

The World Bank

The World's Largest Source of Development Expertise and Funding

The World Bank is the world's largest source of development expertise and funding. It supports low- and middle-income countries in reaching the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Thanks to its AAA credit rating, the World Bank is able to borrow at attractive interest rates and lend to its borrowers on favourable conditions. The World Bank includes the following entities:

- the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)**, which provides technical support and loans to low and middle-income countries;
- the **International Development Association (IDA)**, which provides technical support, grants and highly concessional loans to the poorest countries.

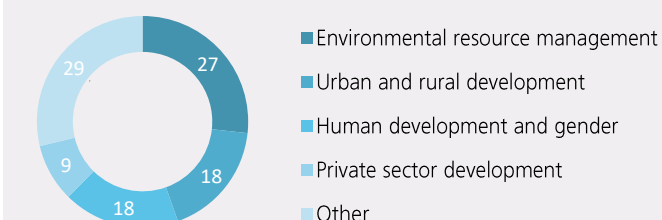
The World Bank is active in all major areas relevant to development. With its vision of "a world free of poverty on a liveable planet", the World Bank underscores the crucial role of sustainable long-term development in effectively combating poverty. In addition to the two strategic objectives of fighting extreme poverty and promoting shared prosperity, it focuses on the following thematic priorities:

Thematic Priorities

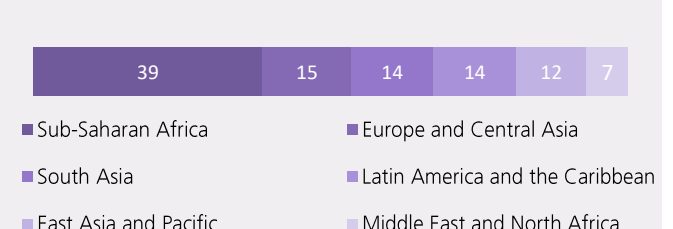
	Governance and fragility		Climate change, biodiversity and nature
	Jobs and economic transformation		Gender equality
	Food, water and nutrition security		Energy access
	Pandemic prevention and preparedness		Infrastructure and digitalisation

Portfolio

Sectors 2024 (per cent)



Regions 2024 (per cent)



Focus

Global

Headquarters

Washington D.C., USA

Established in

1944 (IBRD); 1960 (IDA)

Member countries

189, in 25 voting groups

Borrowing countries

IBRD: 69

IDA: 74

Lending volume 2024 (USD)

IBRD: 37.6 billion

IDA: 31.2 billion

Total Portfolio 2024 (USD)

IBRD: 260 billion

IDA: 198 billion

World Bank: A Strategic Partnership for Switzerland

As a priority multilateral organisation of Switzerland's International Cooperation Strategy, the World Bank is a strategic partner for Switzerland who contributed to the IBRD's 2018 capital increase and is a long-standing donor to IDA. Switzerland's contribution to IDA is currently its largest Official Development Assistance contribution to a single fund, reflecting the World Bank's importance to Swiss development cooperation efforts.

Switzerland represents a constituency of nine European, South Caucasian and Central Asian countries on the 25-member Board of Directors of the World Bank. It participates directly and actively in the discussions and decisions of the Board, thereby fulfilling its supervisory role as a shareholder. The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) jointly determine the positions Switzerland adopts in the Board. Switzerland's strategic priorities include:

- promoting the World Bank's results-orientation, effectiveness, and targeted financing of development projects according to the World Bank's core expertise and strategic priorities;
- supporting the World Bank's commitment to implement and comply with international environmental, social and governance standards;
- ensuring that the World Bank supports all its members, including low- and middle-income countries and fragile and conflict-affected states;
- strengthening the World Bank's leading global role as a knowledge bank;
- encouraging the World Bank to focus on renewable energy projects and to support countries in transitioning away from fossil fuels;
- encouraging the World Bank to systematically coordinate and collaborate with other development partners, including other multilateral development banks, the International Monetary Fund (IMF), UN agencies, civil society organisations, and the private sector;
- ensuring an adequate capitalisation and safeguarding the World Bank's AAA rating.

Swiss accession

1992

Swiss voting group

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

Swiss voting share

IBRD: 1.46 %

IDA: 1.4 %

Swiss paid in capital IBRD up to 2024 (USD)

357.9 million

Swiss IDA 20 contribution 2022-2025 (USD)

725 million

IDA: Nepal Earthquake Housing Reconstruction

IDA, the world's primary source of concessional development financing, has provided USD 533 billion in support to 115 countries since its inception in 1960. 36 nations graduated from IDA's recipient status and many returned as donors. With a contribution of USD 725 million to the latest replenishment (IDA20), Switzerland is one of its largest donors. The partnership between IDA and Switzerland improves the lives of people in the poorest countries around the world. IDA leverages partner contributions by combining them with low-interest capital market borrowing, enabling it to mobilize additional USD 3.50 for every dollar contributed.

For example, after the disastrous earthquake in Nepal in 2015, the IDA Earthquake Housing Reconstruction Project, completed in 2023, with support from Switzerland and other partners, successfully built over 300,000 multi-hazard-resistant homes. It also strengthened the government's disaster risk management systems, benefiting numerous communities and improving long-term disaster preparedness management.



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