

# The Swiss Cooperation Programme in Kosovo 2017-2020



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**Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC**

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# Switzerland's Engagement for the Citizens of Kosovo

Starting with humanitarian assistance in 1998, Switzerland's cooperation has increasingly been shifted to supporting transition processes, developing in the meanwhile into a trusted partnership between the two countries, based on mutual interests.

The Swiss Cooperation Strategy 2017–2020 is rooted in the spirit of the agreements of cooperation between the governments of Switzerland and Kosovo. Today, Switzerland is Kosovo's third largest bilateral development partner.

The overall goal of the Swiss programme is to contribute to the progress of Kosovo on

its path towards regional and European integration, fostering a democratic political system, a peaceful and cohesive society, providing inclusive access to essential services, the rule of law and a social market economy.

The Swiss cooperation programme for the period 2017-2020 focuses on the following priority themes:

- Democratic Governance and Human Security
- Economy and Employment
- Water and Climate Change Resilience
- Health



# Democratic Governance and Human Security

Democratic governance and a culture of dialogue with citizens are crucial to build a socially-inclusive democracy in Kosovo.

Switzerland supports the municipal authorities in providing public services in a more accountable, transparent and effective manner. It also encourages active citizen

and civil society engagement in policy-making processes. At the national level, the focus is on inclusive institutions as key enablers of social cohesion, especially in relation to dealing with the past, human rights, the search for political consensus, and the dialogue on normalization of relations with Serbia.



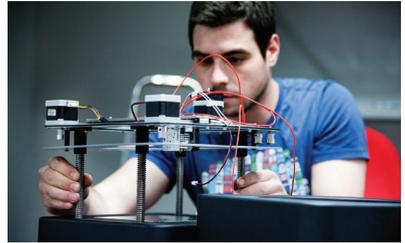
# Economy and Employment

Local and foreign investment is vital to boosting economic growth and increasing employment opportunities.

Switzerland supports Kosovo in improving the doing business environment, through streamlining and easing business regulations.

It further contributes to vocational education and training towards building a functional system where the available skills meet the labour market demands.

Swiss support to career guidance and job placement programmes increases the likelihood of young women and men finding employment, and in turn, helps companies engaging adequately trained people.



# Water and Climate Change Resilience

The main objective is to ensure access to high-quality and affordable water and sanitation services that improve livelihoods.

Switzerland works towards this by fostering policy dialogue, by strengthening the institutions managing and governing the water sector, and by investing in drinking water

networks, sanitation systems and wastewater treatment facilities.

It also raises general awareness about responsible water usage. In addition, public services are encouraged to participate in efforts to protect the environment and mitigate the impact of climate change.



# Health

Switzerland contributes to modernizing Kosovo's health services by supporting the introduction of a mandatory basic health insurance scheme. At the local level, the programme aims to improve the quality of care by strengthening the capacities of medical staff and encouraging citizens to access the services available.

Particular attention is placed on the needs of disadvantaged and excluded groups. Strengthening the system to prevent, address and manage non-communicable diseases is an important focus area as well as increasing the health literacy of the population and strengthening demand and social accountability within the system.



# Migration

Switzerland has had a migration partnership with Kosovo since 2010. The programme aims to build capacities among Kosovo's migration authorities with a set of targeted measures in migration policy and management. It also seeks to counter mig-

ratory flows by improving the social inclusion of marginalised groups, who are among those more inclined to migrate. In addition, it explores ways to foster the contributions of Kosovo's diaspora to the country's social and economic development.

# Working Modalities

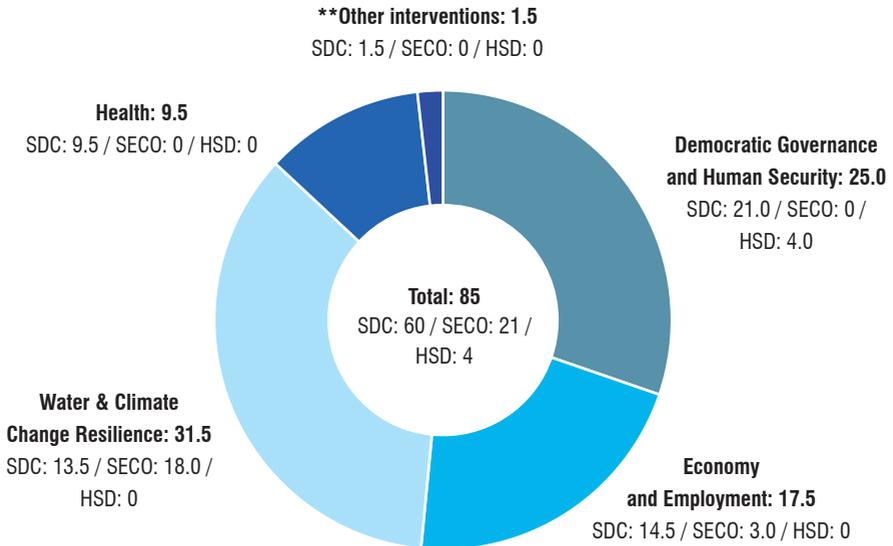
Switzerland's work is grounded in formal agreements with the Government of Kosovo.

The Swiss cooperation programme in Kosovo uses a mix of implementation modalities and cooperation with a variety of stakeholders, such as multilateral and bilateral agencies, state authorities, local and

international NGOs, the private sector and think tanks. In the implementation of the programme, particular attention is given to the transversal themes good governance and gender equality.

The financial commitments for the period 2017-2020 amount to CHF 85 million.

## Commitment planning by theme and source of funding 2017-2020



\*\* without office management costs, including small actions/global credit SCO

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<https://www.eda.admin.ch/countries/kosovo/en/home/international-cooperation/strategy.html>

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