



Federal Councilor Karin Keller-Sutter and Minister of Interior, Nicos Nouris: 31.10.2022 Signature of Migration Framework Agreement.

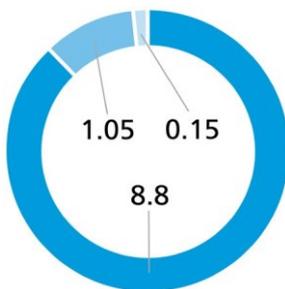
## Second Swiss Contribution

# Swiss–Cypriot Cooperation Programme

### Background:

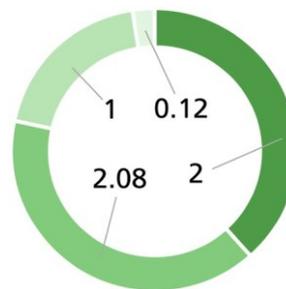
The second Swiss contribution is an investment in Europe’s security, stability and prosperity. It seeks to strengthen cohesion in Europe and to support countries that face exceptional migration challenges. Through the second Swiss contribution, Switzerland is furthermore strengthening and deepening bilateral relations with the EU partner countries and the EU as a whole.

Framework Credit Migration (in Mio. CHF)



- Infrastructure / Strengthen asylum procedures
- Voluntary Return and Reintegration
- Technical Assistance

Framework Credit Cohesion (in Mio. CHF)



- Center of Expertise for Rare Diseases
- Infrastructure for Preventing and Handling of Family Violence
- Committee on Missing Persons
- Technical Assistance

On the 31st of October 2022 Switzerland and Cyprus signed a framework agreement for the implementation of migration-related projects and on the 12th of December 2022 the two countries signed a framework agreement for the implementation of projects to reduce social and economic disparities. With a contribution of CHF 10 Mio. to strengthen migration management in areas such as asylum procedures, infrastructure and voluntary return and reintegration and a contribution of CHF 5.2 Mio. to preventing and handling domestic violence, supporting the establishment of a Centre of Excellence on rare diseases and contributing to the activities of the Committee on Missing Persons, Switzerland and Cyprus highlighted the importance to cooperate closely in facing a variety of challenges. The Swiss-Cypriot Cooperation Programme focuses on areas where the partner country has substantial needs and where Switzerland's own experience and expertise can bring added value. Support measures under the Cooperation Programme have been initiated in 2023 and run until the end of 2029.



Swiss Ambassador Christoph Burgener and Minister of Finance, Constantinos Petrides sign the bilateral Implementation Agreement, 12.12.2022.

### Support Measures:

Currently, the following four support measures are being implemented within the Swiss-Cypriot Cooperation Programme: The support measure "Committee on Missing Persons" aims to strengthen efforts of restoring trust and fostering reconciliation between communities in Cyprus. And the objective of the support measure "Assisted Voluntary Hub" is to establish a facility where vulnerable migrants receive pre-departure assistance for a successful reintegration in their home country, while the new infrastructure for the Cypriot Asylum Service aims to increase the capacity of handling asylum procedures and administrative tasks. The one concerning the Centre of Expertise for Rare Diseases is about establishing a multidisciplinary centre where people get medical and psychosocial support. It is an inclusive centre, as it welcomes and works together with the patients, their family and the community. And last but not least, the contribution to SPAVO is about creating more access to safe space among others for survivors of domestic violence.

## Committee on Missing Persons

### Partner Authority

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus

### Executing Agency/Project Operator

UNDP Cyprus, <https://www.cmp-cyprus.org/>

### Project Duration

21.09.2023 – 31.12.2026

### Budget

CHF 1 Mio

### Description

The overall objective of this project is to close, as much as possible and without further delay, the painful chapter of missing persons in Cyprus' history and contribute to restoring trust and fostering reconciliation between the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. The remains of missing persons are to be recovered, identified and returned to their families.

## New infrastructures for Preventing and Handling Family Violence

### Partner Authority

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus

### Executing Agency/Project Operator

SPAVO (Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family), <https://domviolence.org.cy/en>

### Project Duration

01.04.2024 – 31.03.2028

### Budget

CHF 2.08 Mio.

### Description

The project's overall objective is the expansion, in terms of geographic coverage and capacity, of support services for survivors of domestic violence, through (a) new infrastructure facilities, in the cities of Nicosia, Limassol and Larnaca, thereby responding to the increased needs for support of gender-based violence victims and (b) actions improving the skills of staff in managing domestic and gender-based violence.

## Center of Expertise for Rare Diseases

### Partner Authority

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus

### Executing Agency/Project Operator

The Karaiskakio Foundation, <https://karaiskakio.org.cy/en/>

### Project Duration

01.04.2024 – 31.03.2028

### Budget

CHF 2 Mio.

### Description

The main objective of the project is the establishment of a multidisciplinary thematically focused Center for Rare Diseases, with emphasis on psychosocial support and inclusion. The project includes the design and construction of state-of-the-art facilities to accommodate and host the Center's team of multidisciplinary clinical and social scientists, aiming to provide holistic, comprehensive disease management and psychosocial support to people living with rare diseases and their families.

## Infrastructure for the Cypriot Asylum Service and Capacity Building for Asylum Procedures

### Partner Authority

The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Cyprus

### Executing Agency/Project Operator

SPAVO (Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family), <https://domviolence.org.cy/en>

### Project Duration

01.04.2024 – 31.03.2028

### Budget

CHF 2.08 Mio.

### Description

The project's overall objective is the expansion, in terms of geographic coverage and capacity, of support services for survivors of domestic violence, through (a) new infrastructure facilities, in the cities of Nicosia, Limassol and Larnaca, thereby responding to the increased needs for support of gender-based violence victims and (b) actions improving the skills of staff in managing domestic and gender-based violence.

## Assisted Voluntary Returns Hub (AVR Hub)

### Partner Authority

Ministry of Interior, Civil Registry and Migration  
Department

### Project Operator

IOM, Greece [www.greece.iom.int](http://www.greece.iom.int)

### Project Duration

15.05.2024 – 14.05.2025

### Budget

CHF 1.05 Mio.

### Description

The Support Measure aims to develop infrastructure for asylum seekers, especially focusing on women with children, those with medical conditions, pregnant women and women who are destitute and do not have the means to support themselves. It foresees the operation of a specialized accommodation facility, with a capacity of up to 40 places, which shall ensure safe living conditions and provision of basic services to residents awaiting voluntary return to their countries of origin. Additionally, it will function as an Assisted Voluntary Returns hub, facilitating pre-departure assistance and accelerating the safe and dignified return.



Swiss Ambassador Christoph Burgener and Permanent Secretary, Directorate General Growth, Ministry of Finance, Andreas Zachariades sign the Technical Support Agreement, 20.07.2023.

For more information on the implementation of  
the Swiss-Cypriot Cooperation Programme

please visit our website:  
[www.eda.admin.ch/nicosia](http://www.eda.admin.ch/nicosia)

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Embassy of Switzerland  
Prodromou  
2 Dimitrakopoulou Street  
1090 Nicosia  
[www.eda.admin.ch/nicosia](http://www.eda.admin.ch/nicosia)  
[nicosia@eda.admin.ch](mailto:nicosia@eda.admin.ch)

**SWISS – CYPRIOT**  
Cooperation Programme

