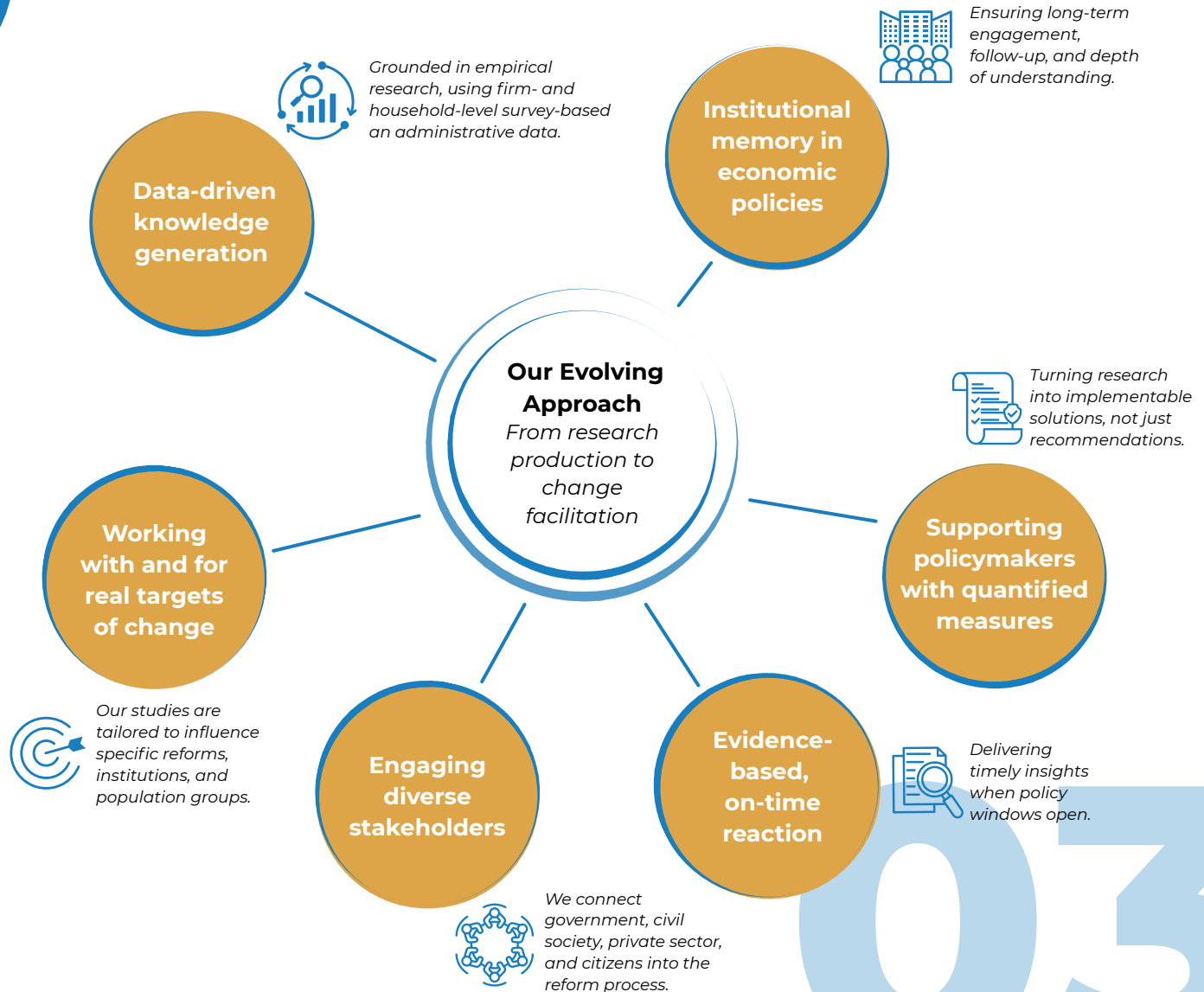
Shaping Economic Policy that Works for People

A decade of evidence, dialogue, and impact





Our Evolving Approach: From Analysis to Impact



Competences

We combine robust evidence generation with inclusive dialogue and actionable insights. Our competences are the practical tools we use to turn data into knowledge, knowledge into ideas, and ideas into real policy change.

EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE & DATA ANALYSIS

- Advanced quantitative and econometric modelling to test policy impacts
- Forecasting, scenario building, and experimental design
- Modern software tools and reproducible workflows (STATA, MAXQDA)

INCLUSIVE & CONTEXTUAL RESEARCH

- Community and stakeholder engagement to capture diverse perspectives
- Mixed-methods approaches: surveys, interviews, focus groups, Delphi technique
- Problem-driven research design tailored to real institutional needs

CONNECTING RESEARCH TO POLICY ACTION

- Policy analysis, stakeholder mapping, and scenario testing
- Facilitating dialogue among government, civil society, and private sector
- Supporting the design, monitoring, and implementation of reforms

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

- Training policymakers and practitioners in economic and data literacy
- Supporting local research communities and young professionals
- Strengthening employability skills and participatory decision-making

MAKING EVIDENCE UNDERSTANDABLE & ENGAGING

User-friendly visualisations: interactive charts, infographics, and data dashboards
Short, story-driven videos and web-based presentations
Tools for accessible data exploration by diverse audiences

Strategic Focus & Impact

Strategic Focus



**Public Finance
and Fiscal
Transparency**



**Labor Markets,
Gender, and
Youth**



**Competitiveness
and
Productivity**



**Municipal
Finance and
Citizen
Engagement**



**EU Integration
and Regional
Cooperation**



**Green
Economy and
Digital
Innovation**

Impact in Action

Shaped the design of various anti-crisis government measures during Covid-19 and the Food and Energy Prices Crisis.

Contributed to tariff reductions on key inputs for exporters in post-Covid recovery policies.

Informed the National Employment Strategy 2021–2027 with findings on education costs, state aid, minimum wage, and informal wages.

Supported municipalities in enhancing local fiscal transparency and accountability.

Strengthened fiscal transparency in 18 municipalities through verified para-fiscal charge data and launched a dedicated web platform.

Influenced the final design of the 2022 Tax Reform, including the Excess Profit Tax.

Established WEBecon – the first regional network of top think tanks in the Western Balkans focused on socio-economic development.

Guided the agreements under the Open Balkan Initiative with labor market analysis, leading to mutual recognition of diplomas and streamlined work permit procedures.

Our Supporters and Partners



Publications



13+ years

Quarterly Monitor

Regular macroeconomic overviews on North Macedonia's economy



70+ editions

Policy Briefs

Advocacy-focused papers outlining key findings and recommendations



50+ editions

Policy Studies

In-depth research indexed in global economic databases



40+ commentaries

FT Comment

Short analytical commentaries on current policy developments



20+ in impact-factor journals

Journal Articles

Peer-reviewed research published in academic journals



incl. through Amazon

Books & Booklets

Comprehensive thematic publications and handbooks



20+ editions

Analytic Reports & Others

Specialized reports (e.g., quality of life, reports at municipal level, etc) and additional formats



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