

Second Swiss contribution: Overview of programmes implemented in the 13 Partner States (Cohesion)

This list is a summary of the selected 60 programmes set out in the Annexes to the respective bilateral Framework Agreements. All Framework Agreements with the EU-13 have been signed and thus, the list is final.

18 July 2024

Partner State	Programmes (Support Measures / SM)	Allocation per SM in CHF (=85% of the Programme) ¹	Allocation total 2 nd Swiss Contribution in CHF per Partner State
Bulgaria	Air Quality: «Improved air quality through a modernized and recognized national air quality measurement system and scientific partnership» To contribute to environmental protection by modernising the national air quality monitoring system in Bulgaria. Also, by processing, communicating and disseminating environmental data in the field of air quality, as well as using these data to implement policies.	15 000 000	92 500 000
	Pesticide: «Monitoring, control and disposal of obsolete pesticides and prevention measures» Improving the environmental quality of historically polluted sites and reducing the risk to human health by the disposal of pesticides and agrochemical waste. Strengthening the control and monitoring system for hazardous substances, eliminating pesticides and chemical products that are dangerous to humans and the environment, as well as strengthening training for the competent authorities and prevention.	15 000 000	

¹ This total amount per programme per partner state does not include the Technical Support Fund (TSF) (between 0.00-2.3% of the total amount per partner state).

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	<p>National Park: « Visitor infrastructure and sustainable use of a national park»</p> <p>To contribute to environmental protection, the climate and conservation of biodiversity by implementing a pilot model in the Rila Nationalpark of sustainable use and resource efficient management. Energy efficient infrastructure projects will be implemented in combination with capacity building, awareness raising and further activities / measures in the areas of sustainable tourism and biodiversity.</p>	15 000 000	
	<p>Swiss-Bulgarian Research Program</p> <p>Scientific cooperation and exchange between Bulgarian and Swiss researchers is encouraged with a view to strengthening international research networks</p>	10 000 000	
	<p>Mainstreaming dual vocational education and training</p> <p>Economic growth and reduced youth unemployment through mainstreaming dual education principles in vocational education and training schools.</p>	5 000 000	
	<p>Integration of migrants & Return and reintegration of victims of trafficking in human beings</p> <p>Migrants provided with international protection in Bulgaria receive comprehensive integration services and support in the initial months of independent living. Moreover, the additional objective is to return and (re-) integrate victims of trafficking and other migrants.</p>	3 700 000	
	<p>Improving public safety and security</p> <p>Public safety and security in Bulgaria are improved.</p>	4 000 000	

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	<p>Fighting corruption and promoting integrity</p> <p>The Support Measure aims at strengthening the Bulgarian institutional integrity and transparency mechanisms necessary to curb corrupt practices and increase citizen trust in public institutions.</p>	1 500 000	
	<p>Health Prevention and Promotion</p> <p>The health literacy of adolescence and children is increased.</p>	3 500 000	
	<p>Health and Education for all</p> <p>Health and education needs of vulnerable groups and the excluded ethnic minorities in particular are met.</p>	8 000 000	
	<p>Swiss-Bulgarian Civic Engagement and Transparency Facility</p> <p>More Bulgarian citizens are actively engaged and participate in a more transparent and inclusive public debate regarding decisions that affect them.</p>	10 000 000	
Croatia	<p>«Water supply and waste-water management»</p> <p>To contribute to environmental protection and sustainable economic development, by improving the municipal drinking water network and wastewater infrastructure, as well as enhancing professional skills in these sectors. Particular emphasis is placed on the use of small-scale hydroelectricity in water infrastructures.</p>	23 000 000	45 700 000
	<p>“Research Programme Croatia”</p> <p>The programme contributes to Croatia’s economic growth and competitiveness by strengthening research excellence and innovation capacities of Croatian research organizations, universities and enterprises and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners.</p>	8 000 000	

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	<p>“Civic Engagement”</p> <p>The programme shall finance activities selected under calls for proposals and provide capacity building and management support to civil society organisations. The programme will contribute to balance regional socio-economic growth and democratic development of the Republic of Croatia by strengthening the capacities of civil society organisations.</p>	7 620 000	
	<p>“Palliative Care Programme”</p> <p>The overall objective of the programme is to improve the quality of life of incurable patients and their family members, empowering key stakeholders in the healthcare system in order to provide an optimal level of palliative care in the future.</p>	5 500 000	
Cyprus	<p>Center of Expertise for Rare Diseases (Karaiskakio Foundation)</p> <p>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 centre’s team of multidisciplinary clinical and social scientists, aiming to provide holistic, comprehensive disease management and psychosocial support to people living with rare disease and their families.</p>	2 000 000	5 200 000
	<p>New Infrastructures for Preventing and Handling of family violence (SPAVO)</p> <p>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.</p>	2 080 000	

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	<p>Committee on Missing Persons</p> <p>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.</p>	1 000 000	
Czech Republic	<p>«Sustainable tourism and enhancing biodiversity»</p> <p>The Programme aims to address two main causes of biodiversity decline, namely human interference with ecosystems (e.g. landscape fragmentation) and over exploitation of ecosystems (e.g. excessive tourism). The programme consists of two pillars: 1) improving the management of visitor flows in national parks (sustainable tourism), and 2) focusing on the fragmentation of the landscape and river network in order to improve connectivity between species populations and the state of ecosystems (biodiversity).</p>	38 400 000	76 900 000
	<p>«Czech–Swiss Research Infrastructure Initiative»</p> <p>Boost the scientific research in the Czech Republic by promoting Czech-Swiss bilateral cooperation initiatives within research infrastructures. Focus will be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - facilitating the integration of ELI Beamlines into the international networks, its promotion and attracting researchers to perform their research in this research facility; - financing of partnership initiatives between national nodes of distributed infrastructures in which Switzerland and Czech Republic participate either as member or observer. 	13 000 000	



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	<p>«Assisting Migrants to Integrate into the Czech Republic»</p> <p>The programme aims to contribute to the systemic change by involving all relevant actors in the field with a focus on two areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Social area: Activities of a non-economic nature that will be aimed at involving migrants and asylum seekers into the economic, social, labor and community life of the society. - Employment: Focus on strengthening economic self-sufficiency, with particular emphasis on maximizing the use of the qualification potential of foreign nationals so that they find employment appropriate to their education and qualifications. 	14 000 000	
	<p>«Home care»</p> <p>Support to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal care by increasing the quality and safety of healthcare, especially nursing - Informal care through the support of informal caregivers, including the creation of support programs taking into account the health and social limits of care provided in one's own social environment. 	10 000 000	

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Estonia	<p>Supporting Social Inclusion</p> <p>The programme sets out to implement the vision of the national strategy “Estonia 2035” and “Cohesive Estonia Strategy 2030” with the aim to unify value systems and strengthen people’s cultural, social and economic connection with the country. The programme renders integration support in four areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural and linguistic integration: Opportunities for practicing Estonian, improvement of the cultural integration between different communities, media literacy and parental counselling on adaption and integration. • Strengthening social systems and child protection thereby also addressing the specific needs of migrants and refugees. • Preparation of Estonian educational institutions and professionals and youth work specialists to work with children of migrants and refugees with the goal of facilitating their economic inclusion and work prospects, including professional recognition. <p>Civil society: to strengthen civil society through civic engagement and CSO action, focusing on social inclusion of migrants and refugees through social innovation.</p>	18 600 000	26 000 000

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	<p>Biodiversity</p> <p>The biodiversity programme seeks to contribute to the improvement and preservation of the conservation status of species and habitats through a decision-making process that relies on high-quality data, including innovative monitoring solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of innovative monitoring solutions. • Ensuring operative data transition between different databases. • Making environmental data more accessible for public. • Setting up and validating digital toolset for the governance. • Evaluation of management effectiveness planning of protected areas, revision of site-based conservation objectives and measures for protected species and habitats and additional compilation of site-based management plans. <p>The evaluation and additional compilation of national action plans for species and habitats and the revision of protected categories of species.</p>	6 930 000	
Hungary	<p>“Strengthening SMEs through enhanced access to finance” To diminish inequalities among EU member states, economic growth in Hungary is augmented by supporting SMEs in the creative industries through a venture capital fund. This strengthens their growth and export potential and allows to secure or generate jobs.</p>	12 000 000	87 600 000
	<p>“Geothermal energy resources for district heating”</p> <p>Protecting the environment by rehabilitating geothermal plants and connecting them to district heating networks, to reduce green gas emission and promote renewable energy sources.</p>	11 945 000	

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	<p>“Improved water quality in Hungary”</p> <p>To contribute to a better health and a cleaner environment, municipal drinking water supply networks are improved to filter magnesium and iron, while selected wastewater treatment plants are expanded with a fourth treatment stage to eliminate micropollutants. A strategic white book on dealing with those micropollutants in the wastewater sector is drawn up, incorporating the analysed data of the pilot plants.</p>	15 931 000	
	<p>“Hospice Palliative Care Programme”</p> <p>The aim of the planned programme is to improve the national system of hospice and palliative care (PC) in order to improve the quality of life of the patients and their families by strengthening the coordination through expanding the integrated model to other locations; increasing the awareness and knowledge of specialists and civilians; improving near home services and by establishing a day-care centre for those patients who are being cared for at home.</p>	7 960 000	
	<p>“VET Programme Hungary”</p> <p>The ‘VET Programme Hungary’ aims to contribute to the objectives of the Hungarian Strategy VET 4.0, namely the renewal of the attitudes of final examination in VET; strengthening dual vocational education and training with the involvement of SMEs; improving career orientation and guidance to improve the quality of VET teaching and training and enhance the labour market relevance of VET.</p>	8 956 000	
	<p>“Improving life-saving skills for LIFE together”</p> <p>The project aims to increase the knowledge and abilities of the population in first aid and life-saving. The project will mainly focus on establishing a well-functioning local instructors and emergency helpers’ networks and lifesaving/first aid and health education trainings; and to develop online platform and e-learning materials.</p>	6 966 000	

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	<p>“Availability of digital spaces and improved digital competencies of disadvantaged groups”</p> <p>In line with the HNSI Strategy 2030 and the Action Plan, the aim of the programme is to contribute to the social inclusion of socially disadvantaged people and communities, especially Roma, in disadvantaged areas by improving their access to online services and digital infrastructure, as well as by increasing their digital literacy in order to improve their ability to use the opportunities in the digital world. As a result, the Roma will be able to take advantage of online opportunities, leading to enhanced social inclusion and empowerment as well as to strengthened relationship with public authorities enabling them to become more active citizens.</p>	9 952 000	
	<p>Research Programme Hungary</p> <p>The Research programme will contribute to economic growth and competitiveness in Hungary by strengthening the research excellence and innovation capacities of Hungarian research organizations, universities and enterprises and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners. All programme components will enhance the relations of the Hungarian research and innovation communities with leading RDI actors and networks in the European Research Area and improve the alignment with ERA policy objectives and strengthen bilateral cooperation with the Swiss RDI community in particular.</p>	9 554 000	
	<p>“AUB Changing Orders Research”</p> <p>The aim of the project is to sustainably strengthen the position of Andrassy University Budapest (AUB) as an international research centre that plays an important role in Swiss-Hungarian relations in social sciences, strategic studies, European studies (enlargement research) and democratic innovations.</p>	700 000	



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	<p>“Fight against trafficking in human beings”</p> <p>The ‘Fight against human trafficking’ programme shall increase the effectiveness of the fight against human trafficking by developing prevention measures for the entire society and specifically for vulnerable groups; by improving cooperation between bodies involved in the fight against human trafficking as well as enhancing the cooperation between Hungary and Switzerland; and by improving services for reintegration of victims.</p>	1 987 000	
Latvia	<p>«Partnership in applied research for Advanced Materials, Information and Communication Technology and Smart Energy»</p> <p>Strengthening Latvia as a research location by supporting applied science projects in the fields of advanced building materials, ICT and smart energy, including facilitating cooperation with Swiss research institutions in these programmes.</p>	10 000 000	40 400 000
	<p>«Remediation of historical pollution»</p> <p>Contribute to a safe and healthy environment by enabling the remediation of an historically oil-contaminated site in Aizkraukle, preventing further pollution emissions into groundwater and the Daugava River.</p>	12 200 000	

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	<p>“Advancement of pediatric cancer care in Latvia”</p> <p>The programme contributes to the paediatric cancer as well as rare disease treatment and research of the Children’s Clinical University Hospital (CCUH). The programme focuses mainly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The improvement of clinical infrastructure and the provision of suitable training and instructions; • The facilitation of collaboration with other international expert institutions and networks to benefit through the sharing of knowledge; • Advanced diagnostics, capacity building of healthcare and other professionals • The development of personalised and comprehensive follow-up care system for cancer and rare diseases survivors <p>The improvement of patient satisfaction with provided services.</p>	7 500 000	
	<p>“Stronger work-based learning for improving vocational education and training in Latvia”</p> <p>The programme aims to move the vocational education and training (VET) system in Latvia from the current school-centred system to a company-based system - similar to the Swiss dual VET approach. This should result in genuine cooperation between vocational schools and companies in selected sectors.</p> <p>The programme also contributes to improving the pedagogical and methodological skills of vocational education teachers and to modernising learning materials.</p>	10 000 000	
Lithuania	<p>Vocational Education and Training</p> <p>The Vocational Education and Training (VET) programme in Lithuania aims to ensure the relevancy of the VET system to the labour market needs by improving the match between the competences acquired in the education system and the requirements of the labour market. The implementation of the programme will address main gaps of the current vocational education training for lifelong learning by providing necessary developments for more labour-market relevant and more inclusive VET system which promotes economic growth.</p>	4 388 000	45 200 000



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	<p>Maternal and Child Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>The programme envisages improving the quality and accessibility of maternal, infant and child healthcare and social services, with an emphasis on outpatient care. The programme focuses mainly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the quality and accessibility of outpatients' health care services for pregnant women, newborns and infants; • Improving the health and wellbeing of infants and children with development disorders through the implementation of holistic child development services; <p>Adopting a systemic and integral approach, the programme will work along multiple strategic axes, including the development of strategies, standards, guidelines of diagnostics, treatment and evaluation as well as the acquisition of necessary medical equipment and the capacity building of health and social care staff.</p>	29 550 000	
	<p>Civic Engagement</p> <p>Overall goal of the programme is to empower civil society by strengthening its participation in the decision making, improving competences of civil society organizations and the wellbeing of disadvantage groups including residents with migratory background.</p> <p>It will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening civic participation in decision making by developing tools for civic participation in decision making focusing on the first-time participants (youth and residents with migratory back-ground); • Strengthening civic society organizations through development of an accountability standard for NGOs, focusing on migrant-led local level organizations. <p>Increasing the quality of volunteering through the development of an organizational standard for quality volunteer management including the development of virtual volunteering (e-volunteering) activities and its quality.</p>	9 750 000	

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Malta	<p>Health</p> <p>The main objective is to enhance comprehensive measures regarding heart diseases in Malta.</p>	3 560 000	3 560 000
Poland	<p>«Polish-Swiss Programme for Development of Towns (DoT)»</p> <p>Contribute to reducing economic and social disparities in Poland, by improving the quality of life of the inhabitants of small/medium-sized towns that are gradually losing their status as regional centres (decline in economic activity, exodus of the working population, etc.). Support for around 15 Polish towns in "individual" development programmes (infrastructure funding and capacity building).</p>	278 700 000	320 100 000
	<p>“Research and Innovation (R&I) Programme”</p> <p>The programme aims at strengthening the research excellence and innovation capacities of Polish research institutions and enterprises through collaborative projects with Swiss and other international partners. The strengthened integration of participating researchers into European and international networks will lead to increased competitiveness and higher success rates in research programmes. The application of research results in industry and economy will benefit the society at large.</p>	35 000 000	
Romania	<p>“Strengthening SMEs through enhanced access to finance Programme”</p> <p>To increase the economic growth in Romania while diminishing social inequalities among EU member states, SMEs are financially supported to boost sustainable production and employment.</p>	39 000 000	221 500 000

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	<p>«Energy efficiency and renewable energy Programme»</p> <p>Protecting the environment, by raising energy efficiency and promoting the use of renewable energies in towns and cities.</p>	60 000 000	
	<p>«Improvement of access to the Bucharest metro network Programme»</p> <p>Reduce social exclusion by identifying solutions to provide a better access to the Bucharest metro, particularly for people that are physically impaired.</p>	9 700 000	
	<p>“Research Programme Romania”</p> <p>Strengthening Romania as a science location by providing access to the pan-european research networks ACTRIS and METHAN, enabling high-quality data collection, research infrastructure and training in the field of earth science to study the effects of climate change and air pollution.</p>	7 400 000	
	<p>“Dual VET Programme”</p> <p>Objectives: Strengthen Romanian dual vocational education and training (DVET) system with the involvement of schools and private companies</p>	10 000 000	

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	<p>“Research Programme Romania”</p> <p>Objectives: Contribute to the economic growth and competitiveness of Romania by strengthening the research excellence and innovation capacities of Romanian research organizations and universities and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners. Both programme components will enhance the relations of the Romanian research and innovation communities with leading RDI actors and networks in the European Research Area and improve the alignment with ERA policy objectives.</p>	13 000 000	
	<p>“Public Security and Safety Programme (Ministry of Internal Affairs)”</p> <p>Objectives: Strengthen Romania’s capacities in the field of public security, the fight against organized crime and the trafficking in human beings as well as enhance disaster preparedness.</p>	20 000 000	
	<p>“Public Security and Safety Programme (Ministry of Justice)”</p> <p>Objectives: Strengthen the capacity of the judicial system to effectively combat crime and uphold the rule of law.</p>	10 000 000	
	<p>“Health Services Programme”</p> <p>Objectives: Improve citizens’ access to Romanian quality health services in remote areas.</p>	10 000 000	
	<p>“Social Inclusion Programme”</p> <p>Objectives: Reduce economic and social disparities between communities by focusing on decentralized integrated services for disadvantaged communities and social cohesion in selected countries.</p>	20 000 000	
	<p>“Civic Engagement Programme”</p> <p>Objectives: Strengthen Romanian civic engagement and Civil Society.</p>	18 000 000	

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Slovakia	<p>«Promoting Sustainable Tourism and Strengthening Biodiversity in Protected Areas»</p> <p>Promoting sustainable tourism, raising public awareness of nature protection, improving infrastructure in national parks and protected areas while enhancing biodiversity.</p>	22 800 000	44 200 000
	<p>«Improving quality and attractiveness of the initial and higher vocational education and training (VET)»</p> <p>The Project shall bring flexible permeability to the educational system. It shall increase the interconnection of vocational education with labour market needs through the adjustment and innovation of the existing vocational education fields. To this end, the dual approach in VET shall be strengthened, new education fields and qualifications created, technical school leaving exams reformed and career counselling services improved.</p>	5 750 000	
	<p>“Swiss-Slovak Health Programme”</p> <p>Strengthen cooperation between the national, regional and local structures in order to provide comprehensive and improved prevention services to citizens, especially to vulnerable groups of the population.</p>	15 000 000	
Slovenia	<p>«Energy efficiency and renewable energy»</p> <p>The programme aims to promote renewable energy in Slovenia. It includes the creation of a digital tool for local energy plans, the use of surface geothermal energy in public buildings, the promotion of renewable energy communities in schools and a pilot project in the field of agri-photovoltaics.</p>	15 120 000	16 000 000
	<p>Solidarity to the Recovery Fund Floods August 2023: 200'000.- CHF</p> <p>Switzerland has pledged CHF 200,000 from the SDC humanitarian emergency fund to help the victims of the floods, as well as to participate in the reconstruction efforts, in particular through an exchange of know-how.</p>		