



Swiss Economic Cooperation and Development Ghana

2017 – 2020

Objective 1: Strong and accountable institutions that deliver effective public services

Under the first objective, Switzerland focuses on building stronger institutional foundations for economic and fiscal management and public service delivery.

Challenges

Sound economic and fiscal management and effective public services are among the basic building blocks of making economic development more resilient and inclusive through lowering vulnerability to domestic and external shocks and providing more and better public services to a wider segment of the population. This requires addressing the triple challenges of improving public financial management, strengthening the capacity of local governments and public utilities to deliver basic services and enhancing institutional capacity and accountability.

Focus

Switzerland proposes to respond to these challenges with a combination of measures. Switzerland will prioritize, on the one hand, strengthened public financial management including revenue mobilization and, on the other hand, reliable basic public services with an emphasis on integrated urban development and sustainable energy supply.

Switzerland will continue to strengthen the institutions for macroeconomic and fiscal management with an emphasis on domestic revenue mobilization at the national level and expanding it to the local level, including by enhancing accountability mechanisms for managing natural resource revenues. Switzerland will address financial and institutional weaknesses in the delivery of basic public services at the local level and complement this with efforts to promote effective fiscal decentralization and more efficient use of public resources.

SECO contributions:

- Transparent resource mobilisation and reliable public financial management
- Integrated urban development
- Sustainable energy supply
- Reliable basic public services



Transparent resource mobilisation requires an effective tax system and an efficient tax administration

Switzerland supports efforts to widen access to and improve the quality of the delivery of public services in the energy sector, in particular by promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency. Switzerland will focus on improving the quality of public services in urban spaces by expanding infrastructure and building the institutional capacity to plan and implement urban policies and deliver urban services.

Intervention areas

Transparent resource mobilisation and reliable public financial management:

Well managed public finances are a prerequisite for sustainable economic growth. Therefore governments should budget their resources carefully and manage public funds effectively and economically. SECO provides support to Ghana in domestic revenue mobilization, public financial management and in strengthening macroeconomic planning and management by building human and technical capacities for macroeconomic forecasting and policy making.

Integrated urban development

Towns and cities are hubs of economic growth and innovation, with huge potential for reducing poverty. However, the rapid growth in urban populations brings huge challenges for towns and cities, especially in regards to providing households and businesses with transportation possibilities, water, power and other services. In Ghana SECO's support aims at improving the quality of services in urban areas by expanding infrastructure and building the institutional capacity to plan and implement urban development and transport policies.

Sustainable energy supply

Energy has become more relevant than ever before. Countries need a dependable energy supply for economic development. Using energy, however, has an enormous impact on the climate. SECO is committed to reducing carbon emissions. In Ghana SECO strengthen the capacity of public utilities to provide infrastructure services and support infrastructure development in the electricity sector, through electrification, renewable energy and energy efficiency measures, among others.

Reliable basic public services

Reliable infrastructure is vital for a country to develop its economy and reduce poverty. Households and businesses need access to water as well as sanitation and waste management systems. SECO supports Ghana in delivering these basic services and building of institutional capacity at the subnational level through decentralized budget support.



Good urban planning and efficient transport links are crucial to capitalize on towns' potential for higher productivity.



SECO supports the transition to more renewable energy such as solar power.