

Developments in taxation of Digital Economy



1. 2015 BEPS Action Plan 1: Final Report

- Approach to tax digital economy:
 - (i) Significant Economic Presence ('SEP')
 - (ii) withholding tax
 - (iii) equalisation levy ('EL')



2. 2016 Introduction of EL in India

- India introduced EL on online advertisement and related activities



3. 2018 Interim Report and SEP

- Issue of Interim report by OECD for addressing tax challenges on digital economy;
- India introduces SEP provisions in its domestic tax law subject to revenue and user threshold



4. 2019 Two Pillar Approach

- OECD sets out the two-pillar approach
 - Pillar1: New nexus rules
 - Pillar2: Global minimum tax rules



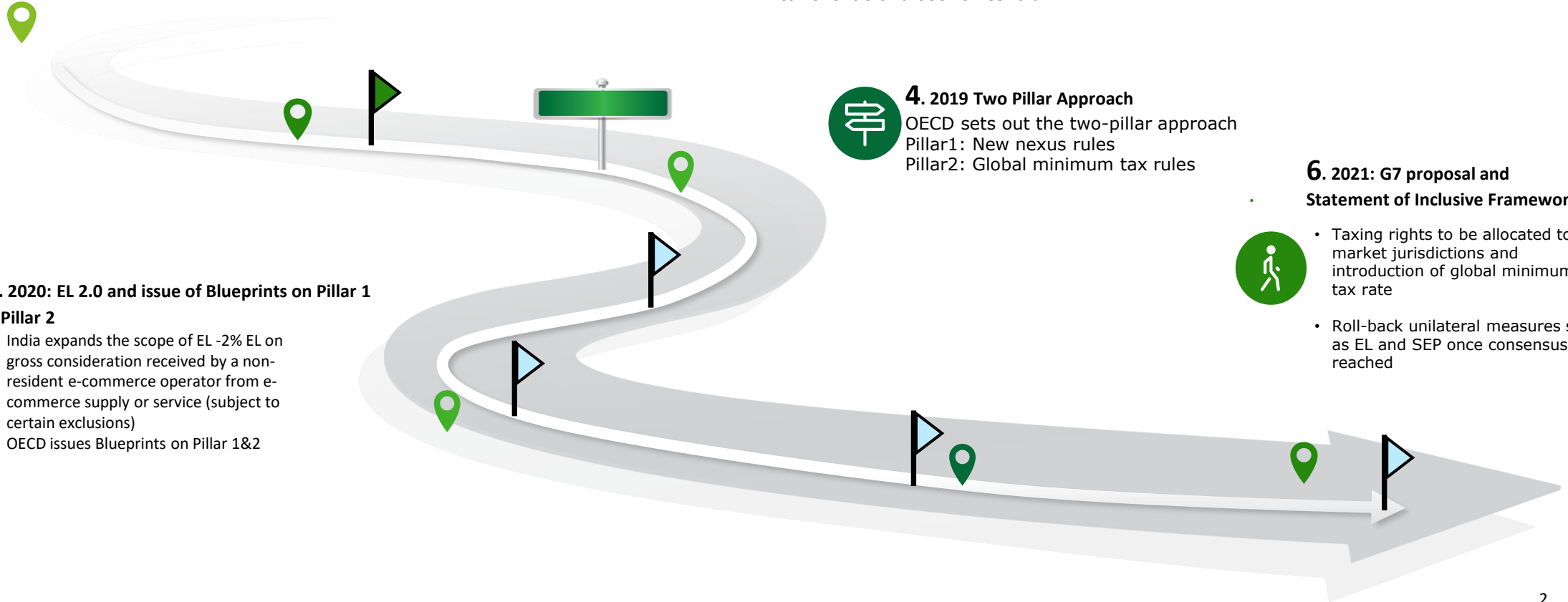
5. 2020: EL 2.0 and issue of Blueprints on Pillar 1 & Pillar 2

- India expands the scope of EL -2% EL on gross consideration received by a non-resident e-commerce operator from e-commerce supply or service (subject to certain exclusions)
- OECD issues Blueprints on Pillar 1&2



6. 2021: G7 proposal and Statement of Inclusive Framework

- Taxing rights to be allocated to market jurisdictions and introduction of global minimum tax rate
- Roll-back unilateral measures such as EL and SEP once consensus is reached



Latest developments on Pillar one and Pillar two



Pillar One and Two – G7, G20, and OECD Inclusive Framework

G7 political agreement

5 July 2021

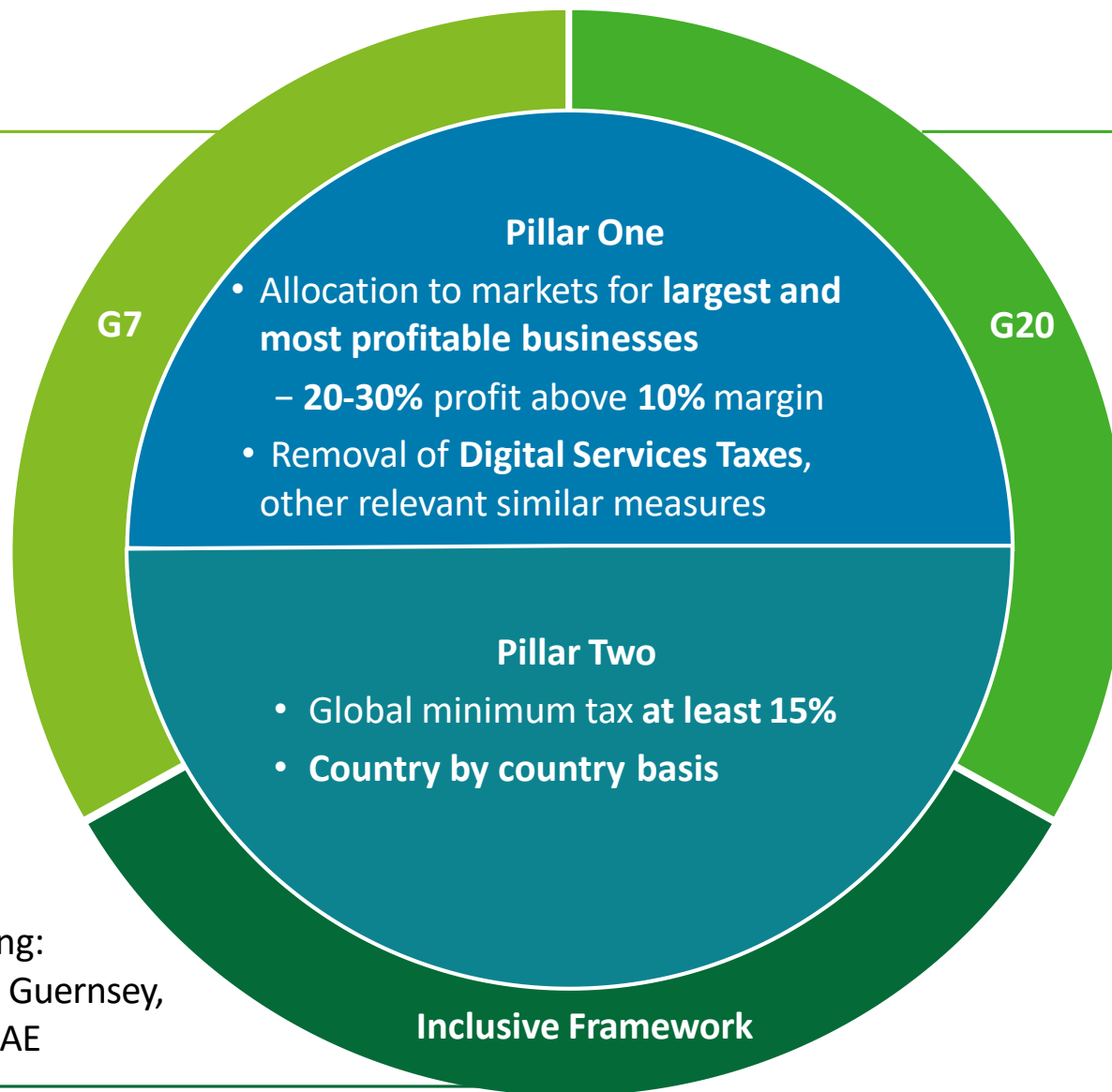
G20 endorsement

10 July 2021

OECD Inclusive Framework statement

1 July 2021

Agreed by 132 countries including:
G7, G20, Switzerland, Bermuda, Guernsey, Isle of Man, Jersey, Singapore, UAE



Seven OECD Inclusive Framework countries not yet signed up:

- Ireland
- Hungary
- Estonia
- Barbados
- Kenya
- Nigeria
- Sri Lanka

Pillar One

Key elements

Pillar One

Key elements

Amount

A

New taxing right

A share of residual profit allocated to market countries using a formulaic approach

Largest
and most
profitable
businesses

Amount

B

Fixed 'baseline' return

For marketing and distribution functions based on the arm's length principle

All
businesses

Tax
certainty

Tax certainty

Through effective dispute prevention and resolution mechanisms

All
businesses

Amount A – new taxing right

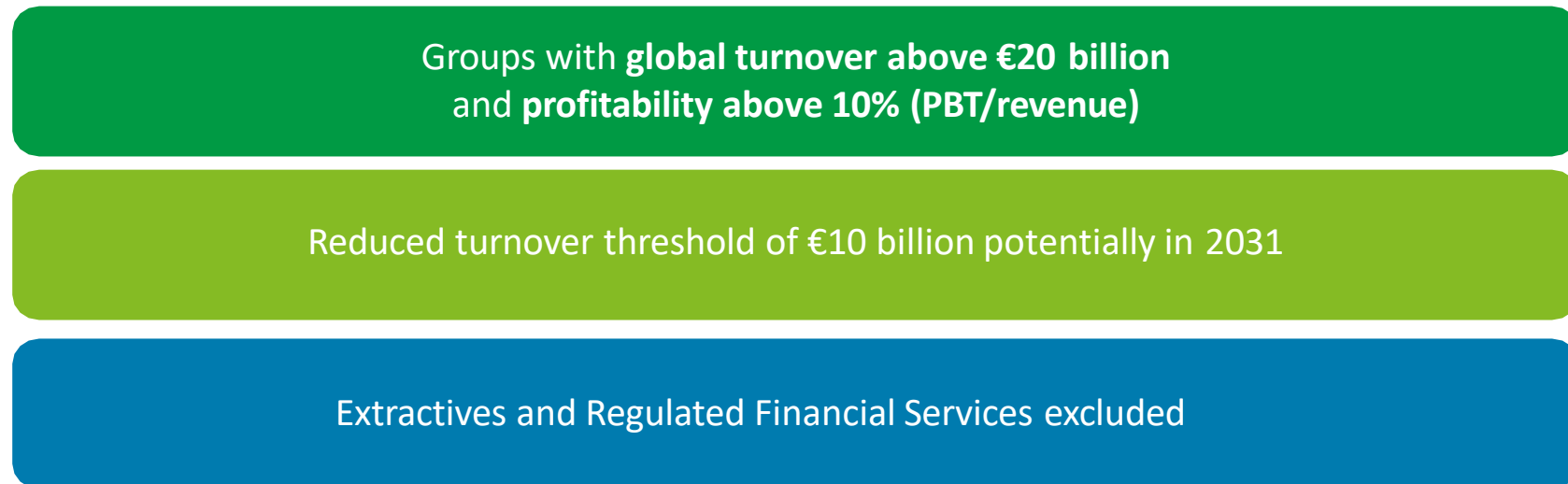
Amount A – new taxing right

Scope

Superseded OECD Blueprint proposal:



Inclusive Framework proposal:



Amount A – new taxing right

Nexus - A market country will only be entitled to an allocation of Amount A if there is a nexus

	Countries with GDP over €40 billion	Countries with GDP less than €40 billion
Local sales threshold to create nexus	€1,000,000	€250,000



The Amount A nexus cannot be used for any other tax purpose (including VAT and customs duties)

Amount A – new taxing right

Tax Certainty

Mandatory and binding dispute prevention and resolution



For **businesses in scope of Amount A**



Includes **all issues related to Amount A**
e.g. transfer pricing and business profits disputes



Disputes on **whether issues relate to Amount A**
will be solved in a **mandatory and binding manner**

Under consideration:
Elective binding dispute resolution mechanism



For **countries with few MAP cases** deferred from **MAP peer review** (e.g. Nigeria, Pakistan, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, Botswana, Albania)



For issues related to Amount A

**Amount B – baseline
marketing and distribution
activities**

Amount B

Baseline marketing and distribution activities

Simplify transfer pricing of **in-country baseline marketing and distribution** activities

Focus on needs of **low-capacity countries**

Technical work completed **by end of 2022**

Per Blueprint:

Applies to **all business sectors**

Fixed return **based on comparable company benchmarking analyses**, under the Transactional Net Margin Method (TNMM), potentially varying by industry and/or region

- Rebuttable if another transfer pricing method would be the most appropriate (e.g. a strong Comparable Uncontrolled Price)

Does not supersede existing **advance pricing agreements / mutual agreement procedure settlements**

Narrow scope – may be buy/sell distributors that take legal title to goods

Pillar Two

Key elements

Pillar Two – global minimum tax

Key elements

All rules operate as a "top up" to a minimum rate

Priority rule

Subject to tax rule
Source country taxation of specific types of **intra-group payments**
Gross level taxation (not a tax on net profits)

Threshold?

Main rule

Income inclusion rule
Large multinational groups pay a **minimum level of tax** in each country in which they operate
Includes the **switch-over rule** to bring overseas permanent establishments within scope of IIR

Group revenues of €750 million+

Backstop rule

Undertaxed payments rule
(backstop)

Income inclusion rule and undertaxed payments rule

Calculation of **effective tax rate**

- **Jurisdictional-blending basis:**
 - Effective tax rate calculated annually **for each country** where the group has entities
 - The **covered taxes** and the **tax base** need to be calculated for each country

- **Covered taxes** are taxes on a group company's **income or profit:**
 - Domestic and foreign taxes on income are included
 - Taxes such as sales taxes, VAT, digital services taxes, are **not** covered taxes

Taxes paid under **controlled foreign company (CFC)** rules are attributed to the country with the underlying income

Income inclusion rule and undertaxed payments rule

Calculation of effective tax rate – tax base

Group accounting
entity-level
profit (or loss)
before tax

- **Starting point:** entity-level data used in preparation of parent company's consolidated financial accounts
- **Subject to some adjustments** (e.g., transfer pricing)
- **Profits attributable to a permanent establishment** determined in accordance with **local tax rules**

Limited number
of **book-to-tax**
adjustments

- Limited number of adjustment for common **permanent items**, including:
 - **Dividends**
 - **Gains/loss on disposal** of shares
 - **Share-based compensation expenses**
- Additional rules to:
 - Mirror local tax deferrals arising from **intragroup transfers of assets**/reorganizations
 - Account for **immediate expensing** and accelerated depreciation of **business assets**
 - Classify **government grants** and **tax credits**

Tax base

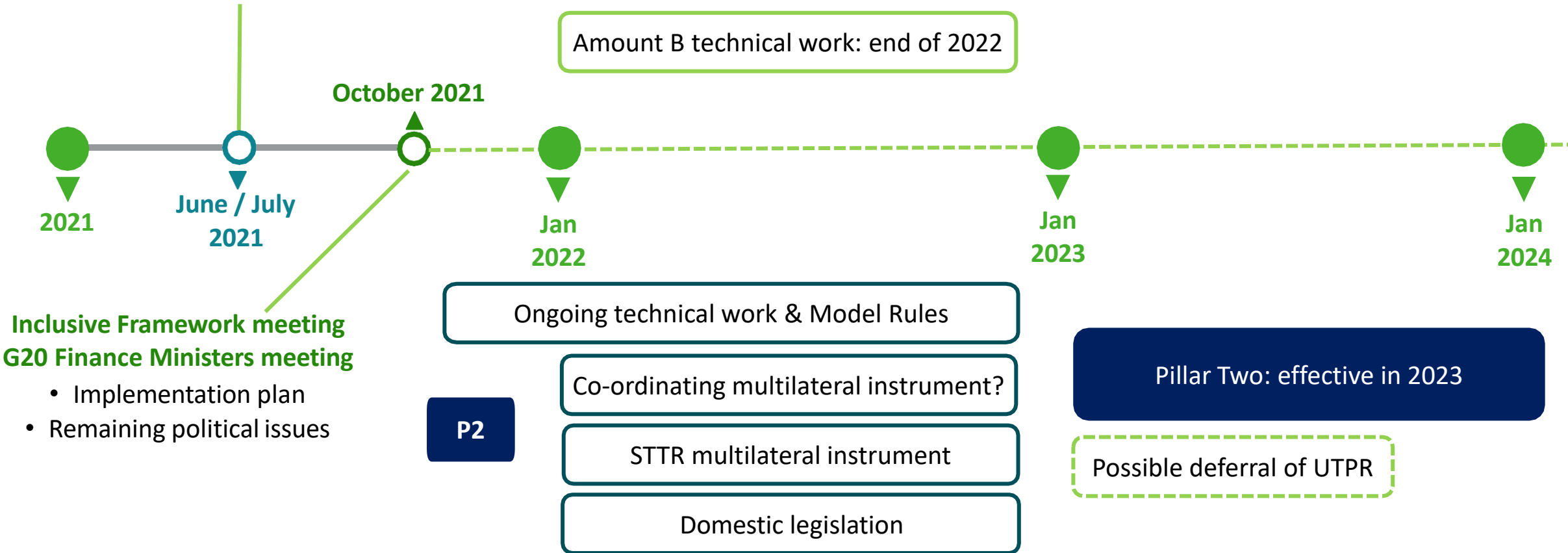
Next steps



Next steps

Key dates

- G7 Finance Ministers meeting
- Inclusive Framework meeting
- G20 Finance Ministers meeting



Panel Discussion





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