



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

e+i | employment and
income network

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

The SDC portfolio in Vocational Skills Development (VSD) – Key figures



VSD: a priority theme of Swiss cooperation

In the dispatch on Switzerland's International Cooperation 2017 – 2020, Vocational Skills Development (VSD) is identified as a key theme, alongside basic education. At the end of 2016, the SDC was implementing 54 core VSD projects and Private Sector Development projects with significant VSD components. VSD is also often an instrument used in SDC programmes in other sectors or contexts, such as safer migration, water management and reconstruction. In addition, the Donor Committee for Dual Vocational Education and Training and Switzerland's multilateral engagement supplement the SDC's operations and the efforts of partner countries at the global level.



54

54 projects at the end of 2016.



35

The projects are being implemented in 35 partner countries and regions.



77.4

Overall, 77.4 million CHF was invested in 2016.



8.5

8.5% of SDC's total expenditures for «project-type interventions» in non-EU countries was for VSD-projects.



12

The average duration of SDC support to VSD projects is 12 years, which means that SDC is a reliable, long-term partner, aiming at the enhanced sustainability of its interventions.

VSD projects are implemented in the majority of SDC's priority countries and regions:



18 of the 21 priority countries and regions in cooperation with the South



5 of the 16 priority regions of Swiss Humanitarian Aid



7 of the 9 priority countries and regions in cooperation with Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)



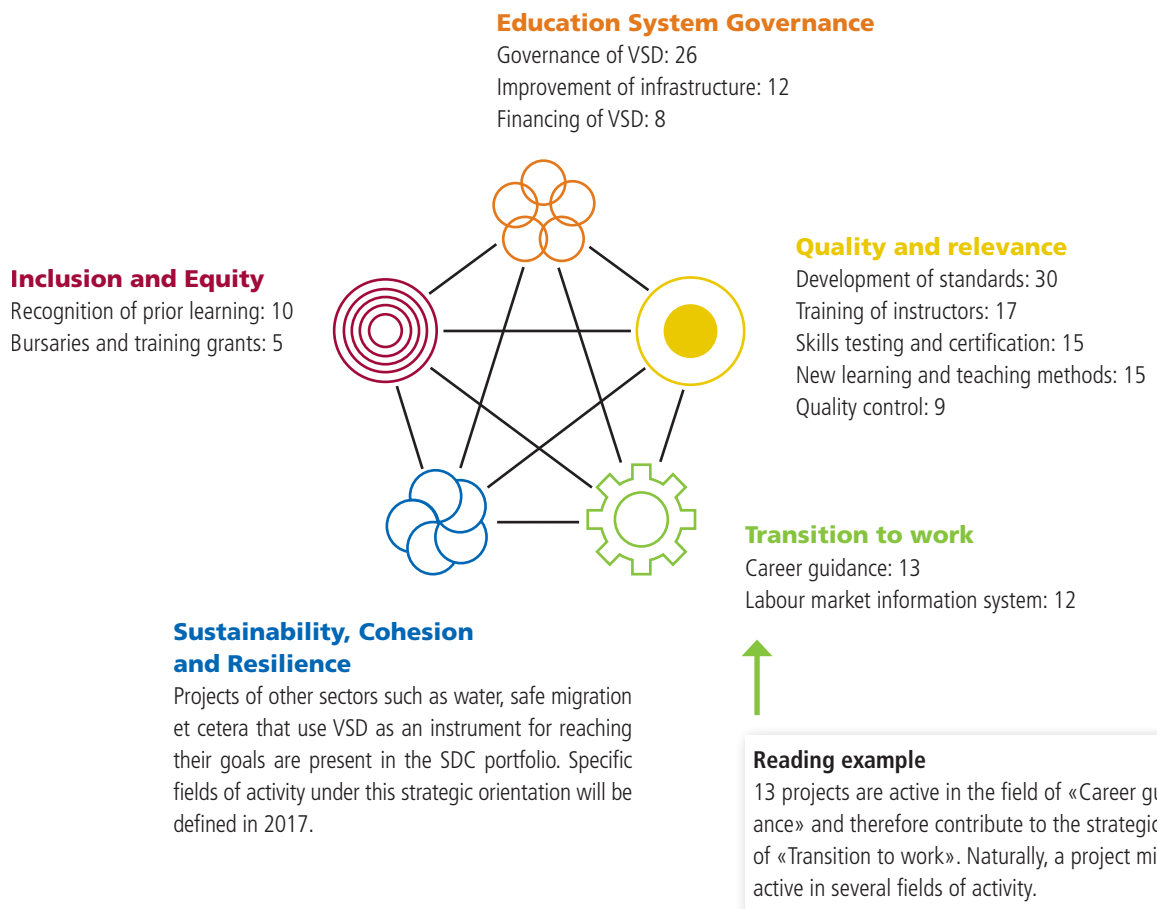
3 of the 13 new EU member states (Contribution to the enlarged EU)

Contribution to the strategic orientations of the SDC's new Education Strategy

The SDC education strategy covering basic education and VSD provides guidance for its implementation as from 2017. By the end of 2016, the majority of ongoing VSD projects provide specific solutions for disadvantaged groups in view of their labour market integration. This often includes short-term, practically oriented courses in combination with supplementary measures such as mediation and coaching services. At the same time, the following elements aiming at VSD system development are implemented in the majority of projects:

- Supporting vocational education and training systems organisations
- Developing skills standards and curricula
- Training of trainers from VET schools and instructors in companies

Most projects are involved in several fields of activity at different levels, to have a broad and lasting impact in the complex environments (of VSD). In the following graph, the number of projects being active in the respective fields of activities by the end of 2016 have been mapped to the strategic orientations of the SDC's education strategy.



The SDC vocational skills development portfolio at the end of 2016

Albania | In the Western Balkans, the mainly school-based secondary and tertiary education is being complemented by practical professional elements, with the private sector as a key partner. Job placement services and entrepreneurship initiatives are increasingly important.

Tunisia | Professional training and labour market integration opens up new perspectives to unemployed university leavers in Tunisia and aims to reduce violence.

Burkina Faso and Benin | In Western Africa, the articulation of Basic Education and VSD is considered particularly important. A regional project for pastoral populations promotes non-formal catch-up education and skills development offers that are adapted to the mobility of livestock farmers in the cross-border area of Burkina Faso and Benin.

Bolivia | In Bolivia, SDC has been improving the quality of public vocational training in underserved rural areas since 2016. By the end of 2017, more than 50,000 people will have benefitted from improved VSD in more than 600 training programmes. 90% of participants improved their work as a consequence of training.

Nepal / Bangladesh / Myanmar | This is the region with the largest VSD portfolios – with each country receiving over 6 million CHF in 2016. The 11 projects in these three countries aim to strengthen the vocational education systems at different levels and provide solutions for youth and vulnerable groups in collaboration with the local private sector.

Expenditure 2016
(in million CHF)

SDC Priority Countries
(Without Humanitarian Aid)

- 0.04 – 1.69
- ◎ 1.69 – 3.34
- ◎◎ 3.34 – 4.99
- ◎◎◎ 4.99 – 6.64

■ SDC Priority Countries
■ Non-SDC Priority Countries

Data: Natural Earth Data, SDC e+i Portfolio Database (31 December 2016), SDC statistical office, kek.ch (replication key: 03_karte)
 General remarks: The boundaries and names shown, as well as the designations used on this map, do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by Switzerland.
 * For the project in Chad, expenditure data is unavailable. For one of the two projects in Macedonia, there expenditure was zero in 2016.
 + Expenditures for a regional transboundary project in Western Africa are assigned to Benin.



Dual vocational education and training

The SDC's activities in VSD are inspired by the dual model of vocational education in Switzerland. However, the SDC does not transfer a blueprint of this model but focuses on adapting key elements of the model to the particular conditions in the partner countries.



18

At least 18 projects focus on strengthening work-based learning, an important element of the dual approach. The actual number might be greater, since in some projects this approach is used without explicitly referring to it.



8

8 projects are designed along the lines of dual VET, i.e. strongly articulating school-based and work-based learning



1

1 project promoting the adaptation and contextualization of dual VET approaches in development cooperation is active on global level.

Link to basic education



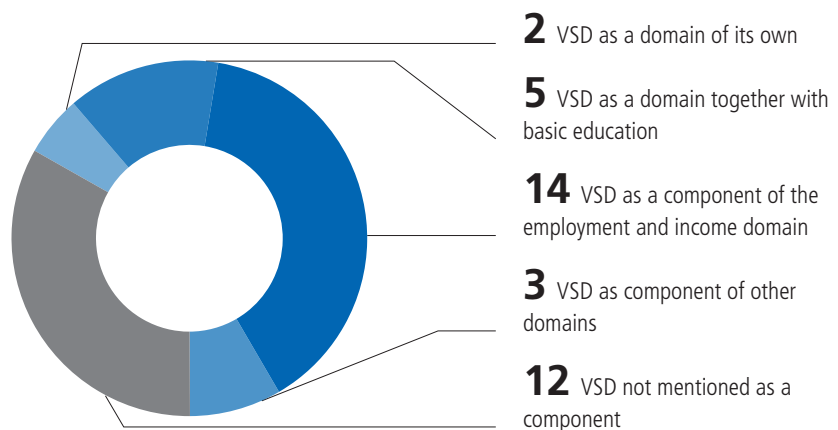
7

7 projects explicitly link their activities to basic education.

Integration of VSD in Cooperation Strategies

The SDC education strategy covering basic education and VSD provides guidance for its implementation in the coming years. By the end of 2016, VSD was included in the majority of SDC's country or regional cooperation strategies (24 out of 36 analysed). In most cooperation strategies, VSD is a component of the employment and income domain, covering VSD, private sector development and financial inclusion. In

these cases, VSD is considered as a critical element for improving the individual income of beneficiaries as well as contributing to inclusive economic development. In 5 West African countries, VSD is part of the education sector, constituting a domain together with basic education. In 2 countries, Bangladesh and Mongolia, VSD is a domain of its own within the cooperation strategy.

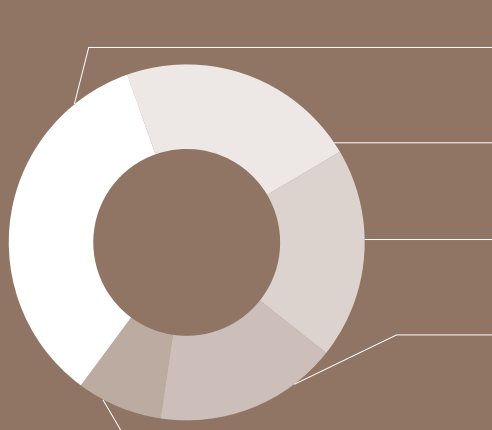


Integration of VSD in Cooperation Strategies (CSs)

Partners

The SDC's VSD projects are implemented by various organisations, including local and international NGOs, private sector partners (e.g. consultancy companies) and public institutions in the partner countries. Two Swiss NGOs, Swisscontact and Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, are involved in the implementation of 25 VSD projects, either as the main implementer or in consortia with other partners. Im-

parting and sharing Swiss VSD through educational institutions, the private sector, individual experts, NGOs and other partners is crucial for the success of the projects. Last but not least, the SDC stays in close contact with the broader Swiss vocational education community by supporting the Swiss Forum for Skills Development and International Cooperation (FoBBIZ).



27 Swiss expert/specialised institutions, i.g. NGOs, private sector companies, public corporations and government institutions

17 International expert/specialised institutions, such as INGOs and private sector companies from OECD countries

15 Government or government associated institutions / public corporations from the partner country

13 Local NGOs and private sector companies

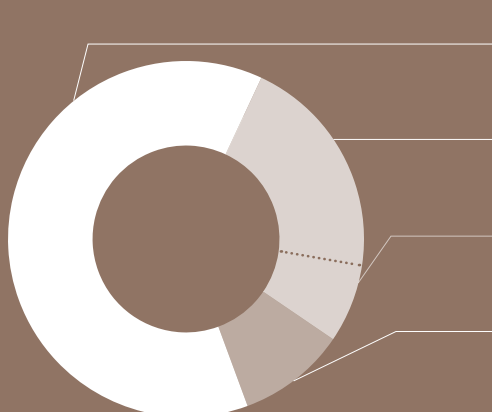
6 Multilateral institutions

Note: A project can have more than one implementing partner.

In over 50% of the projects, the SDC joins forces with one or several of more than 25 other donor agencies, to increase outreach, leverage funds and tap into quality vocational education expertise. In most of these cooperations, co-fi-

ancing arrangements with the government of the partner country or pooling resources with other bilateral donors from OECD countries is the preferred form of cooperation to foster ownership and sustainability.

VSD projects by selected organizational units



32 South Cooperation Department

14 Cooperation with Eastern Europe Department

3 New EU Member States Division

5 Humanitarian Aid and SHA Department

List of projects

Partner Country	Title	Implementer
Albania	Making Labour Market work for Young People in Albania (RiSi)	Helvetas
Albania	Skills for Jobs Albania	Swisscontact
Albania	Skills Development for Employment (TEP 2)	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Bangladesh	Modular Second Chance Education CMES	Centre for Mass Education in Science (CMES)
Bangladesh	Ashshash: for men and women who have escaped trafficking	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Bangladesh	Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP)	Asian Development Bank (ADB), Government of Bangladesh (GoB)
Bangladesh	Skills and Employment Program (SEP-B) (DFID co-funding)	Swisscontact, GRM International, British Council
Bangladesh	Building Skills for Unemployed and Underemployed Labour (B-SkillFUL)	Swisscontact
Benin	Support Programme for Vocational Agricultural and Artisan Training (PAFPAA)	Helvetas, Association pour la Promotion des Initiatives de Développement Durable (APIDev)
Benin	Programme Régional d'Education de base et Formation professionnelle des Populations Pastorales en zones transfrontalières (PREPP)	Association pour la Promotion de l'Elevage au Sahel et en Savane (APESS)
Bolivia	Vocational Skills Development (Formación técnica profesional)	Ministry of Education (MoE); Fundación AUTAPO (FAUTAPO), Comisión Episcopal de Educación (CEE), in urban areas: consortium Programa de Coordinación en Salud Integral (PROCOSI) y Centro de Multiservicios Educativos (CEMSE)
Bosnia Herzegovina	Youth Employment Project (YEP)	GOPA Consultants
Bosnia Herzegovina	Skills for Jobs	Republic Agency for SME Development
Bosnia Herzegovina	Market Makers	Helvetas
Bulgaria	Introduction of dual-track principles in Vocational Education	Ministry of Education and Science, Swiss Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (SFIVET)
Burkina Faso	Programme d'Appui à la Formation Professionnelle et à l'apprentissage (PAFPA)	Ministre de la Jeunesse, de la Formation et Insertion Professionnelle (MJFIP), Groupement d'associations et Conseil national du Patronat
Cambodia	Skills Development Program Cambodia	Swisscontact, Inbas, Cambodia Development Resource Institute
Chad	Formation Insertion des jeunes au Tchad	Swisscontact, Caritas

Partner Country	Title	Implementer
Georgia	Modernization of the Vocational Education and Training (VET) System Related to Agriculture in Georgia	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
Great Lakes	Promoting off-farm employment and income in the Great Lakes Region through climate responsive construction material production	Skat Consulting
Great Lakes	Promoting market Oriented Skills Training in the Great Lakes Region (PROMOST)	Swisscontact
Haiti	Competence Centre for Reconstruction and Risk Reduction (CCR+R)	Institut National pour la Formation Professionnelle (INFP), Training centers and professional associations
Honduras	Vocational training for young people at risk of exclusion (ProJoven)	Swisscontact
Kenya	Skills for Life Training in Kakuma	Swisscontact
Kosovo	Enhancing Youth Employability (EYE)	Helvetas
Laos	Support to the Reform of the Agriculture and Forestry Colleges	Helvetas
Laos	Vocational Education and Training Laos (VELA)	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Laos	Skills for Tourism	Luxembourg Agency for Development Cooperation (LuxDev)
Macedonia	Increasing Market Employability (IME)	Swisscontact
Macedonia	Vocational Skills Development	Helvetas
Mali	Programme for Supporting Vocational Training (PAFP)	Swisscontact
Mekong Regional	PROMISE	International Organization for Migration (IOM)
Mongolia	Vocational Education and Training (VET)	GFA Consulting Group Germany
Mongolia	Programme de développement de la jeunesse / Youth Development Programme	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
Mongolia	Vocational Skills Development	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Myanmar	Institutional support to the Centre for Vocational Training	Verein für Berufsbildung Sarnen
Myanmar	Vocational Skills Development Programme VSDP	Swisscontact, Inbas
Nepal	Employment Fund	Helvetas

Partner Country	Title	Implementer
Nepal	Safer Migration Project (SaMi)	Helvetas
Nepal	Nepal Vocational Qualifications System (NVQS)	Swisscontact, Council for Technical education & Vocational Training (CTEVT), Ministry of Educati-
Nepal	Enhance Skills for Sustainable and Reliable Employment (ENSSURE)	Helvetas
Nicaragua	Vocational Skills Development (Formación profesional para la empleabilidad de jóvenes en Nicaragua)	Swisscontact, Instituto Nacional Tecnológico (INATEC)
Niger	Programme d'Appui à la formation professionnelle rurale au Niger FOPROR	Swisscontact
oPT	TVET Centers of Competence project	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
oPT	Enhancing Youth Employability in the Gaza strip – Regional Vocational Centres (RVC)	Islamic Relief Palestine (IRPAL)
Romania	Job Orientation Training in Businesses and Schools	Ministry of Education (Romania), Pädagogische Hochschule Zürich (Zentrum International Projects in Education)
Serbia	Private Sector Development South Serbia	Regional Agency for Economic Development and Entrepreneurship VEEDA Serbia
Serbia	From Education to Employability (E2E): Youth Skills Development and Public-Private Partnership	Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit, IP/NIRAS Consult
Slovakia	Vocational Education & Training for the Labour Market	State Institute of Vocational Education (SIOV)
Somalia	Federal Government of Somalia and United Nations Joint Programme on Youth Employment (YES)	Swisscontact
Tanzania	Fostering Youth Employment / Opportunity for Youth Employment	Vocational and Educational Training Association (VETA), SICO (Small Industries Development Organization), Ministry of Agriculture Research and Training Institute (MATI), Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development (LITA)
Tunisia	Programme de formation professionnelle en Tunisie à Objectif emploi	Swisscontact
Ukraine	Public Private Partnership to Improved Sanitary Education in Ukraine	Geberit, GURT Resource Center
Uzbekistan	Skills Development Project	GOPA Consultants

Editor

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC
3003 Berne

Orders

sekretariat.abteilung.lateinamerika@eda.admin.ch



Specialist contact

SDC Latin America and the Caribbean Division, Focal Point
Employment and Income / Vocational Skills Development
Phone: +41 (0)58 462 34 75
E-mail: sekretariat.abteilung.lateinamerika@eda.admin.ch

Concept, text and data analysis KEK-CDC Consultants,
Universitätsstrasse 69, 8006 Zurich and Prof. Dr. Markus
Maurer, Zurich University of Teacher Education PHZH

Design Sags, St. Gallen

Cover photograph Roman Troxler, KEK-CDC Consultants