

EU ENLARGEMENT CONTRIBUTION FOR SLOVENIA

22 MILLION FRANCS



Population: 2 million

Swiss imports from Slovenia: 321.9 million francs Swiss exports to Slovenia: 315.9 million francs

Real GDP growth rate: -0.2 percent

Purchasing power in relation to EU-Ø (2010): 85.0 percent

(Source: Eurostat, Swiss Foreign Trade Statistics, 2011)

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

8 projects, accounting for some 20.9 million francs, have been approved in Slovenia. All projects further one of the following objectives:

Promoting economic growth and improving working conditions

Training in accounting and auditing regulations

The application of international standards to accounting and auditing practices improves the investment climate and helps prevent financial crises. This is why Switzerland is supporting Slovenia in its efforts to implement EU law governing corporate financial reporting and audits.

Scholarship programme

The "Scientific Exchange Programme between the New Member States and Switzerland", or Sciex-NMS.ch for short, enables doctoral and post-doctoral researchers from Slovenia to work in Switzerland for limited periods. This helps extend cooperation between Swiss and Slovenian research institutes and to promote Slovenia as a location for research.

Improving social security

Prevention and diagnosis of cancer

This project finances two modern linear accelerators for radiation therapy in the University Hospital of Maribor, in this way increasing its radiation therapy capacity for the treatment of cancer. For the people of Northern Slovenia, waiting times for treatment have been reduced due to this facilitated access to treatment and in particular the shorter transport distances.

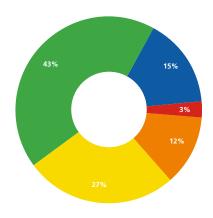
Protecting the environment

Energy efficiency, renewable energies and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions

A noise barrier along a motorway is equipped with solar panels. In the near future, 38 public buildings will be heated with solar energy, biomass and heat pumps. The buildings include schools and kindergartens, a swimming pool as well as two information centres in Triglav National Park. In addition, public buildings will be better insulated and various information events, brochures and training programmes on the subject of renewable energy sources will be organised to raise awareness among the general public, local business people, teachers and pupils.



Figure: Allocation of the Swiss contribution to the enlarged EU by project goal



Promoting economic growth and improving working conditions

2 Projects CHF 2,500,000

Improving social security

1 Project CHF 5,526,200

Protecting the environment

2 Projects CHF 8,973,800

Strengthening civil society

1 Project CHF 3,226,000

Project preparation + technical assist.

2 Projects CHF 630,000

Total CHF 20,856,000

The remaining amount covers expenses for administrative costs on the Swiss side.



Strengthening civil society

Promotion of civil society and knowledge transfer through partnerships with Switzerland

The fund for partnerships and NGOs will provide the resources to strengthen civil society in Slovenia, and partnerships will be developed between Swiss and Slovenian municipal authorities, institutions, associations and foundations. Overall, about 50 NGO and partnership projects will be carried out within the framework of the fund.

You can find additional information at http://www.swiss-contribution.admin.ch/slovenia/

