



## EU ENLARGEMENT CONTRIBUTION FOR ESTONIA 40 MILLION FRANCS



**Population:** 1.3 million

**Swiss imports from Estonia:** 45.7 million francs

**Swiss exports to Estonia:** 101.9 million francs

**Real GDP growth rate:** 7.6 percent

**Purchasing power in relation to EU-Ø (2010):** 64.0 percent

(Source: Eurostat, Swiss Foreign Trade Statistics, 2011)

### PROJECT OBJECTIVES

18 projects, accounting for some 37.9 million francs, have been approved in Estonia. All projects further one of the following objectives:

#### ■ Promoting economic growth and improving working conditions

##### *Training in accounting and auditing regulations*

The application of international standards to accounting and auditing practices improves the investment climate and helps prevent financial crises. This is why Switzerland is supporting Estonia in its efforts to implement EU laws governing corporate financial reporting and audits.

##### *Scholarship and research programme*

The scholarship programme enables doctoral and post-doctoral students from Estonia to conduct research in Switzerland for a limited period. This helps extend cooperation between Swiss and Estonian research institutes and to promote Estonia as a research location.

An additional project supports the Estonia research landscape in the area of nanotechnology through the purchase of a specific microscope and the provision of training on how to use it.

#### ■ Improving social security

##### *Improving conditions for orphans living in children's homes*

The project supports the building of ten children's homes in three Estonian municipalities. These new children's homes, which provide about 80 children without parental care with a new home in which to grow up in, also serve as a model for the construction of future children's homes in Estonia. Thanks to a maximum occupancy of ten children per home, it is possible to create a family environment for these teenage children.

##### *Therapy for drug-dependent offenders*

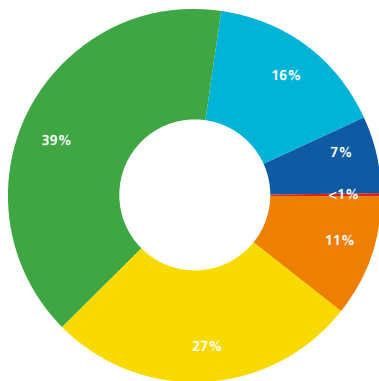
The project aims to provide therapeutic treatment for drug-dependent offenders in prison or on parole; it will provide them with drug rehabilitation treatment and support measures to reintegrate them into the community, thus helping to reduce drug-related crime in the country.

##### *Enhancing of the efficiency of the emergency services and the national ambulance service*

By financing two projects tailored to one another, Switzerland is making a contribution to the technological optimisation of the operations centres and the provision of emergency services in Estonia. The aim of the project is to signifi-



**Figure: Allocation of the Swiss contribution to the enlarged EU by project goal**



**Promoting economic growth and improving working conditions**

3 Projects  
CHF 4,023,337

**Improving social security**

5 Projects  
CHF 10,228,335

**Protecting the environment**

2 Projects  
CHF 15,000,000

**Improving public safety and security**

5 Projects  
CHF 5,992,057

**Strengthening civil society**

1 Project  
CHF 2,500,000

**Project preparation + technical assist.**

2 Projects  
CHF 176,271

**Total CHF 37,920,000**

The remaining amount covers expenses for administrative costs on the Swiss side.

cantly reduce the time between receipt of an emergency call and the arrival of emergency services on the scene, and to substantially improve the quality of the Estonian rescue and care services.

***Movement therapy for injured children***

Thanks to this project, a piece of equipment for a children’s clinic is being purchased; this will support the rehabilitation process for children suffering from severe mobility problems as a result of accidents.

**Protecting the environment**

***Modernisation of environmental monitoring systems***

Switzerland is equipping Estonian laboratories and monitoring stations with modern devices and financing the training of personnel. This should ensure that in future Estonia has comprehensive, reliable environmental data on water, air, radioactivity and natural disasters.

***Promotion of energy-efficient construction methods and corresponding new building standards***

Buildings in Estonia consume approximately 20-30% more energy than similar buildings in other EU countries. Therefore the enlargement contribution is being used to support the development, implementation and use of energy-efficient standards. As part of pilot projects, three kindergartens and an old-age home will be built or renovated on the basis of energy efficient criteria.

**Improving public safety and security**

***Judicial reforms: international judges conference, improved court proceedings***

A judges conference held in September 2010, alongside the video conferencing facilities being provided for 15 courtrooms, 5 police prisons, and 2 prosecutor’s offices, is helping the Estonian judiciary to conduct court proceedings more efficiently and cheaply than was previously the case.

***Improvement of fire safety in hospitals and nursing homes***

As a result of this project, improvements to fire safety are being made in over 200 nursing homes and hospitals in Estonia. To achieve this, guidelines and safety legislation are being drawn up and medical staff trained in their use.

***Modernisation of the National Forensic Institute***

To combat crime in Estonia more effectively, the purchase of modern equipment and the introduction of training programmes for the Estonian Forensic Institute and other authorities tasked with fighting crime is being financed.

***Border security: installation of license plate recognition systems at Estonia’s external border***

This project aims to equip Estonian seaports with automatic license plate recognition systems and to integrate these recognition points into the national automatic license plate recognition system in order to create an efficient system for combating tax fraud and smuggling.

**Strengthening civil society**

***Support for civil-society initiatives at local level***

The funds for NGOs in Estonia strengthen civil society and promote their active participation in social, political and economic life. As a rule, financing is provided for small projects that NGOs conduct in social or healthcare services in cooperation with municipalities.

You can find additional information at  
<http://www.swiss-contribution.admin.ch/estonia/>