

# Switzerland

## AID PRIORITIES

Switzerland's international cooperation efforts aim to reduce poverty and global risks, alleviate suffering, and promote peace and respect for human rights. Through such activities, Switzerland works to encourage global sustainable development in a way that respects the environment through the sustainable management of natural resources. In practice, Swiss international cooperation is implemented through five pillars and three entities: humanitarian aid (SDC), technical cooperation and financial aid for development (SDC), economic development cooperation (SECO), transition cooperation in eastern Europe (SDC, SECO) and measures to promote peace and human security (HSD). The strategic priorities are set in the Federal Council's Dispatch on Switzerland's International Cooperation 2017–2020.

Under the Dispatch 2017–2020, Switzerland focuses its efforts on several priority areas, including increased funding for corporate development, basic education, professional skills development and vocational training; strengthening gender equality and the rights of women and girls; economic growth for the benefit of all; increasing emergency aid in order to better help and protect people affected by crises and disasters; promoting the resolution of armed conflicts by peaceful means; maintaining presence in fragile contexts, with a special emphasis on sub-Saharan Africa; playing a pioneering role in areas of global scope, such as food security, climate change and environment, water, migration and international finance and trade; and strengthening partnerships with the private sector and diversifying sources of funding for sustainable development.

## WASH PROGRAMME TARGETS/OUTCOMES

For more than 40 years, Switzerland has been committed to improving water management and making it one of the priority themes of its development cooperation by being able to rely on recognized expertise (research, NGOs, start-ups and the private sector). It has put in place a coherent water policy that affects different levels (local, regional, global) and different actors. Switzerland is thus recognized as one of the leading players in this field. It has also given impetus to multinationals to make a concrete commitment to solving the water crisis.

WASH is the single largest sector in the overall water portfolio for SDC – the bilateral expenditure in WASH in development and in the humanitarian aid domain was CHF 422 million over 2010–2017, which is just over half of the total. In 2017, 31.1 million people (50% women) gained new access to safe and affordable drinking-water, and 21.7 million people (50% women) gained new access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene.

SECO systematically applied the corporate development approach for water utilities. This approach improved water services through better management of the water utilities, support to self-financing capacities and was an important step in the direction of improved creditworthiness of these utilities.

## WASH STRATEGY/ACTIVITIES

Switzerland's international cooperation 2017–2020 is geared towards seven strategic objectives, all of which reinforce the water and sanitation sector interventions:

1. Contribute to the development of an international framework for responding to global challenges;
2. Prevent and manage the consequences of crisis and disaster, and of fragility, promote conflict transformation;
3. Support sustainable access to resources and services for all;
4. Promote sustainable economic growth;
5. Strengthen the rule of law and democratic participation, and support institutions serving society and the economy;
6. Ensure the respect for human rights and fundamental liberties, and support efforts to advance their cause; and
7. Strengthen gender equality and the rights of women and girls.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is the frame of reference for Switzerland's international cooperation. Therefore, Switzerland's international cooperation is committed to ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, aligned with SDG 6 and its water-related targets, in a climate of peace and stability.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### SDC Water 2015 – Policy Principles and Strategic Guidelines

[https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/deza/en/documents/themen/wasser/25138-integrated-water-resource-management\\_EN.pdf](https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/deza/en/documents/themen/wasser/25138-integrated-water-resource-management_EN.pdf)

### SDC Global Programme Water (GPW) Strategic Framework 2017–2020

<https://www.eda.admin.ch/dam/deza/en/documents/themen/wasser/gpw-strategy-final-EN.pdf>

### Federal Council's Dispatch on Switzerland's International Cooperation 2017–2020

<https://www.eda.admin.ch/deza/en/home/sdc/strategy/legal-bases/message-international-cooperation-2017-2020.html>

## BUDGET

SDC overall water budget: CHF 160 million annually / Global Programme Water: CHF 30 million annually (2017–2020)

## TIME PERIOD

SDC Water 2015 Policy: initially 2005–2015

GPW Strategic Framework: 2017–2020

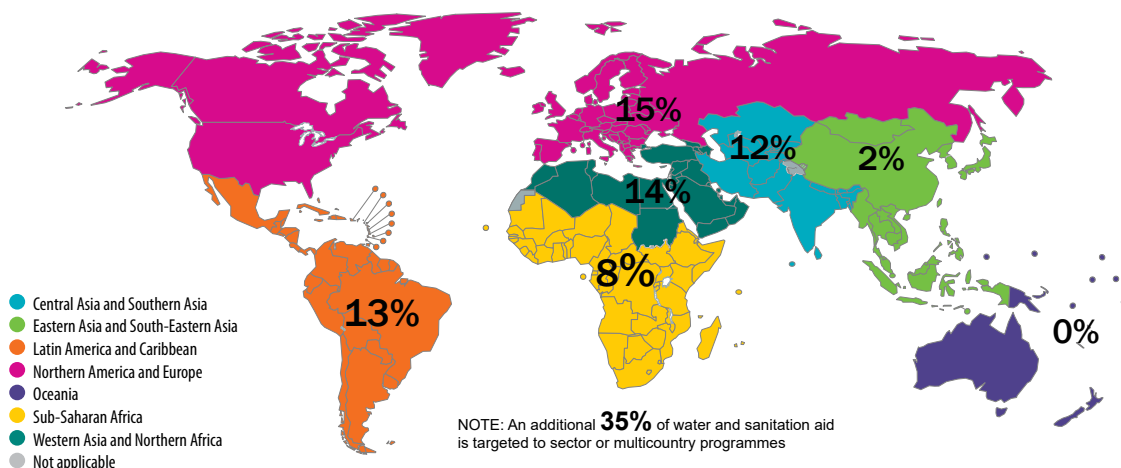
## WASH AID PRIORITIES: DISTRIBUTION OF AID DISBURSEMENTS

### By activity type in 2017



Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

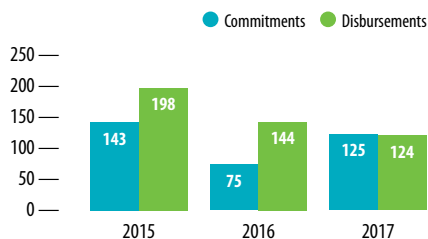
### By region in 2017



Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

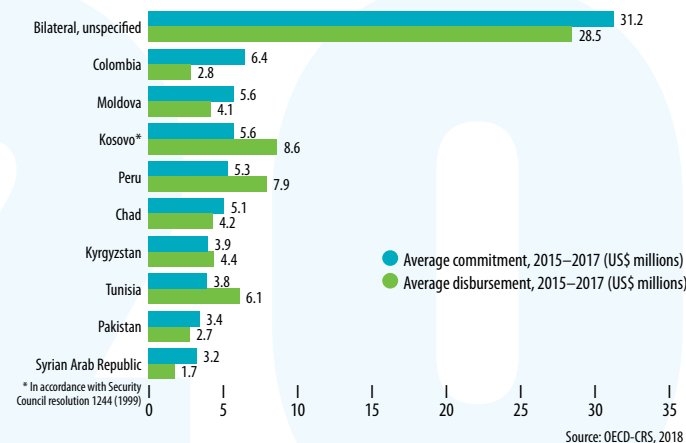
## WASH AID COMMITMENTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Constant 2016 US\$ millions



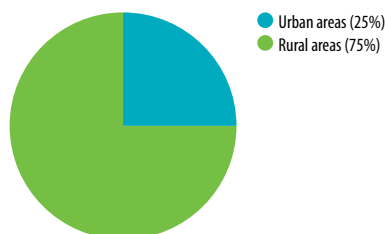
Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

## TOP TEN AID RECIPIENTS (2015–2017)

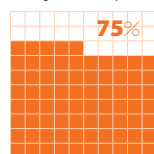


Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

## WASH SECTOR TARGETING



Percentage of aid for sanitation that has a faecal sludge management component



## LEVERAGING OF AID

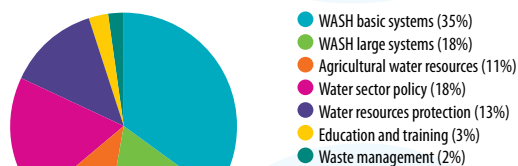
An example is in Uzbekistan where the model on community managed water supply systems, funded by the Swiss Confederation, has been approved as an alternative solution for rural areas of the country. Accordingly, a specific interest of the World Bank Group in Uzbekistan is aligned with its possible investment actions in the "Obod Kishlok" (Prosperous Village) state programme on the improvement and development of rural infrastructure.

## LESSONS/IMPACTS

- 1) SDC advocacy for, co-financing and pioneering of the development and application of a global framework for water and sanitation monitoring in the 2030 Agenda (Integrated Monitoring Initiative for SDG 6 – JMP, GEMI and GLAAS). In mid-2018, UN-Water launched the first synthesis report on SDG 6, contributing to discussions at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
- 2) The external evaluation of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) highlighted that the growing global water crisis and renewed emphasis on Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) under the SDGs created a fresh opportunity for the partnership to play a central role in global water efforts.
- 3) Replication of the successful model in Khujand (combination of corporate development, investment and stakeholder participation) in other cities in Tajikistan by SECO.
- 4) The Inter-Ministerial Water Council established by SECO in Kosovo became the key governmental player in water sector management.

## FUNDING ACTIVITIES

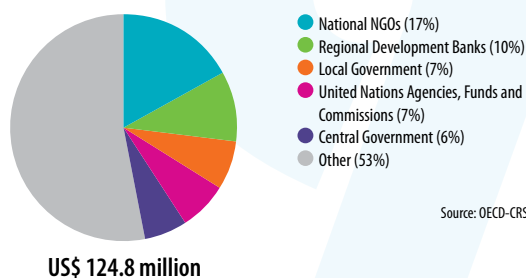
A breakdown of ODA disbursements for 2017 is provided below:



Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

## FUNDING CHANNELS

A breakdown of funding channels for 2017 aid disbursements is provided below:



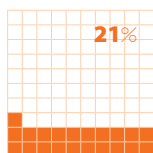
Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

US\$ 124.8 million

## COLLABORATIVE BEHAVIOURS FOR MORE EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

### Enhance government leadership of sector planning processes

Proportion of water and sanitation ODA allocated to water and sanitation policy and administration and education and training (%)

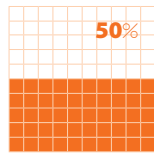


The median for all donors is 9%.

Source: OECD-CRS, 2018

### Strengthen and use country systems

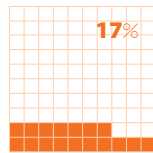
Percentage of WASH ODA spending using country procurement systems (%)



Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

### Use one information and mutual accountability platform

Active participation in mutual assessment exercises/reviews (% of countries)



Out of 23 countries with average disbursement of US\$ 1 million annually from 2015–2017.

Source: GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA Survey

### Build sustainable WASH sector financing strategies

Percentage of WASH funding published/information shared with Ministry of Finance (%)

Not applicable

## FUTURE OUTLOOK

SDC maintained an increase in water expenditure between 2011 and 2017, more than doubling its annual expenditure in response to the political decision to reach a development cooperation spending of 0.5% of GNI and to focus a significant part of the additional expenditure on water. Under the current expenditure stabilization programme decided by the Federal Council for the period from 2017 to 2019, Switzerland's ODA will be slightly lower according to current estimates, at around 0.48% of GNI. After the current Dispatch 2017–2020, Switzerland is expected to focus in particular on initiatives to:

- 1) Better manage water resources together to reduce the risks of conflicts and disasters, particularly with a strong commitment to women and youth;
- 2) Guarantee human rights to drinking-water and sanitation by involving other non-conventional actors such as social entrepreneurs; and
- 3) Promote efficient and sustainable ways of financing water-related investments.

Developed and coordinated by the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Health (WSH) Unit of the World Health Organization (WHO). Results contained in the ESA Highlights have been compiled by the ESA and GLAAS using data from the Organisation for Economic Development and Cooperation (OECD) Creditor Reporting System (CRS), estimates and text provided in the responses to the GLAAS 2018/2019 ESA survey.

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8 [http://www.who.int/water\\_sanitation\\_health/glaas/en/](http://www.who.int/water_sanitation_health/glaas/en/)

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