

The State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO)

– Donor Fact sheet

Developed by the INTOSAI-Donor Cooperation with support from SECO



Background

The INTOSAI-Donor Cooperation (Cooperation) has taken the initiative to develop fact sheets for the purpose of increasing knowledge of member practices in supporting Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs). Fact sheets have been developed for donor members who can provide financial support for capacity development. In addition, fact sheets have been developed for some INTOSAI members who can support capacity development for SAIs through their programme implementation.

This fact sheet is for information purposes only and does not constitute an offer for support.

About SECO

SECO is an agency of the government of Switzerland responsible for planning and implementation of economic and trade policy measures. SECO's Economic Cooperation and Development Division aims to support the integration of developing countries and Eastern European transition countries into the world economy. The division has a close collaboration with the Switzerland Development Cooperation (SDC) which lies under the Swiss ministry of foreign affairs (MFA). For some of the development projects SECO engage jointly with SDC and for some projects SECO implements complementary measures under the Swiss Cooperation programmes.

SECO can support SAIs through different types of projects, see table 1 for an overview. These type of projects covers duration and delivery approaches, and are not mutually exclusive.

Table 1: What types of projects can SECO provide funding for when working with SAIs:

Type of projects:	Can SECO provide funding:
Short-term projects	No
Long-term programmes	No
Bilateral support	Yes
Regional support	No
Global support	No
Funding for peer to peer support	Yes
Funding for projects to be implemented by the SAI itself	Yes
Funding for projects with a third-party implementer	Yes
Projects where SAI Capacity Development is part of a broader PFM programme	Yes

Programme Cycle and decision making

Decisions on country-level support to SAIs is taken at Headquarter based on recommendation from field office and information gathered through missions and general discussion on public financial management. The programme cycle is three to four years.

Strategic priorities for SECO

Priority countries

SECO supports advanced developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America and transition countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia facing poverty and development issues. To consider supporting a SAI, the SAI preferably has to be from one of SECOs priority countries, but SECO can also consider supporting a project outside of the priority countries. Selectively and upon request from SDC and available resources, SECO can provide support for SDC priority countries as well. For an overview of SECO and SDC priority countries see table 2 below:

Table 2: priority countries

Priority countries for SECO ¹	DAC List of ODA Recipients ²	Priority countries and regions for SCD/MFA ³	DAC List of ODA Recipients
Egypt	LMIC	Priority countries and regions for the Switzerland MFA	
Ghana	LMIC	Bolivia	LMIC
Indonesia	LMIC	Burkina Faso	LDC
Colombia	UMIC	Morocco	LMIC
Peru	UMIC	Mozambique	LDC
South Africa	UMIC	Myanmar	LDC
Tunisia	UMIC	Nepal	LDC
Vietnam	LMIC	Azerbaijan	UMIC
Albania	UMIC	Bosnia and Herzegovina	UMIC
Kyrgyz Republic	LMIC	Georgia	LMIC
Serbia	UMIC	Kosovo	LMIC
Tajikistan	LDC	Macedonia	UMIC
Ukraine	LMIC	Uzbekistan	LMIC
		Bolivia	LMIC

¹ List of priority countries as per March 2017.

² LDC=Least Developed Countries, OLIC=Other Low Income Countries, LMIC=Lower Middle Income Countries, UMIC=Upper Middle Income Countries

³ List of priority countries as per March 2017.

Areas of strategic priorities:

To consider supporting SAI development programs, the projects need to be compatible with SECOS strategic priorities. SECO can provide support for projects in the following areas:

- Good governance
- Accountability
- Transparency
- PFM reforms
- Effective Institutions

About the INTOSAI-Donor Cooperation

THE INTOSAI-DONOR COOPERATION

The INTOSAI-Donor Cooperation is a strategic partnership between donors and the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) community.

Purpose: to improve SAI performance in developing countries through scaled-up and more effective support.

Guiding Principles: development of country-led strategic plans; donors respecting SAI country leadership; and improved coordination of support.

Members: To date, 23 donor organizations and INTOSAI (who comprise the INTOSAI-Donor Steering Committee) have signed the Memorandum of Understanding.

For more information, visit us online at www.idi.no/intosai-donor-cooperation