

# International Finance Corporation

## The Private Sector Arm of the World Bank

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is an institution of the World Bank that invests in the private sector in developing countries and emerging markets. It uses its capital and expertise to create markets and mobilise private investments to achieve the World Bank's mission to end extreme poverty, boost shared prosperity on a liveable planet and reach the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The IFC also leads the way in developing international environmental, social and governance standards for private sector investments.

The IFC supports businesses through lending, equity investments, and trade financing. Thanks to its AAA credit rating, it is able to borrow at attractive interest rates and lend to borrowers on favourable conditions. It also works to create a favorable economic policy framework for private investment.



### Focus

Private sector

### Headquarters

Washington D.C., USA

### Established in

1956

### Member countries

186, in 25 voting groups

### Borrowing countries

120

### Lending volume 2024 (USD)

31.7 billion

### Total portfolio 2024 (USD)

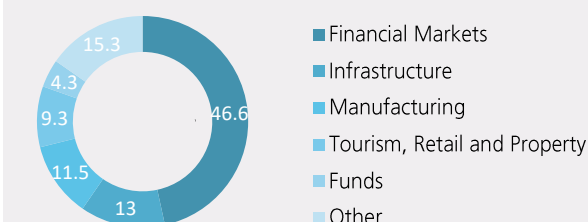
80.2 billion

## Strategic Priorities

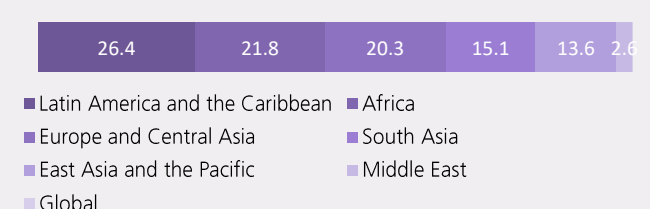
|   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|
|  | Creating investment opportunities       |  | Fostering inclusive economic growth & gender equality |
|  | Mobilising private capital              |  | Reaping the benefits of digitalisation                |
|  | Developing markets in fragile countries |  | Promoting climate protection and sustainability       |

## Portfolio

### Sectors 2024 (per cent)



### Regions 2024 (per cent)



## IFC: Switzerland's Main Partner for Promoting the Private Sector in Developing Countries and Emerging Markets

Switzerland cooperates closely with the IFC to promote the private sector in developing countries and emerging markets. As an active member of a voting group of nine countries on the Executive Board of the World Bank, Switzerland helps define the IFC's strategic, institutional and operational focus. It also participates directly in implementing IFC projects – whether as a financial contributor to the IFC Advisory Services or through partnerships with the Swiss private sector.

The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) jointly determine the Switzerland's positions in the governing bodies of the World Bank. Switzerland's strategic priorities are:

- promoting results-orientation, effectiveness, and targeted financing of investments according to the IFC's core expertise and strategic priorities;
- promoting the private sector in developing countries, including middle-income, least-developed and fragile countries;
- supporting the IFC's commitment to implementing and complying with international environmental, social and governance standards;
- encouraging the IFC to focus on climate finance, including renewable energy projects and to support for countries in transitioning away from fossil fuels;
- encouraging the IFC to systematically coordinate and collaborate with other development partners, including other multilateral development banks, development finance institutions like the Swiss Investment Fund for Emerging Markets (SIFEM), and the private sector.

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### Swiss accession

1992

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### Swiss voting group

Poland, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Serbia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Switzerland

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### Swiss paid in capital up to 2024 (USD)

386.7 billion

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### Swiss voting share

1.78 %

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### Swiss contributions to IFC Advisory Services 2019-2023 (USD)

179 million

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### Long term investment portfolio with Swiss investors (USD)

1.2 billion

## Ukraine: Rebuilding Agriculture

Since Russia's military aggression, Ukraine's private sector has been crucial in driving the country's economic recovery, despite significant output losses. In 2023, economic growth surpassed expectations, thanks to the strong resilience among Ukrainian businesses and substantial international support. The IFC has invested USD 1.4 billion since the outbreak of the war to support Ukraine's private sector. Together with partners, including Switzerland, the IFC plans to inject a further USD 1.4 billion into Ukraine's economy, targeting critical sectors such as energy, infrastructure, and small businesses.

SECO, in partnership with the IFC, is particularly focusing on agriculture: since 2015, the IFC and SECO have been running a programme introducing crop receipts as collateral for payments, as these receipts are cheaper, faster and easier to use for farmers. This project has enabled over USD 2.3 billion to be provided in financing for Ukrainian farmers since 2015, including USD 26 million since the outbreak of the war.

