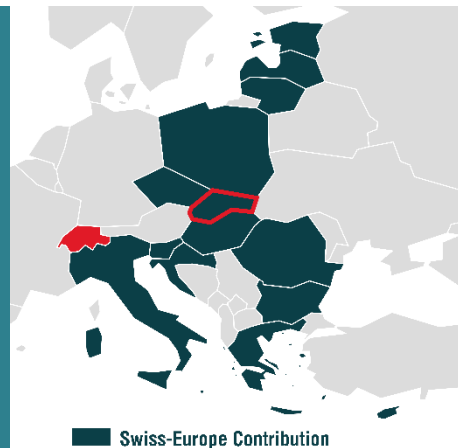


SWISS-SLOVAK Cooperation Programme

3 Programmes

44.2 Mio. CHF



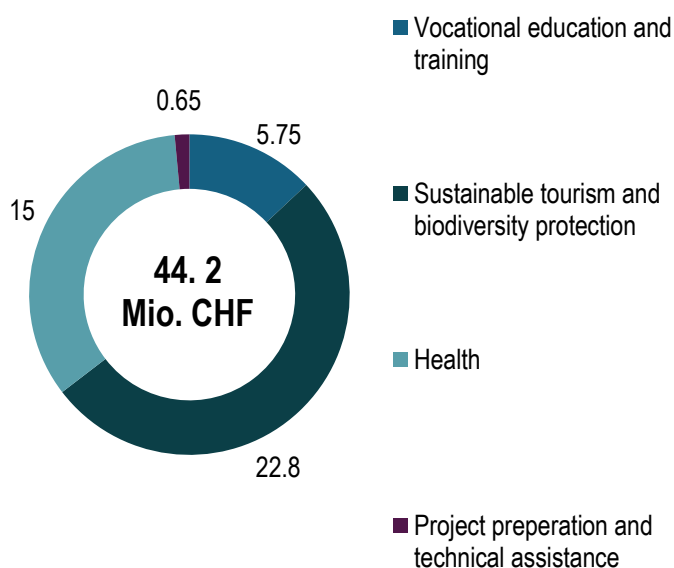
The Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme, implemented between 2023 and 2029, aims to reduce economic and social disparities in Slovakia and to further strengthen bilateral cooperation between Switzerland and Slovakia. The Cooperation Programme is built on the success of the first Swiss Contribution, which finished in 2017. Switzerland contributes to the Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme with an amount of 44.2 million Swiss francs.



Key Areas of Support

- Vocational education and training
- Sustainable tourism and biodiversity protection
- Health

The Second Swiss Contribution has a total value of CHF 1.302 billion and a duration of ten years until 3 December 2029. On 30 June 2022, Switzerland and the EU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in Brussels, specifying key parameters of the contribution, such as the amount, its distribution among the partner countries, thematic priorities and principles for cooperation and implementation



Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme

The Framework Agreement between Switzerland and Slovakia on the implementation of the Second Swiss Contribution, signed on September 18th 2023, provides the basis of the Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme. The Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme supports thematic programmes and projects in three different fields. Switzerland provides for a contribution of 85% and the amount of Slovak co-financing amounts to 15% of the total budget of the Cooperation Programme. The Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme takes into account Slovakia's present needs and provides opportunities for capacity-building and transfer of Swiss expertise in common areas of interest. The responsibility for the development and subsequent implementation of individual support measures lies primarily with the Slovak partners, whereas Switzerland makes available experience and know-how gained in Switzerland and internationally.



Thematic Areas

Vocational Education and Training

The Project's objective is to improve the quality and flexibility of the vocational education and training system in Slovakia, better addressing labour market needs and strengthening connections with employers. The Project will focus on three areas: strengthening workplace-based learning, increasing permeability of the system, and the education and integration of foreigners into the labour market. The Swiss Federal University of Vocational Education and Training will provide and share its expertise within this project.

The Project is planned for 55 months, with total contribution of CHF 5.75 Million.

Sustainable tourism and biodiversity protection

The objective of the Programme is to protect the environment and the climate through development and implementation of sustainable tourism and creation of conditions for ecosystem protection and strengthening biodiversity in protected areas across Slovakia. This Programme consists of two components. Component 1 will be implemented in all nine National Parks of Slovakia with a focus on sustainable tourism management, i.e. supporting

investments into essential visitor infrastructure and activities for sustainable tourism. Moreover, in the most frequented national parks a shift from resource-intensive tourism towards sustainable tourism offers is foreseen. This will reduce the burden on nature in highly stressed areas and helps the recovery of habitats and ecosystems. Component 2 will be synergetic to component 1, focusing on particular measures in protected areas (in and around National Parks) directly aiming at halting the loss of biodiversity. Component 2 will be implemented through a call for proposals.

Health

The goal of the Swiss-Slovak Health Programme is to support the implementation of the Slovak Strategic framework for health care for 2014-2030, in particular the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCD) and the advancement of health promotion. The strategic focus shall be placed on strengthening the cooperation between the national and regional structures in order to provide comprehensive and improved services to citizens and improve disease prevention especially among vulnerable groups of population. The primary aim of the Programme is to prevent non-communicable diseases at their onset; hence, the core focus of the Programme lies with the primary prevention.

Further information about the Swiss-Slovak Cooperation Programme:

<https://swiss-contribution.sk/?lang=en>



SWISS – SLOVAK
Cooperation Programme

