



International
Labour
Organization



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
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Switzerland ILO Cooperation

Switzerland is one of the founding Member States of the ILO, the host country and a generous contributor to the ILO's development cooperation programme. Switzerland has ratified 60 Conventions, including the 8 Fundamental, 3 Governance and 49 Technical Conventions.

Strong Swiss Support for Decent Work

Switzerland strongly supports the ILO's efforts to provide decent work, job-related security and better living standards to people in developing countries. Switzerland provides contributions to

the regular budget of the ILO and its development cooperation programme.

Contributions to development cooperation are channelled through the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

In May 2016, the President of Switzerland, Mr Johann Schneider-Ammann and the ILO Director-General, Mr Guy Ryder signed a new Framework Agreement on development cooperation. This Agreement contributes to the realisation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and provides a framework for financial support from both SECO and SDC to specific ILO programme areas aligned to their respective mandates. Within this agreement, SECO supports sustainable enterprises, social dialogue and competitiveness as well as respect for international labour standards, while SDC focuses on ILO's agenda on labour migration and fair recruitment.



SWITZERLAND'S DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION PRIORITIES

The focus of Switzerland's development cooperation is to reduce poverty and global risks, alleviate suffering and promote peace and respect for human rights. Switzerland works to encourage global sustainable development in a way that respects the environment through the sustainable management of natural resources.

The main objective of SECO is to promote economically, environmentally and socially sustainable growth that creates new jobs, encourages higher productivity, and reduces poverty and inequality. More and better jobs prominently figures within the target areas to reach this overarching goal. The SECO priority countries are Albania, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Peru, Serbia, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Ukraine and Vietnam.

The thematic focus of SDC is on agriculture and food security, water, health, basic education and vocational training, migration, private sector development, state and economic reforms, advocacy and good governance, gender equality and women's rights, disaster risk reduction, climate change and the environment.

SDC priority countries and regions are Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Great Lakes, Horn of Africa, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Southern Africa, Tanzania, Northern Africa/Palestine, Hindu Kush (Afghanistan/Pakistan), Bangladesh, Mekong, Nepal, Mongolia, Bolivia, Central America, Cuba and Haiti.

Switzerland provided USD 3.5 billion in official development assistance (ODA) in 2015, which represented 0.52% of its gross national income (GNI). Switzerland is the 8th largest donor of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) in terms of ODA/GNI ratio and the 11th by volume.

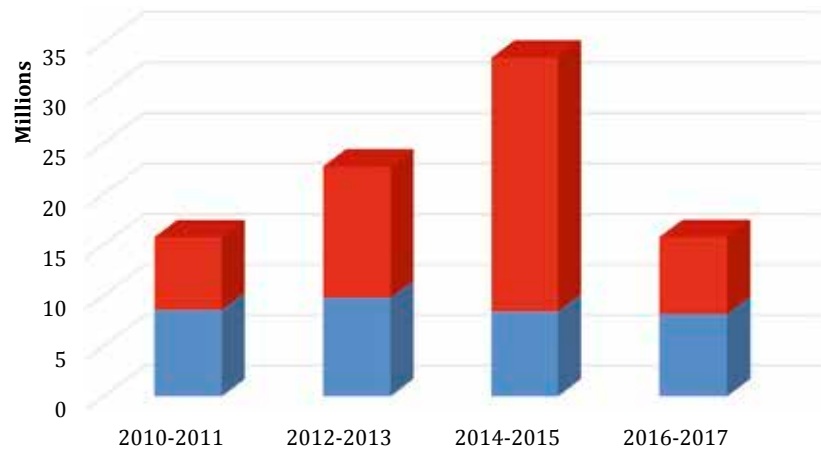
FACTS AND FIGURES ON SWITZERLAND'S FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Switzerland funds the ILO through:

- **Assessed contributions**, which are paid by all ILO Member States by virtue of their membership. Between 2010 and 2017, Switzerland provided more than USD 34.8 million.
- **Voluntary contributions** earmarked to priority programmes and projects. Between 2010 and 2017, it amounted to USD 52.8 million.

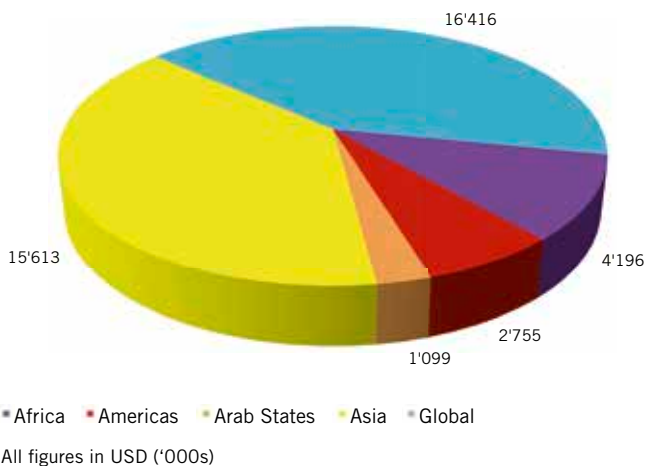
Over the last years, Switzerland's contributions to the ILO have been substantially increased.

Switzerland's Overall Contributions to the ILO



1- All figures in USD
2- As of January 2017

On-going Projects Funded by Switzerland's Voluntary Contributions Worldwide



Better Work

Better Work is a joint ILO/IFC programme to improve working conditions and respect of labour rights in the garment industry, as well as to boost the productivity and competitiveness of apparel businesses.

Currently, it is active in 1,300 factories employing more than 1.6 million workers in seven countries: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Nicaragua and Viet Nam. The independent impact assessment of Better Work shows increased firm productivity (by 22%) and profitability (up to 25%), which can be attributed to reductions in turnover

and injury rates, increases in order sizes, and improvements in balancing production lines. Factories have also seen a reduction in duplicative buyer compliance audits.

Evidence further shows that Better Work is improving working conditions such as abusive practices (forced labour, sexual harassment, and verbal abuse), weekly pay, contracts and working hours. The combination of services, including monitoring compliance, facilitating social dialogue, and training, is critical in achieving these outcomes. Workers in Better Work factories send home up

to 33% more in remittances and see a shift in how money is used, from debt repayment to investments in education, health care, and nutrition. Factories and global brands pay for an increasing share of the cost of services provided by the programme.

With other donors, Switzerland (SECO) is a major contributor to the Better Work Programme, and has contributed an amount of USD 13.5 million over the period 2013-2017. SECO is represented in the Better Work Advisory Committee.

Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprises (SCORE)

SCORE is a practical training and in-factory counselling scheme to improve working conditions and productivity in small and medium enterprises (SME) worldwide. The programme has benefited more than 240,000 workers at over 1,000 participating SMEs. Through the SCORE programme, the ILO supports 28 partner organizations in China, Colombia, Ghana, Indonesia, India, Peru, South Africa and Viet Nam, offering training and consulting services to SMEs in key economic and export sec-

tors. Recent impact data indicate that SCORE is bringing concrete benefits for participating enterprises and workers, including reported reduction in accidents by 35%, lower absenteeism with a decrease by 22%, and decline in labour turnover by 42%. In addition to making improvements in job quality, enterprises trained on the SCORE methodology have created 6,477 new jobs. Switzerland (SECO) together with Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) funds the SCORE Pro-

gramme. It has contributed an amount of USD 13.5 million.



Inclusive Market Development for Decent Work - the Lab

The Lab actively generates new knowledge on how to create more and better jobs in global, regional and local supply chains through supporting projects and new and innovative research.

One of the principle areas of focus within the Lab is to analyse the root causes as to why economic sectors are not currently producing more and better jobs and then focus implementation on addressing these causes by using market incentives. The Lab has supported ILO projects in Tanzania, Zambia, Afghanistan, Mozambique, Peru and Mexico in using better analysis to find

and address these issues. Projects in Afghanistan and Zambia were supported to design commercially viable and scalable interventions that play on market incentives.

The Lab is working with the International Finance Corporation in Cambodia to evaluate the quantity and quality of jobs created by a programme that has reached 34,000 people in the rice sector. The Lab has also worked with the SCORE programme in Peru, catalysing public investment toward improving working conditions for 2,000 workers.

It has also worked with the Fairtrade Foundation in the Dominican Republic to direct investment from UK retailers towards improving wages for 500 banana plantation workers.

On knowledge sharing, the Lab has developed two flagship documents: Value Chain Development for Decent Work and Guidelines for Value Chain Selection. In addition, the Lab delivered two courses on market facilitation as well as on monitoring and results measurement. Switzerland (SECO) has funded the Lab with USD 3.2 million in contributions.



Regional Fair Migration Project in the Middle East (FAIRWAY)

This new ILO initiative supported by SDC with USD 2.34 million aims to promote fair migration and to combat forced labour and trafficking for labour exploitation in the Middle East. The project provides a platform for evidence-based policy advice and builds a policy environment for decent work of migrant workers by addressing discriminatory attitudes. The project operates at

regional level and offers country-specific assistance and support (in Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon and the United Arab Emirates), with a particular focus on the sectors in which low-skilled migrant workers predominate, such as construction and domestic work.

To date, the project has supported unions and civil society organizations on domestic work issues in Lebanon and

Jordan. The publications on recruitment of low-skilled workers in the Asia-Arab States corridor have been influential in setting the policy agenda of the region. Over 2017-18, the project will reach more than 200 key stakeholders from the Government and unions to provide capacity building training on monitoring working conditions, ensuring access to justice and empowering migrant workers.

Application of Migration Policy for Decent Work in Bangladesh

The new initiative is built on a previous ILO project funded by SDC on migration policy, which supported the Government of Bangladesh in accelerating development in three areas: policy frameworks, operational effectiveness, and social protection. This project supports the Government of Bangladesh to opera-

tionalize policy and legal measures, developed through the previous initiative, including the Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Policy 2016 and the Overseas Employment and Migrants' Act 2013.

It strengthens pre-departure training accreditation and welfare services

abroad as well as provides research and technical advisory support for labour negotiations and decent work, including workers' and employers' organizations in the process. In the first phase, SDC contributed USD 3.5 million, in the current phase an additional USD 3.46 million was granted.

Enhancing the Capacity of the Workers' Centre in Jordan to Respond to the Needs of Migrant Workers



Under the Better Work Programme and with support from SDC, the ILO established the Al Hassan Workers' Centre to improve living and working conditions of migrant workers in industrial zones in Jordan. Building on this, the new project expands the services of the Workers' Centre by enhancing the capacity of its staff and diversifying its activities.

Currently, the Centre reaches over 1,000 workers per week, offering them

skills training, access to legal aid and awareness-raising on gender-based violence. In the next two years, the ILO will support the Workers' Centre to expand its services, establishing formal psycho-social and health components, and will facilitate the establishment of a second Workers' Centre in another industrial zone in Jordan. SDC supported this project with USD 450,000.

The Integrated Programme on Fair Recruitment (FAIR)

This SDC-funded programme promotes fair recruitment practices globally and across specific migration corridors in North Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. It seeks to establish fair recruitment corridors to prevent

exploitation of migrant workers, to provide migrant workers with access to reliable information and services as well as to disseminate global and national knowledge about recruitment through engagement with the

media. Through this programme, the ILO supported the adoption of Principles and Operational Guidelines for fair recruitment. SDC contributed an amount of USD 3.8 million.

Contact
International Labour Organization
4, Route des Morillons
CH-1211 Geneva-22 – Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 799 7239 / Fax: +41 22 799 6668
E-mail: pardev@ilo.org
www.ilo.org/pardev

DEPARTMENT
OF PARTNERSHIPS
AND FIELD SUPPORT