

## Areas of cooperation

In India, SDC is active in the following areas of cooperation:

- **Climate change** with a focus on adaptation, energy efficiency, renewable energies and clean environment.
- **Decentralisation and local governance** with a focus on supporting exchange of experiences, lessons and relevant practices relating to decentralisation across the South Asian countries as well as between Switzerland and India.
- **Humanitarian aid** with a focus on disaster preparedness and prevention.

In the programmes it supports, SDC is committed to strengthen **good governance** principles, notably accountability towards identified stakeholders, facilitating participation of concerned communities and promoting gender equality.

A key feature of SDC Programme in India is **Knowledge management and south-south cooperation** to promote and facilitate the generation, access to, and exchange of knowledge among development partners in India and beyond, at the regional and international levels.

## SDC budget worldwide and in India

SDC's worldwide annual expenditures roughly amounts to 1.3 billion Swiss francs (1 CHF = 0.9 USD). In India, SDC's budget averaged 17 million Swiss francs in 2007. The new Programme will be more modest in financial terms and is planned to average 8 million Swiss francs per year.

**Swiss Cooperation Office, New Delhi**  
Embassy of Switzerland  
Swiss Cooperation Office India  
Chandragupta Marg, Chanakyapuri  
New Delhi 110 021  
India

Phone : +91 11 268 77819  
Fax : +91 11 268 73631  
Email : [delhi@sdc.net](mailto:delhi@sdc.net)  
Website : [www.sdcindia.in](http://www.sdcindia.in)



## SDC IN INDIA

Since 1963...

Half a century of commitment  
to sustainable development



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

**Swiss Agency for Development  
and Cooperation SDC**



## SDC at a glance

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is Switzerland's international cooperation agency within the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA). Development cooperation is an integral part of Swiss foreign policy. SDC mandate is based on a Law on Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Aid enacted by the Swiss Parliament in 1976. SDC is responsible for the overall coordination of development cooperation activities and humanitarian aid of the Swiss government. SDC supports sustainable development and seeks to improve the living conditions and quality of life of disadvantaged people in the South and East.

SDC employs a staff of around 550 people in Switzerland and abroad. The Agency undertakes direct actions, supports programmes of Governments, civil society organisations, multilateral organizations, and helps finance programmes run by Swiss and international aid organizations in the following areas:

- **Bilateral development cooperation** aiming at reducing poverty. SDC is active with many projects on all continents. In the South, development cooperation is particularly intense in 21 countries.
- **Multilateral development cooperation** working in particular with UN organizations, the World Bank, and the regional development banks
- **Humanitarian aid** with prevention, emergency aid, survival assistance, reconstruction and advocacy being the core areas of intervention
- **Cooperation with Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)** supporting democratic and market economy reforms in 10 countries.

## SDC in India since 1963

SDC has been active in India since 1963 with development cooperation programmes and humanitarian aid interventions designed to improve the living conditions of poor and marginalized segments of the population and to contribute to sustainable development. To achieve this goal, SDC has focused on strengthening the capabilities and rights of disadvantaged groups, on improving their income and work situation and on supporting public institutions as well as civil society organisations.

Starting with technical collaboration in livestock improvement in Kerala, SDC progressively expanded its activities to other geographical areas in India (mainly in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Orissa and Sikkim) and to other fields such as

- Natural resource management
- Rural finance and employment
- Rural energy and housing
- Decentralisation and local governance
- Empowerment and Social justice
- Human and Institutional strengthening
- Humanitarian aid

SDC has been cooperating in these fields with a variety of partners, notably community based organizations, non governmental organizations, research and education institutions, central, state and local government.

In addition to SDC, other arms of the government of Switzerland, namely the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the State Secretariat for Education and Research (SER), support economic and research programmes in India. A number of Swiss non-governmental organizations, some of them benefiting from SDC support, also have a longstanding involvement in India.

## SDC new collaboration with India

Considering the fast growing importance of India as a key actor on the regional and international scene, the availability in India of financial and human resources to address the challenge of poverty and sustainable development, as well as the importance to build on more than 45 years of development cooperation in India, SDC in 2006 decided to engage into a new type of collaboration with India.

The new Programme involves a shift from traditional/classical development cooperation, towards a collaboration based on common interests and shared investments, with the ultimate aim of reducing poverty. A key feature of this Programme is the exchange of know how and technologies between Switzerland and India and the promotion of south-south cooperation.

