Service Overview

DORA Quickstart

Structured preparation for DORA requirements across ICT risk management, resilience, and third-party governance

Overview

Problem

With the entry into force of the Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA), FinTechs and smaller financial institutions face new requirements related to ICT risk management, operational resilience, third-party oversight, and governance. In practice, uncertainty often arises regarding which DORA topics are genuinely relevant, how they interrelate, and in what sequence they should be addressed. This frequently results in over-engineered programs or fragmented initiatives without clear prioritization.

Solution

DORA Quickstart provides a structured assessment of DORA requirements before launching large-scale implementation programs. The module establishes clarity regarding relevance, priorities, and appropriate next steps and enables a robust and defensible decision basis for further DORA alignment, tailored to the organization's business model, size, and existing structures.

Key Benefits

- Clear overview of DORA requirements relevant to your organization
- Transparent prioritization based on risk, effort, and interdependencies
- Reduction of resource misallocation through early prioritization
- Structured foundation for internal decision-making and external alignment
- Robust starting point for subsequent programs or targeted initiatives

Client Profile

DORA Quickstart is designed for FinTechs and smaller financial institutions subject to DORA that seek to systematically assess their current positioning with respect to ICT risk, resilience, and third-party governance.

The module addresses organizations where initial DORA implications are recognized but not yet consolidated into a coherent framework, or where existing structures cannot be clearly mapped to the new regulatory requirements.

Typical Situations

The module is deployed when DORA must be addressed in a structured manner for the first time, such as in preparation for internal programs, external reviews, or strategic decisions regarding implementation scope.

Organizations frequently seek clarity prior to launching broader initiatives, regarding which topics are materially relevant, where action is required, and which steps should be prepared in a logical sequence.

Outcome and Deliverables

DORA Quickstart follows a clearly structured approach that creates a consistent overall view of your DORA exposure and current maturity. The methodology is designed to efficiently leverage existing information and deepen analysis only where necessary for a robust assessment.

Upon completion of DORA Quickstart, you will have a consistent overall view of your DORA exposure and positioning.

The outcome includes a structured mapping of relevant DORA requirements, a prioritized overview of identified action areas, and a transparent recommendation for logical next steps. Interdependencies, sequencing considerations, and potential implementation pathways are clearly articulated, enabling informed decisions regarding scope, timing, and structuring of subsequent measures.

Scope and Limitations

DORA Quickstart focuses exclusively on the structured assessment and prioritization of DORA requirements. The module serves preparatory and decision-making purposes and does not replace detailed implementation programs.

The module does not include detailed implementation of individual DORA requirements, development or operation of technical solutions, or management of comprehensive DORA programs.

Approach and Timing

Phase 1

Kickoff and Scope Definition (approx. 60–90 minutes)

At the outset, we align on your business model, regulatory context, and current governance and outsourcing setup. We clarify the extent to which DORA is applicable and define which thematic areas will be covered within the Quickstart.

Phase 2

Structured DORA Assessment and Maturity Evaluation

Based on available information, we conduct a structured assessment of relevant DORA topic areas. We evaluate current maturity levels with respect to key requirements (e.g., ICT risk management, governance, third-party oversight) and identify dependencies with existing structures and service providers.

The focus is on transparency and prioritization, not on detailed regulatory interpretation or implementation.

Phase 3

Consolidation and Handover

The results are consolidated and documented in a clear and structured format. In a closing discussion, we explain the assessment, present prioritized action areas, and outline potential next steps, such as deepening specific topics or transitioning into further modules.

Timeframe

DORA Quickstart is typically completed within 5–10 business days. The exact timeframe depends on the business model, scope of ICT service providers, and maturity of existing governance and risk structures.

Required Information

To conduct DORA Quickstart, we require a structured overview of your business model, regulatory classification, and existing governance, risk, and outsourcing structures. The required input is intentionally pragmatic and builds on available information and documentation.

Existing policies, overviews, or descriptions related to ICT risk, governance, or service providers are used and jointly assessed. A comprehensive DORA documentation set, detailed gap analyses, or pre-defined action plans are not required. Missing or informally structured elements are transparently identified and structured within the module, without developing new regulatory content or providing legal interpretations.

In addition, a brief outline of the context (e.g., regulatory inquiries, investor requirements, internal preparation) and key ICT service providers is helpful to appropriately calibrate the Quickstart. The module does not require a prepared data room or prior DORA program activities.

Start date/availability

By agreement, typically available at short notice.

Next Steps

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss in a 30-minute introductory call whether DORA Quickstart is appropriate for your situation and which focus areas should be prioritized. You will subsequently receive a binding fixed-fee proposal.

Get in touch

Emanuel Gedeon
Executive Partner
msg for banking ag
Emanuel.Gedeon@msg.group

msg for banking ag
Amelia-Mary-Earhart-Straße 14 I D-60549 Frankfurt a. M. I +49 (0) 69 580 045 – 0
info-banking@msg.group I www.msgforbanking.de