



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
COURT OF AUDIT

AUDIT REPORT

Efficiency of operations of the Ministry of Public Administration in implementing control over the operations of municipalities

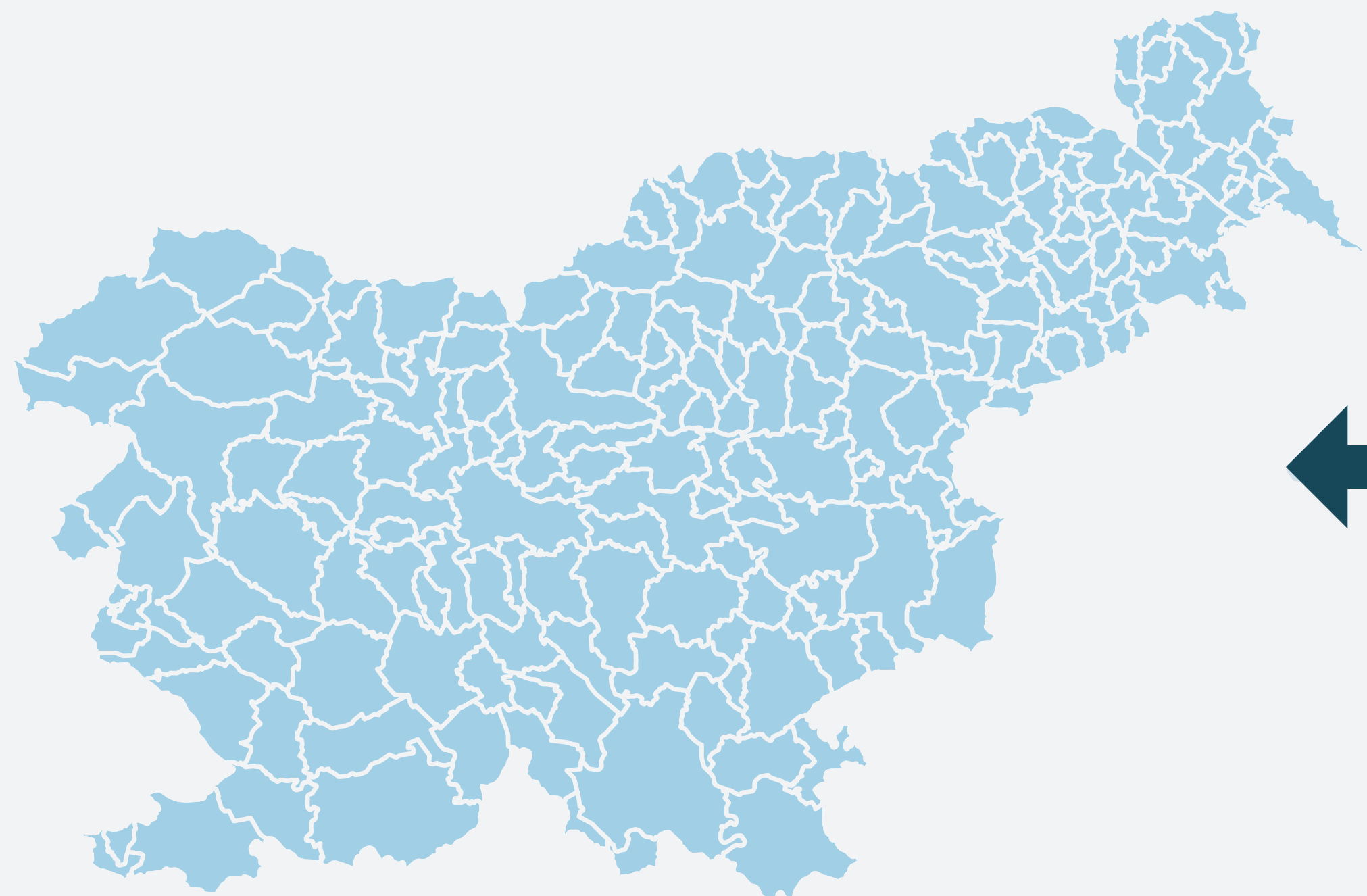
Performance audit

Audit period: 1 January to 31 December 2021

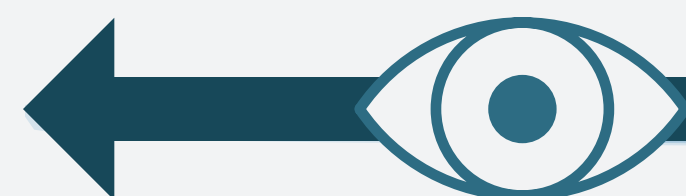


SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS

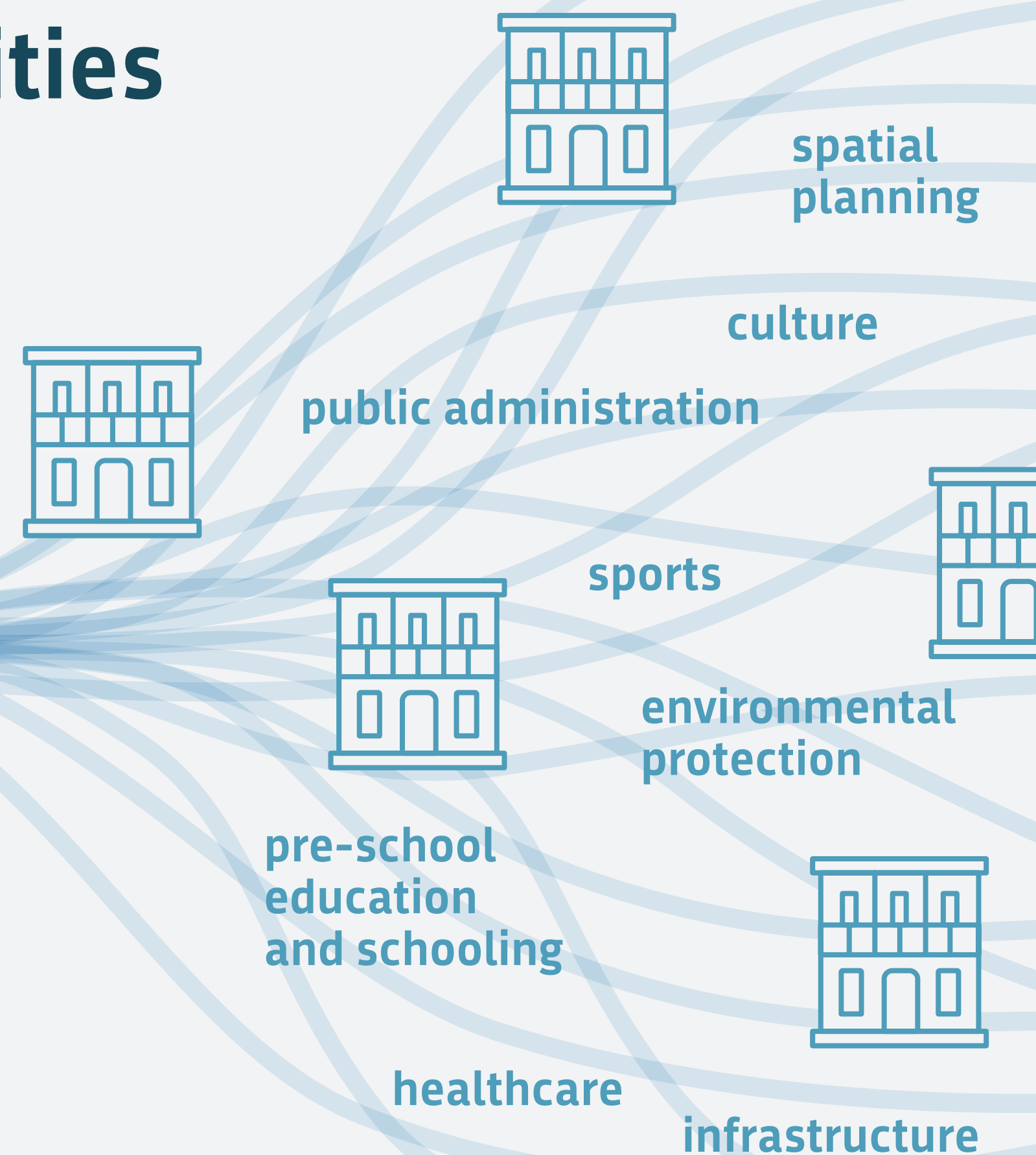
Ministries must control operations of municipalities



Each of the 212 municipalities must provide significant services in its area.



Each ministry must control operations of municipalities within the field of its competence.



Efficient implementation of control is necessary for providing legality, efficient management of public funds and local services of high quality throughout the entire area of the State, additionally strengthening **transparency, accountability and good governance at local level.**

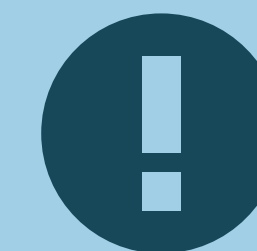


Implementation of control must not represent disproportionate interference with the right to local self-government.

Local Self-Government Act and State Administration Act regulate the control system over the operations of municipalities



Local Self-Government Act and State Administration Act do not lay down conditions for efficient implementation of control – **efficient implementation (manner, scope, frequency) is thus largely left to each ministry.**



RISK OF INEFFICIENT IMPLEMENTATION OF CONTROL!

The Ministry of Public Administration is responsible for the implementation of control and for the legislation regulating the control system. **The Court of Audit reviewed whether the Ministry was efficient in implementing control over the operations of municipalities.**

Key findings

Control planning



- the Ministry **defined the manner or procedure of control implementation but only for one field** within its competence
- ⊕ **providing expert assistance to municipalities** is foreseen at the level of the entire Ministry
- ⊖ the Ministry **lacked control action plan** for 2021 that would be based on available resources and risk assessment

Control implementation



- **detailed overview** of individual tasks carried out **not fully provided**
- ⊕ the Ministry **offers expert assistance to municipalities** by giving up-to-date expert opinions and organising trainings
- the Ministry **failed to carry out control activities** over municipal acts and municipal bodies respectively **in all its fields of competence**
- in 2021, the Ministry **monitored effects of previous systematic controls** of general legal acts of municipalities, otherwise controls were implemented only when necessary or on the external initiative
- ⊕ **by imposing additional measures** (e.g. through mediation sessions) when carrying out control activities, the Ministry **increased efficiency**

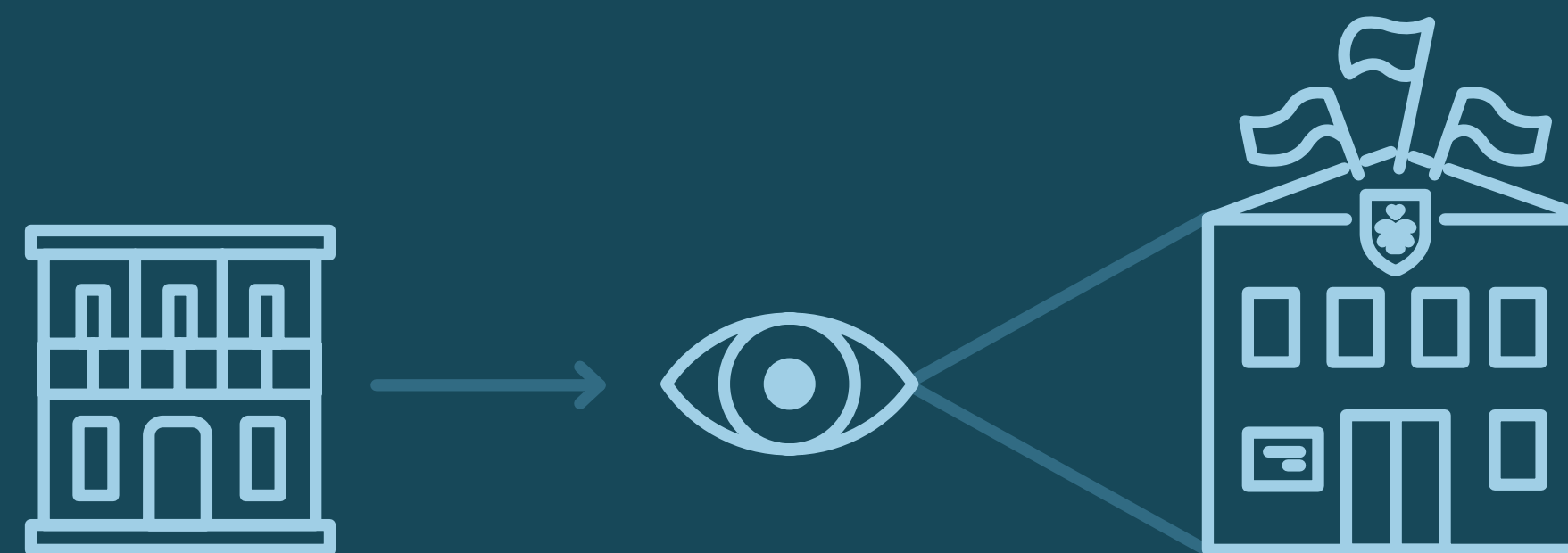
Reporting and monitoring



- in 2021, the Ministry drew up a report which **provided a presentation of only a part of its activities** pertaining to the implementation of control over municipal operations
- ⊖ the Ministry **did not monitor how the control system** as provided for in the Local Self-Government Act and State Administration Act **is being carried out in practice** and also failed to systematically cooperate with other ministries in this regard

OPINION OF THE COURT OF AUDIT

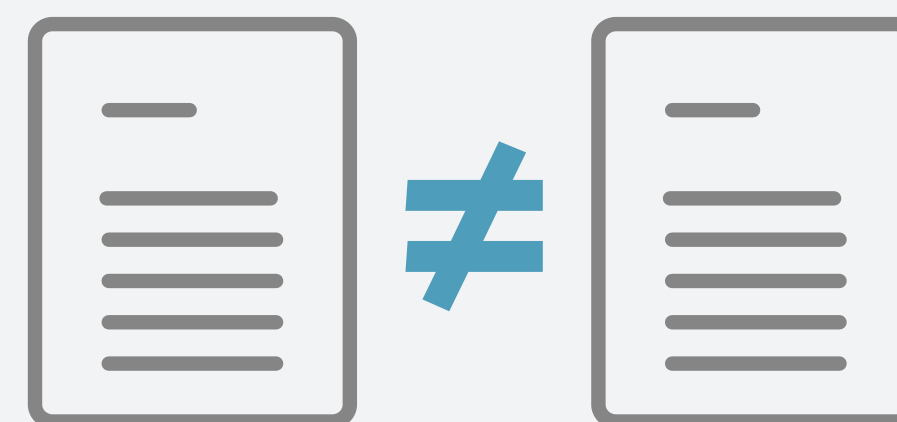
 **The Ministry of Public Administration was partially efficient** in its operations pertaining to the implementation of control over the operations of municipalities in 2021.



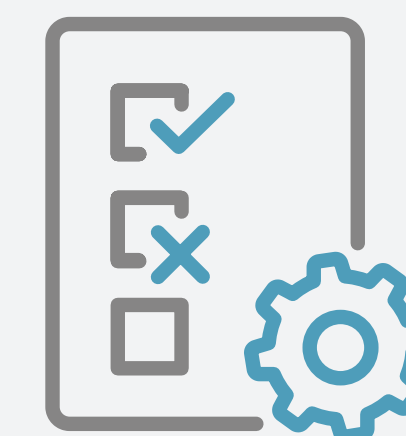
On the basis of demands and recommendations of the Court of Audit, the Ministry prepared a plan of activities for:



making risk assessment and carrying out other activities necessary **for future more efficient planning and monitoring of the control implemented** over the municipal operations



consistency of planning and control implementation procedures pertaining to municipal operations in all the fields of the Ministry's competence



establishing the system of periodic monitoring of control over the municipal operations implemented by other ministries