



CH-3003 Bern

Mr. Marcel-Ioan Boloş, Minister of finance  
Ministry of Finance  
16 Libertăţii Blv, Bucharest  
050706 Romania

File References: EDA-D-0AB33401/974: / SECO-552-11-4/1/2

Bern, 22 September 2023

**Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme:  
1<sup>st</sup> Amendment of the Country-Specific Set-Up (Annex 1) to the Framework Agreement**

Dear Minister,

We have the honor to refer to the Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of Romania on the implementation of the second Swiss contribution to selected member states of the European Union to reduce economic and social disparities within the European Union, signed on 12 December 2022, in Bucharest.

With reference to article 9 paragraph 2 of the Framework Agreement (FA), the Annex 1 Country-Specific Set-Up may be amended by mutual agreement of the competent authorities referred to in Article 6 (i.e. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the National Coordination Unit, NCU) through an exchange of letters between them.

In the light of new developments, Switzerland and Romania herewith agree to modify the following **provisions of Chapter 3.3 Pre-specified parameters per thematic area** in the Annex 1 (Country-Specific Set-Up) of the Framework Agreement as follows:

- A) The numbering of the thematic areas will be correlated with the one mentioned in **Chapter 3.1 Thematic allocation** being read for each area as it mentioned below.
- B) At the beginning of Chapter 3.3, a new paragraph is added:  
"The following parameters of the Programmes are guiding the elaboration of the respective Support Measures. Additional Programme Components or modifications of the strategic focus might be agreed by the parties in the corresponding Support Measure Agreements."

***For thematic area (i) Vocational and professional education and training***

Geographical Focus	National
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**For thematic area (ii) Research and innovation, the initial Support Measure “Research Programme Romania” is split in two separate Support Measures**

Support Measure name	International Research Cooperation Programme
Support Measure type	Programme
Objectives	Contribute to the economic growth and competitiveness of Romania by strengthening the research excellence and innovation capacities of Romanian research organizations and universities and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners. Both programme components will enhance the relations of the Romanian research and innovation communities with leading RDI actors and networks in the European Research Area and improve the alignment with ERA policy objectives.
Strategic Focus	The programme will have two components: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Multilateral Joint Research Projects (MJRP)</u>: Building up long-term sustainable research partnerships between Romanian and Swiss and other European partners with a view to, among other things, encourage joint participation in the EU Framework Programme Horizon Europe</li> <li>2. <u>Extreme Light Infrastructure (ELI-NP)</u>: Increasing the Romanian participation in major international Research &amp; Infrastructure networks to boost the scientific research in the field of nuclear physics in Romania by providing access to high quality services and data</li> </ol>
Swiss indicative Commitment	13 million CHF
Project or Programme Operator	Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization
Swiss Support Measure Partner(s)	Swiss research and innovation institutions and agencies, research infrastructure institutions.
Other specificities related to the Support Measure	For the Programme Component on Multilateral Joint Research Projects, the Swiss National Science Foundation will be acting as Programme Component Operator and specific rules, deviating from the Regulations e.g. on financial flows, audit and reporting will be applied and further defined in the Support Measure Agreement.
Geographical Focus	National

Support Measure name	Emissions Research & Monitoring Infrastructure Programme
Support Measure type	Programme

Objectives	Contribute to the economic growth and competitiveness of Romania by strengthening the research excellence and innovation capacities of Romanian research organizations and universities and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners. Both programme components will enhance the relations of the Romanian research and innovation communities with leading RDI actors and networks in the European Research Area and improve the alignment with ERA policy objectives.	
Strategic Focus	The programme will have two components: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Aerosol, Clouds and Trace gases Research Infrastructure (ACTRIS)</u>: Advancing the scientific knowledge on aerosols in Eastern Europe by upgrading the research infrastructure and providing access to high quality services and data in Romania</li> <li>2. <u>East European Methane Study (EEMS)</u>: Advancing the scientific knowledge on methane emissions in Eastern Europe by further improving the research infrastructure and providing access to high quality services and data in Romania.</li> </ol>	
Swiss indicative Commitment	7.4 million CHF	
Project or Programme Operator	Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization	
Swiss Support Measure Partner(s)	Swiss research and innovation institutions and agencies, research infrastructure institutions.	
Other specificities related to the Support Measure	N/A	
Geographical Focus	National	

***For thematic area (v) Improving public safety and security, under the Support Measure “Public Security and Safety Programme (Internal Affairs)”***

Geographical Focus	National
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***For thematic area (vi) Energy efficiency and renewable energy***

Strategic Focus	The programme will be implemented through the following components: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Financing of investments in larger cities</li> <li>2. Financing of investments in smaller, disadvantaged communities</li> <li>3. Managerial and technical capacity development for cities and communities</li> </ol>
Geographical Focus	National, excluding Bucharest and Ilfov

**For Thematic area (vii) Public transport.** [the rest unchanged]

**For thematic area (xi) Health and social protection**

Strategic Focus	The programme will aim at improving quality health care in remote areas [the rest unchanged]
Geographical Focus	National

**For thematic area (xii) Minorities and socially disadvantaged groups**

Geographical Focus	National
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**For thematic area (xiii) Civic engagement and transparency**

Geographical Focus	National
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All other provisions of the Country Specific Set-Up as annex of the FA remain unchanged.

By way of this Letter, SDC on behalf of Switzerland, requests the National Coordination Unit on behalf of Romania to confirm in writing its consent with the above-mentioned amendments in the Annex 1 of the Framework Agreement.

The present and the reply letter will be considered as mutual agreement of SDC and NCU on the amendment of the Annex 1 Country-Specific Set-Up. The amendment will enter into force upon receipt of the reply letter of the Ministry of Finance of Romania by the Embassy of Switzerland in Bucharest.

Yours sincerely

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

 Kern Debora DXYXWI  
27.09.2023  
Info: [admin.ch/esignature](mailto:admin.ch/esignature) | [validator.ch](mailto:validator.ch)

Debora Kern  
Head EU Member States Section

Copy:

- Ms. Laurence Mortier, Head Swiss Contribution to EU Member States / Cohesion, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)
- Ms. Cosmina Manolescu, National Coordination Unit of the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme
- Mr. Giacomo Solari, Head Swiss Contribution Office, Embassy of Switzerland in Romania



# MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Secretary of State Cabinet

No. 733.811/06.10.2023

Mrs. Debora KERN

Head EU Member States Section

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)

Dear Madam,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Letter dated 22<sup>nd</sup> of September, 2023, regarding the Swiss-Romanian Cooperation Programme: 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment of the Country-Specific Set-Up (Annex 1) to the Framework Agreement, which reads as follows:

"We have the honor to refer to the Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of Romania on the implementation of the second Swiss contribution to selected member states of the European Union to reduce economic and social disparities within the European Union, signed on 12 December 2022, in Bucharest.

With reference to article 9 paragraph 2 of the Framework Agreement (FA), the Annex 1, Country-Specific Set-Up may be amended by mutual agreement of the competent authorities referred to in Article 6 (i.e. Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the National Coordination Unit (NCU), through an exchange of letters between them.

In the light of new developments, Switzerland and Romania herewith agree to modify the following provisions of Chapter 3.3 Pre-specified parameters per thematic area in the Annex 1 of the Framework Agreement, as follows:

- A) The numbering of the thematic areas will be correlated with the one mentioned in **Chapter 3.1 Thematic allocation** being read for each area as it mentioned below.
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"The following parameters of the Programmes are guiding the elaboration of the respective Support Measures. Additional Programme Components or modifications of the strategic focus might be agreed by the parties in the corresponding Support Measure Agreements."

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Geographical Focus	National
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Geographical Focus	National

Support Measure name	Emissions Research & Monitoring Infrastructure Programme
Support Measure type	Programme
Objectives	Contribute to the economic growth and competitiveness of Romania by strengthening the research excellence and innovation



	capacities of Romanian research organizations and universities and by facilitating the research and innovation cooperation with international partners. Both programme components will enhance the relations of the Romanian research and innovation communities with leading RDI actors and networks in the European Research Area and improve the alignment with ERA policy objectives.
Strategic Focus	The programme will have two components: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <u>Aerosol, Clouds and Trace gases Research Infrastructure (ACTRIS)</u>: Advancing the scientific knowledge on aerosols in Eastern Europe by upgrading the research infrastructure and providing access to high quality services and data in Romania</li> <li>2. <u>East European Methane Study (EEMS)</u>: Advancing the scientific knowledge on methane emissions in Eastern Europe by further improving the research infrastructure and providing access to high quality services and data in Romania.</li> </ol>
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By way of this Letter, SDC on behalf of Switzerland, requests the National Coordination Unit on behalf of Romania to confirm in writing its consent with the above-mentioned amendments in the Annex 1 of the Framework Agreement.

The present and the reply letter will be considered as mutual agreement of SDC and NCU on the amendment of the Country-Specific Set-Up. The amendment will enter into force upon receipt of the reply letter of the Ministry of Finance of Romania by the Embassy of Switzerland in Bucharest."

I am confirming on behalf of the Ministry of Finance in its capacity of National Coordination Unit under the Framework Agreement that the proposals in your letter are agreeable to the Romanian side. We express our consent with the amendments in the Annex 1 of the Framework Agreement.

Thus, your letter together with the present reply shall constitute a mutual agreement of SDC and NCU on the amendment of the Annex 1 Country-Specific Set-Up, which shall enter into force upon the receipt of this reply letter by the Embassy of Switzerland in Bucharest.

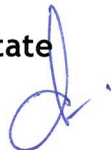
Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

For the Minister of Finance

Carmen MORARU

Secretary of State



Copy:

- Ms. Laurence Mortier, Head Swiss Contribution to EU Member States / Cohesion, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
- Mr. Giacomo Solari, Head Swiss Contribution Office, Embassy of Switzerland in Romania