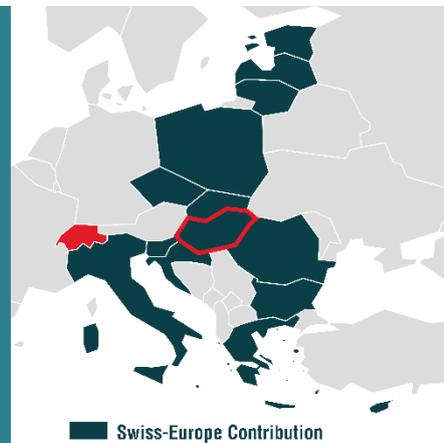


SWISS–HUNGARIAN Cooperation Programme



10 Programmes

87.6 Mio. CHF



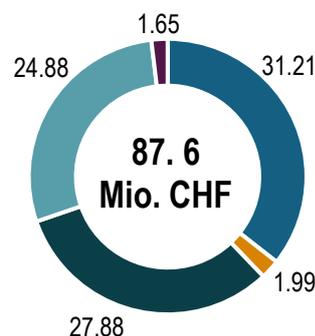
The Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme, implemented between 2022 and 2029, aims to reduce economic and social disparities in Hungary and to further strengthen bilateral cooperation between Switzerland and Hungary. The Cooperation Programme is built on the success of the first Swiss Contribution, which finished in 2017. Switzerland contributes to the Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme with an amount of 87.6 million Swiss francs.

The Second Swiss Contribution has a total value of CHF 1.302 billion and a duration of ten years until 3 December 2029. On 30 June 2022, Switzerland and the EU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Brussels, specifying key parameters of the contribution, such as the amount, its distribution among the partner countries, thematic priorities and principles for cooperation and implementation.



Key Areas of Support

- vocational education and training
- research and innovation
- financing SMEs
- fighting against human trafficking
- energy efficiency and renewable energy
- water and wastewater management
- health and social protection
- minorities



- Promoting economic growth and social partnership and reducing (youth) unemployment
- Support with challenges of migration and integration; increasing public safety
- Protecting the environment and climate
- Strengthening social and health systems
- Project preparation and technical assistance



Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme

The Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme supports thematic programmes and projects in eight different fields. Switzerland provides for a contribution of 85% and the amount of Hungarian co-financing amounts to 15% of the total budget of the Cooperation Programme.

As regards the geographical allocation, the less-favoured regions of North Great Plain, North Hungary and South Transdanubia shall receive at least 50% of the Contribution.

The programmes and projects will be implemented in cooperation with non-governmental organizations and several schemes will involve Swiss partner organizations.

Further information is available on the official website of the Swiss-Hungarian Cooperation Programme: <https://svajcialap.hu/en>



Thematic areas

Vocational and professional education and training

The 'VET Programme Hungary' aims to contribute to the objectives of the Hungarian Strategy VET 4.0, namely the renewal of the attitudes of final examination in VET; strengthening dual vocational education and training with the involvement of SMEs; improving career orientation and guidance to improve the quality of VET teaching and training and enhance the labour market relevance of VET.

Research and innovation

The 'Research Programme' will contribute to the economic growth and competitiveness of Hungary by strengthening the research excellence and innovation capacities of Hungarian research organizations, universities and enterprises and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners. All Programme Components will enhance the relations of the Hungarian research and innovation communities with leading RDI actors and networks in the European Research Area and improve the alignment with ERA policy objectives.

The thematic area will also support a research project, which aims at strengthening the role of Andrassy University as an international research centre and promote academic exchanges with Switzerland.

Financing for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises

The scheme entitled 'Financing SMEs' will support the development of SMEs in the creative industry by providing access to finance in the form of a venture capital fund, in order to enable SMEs to expand and create jobs. The project is expected to increase the added value produced by domestic creative industries, connect their domestic activities into international value chains and expand their export activities.

Providing support to migration management and promoting integration measures

The 'Fight against human trafficking' programme shall increase the effectiveness of the fight against human trafficking by developing prevention measures for the entire society and specifically for vulnerable groups; by improving cooperation between bodies involved in the fight against human trafficking as well as by enhancing the cooperation between Hungary and Switzerland; and by improving services for the reintegration of victims.

Energy efficiency and renewable energy

The Programme 'Geothermal energy resources for district heating' is aimed at the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in district heating systems and the promotion of renewable energies by increasing the use of geothermal energy resources through modernization of existing wells, or the construction of connection of geothermal wells to district heating systems.

Water and wastewater management

The Programme 'Improved water quality in Hungary' aims at improving the water quality in Hungary by strengthening the municipal drinking water supply networks and comprehensive improvements in municipal wastewater treatment plants, including the trial of a targeted elimination of micro-pollutants.

Health and social protection

The 'Hospice-Palliative Care Programme' aims to improve the national system of hospice and palliative care services in order to improve the quality of services and to provide equal access to them by developing a national system of integrated palliative care units on the regional level, by strengthening existing in-home hospice service providers and their cooperation with the integrated units, by further developing new types of services and also by organizing trainings and campaigns.

The goal of the individual project entitled 'Improving life-saving skills for LIFE together' to be implemented by the National Ambulance Service is to create a first aid education network to save lives, prevent long-term health damage and reduce health inequalities.

Minorities and socially disadvantaged groups

The Programme 'Availability of digital spaces and improved digital competencies of disadvantaged groups' aims to increase the digital literacy of disadvantaged people, including Roma, contributing to improve employability among the adult working age population, encourage adult learning with the aim for social inclusion, and improve access to job opportunities. All these contribute to increase their empowerment and lead them to become active citizens.

| Thematic areas | Swiss contribution (CHF, million) |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Vocational and professional education and training | 8.956 |
| Research and innovation | 10.254 |
| Financing for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises | 12.0 |
| Providing support to migration management and promoting integration measures | 1.987 |
| Energy efficiency and renewable energy | 11.945 |
| Water and wastewater management | 15.931 |
| Health and social protection | 14.926 |
| Minorities and socially disadvantaged groups | 9.952 |
| Technical Assistance Fund | 1.300 |
| Support Measure Preparation Fund | 0.349 |
| Total allocation | 87.6 |