

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Bern, July 2023

Engaging the Private Sector for Sustainable Development

SDC sees Private Sector Engagement (PSE) as a way to foster innovation and achieve greater impact. PSE are interventions where SDC and one or several private sector partners share a vision and join forces for an impact-driven development intervention, in support of SDC's existing strategies.

SDC engagement



Progress in results

The diligent effort and significant resources invested by SDC in its PSE are starting to pay off in innovation, learning and some promising results.

Strong Guidance

SDC, through its Competence Centre for Engagement with the Private Sector (CEP), has developed a strong set of PSE tools and guidance documentation and training material.

Emerging Solutions

Through its PSE work, SDC is starting to foster increased private sector long-term involvement in emerging solutions to developmental problems.









Core attributes of effective PSE

Shared Risks

Shared Costs (usually 50:50)

Shared Benefits

"Fair play"

снг 900

SDC's active portfolio of projects with PSE component stands at around CHF 900 million as of the end of 2021.

SDC mainly partners with private foundations, small and medium-sized enterprises, large corporations, and social enterprises.

PSE is present, in one way or another, in all SDC thematic areas and all operational divisions.



There were 142 active projects with a PSE component at the end of 2021.

SDC has entered into 162 PSE partnerships by the end of 2021.



Recommendations

→ Clarify

Specify how and when the Centre for Engagement with the Private Sector can directly support the SDC staff and what decision power it has within the new, broader SDC structure.

Organizate Organizate

Develop a coherent narrative defining PSE and provide clear guidance for implementation of PSE to external and internal stakeholders.

→ Improve

Strengthen and streamline the PSE monitoring and evaluation system to improve decision-making.

The SDC commissions 80-100 project evaluations and 3-4 thematic or institutional evaluations each year, mainly based on international OECD-Development Assistance Committee (DAC) criteria such as relevance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability.

The SDC's senior management takes note of the evaluation-results and outlines measures to be implemented in response to each recommendation. The senior management response is published together with the full report and can be accessed through the QR-code.

