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2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Switzerland and the Sustainable Development Goals



Mankind faces enormous challenges – migration, climate change, environmental degradation, poverty and hunger, to name but a few. In our globalised world, these problems cannot be solved by individual states. The international community has therefore established a framework to promote common solutions: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Central to this international agreement are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals setting out social, economic and environmental milestones to be reached worldwide by 2030. They apply to all countries, including Switzerland.



Over 800 million people live in extreme poverty. The Agenda for Sustainable Development aims to completely eradicate extreme poverty.



All people should have access to good-quality healthcare and medicines, including financial risk protection.



The aim of the 2030 Agenda is to end hunger and all forms of malnutrition around the world within the next 15 years.



All children, adolescents and adults – especially the poor and disadvantaged – should have access to high-quality education and training.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by all 193 UN member states in 2015. The agreement marks a significant step in global cooperation and since 2016 has been the main frame of reference for national and international efforts to solve global challenges.

Central to the international agreement are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which set out a vision of sustainable development combining social, economic and environmental aspects. While the SDGs are framed in general terms, there are also 169 specific targets to be achieved worldwide by 2030.

Switzerland was strongly committed to the development of the 2030 Agenda and helped to determine its content. It was actively involved in drafting the SDGs and developing the mechanism to follow up and review progress. To this end it engaged in a broad dialogue with representatives from business, academia, civil society, politics, administration and the public.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is universally applicable. By adopting it, all states have agreed to work together to achieve the SDGs by 2030, with each country making a reasonable contribution to their implementation at national and international level.

The UN estimates that a global investment of USD 5–7 trillion per year is needed to realise the SDGs. Such a sum can only be mobilised if public and private donors coordinate their efforts in areas such as climate-friendly technologies.



“Responsible corporate governance creates win-win situations for society and business. The SDGs act as a useful compass in this respect.”

Monika Rühl, Chair of the Board of Management, economiesuisse



Equal opportunities for men and women in economic life, the elimination of violence and equal participation at all levels.



Ensure sustainable management of water and sanitation for all. Protecting and restoring water-related ecosystems.



Ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services. Expand renewable energy and improve energy efficiency.

SWISS IMPLEMENTATION

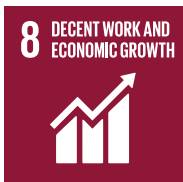
The Federal Council is working both domestically and internationally to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda. It seeks to do so in partnership with the cantons, communes, business, civil society and academia. In practice, this means taking steps to reduce CO₂ emissions, promote gender equality and close material cycles, for example. However, it is also about creating conditions in which public and private investment can effectively foster sustainable development.

In addition to its efforts at home, Switzerland is also working to implement the 2030 Agenda through its foreign policy and development cooperation, for example by providing financial and human resources to support poorer countries.



“Are our business models fit for the challenges of the future? The SDGs are the benchmark by which governments, businesses and civil society organisations must measure themselves.”

**Thomas Vellacott,
CEO, WWF Switzerland**



Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full employment and decent work. Decouple economic growth from environmental degradation.



Increase the income of the underprivileged. Achieve empowerment and social, economic and political inclusion for all.



Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation and foster innovation. Create clean technologies and industrial processes.



Reduce the adverse environmental impact of cities, particularly in terms of air quality and waste. Promote more inclusive and sustainable forms of urbanisation.

REPORTING OBLIGATION

As part of an international review mechanism, states must report to the UN on their progress in implementing the SDGs. These country reports also allow governments to keep their citizens and parliaments up to date. Switzerland plans to adopt a four-year reporting cycle, with its first country report scheduled for summer 2018.

In future, Switzerland will be aligning its sustainable development policy with the SDGs. From now on, therefore, the country report will also form the basis for the Sustainable Development Strategy. The Federal Council revises this strategy every four years, with the next revision due in early 2020.



“With the SDGs, the international community has recognised the role of the private sector in creating shared value – entrepreneurial solutions to tackle societal challenges.”

Christian Frutiger, Global Head of Public Affairs, Nestlé SA



Strengthen sustainable consumption and production patterns. Ensure environmentally sound management of chemicals and waste. More recycling and less waste.



Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. Combat erosion and desertification. Halt the loss of biodiversity.



Countries should incorporate climate protection measures in their national policies and assist each other in responding to the challenges at hand.



Promote peaceful societies, provide access to justice for all and build effective and inclusive institutions at all levels.



Conserve and sustainably use the oceans and seas. Significantly reduce all kinds of marine pollution and minimise ocean acidification.



Active participation in the global partnership for sustainable development. Allocate 0.7% of gross national income to development cooperation.

THE FIRST STEPS

The Federal Council has decided to oversee implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The process is being led by the Federal Office for Spatial Development (ARE) and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The first steps will be taken by spring 2018 and are being coordinated by an interdepartmental working group:

- An in-depth review will ascertain the current status of 2030 Agenda implementation, both nationally and internationally. The survey will clarify where most action is needed to achieve the SDGs. It will also identify opportunities for Switzerland arising from the 2030 Agenda.
- With a view to implementing the 2030 Agenda, institutional arrangements will be put in place to ensure that work is managed efficiently at federal level. Synergies in the coordination between national and international processes will be further harnessed and duplication of efforts avoided.



“The SDGs combine social, environmental and economic development into a single whole – in the global South as well as here at home.”

**Mark Herkenrath,
Director of Alliance Sud**

- The federal government will expand its sustainable development monitoring system (MONET) to enable continuous monitoring of progress towards the goals.

The results of this work will form the basis of Switzerland's first country report to the UN in 2018.

ADOPTION

All 193 UN member states adopted the 2030 Agenda in September 2015.

REVIEW

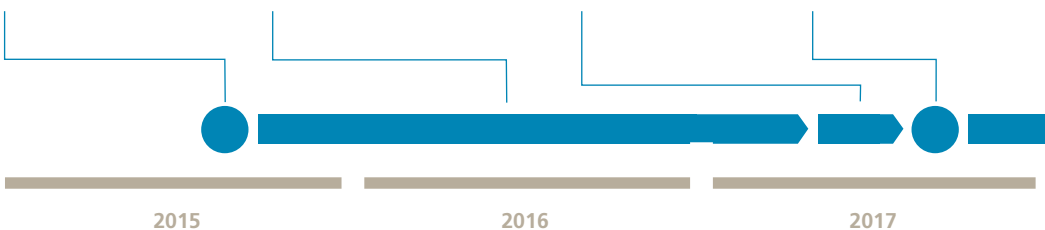
The federal government is conducting a review to assess the status of implementation in Switzerland.

1ST CONSULTATION

Consultation on the review from June to August 2017.

2030 DIALOGUE

Dialogue on required priority action in September 2017.



2015

2016

2017



“All actors have the opportunity to align their activities with the SDGs, highlight the social importance of what they do and work together.”

**Regina Ammann, Head Public Policy
Switzerland, Syngenta**

LINKS

More information about the 2030 Agenda:
www.agenda2030.admin.ch

Information about the 2030 Dialogue:
www.agenda2030.admin.ch/2030dialogue

Monitoring of sustainable development:
www.monet.admin.ch

COOPERATION

Switzerland has a long tradition of cooperation between state and non-state actors. The federal government wants to consolidate this established partnership for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda:

- It plans to strengthen institutional cooperation on sustainable development by means of specialised sustainability offices and delegates at cantonal level.
- To ensure effective cooperation with non-state actors, it has set up a support group to clarify the procedures and purpose of the cooperation and coordinate activities. The support group consists of representatives from business, civil society and academia.
- Products created by the federal government in connection with the 2030 Agenda implementation will undergo a broad consultation to ensure that they take account of the interests of non-governmental stakeholders. These products include:
 - » the review into the status of 2030 Agenda implementation,

2ND CONSULTATION

Position statements on the country report (Feb/Mar 2018).

NEXT STEPS

The federal government decides on the next steps.

COUNTRY REPORT

Switzerland reports to the UN on its implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

RENEWAL OF SDS

The Federal Council renews its Sustainable Development Strategy (SDS), taking account of the 2030 Agenda. The renewed SDS is published in early 2020.

2018

2019

2020

- » the country report to the UN
- » and the Sustainable Development Strategy.

- The federal government has also set up the 2030 Dialogue for Sustainable Development to foster an inclusive discussion on sustainable development. It brings together the domestic and foreign policy dialogue processes relating to the federal government's sustainability policy. A key objective of the 2030 Dialogue is to discuss cross-cutting issues within the 2030 Agenda and the priorities for their implementation by Switzerland.

Any constructive contribution to implementation of the 2030 Agenda is welcome! Please contact us via the following e-mail address: agenda2030@are.admin.ch.



“Geneva is resolutely committed to the path of sustainable development. The canton is developing its strategy in line with the SDGs and federal government objectives.”

**Rémy Zinder, Head of the
Cantonal Office for Sustainable
Development, Geneva**



“At Samsung we do our utmost every day to meet our social responsibilities through the promotion of sustainable development – also in accordance with the SDGs.”

**Martin Kathriner,
Corporate Affairs, Samsung**



“Implementing multiple SDGs at the same time generates both conflicts and synergies. These are pressing issues that the academic world needs to address.”

**Peter Messerli,
Professor of Sustainable
Development, University of Bern**