

MEDIA RELEASE

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Swisscontact 2021 Annual Report

## **International development cooperation: Viable partnerships are key**

**In 2021, Swisscontact implemented 122 projects in 40 countries. Despite insecurity and ongoing restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic, 101,800 people around the world nevertheless completed programmes in vocational education, business training, and labour market integration. In addition, 56,300 new jobs were created or spared from downsizing.**

The pandemic and the often difficult political situation affected people in many underdeveloped countries with particular severity. Last year, this required greater flexibility, agility, and creativity on our part. The Swisscontact Annual Report illustrates how vocational education and training and entrepreneurship promotion can help people find work and improve their incomes, despite the difficult circumstances.

### **Effecting positive change together with the private sector**

Swisscontact believes that conscientious private initiatives are key to sustainable, broad-based development. Collaboration with actors of the private sector plays a decisive role in such efforts; it has been a cornerstone of Swisscontact's work since its foundation. During the reporting year, we continued to expand our collaboration with the private sector, with the objective of spurring positive and sustainable change.

### **Prospects for the labour market**

Swisscontact's Programme for Vocational Education and Training in Tunisia, which is financed by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), has achieved sustainable results. The 2021 Annual Report highlights this successful project as an example of how important constructive collaboration between public sector institutions and the private sector is. More than 70% of graduates of the various technical and agricultural courses were able to find jobs.

**Read the Annual Report: [www.swisscontact.org/report2021](http://www.swisscontact.org/report2021)**

### **About Swisscontact**

Swisscontact is a leading organisation for the implementation of international development projects. We promote inclusive economic, social and ecological development to make an effective contribution towards sustainable and widespread prosperity in developing and emerging economies. In so doing, we open up opportunities for economically and socially disadvantaged people to improve their lives on their own initiative.

Founded in 1959 and registered under Swiss law, we are an independent non-profit organisation. Swisscontact is committed to strengthening people's skills so they can improve their employability. We increase the competitiveness of companies for them to grow, while fostering inclusive socio-economic systems for broad-based development.

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