

Cost benefit analysis

Standardized economic feasibility check for IT projects of the BMF

Efficient management of IT projects in public administration requires well-founded decision-making. The Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) has established the Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) application as a central tool that standardizes and simplifies the cost-benefit analysis of IT projects. This digital solution replaces complex Excel-based procedures and enables structured collection and evaluation of project data through electronic forms and questionnaires.

How it works

The Austrian Reporting Platform brings together various specialized applications, each addressing a clearly defined focus area within public administration. The Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) is a central module that standardizes and transparently structures the economic evaluation of IT projects.

Within the Austrian Reporting Platform, the CBA application serves to provide a uniform assessment of planned IT projects in terms of benefits, costs, and savings potential. It is mandatory for large-scale projects (A and B projects) and recommended for smaller ones (C projects). The tool is used from the initiation phase by project management specialists at the BMF, who manually enter the relevant quantitative and qualitative data.

The standardized approach ensures that all projects are evaluated according to the same criteria. This forms the basis for transparent and comprehensible prioritization as well as effective project and portfolio management.

The Big Picture

With the CBA application, the BMF has made a significant contribution to the professionalization of public project management. Through structured data collection, the tool not only supports informed decisions on the implementation of IT projects but also enables continuous tracking of expected benefit and progress indicators throughout the entire project lifecycle.

The platform thus promotes efficient and sustainable use of public funds and serves as a model for other ministries and agencies seeking to strategically manage their project portfolios.

Quick Facts

- Solution area: **Organisations, Processes, Quality assurance and certification**
- Administrative level: **State, Federation**
- Solution process: **Digitization and technology, Public service**
- Technology: **Artificial Intelligence, Information technology, Platform technology**