

Press clipping¹

Switzerland presented the new strategy for cooperation with Serbia from 2014 to 2017, worth CHF 75 million



Swiss Ambassador to Serbia Jean-Daniel Ruch presented on Wednesday Switzerland's new strategy for cooperation with Serbia from 2014 to 2017, worth CHF 75 million.

The presentation was held at the Swiss embassy in Belgrade, where Ruch said the funds for the strategy were 20 percent higher than before.

Switzerland sees Serbia as a key player in regional cooperation and values their partnership highly, Ruch noted, adding that the strategy confirmed his country's support for Serbia's EU integration.

The strategy relies on the experience from the cooperation between the two countries so far and shows strong commitment and constant support to economic, social and political reforms in Serbia, he said.

Switzerland is one of the biggest investors in Serbia, he remarked, adding that the relations and cooperation between with Serbia were good on all levels, citing as an example the two countries' presidencies of the OSCE this and next year.

Official of the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency Adrian Meter said the assistance to Serbia would target mostly administration, economic development, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.

The humanitarian and development assistance Switzerland has provided for Serbia since 1991 is at CHF 300 million.

Serbia's State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Snezana Jankovic stressed that Swiss investments and assistance were contributing significantly to stability in the Western Balkans.

She believes that the consecutive presidencies of the OSCE by Switzerland and Serbia will strengthen the two countries' relations further and make an important contribution to the work of the OSCE.

¹ Photo source:

International Radio of Serbia site: <http://voiceofserbia.org/content/swiss-funds-cooperation-serbia-be-increased>;

Serbian MFA site: <http://www.mfa.gov.rs/sr/index.php/pres-servis/saopstenja/12123--2014-2017?lang=lat>

Info source:

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International Radio of Serbia;

B92 site :http://www.b92.net/info/vesti/index.php?yyyy=2014&mm=02&dd=05&nav_category=11&nav_id=808731

Serbian MFA site : <http://www.mfa.gov.rs/sr/index.php/pres-servis/saopstenja/12123--2014-2017?lang=lat>