

# Supporting countries at policy level

Policies matter. They can support or hinder development. They are contested and affect power relations. This evaluation aims to improve understanding of how Switzerland contributes to fostering sustainable policies and their implementation.

SDC engagement

## Strengths

### Effective and holistic

Significant policy results have been achieved through a combination of investments in aid coordination, measures to strengthen domestic policy dialogue and concrete development projects.

### Reliable and long-term

Swiss impartiality, predictability and continuity of cooperation help to yield good results. SDC invested time and staff and used its diverse networks to support policy dialogue.

### Connected and evidence-based

The SDC cooperates with all relevant stakeholders, international, national and local. It develops fact-based advice and advocacy for policy reforms.

## Recommendations

### → Strengthen Synergies

To promote systemic change, synergies between country programme objectives, policy dialogue and project activities should be strengthened.

### → Reinforce Engagement

There is space for Switzerland to adopt a more forwardleaning role to advance global norms and standards depending on the context.

### → Invest in monitoring

Close monitoring of policy dialogue allows to adapt to an ever-changing environment and to act swiftly, with flexibility and agility to pursue opportunities when they arise.

### → Empower

Invest in capacity for policy dialogue, political economy analyses and public administration of both SDC and national staff in order to increase ownership and sustainability.

# 81%

81% of SDC staff are to a large or some extent involved in policy dialogue.

# 3 hours

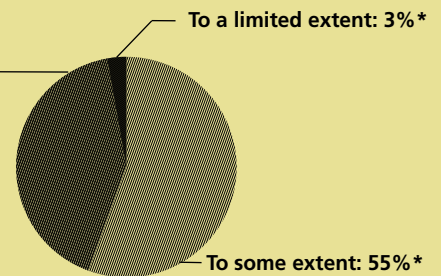
3 hours or less per week are spent by SDC staff preparing and conducting policy dialogue.

## Policy dialogue contributes to cooperation success

Extent to which national policy dialogue contributes to success of SDC's objectives as well as programme and project objectives in partner countries.

To a large extent: 41%\*

97% of respondents reported that policy dialogue contributed to cooperation success. Policy dialogue often was implicit but nonetheless created tangible results.



\*rounded numbers

