



Swiss Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Multilateral Organisations



International Finance Corporation

The private sector arm of the World Bank Group

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is an institution of the World Bank Group that invests in the private sector in developing countries. It uses its capital and expertise to create markets and mobilise private funding in view to achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The IFC also leads the way in developing international environmental, social and governance standards for private sector investments.

The IFC supports businesses through lending, equity investments and trade financing. Thanks to its AAA credit rating, it is able to borrow at low interest rates on global capital markets and lend to its borrowers at favourable conditions. It also works to create a reliable economic policy framework for private investment.

Focus

Private sector

Headquarter

Washington D.C., USA

Established in

1956

Member countries

185, organised in 25 voting groups

Borrowing countries

120

Lending volume in 2022 (USD)

32.8 billion

Total portfolio 2022 (USD)

78 billion

Strategic priorities



Creating investment opportunities



Mobilising private capital



Developing markets in fragile countries affected by conflicts

Cross-cutting themes



Promoting inclusive economic growth and gender equality



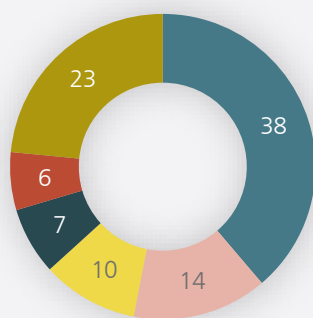
Reaping the benefits of digitalisation



Promoting climate protection and ecological and social sustainability

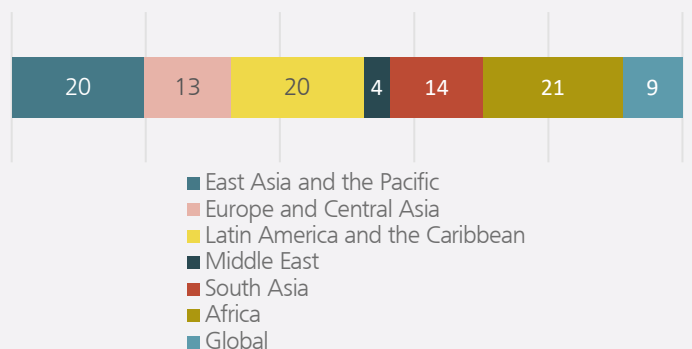
IFC portfolio: creating jobs worldwide and driving innovation

Investment by sector (in %, 2022)



- Financial Markets
- Infrastructure
- Funds
- Manufacturing
- Health and Education
- Other

Investment by region (in %, 2022)

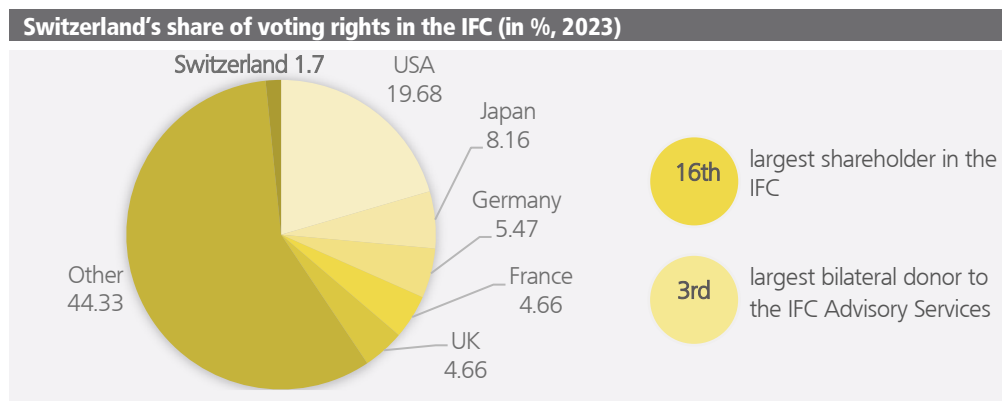


IFC: Switzerland's main partner for promoting the private sector in developing countries and emerging markets

Switzerland cooperates closely with the IFC to promote the private sector in developing countries. As an active member of a voting group of nine countries on the Executive Board of the World Bank Group, Switzerland helps define the strategic, institutional and operational focus of the IFC. It also participates directly in implementing IFC projects – whether as a financial contributor to the IFC Advisory Services or through partnerships with the Swiss private sector. Switzerland's strategic priorities are that the IFC:

- ensures the effectiveness, integrity and sustainability of its projects;
- complies with and continually improves its environmental, social and governance standards;
- promotes the private sector in poor and fragile countries;
- works closely with the World Bank and other development players.

The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation jointly determine the positions Switzerland adopts in the governing bodies of the World Bank Group. Switzerland's interests are represented by a Governor appointed by the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research and a Vice-Governor appointed by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.



Swiss accession
1992

Swiss voting group
Switzerland, Poland,
Azerbaijan,
Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz
Republic, Serbia,
Tajikistan,
Turkmenistan,
Uzbekistan

Swiss paid-in capital until 2022
(USD)
369.8 million

Swiss voting share
1.70 per cent

Swiss contributions to IFC
Advisory Services 2017-2022
(USD)
211 million

Long-term investment portfolio
with Swiss investors (USD)
1.2 billion

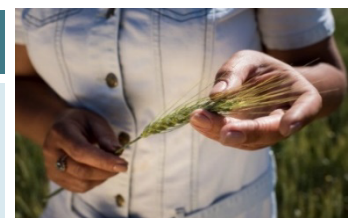
IFC sets international standards

Switzerland is committed to ensuring that the IFC develops, applies and promotes high standards. For example, Switzerland supports the IFC in sharing knowledge on impact investing and in promulgating the Operating Principles for Impact Management at Swiss universities and among pension funds and investors. Introduced in 2019, the principles promote high social and environmental impact standards in commercial investments and are applied by 129 impact investors around the world, including 15 Swiss banks and funds.



Switzerland funds the IFC Advisory Services

Switzerland is one of the largest donors to the IFC Advisory Services. The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, along with the IFC, is involved in areas such as investment climate, financial infrastructure and sustainable cities. Together they test and promote innovative approaches. One example is the Ukraine Crop Receipts Project, which the IFC implemented from 2015 to 2020 with the State Secretariat's support. The project provided farmers access to working capital during the pre-growing season by using the future harvest as collateral. The project has provided farmers in the Ukraine with USD 1.2 billion in funding.



Further information:

www.seco-cooperation.admin.ch www.eda.admin.ch/deza www.ifc.org
info.wemf.cooperation@seco.admin.ch
WEMF, April 2023