

The Swiss Cooperation Programme 2020-23 pays attention to:

- Leveraging Switzerland's unique role as a neutral stakeholder committed to upholding dialogue and pursuing an unbiased and even-handed policy with regard to a peaceful resolution of the conflict in eastern Ukraine.
- Promoting public integrity and trust in institutions by supporting citizen engagement and tapping into the potential for digitalisation and the use of e-governance tools.
- Social inclusion of vulnerable groups to ensure that reforms reach those left behind, and that IDPs and other conflict-affected persons are better protected.
- Promoting framework conditions that ensure equal and reliable access to markets and opportunities for people and enterprises.
- Supporting innovative private sector initiatives that contribute to the creation of employment and economic opportunities.
- Working across the development-humanitarian-peace nexus in eastern Ukraine to support more sustainable outcomes for conflict-affected persons.
- Supporting cultural diversity, intercultural dialogue, democratization and peaceful relations between people, communities and the state.



General Overview

The overall goal of Swiss Cooperation is to support Ukraine on its path towards peace and towards an inclusive society, in which women and men equally contribute to and benefit from public integrity and sustainable growth.

The Swiss Cooperation Programme Ukraine 2020-23 has been prepared in close consultation with the Ukrainian government and partners. It strategically contributes to the country's pathway towards sustained recovery, the implementation of the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Swiss Cooperation Programme covers four domains:

- 1) Peace, Protection and Democratic Institutions;
- 2) Sustainable Cities;
- 3) Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Competitiveness;
- 4) Health.

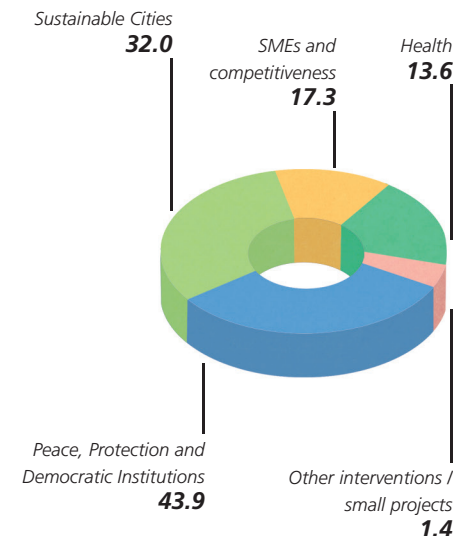
All domains are impacted by the humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine: under this Cooperation Programme, activities are further expanded into the east of the country.

Further contribution to SDGs



Resources and modalities 2020-23

Total estimated expenditures for 2020-23:
ca. CHF 108 million (or an average CHF 27 million annually).



Swiss Cooperation applies different aid modalities and engages with a diverse set of partners in policy dialogue, coordination and operational activities, including government counterparts, international development partners, Ukrainian non-governmental and civil society organisations, and the private sector.

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Swiss Confederation

Swiss Cooperation Programme Ukraine 2020-23 at a glance



Peace, Protection and Democratic Institutions

The overarching objective of this domain is to **promote a peaceful resolution of the conflict in eastern Ukraine, ensure respect for international humanitarian law, foster human rights and strengthen democratic governance while also addressing the consequences of the conflict.**

The convergence of peacebuilding, humanitarian aid, protection and support for governance reforms is a new feature of this Swiss Cooperation Programme.

Dialogue, diplomatic efforts and projects, including through seconding experts to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in support of the Minsk process, contribute to respect for international humanitarian law and a peaceful resolution of the armed conflict.

Switzerland supports an inclusive delivery of public services that address the needs of vulnerable groups (socially unprotected people, low mobility groups, the elderly, parents with children, and the conflict-affected population) by strengthening democratic institutions and effective public management, including in the government-controlled areas of eastern Ukraine, fostering citizen and particularly women's engagement, promoting respect for human rights and delivering targeted humanitarian assistance.

This contributes to recovery, enhanced state-citizen relations and social cohesion in Ukraine in support of **SDG 16**.



Sustainable Cities

The objective of this domain is to **accelerate low-carbon economic growth and improve the quality of life for people in urban areas of Ukraine.**

Switzerland prioritises better municipal energy management. It will expand its work on integrated urban development and sustainable urban mobility.

Selected small and medium-sized cities, including in eastern Ukraine, will prioritise new or rehabilitate old municipal infrastructure, provide affordable low-carbon and economically viable heating services and favour resource-efficient production through enhanced energy management, stronger local capacities and policy dialogue.

Partner cities will also improve public transport and promote user-friendly public spaces thanks to improved strategic planning and the development of multi-modal mobility systems. These measures rely on inter-departmental cooperation within municipalities and on private sector and civil society participation, in particular women, low-mobility groups and internally displaced persons (IDPs). In the long run, cities' attractiveness for investors and residents will be increased, sustainable economic growth will be fostered and the quality of life in urban areas will be enhanced in support of **SDG 11**.



SMEs and Competitiveness

The objective of this domain is to **facilitate competitive and inclusive growth.**

Switzerland continues to prioritise market access and value chain development with a focus on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the agricultural sector. It will expand financial sector support and access to finance for SMEs. It will more prominently address access to vocational education and training, and to employment (including for people living with disabilities).

Thanks to improved macro-economic conditions, a modernised regulatory framework, enforcement of the rule of law, strengthened service providers as well as access to inclusive and responsible financial services, a competitive environment will be built, where business and job opportunities for Ukrainian SMEs, including in conflict-affected areas and for women entrepreneurs, will be increased.

Skills tailored to market needs will enhance the employability of the labour force, both men and women, and facilitate access to more and decent jobs in support of **SDG 8**.



Health

The objective of this domain is to **improve the health of the population, especially of people affected by the conflict.**

Switzerland prioritises enhancements in health sector governance, quality and affordable primary health care (PHC) services, and health literacy.

Strengthened leadership of health authorities as well as enhanced competences and skills of caregivers and healthcare managers will contribute to improved and more efficient quality services at PHC level.

The Ukrainian population (in particular men, young adults and children) will adopt healthier lifestyles and better health-seeking behaviour thanks to complementary health literacy activities and to active community engagement, which will lead to an improved health status in support of **SDG 3**.

Switzerland places emphasis on integrated community-based mental health services and psychosocial support tailored to gender-specific needs, considering the impact of the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

Special attention is also paid to addressing domestic violence and gender based violence (GBV), notably by supporting zero-tolerance towards GBV in society through awareness-raising.

