

Future areas of cooperation of the Partnership Program

Under the Partnership Program, the following areas of cooperation have been identified:

- **Energy and climate** with a focus on adaptation to climate change, energy efficiency and clean environment. Partnerships in science and technology linked to these fields will also be developed and strengthened
- **Governance** with specific focus on accountability, gender equality and inclusion
- **Knowledge management and south-south cooperation** to promote and facilitate the generation, access, and exchange of knowledge among development partners in India and beyond, at the regional and international levels
- **Humanitarian aid** with a focus on disaster preparedness and prevention

SDC budget worldwide and in India

In 2006, SDC's worldwide annual expenditures was roughly 1.3 billion Swiss francs (1 CHF= 1.25 USD). In India, SDC's budget averaged 21 million Swiss francs in 2006. The future Partnership Program will be more modest in financial terms than the current program. The yearly budget of SDC in India will be gradually reduced over the next few years.

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SDC IN INDIA

1963-2007

Half a century of commitment
to sustainable development



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
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Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC**

SDC at a glance

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is Switzerland's international cooperation agency within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). Development cooperation is an integral part of Swiss foreign policy. The SDC mandate is based on a Law on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid enacted by the Swiss Parliament in 1976. SDC is responsible for the overall coordination of development cooperation activities and humanitarian aid of the Swiss government. SDC supports sustainable development and seeks to improve the living conditions and quality of life of disadvantaged people in the South and East.

SDC employs a staff of around 550 people in Switzerland and abroad. The Agency undertakes direct actions, supports programs of Governments, civil society organisations, multilateral organizations, and helps finance programs run by Swiss and international aid organizations in the following areas:

- **Bilateral development cooperation** aiming at alleviating poverty in 25 countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America
- **Multilateral development cooperation** working in particular with UN organizations, the World Bank, and the regional development banks
- **Humanitarian aid** with prevention, emergency aid, survival assistance, reconstruction and advocacy being the core areas of intervention
- **Cooperation with Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)** supporting democratic and market economy reforms in 10 countries

SDC in India: present since 1963

SDC has been active in India since 1963 with development cooperation programs and humanitarian aid interventions designed to improve the living conditions of poor and marginalized segments of the population and to contribute to sustainable development. To achieve this goal, SDC has focused on strengthening the capabilities and rights of disadvantaged groups, on improving their income and work situation and on supporting public institutions as well as civil society organisations.

Starting with technical collaboration in livestock improvement in Kerala, SDC progressively expanded its activities to other geographical areas in India (mainly in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa and Sikkim) and to other fields such as:

- Natural resource management
- Rural finance and employment
- Rural energy and housing
- Decentralisation and local governance
- Empowerment and Social justice
- Human and Institutional strengthening
- Humanitarian aid

SDC has been cooperating in these fields with a variety of partners, notably community based organizations, non governmental organizations, research and education institutions, central, state and local government.

In addition to SDC, other arms of the government of Switzerland, namely the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the State Secretariat for Education and Research (SER), support economic and research programs in India. A number of Swiss non-governmental organizations, some of them benefiting from SDC support, also have a longstanding involvement in India.

SDC new collaboration with India: A Partnership Program

Considering the fast growing importance of India as a key actor on the regional and international scene, the availability in India of financial and human resources to address the challenge of poverty and sustainable development, as well as the importance to build on more than 45 years of development cooperation in India, SDC in 2006 decided to engage into a new type of collaboration with India called "Partnership Program".

This Partnership Program involves a shift from traditional/classical development cooperation, towards a collaboration based on common interests, on joint ventures and shared investments, with the ultimate aim of reducing poverty. A key feature of this Program is the exchange of know how and technologies between Switzerland and India and the promotion of south-south cooperation.

Between 2007 and 2009 the current cooperation Program will be transformed into the new Partnership Program which will fully come into effect from 2010 onwards.

