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Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC

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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

SWISS-SUPPORTED INITIATIVES FOR BUSINESSES IN PARTNER COUNTRIES

As part of Switzerland's international cooperation efforts, the SDC and SECO co-finance financial market-based vehicles that support SMEs, social enterprises and businesses aligned with Switzerland's development priorities. This document provides an overview of these initiatives and the types of support they provide.



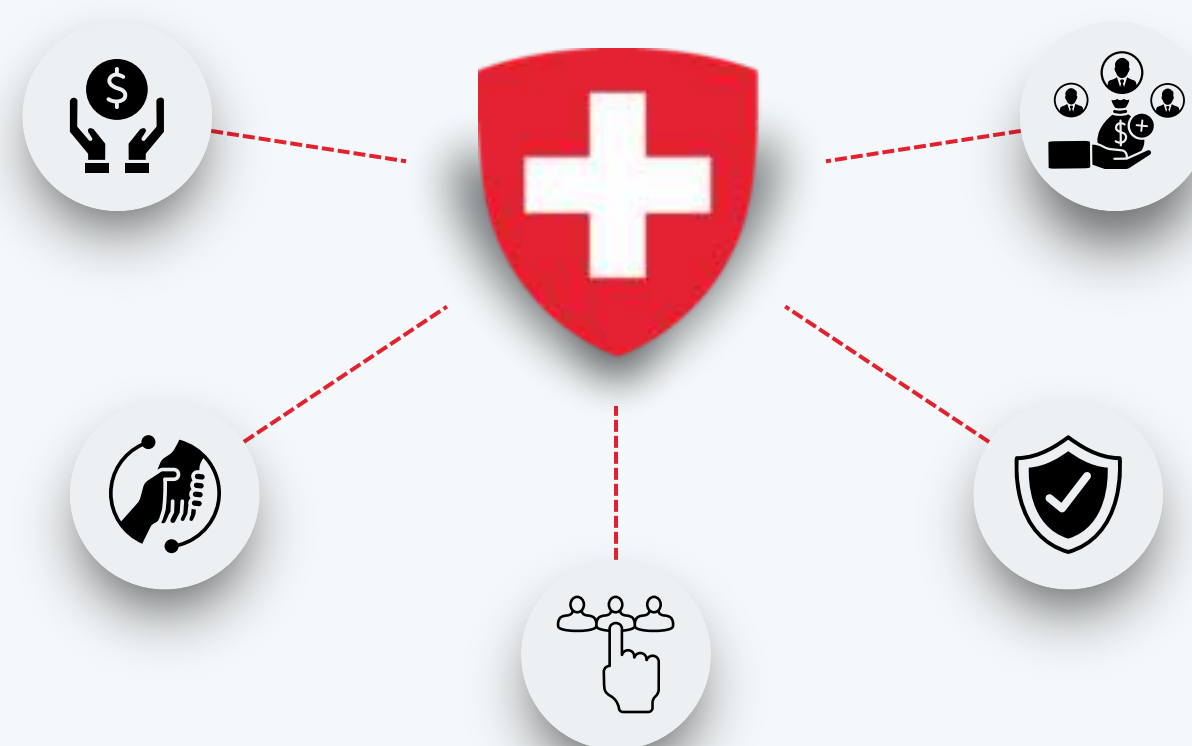
SUPPORT CATEGORIES

Outcome payment schemes

A fund, facility, or special purpose vehicle that pools grants from multiple donors to finance measurable social or environmental outcomes delivered by social or impact enterprises.

Technical Assistance

Non-financial support aimed at strengthening businesses' internal capacities and enhancing their investment readiness. This is done through assistance in areas such as financial management, impact measurement and management, business development, and strategic planning.



Support Facilities

A dedicated structure in which impact-oriented projects and activities of private sector actors are selected according to a competitive procedure and supported with technical assistance or financing.

Structured funds & other financial vehicles or initiatives

A structured fund is an investment vehicle that pools different types of capital to invest in private enterprises based on a defined strategy. In developing countries, structured funds often blend capital with varying risk-return profiles from public donors, development finance institutions, and private investors. Other financial vehicles or initiatives also provide financing directly or indirectly to private enterprises, but not through a structured fund.

Guarantees

A specialized form of financial insurance in which a third party assumes the risk of default in a transaction. They can cover loan portfolios, individual loans by financial institutions, or loans sought by enterprises (known as 'portable guarantees').



Outcome Payment Schemes

Overview



Aceli Africa incentivizes financial institutions to lend to agricultural SMEs in East Africa by providing financial rewards and technical assistance.

SDC Health and Food Section



B-Bridddhi strengthens impact enterprises in Bangladesh through targeted readiness support in impact investing, IMM, and Impact-Linked Finance, while selectively providing capital to scale solutions for underserved communities with gender and climate lenses.

Embassy Dhaka



CEI Africa provides debt financing and technical assistance to off-grid energy and e-mobility companies in Sub-Saharan Africa, aiming to increase energy access and support productive use technologies through blended finance structures.

SDC Climate, DRR and Environment Section



Daraja provides capital and technical assistance to Tanzanian SMEs promoting economic inclusion, aiming to enhance business growth, create decent jobs, and empower women and youth in underserved communities across the country.

Embassy Daressalaam



Impact-Linked Fund for Eastern & Southern Africa (ILF ESA)

The Impact-Linked Fund for Eastern & Southern Africa (ILF ESA) offers catalytic funding to impact enterprises through Impact-Linked Finance, aiming to scale high-impact business models while rewarding measurable social and environmental outcomes in different sectors across the region.

Embassy Nairobi



Impact-Linked Fund for Education

The Impact-Linked Fund for Education provides Impact-Linked Finance to education-focused enterprises serving vulnerable children and youth, aiming to improve learning outcomes, increase access to quality education, and support vocational skills development.

SDC Economy and Education Section



Impact-Linked Fund for Gender-Inclusive FinTech

ILF for GIF supports fintechs serving women affected by migration through ecosystem partnerships, aiming to increase access to affordable financial services and promote inclusive innovation in digital finance ecosystems.

SDC Migration and Forced Displacement Section

SIINC LatAm



SIINC Latam rewards social enterprises in Latin America for achieving outcomes aligned with poverty reduction, aiming to attract private investment and help companies scale impactful business models through performance-based payments.

SDC Economy and Education Section

Social Water Entrepreneurship



The Social Water Entrepreneurship Program incentivizes water and sanitation SMEs to scale services for low-income populations by rewarding impact, aiming to increase access to clean water through results-based financing and improved business sustainability.

SDC Water Section

Initiative

ACELI Africa SDC Health and Food Section	
B-BRIDDDHI Scaling Social & Impact Enterprises Bangladesh Embassy Dhaka	
CEI Africa SDC Climate, DRR and Environment Section	
Daraja Impact Fund (Support to Innovations for Social Change) Tanzania Embassy Daressalaam	
Impact-Linked Fund for Eastern and Southern Africa Embassy Nairobi	
Impact-Linked Fund for Education SDC Economy and Education Section	
Impact-Linked Fund for Gender-inclusive Fintech (ILF for GIF) SDC Migration and Forced Displacement Section	
SIINC LatAm SDC Economy and Education Section	
Social Water Entrepreneurship SDC Water Section	

Outcome Payment Schemes

Theme/Sector	Target Geography	Target Investees	Partner/Investment Manager
Food Security	East Africa (Tanzania, Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda)	Financial institutions lending to agri SMEs in Africa	21 private and 6 public partners
All Sectors	Bangladesh	Social and Impact Enterprises in Bangladesh	Roots of Impact
Climate Change	Africa	Productive use of energy (PUE) providers, for example providers of solar water pumps, mills, and cooling systems	Triple Jump; KfW
All sectors	Tanzania	SMEs with a social and impact orientation in Tanzania	Alpha Mundi / SEAF
All sectors	Eastern & Southern Africa	Social and Impact Enterprises in Eastern and Southern Africa	Impact-Linked Finance Fund, iGravity; Medicor Foundation, FourFold Foundation, SwissRe Foundation
Basic Education & Vocational Skills Development (VSD)	Global	Social and Impact Enterprises providing affordable access to products and services that increase learning outcomes of children and youth	Impact Linked Finance Fund, iGravity; Jacobs Foundation
Migration; Financial Inclusion; Gender	Global (Africa, Asia, and the Middle East); Colombia, Ecuador, Peru	Fintechs with a focus on Gender / Migration	Impact Linked Finance Fund (ILFF), Roots of Impact, iGravity as well as different Ecosystem Enablers and Investment partners
All Sectors	Latin America	Social and Impact Enterprises in LatAm	Roots of Impact, Inter-American development Bank (IADB)
Water	Africa and Asia	Social and Impact Enterprises in the water sector	Aqua for All



Technical Assistance and Support Facilities & Guarantees

Overview



EEP Africa finances early-stage clean energy companies with grants and technical support, aiming to promote innovation, increase access to renewable energy, and investment readiness across East and Southern Africa.

Embassy Harare



Smallholder Safety Net Up-scaling Program (SSNUP)

SSNUP supports agribusinesses and intermediaries with technical assistance and investment readiness support, aiming to improve services for smallholder farmers and enhance their resilience, productivity, and market access in developing countries.

SDC Health and Food Section



The Swiss Capacity Building Facility (SCBF) provides blended funding and advisory support to financial institutions and enterprises, aiming to scale inclusive financial solutions for low-income populations and promote financial resilience through innovation and strategic partnerships.

SDC Economy and Education Section



The SDG Impact Finance Initiative (SIFI) supports the design and scaling of innovative finance solutions that target the SDGs by providing grants, fostering collaboration, and de-risking investment, aiming to mobilize capital and strengthen the impact ecosystem.

SECO WEIF

SDC Economy and Education Section



SIFEM Least Developed Countries (LDC) Risk Support

SIFEM is a fund of funds, investing in equity funds, as well as providing debt financing to financial institutions in emerging markets. Through its "SIFEM LDC Support" program, SDC provides guarantees to SIFEM to enable it to lend to financial institutions in least developed countries.

SECO WEIF

SDC Economy and Education Section



SIFEM Technical Assistance Facility

SIFEM's Technical Assistance Facility (TAF), funded by SECO and managed by responsAbility, provides targeted advisory support to SIFEM investees to enhance development impact beyond investment alone.

SECO WEIF



Technical Assistance and Support Facilities

<i>Initiative</i>	Theme/Sector	Target Geography	Target Investees	Partner/Investment Manager
<div>Energy and Environment Partnership EEP Africa Trust Fund (Phase 1)</div> <div>Embassy Harare</div> <div></div>	Renewable energy	Zambia and Zimbabwe	Innovative clean energy projects, technologies and business models implemented by private actors in Zambia and Zimbabwe	EEP Africa / Nordic Development Fund
<div>Smallholder Safety Net Up-scaling Programme (SSNUP)</div> <div>SDC Health and Food Section</div> <div></div>	Food Security	Global	Support small and medium agribusiness enterprises, farmer organisations and financial intermediaries	ADA as manager/ 8 impact fund managers as partners
<div>Swiss Capacity Building Facility (SCBF)</div> <div>SDC Economy and Education Section</div> <div></div>	Financial Inclusion	Global	Provide technical assistance to financial institutions that offer services and products centered on the financial inclusion of low-income women, vulnerable households, smallholder farmers and MSMEs in the Global South	SCBF as manager / 3 public and 27 private partners
<div>SDG Impact Finance Initiative (SIFI)</div> <div>SECO WEIFSDC Economy and Education Section</div> <div></div>	All Sectors	Global	Impact investors in developing countries	Credit Suisse Foundation, UBS Optimus Foundation, Government of Luxembourg
<div>SIFEM Technical Assistance Facility</div> <div>SECO WEIF</div> <div></div>	All Sectors	Global	Financial intermediaries and their portfolio companies in emerging markets that receive SIFEM funding, with technical assistance tailored to enhance their impact, capacity, and sustainability.	ResponsAbility
<div>Guarantees</div> <div>Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM) – Least Developed Countries (LDC) Risk Support</div> <div>SECO WEIFSDC Economy and Education Section</div> <div></div>	All Sectors	Global	Guarantees to SIFEM investments in Financial Institutions in SDC partner countries	ResponsAbility



Overview



Structured Funds and other vehicles

SIFEM



As the Swiss development finance institution, SIFEM invests patient capital in businesses across developing countries through local fund managers, aiming to foster inclusive economic growth, support decent jobs, and enhance climate resilience in underserved regions.

SECO WEIF

SECO Start-up Fund (SSF)



The Seco Start-up Fund (SSF) is a debt financing vehicle that provides concessional loans to Swiss-led start-ups expanding into emerging economies, aiming to catalyze commercially viable ventures that meet ESG standards and support entrepreneurship, job creation, and inclusive private sector growth.

SECO WEIF



As a Multidonor facility, Private Infrastructure Development Group (PIDG) mobilizes private capital and expertise to finance sustainable infrastructure in emerging markets, aiming to promote climate resilience, job creation, and inclusive economic growth for underserved and climate-vulnerable communities.

SECO WEIF



W2AF invests in water enterprises across Africa and Asia through blended finance, aiming to scale sustainable water access solutions and improve affordability, availability, and quality for underserved communities.

SDC Economy and Education Section

SDC Water Section



The ABC Fund offers catalytic debt financing and technical assistance to agribusinesses and cooperatives, aiming to strengthen agricultural value chains, improve smallholder farmer livelihoods, and mobilize private investment in rural economies.

SDC Health and Food Section



N3F provides capital and technical assistance to African SMEs producing nutritious food, aiming to increase access to affordable, healthy products for low-income consumers and improve nutrition across underserved communities.

SDC Economy and Education Section

SDC Health and Food Section

Structured Funds & other financial vehicles or initiatives

<i>Initiative</i>	Theme/Sector	Target Geography	Target Investees	Partner/Investment Manager
<div>ABC Fund</div> <div>SDC Health and Food Section</div>	Food Security	Africa	Agribusiness SMEs	Bamboo CP as manager/ IFAD
<div>Nutritious Foods Financing Facility (N3F)</div> <div>SDC Economy and Education Section</div>	Food Security	Africa	African SMEs within the nutritious food value chain	Incofin as manager
<div>Water Access Acceleration Fund</div> <div>SDC Economy and Education Section</div>	Water	Asia / Africa	Socially oriented water enterprises, mainly in Asia and Africa	Incofin
<div>PIDG (Private Infrastructure Development Group)</div> <div>SECO WEIF</div>	Infrastructure; Climate	Africa and Asia	Long-term debt for inclusive infrastructure in Africa & Asia.	EAIF - Ninety One GuarantCo - Cardano
<div>SECO Start-up Fund (SSF)</div> <div>SECO WEIF</div>	All sectors	SECO and SDC partner countries	Start-ups in the seed, early-stage and commercialisation phase	Managed by iGravity and Seedstars
<div>SIFEM (Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets)</div> <div>SECO WEIF</div>	Diverse	Developing countries with a GNI per capita <\$7'895; 60% in IC priority countries	Equity (fund of funds) and Debt (fund of funds and FI); SDG oriented SMEs	ResponsAbility

DISCLAIMER

Information as of May 2025.

For inquiries and corrections please contact the SDC's Economy and Education section
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Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Economic Affairs,
Education and Research EAER
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO



Outcome Payment Schemes



Impact-Linked Fund for Gender-Inclusive FinTech

Geography: Global (Africa, Asia, and the Middle East); Colombia, Ecuador, Peru

Target Investees: Fintechs with a focus on Gender / Migration

Partner/Manager: Impact Linked Finance Fund (ILFF), Roots of Impact, iGravity as well as different Ecosystem Enablers and Investment partners

SDC Migration and Forced Displacement Section



Impact-Linked Fund for Education



Geography: Global

Target Investees: Social and Impact Enterprises providing affordable access to products and services that increase learning outcomes of children and youth

Partner/Manager: Impact Linked Finance Fund, iGravity; Jacobs Foundation

SDC Economy and Education Section



Social Water Entrepreneurship



Geography: Africa and Asia

Target Investees: Social and Impact Enterprises in the water sector

Partner/Manager: Aqua for All

SDC Water Section



Geography: Bangladesh

Target Investees: Social and Impact Enterprises in Bangladesh

Partner/Manager: Roots of Impact

Embassy Dhaka



SIINC LatAm

Geography: Latin America

Target Investees: Social and Impact Enterprises in LatAm

Partner/Manager: Roots of Impact, Inter-American development Bank (IADB)

SDC Economy and Education Section



Themes/Sectors



Multi-sector



Financial Inclusion



Migration



Gender



Water



Food Security



Climate Change



Basic Education & Vocational Skills Development (VSD)



Geography: Africa

Target Investees: Productive use of energy (PUE) providers, for example providers of solar water pumps, mills, and cooling systems.

Partner/Manager: Triple Jump, K

SDC Climate, DRR and Environment Section



Geography: Tanzania

Target Investees: SMEs with a social and impact orientation in Tanzania

Partner/Manager: Alpha Mundi / SEAF

Embassy Daressalaam



Geography: Eastern Africa (Tanzania, Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda)

Target Investees: Financial institutions lending to agri SMEs in Africa

Partner/Manager: 21 private and 6 public partners.

SDC Health and Food Section



Impact-Linked Fund for Eastern & Southern Africa (ILF ESA)



Geography: Eastern & Southern Africa

Target Investees: Social and Impact Enterprises in Eastern and Southern Africa

Partner/Manager: Impact-Linked Finance Fund, iGravity; Medicor Foundation, FourFold Foundation, SwissRe Foundation

SDC Health and Food Section





Technical Assistance,
Support Facilities &
Guarantees



Geography: Global
Target Investees: Provide technical assistance to financial institutions that offer services and products centered on the financial inclusion of low-income women, vulnerable households, smallholder farmers and MSMEs in the Global South.
Partner/Manager: SCBF, 3 public and 25 private partners

SDC Economy and Education Section



Smallholder Safety Net Up-scaling Program (SSNUP)



Geography: Global
Target Investees: Support small and medium agribusiness enterprises, farmer organisations and financial intermediaries.
Partner/Manager: 3 public and 55 private partners

SDC Health and Food Section



Geography: Global
Target Investees: Impact investors in developing countries.
Partner/Manager: Credit Suisse Foundation, UBS Optimus Foundation, Government of Luxembourg

SECO WEIF

SDC Economy and Education Section



Geography: Global
Target Investees: Guarantees to SIFEM investments in Financial Institutions in SDC partner countries
Partner/Manager: responsAbility Investments

SECO WEIF

SDC Economy and Education Section



Geography: Zambia and Zimbabwe
Target Investees: Innovative clean energy projects, technologies and business models implemented by private actors in Zambia and Zimbabwe.
Partner/Manager: EEP Africa, Nordic Development Fund

Embassy Harare



Themes/Sectors



Multi-sector



Renewable Energy



Food Security



Financial Inclusion



Structured Funds and other vehicles



SECO Start-up Fund (SSF)

Geography: SECO and SDC partner countries
Target Investees: Start-ups in the seed, early-stage and commercialisation phase
Partner/Manager: iGravity and seedstars

SECO WEIF



Geography: Asia / Africa
Target Investees: Socially oriented water enterprises, mainly in Asia and Africa
Partner/Manager: Incofin

SDC Economy and Education Section SDC Water Section



Geography: Africa
Target Investees: African SMEs within the nutritious food value chain
Partner/Manager: Incofin

SDC Economy and Education Section SDC Health and Food Section



Geography: Africa
Target Investees: Agribusiness SMEs
Partner/Manager: IFAD

SDC Health and Food Section



Geography: IC Priority Countries
Target Investees: Equity (fund of funds) and Debt (fund of funds and FI); SDG oriented SMEs
Partner/Manager: responsAbility Investments

SECO WEIF



Geography: Africa and Asia
Target Investees: Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund provides long-term debt for inclusive infrastructure in Africa & Asia. GuarantCo mobilizes private capital for essential infrastructure via local currency credit solutions.
Partner/Manager: EAIF, Ninety One, GuarantCo, Cardano

SECO WEIF



Themes/Sectors



Multi-sector



Renewable Energy



Food Security



Financial Inclusion



Agribusiness



Renewable Energy



Local Infrastructure



Water



Climate Change