

MEDIA RELEASE

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Swisscontact: Annual Report 2025

International cooperation: development through expertise and partnership

In 2025, international development cooperation progressed against a backdrop of rising geopolitical uncertainty. Swisscontact responded by focusing on relevant, future-oriented projects that created value for partner countries and Switzerland alike. Programmes in skills development helped people acquire practical skills, resulting in new jobs and income-generating activities. The strengthening of local vocational education systems was a priority as well. At the same time, entrepreneurs and small businesses gained better access to markets, services, and finance.

“Looking back at 2025, the geopolitical landscape has clearly grown more complex. This only underlines the importance of international cooperation. For a small country like Switzerland, partnership rather than confrontation is key to building trust and stability,” says Thomas D. Meyer, Chair, in the editorial video of Swisscontact’s Annual Report 2025.

Creating impact together

Swisscontact brings diverse partners together to achieve joint impact. Its strength lies in combining international experience with local expertise and networks, and in supporting system-level change around concrete business cases. This approach engages all relevant actors – from companies and business associations to educational institutions, public authorities and financial institutions – to deliver sustainable results. The Annual Report 2025 outlines how Swisscontact identifies and mobilises the right partners to make this collaboration effective.

Delivering results with partners in 2025

“In 2025, Swisscontact delivered tangible results together with its partners”, says CEO Philippe Schneuwly in the editorial. Nearly 400,000 SMEs and smallholders gained access to improved products and services through Swisscontact’s programmes. At the same time, almost 150,000 people completed programmes in skills development, entrepreneurship and labour market insertion. These efforts generated more than CHF 70 million in additional income and helped create or secure around

37,000 jobs. “These results reflect just one year of work, and we expect them to be sustainable over time. They show that international cooperation delivers impact at scale,” Schneuwly said.

To the 2025 Annual Report: www.swisscontact.org/report2025

Headquartered in Zurich, Swisscontact is the independent, business-oriented foundation for international development cooperation. Founded in 1959 by leading Swiss companies, Swisscontact has promoted skills development and entrepreneurship to make a sustainable contribution to economic growth in developing and emerging countries.

With a clear focus on vocational education, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, and green economy, we implement projects that generate income, foster employment, and enable structural changes. All locally anchored, impact-oriented, and in partnership.

The organisation is currently active in 138 projects in 39 countries with around 1200 employees.

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