



Swiss Private Sector's Role in Ukraine's Reconstruction

In light of ongoing reconstruction and recovery efforts in Ukraine, the Swiss Federal Council has decided to increase support for Ukraine's reconstruction in collaboration with Swiss companies, with financial assistance provided by the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO). A Call for Proposals will be launched beginning 2025 to allow Swiss companies to submit project proposals aimed at contributing to Ukraine's recovery.

Ukraine's reconstruction efforts are essential for stabilizing the country, fostering economic growth, and improving infrastructure, already during the war. The Swiss private sector, with its expertise and specialised knowledge, but also with its innovative and high-quality products, should make a significant contribution to Ukraine's reconstruction. Therefore, the Federal Council decided in June 2024, to support the better inclusion of the Swiss private sector in reconstruction efforts. These initiatives aim to create local jobs, enhance infrastructure, and build long-term economic partnerships, benefiting both Ukraine and Swiss businesses.

Financial support for Ukraine through Swiss companies

Switzerland plans to support Ukraine in collaboration with the Swiss private sector. In a first phase starting in 2025, individual projects will be implemented based on the existing legal framework for international cooperation with Swiss companies already active in Ukraine. In a second phase, Switzerland plans a systematic cooperation with Swiss companies, including companies that are not yet active in Ukraine.

Call for Proposal to be launched beginning of 2025

To ensure a fair and transparent selection process, a two-stage call for proposals is carried out by SECO and the Swiss Embassy in Ukraine beginning of 2025. This call will invite Swiss companies already operating in Ukraine to submit project proposals that align with Ukraine's reconstruction goals. The overall budget for the call is CHF 50 million whereas each funding ranges between CHF 1 million and CHF 15 million. Further details will be available on SECO's Ukraine webpage as the launch date approaches.

Country
Ukraine

Duration
2025-2028

Private sector measure
Measure 2

Rebuilding Ukraine

According to the Rapid Damage and Needs Assessment conducted by the World Bank in February 2024, at least USD 486 billion is needed to rebuild Ukraine.

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Pilot projects

A pilot project for an individual project has been launched with a Swiss company. Through the provision of a financial contribution from SECO to the Swiss company in Ukraine, critical materials for the winter season 2024, including insulating glass, can be provided. The glass is installed to repair windows which were shattered by Russian attacks on the city, thereby contributing to ensure that there are habitable homes during the winter in Ukraine.

Additionally, at the request of the Ukrainian government, Switzerland is financing rail fastening systems manufactured by a Swiss company (see photo). In total, contribution of CHF 24 million has been realized.

Application process and assessment criteria

Interested companies will be able to submit their proposals via SECO's Ukraine website. To qualify for the subsidies, the Swiss company must (i) be established in Ukraine. Furthermore, Switzerland finances products that (ii) are needed by Ukraine for reconstruction and (iii) the Swiss company offers a specialized product or service. The activities of the Swiss company (iv) serves the public interest in Ukraine and the company provides a service in return (e.g., maintain or create new jobs, training or green transition).

Legal basis and long-term support in Ukraine

Measures to collaborate systematically with the Swiss private sector require the creation of a new legal basis. The preparatory work for the new (formal) legal is currently under way.