

Corporate Citizenship: Social commitment in Switzerland

Corporate responsibility in society

In addition to its core business, Credit Suisse contributes to addressing social challenges in each of the regions in which it operates. Together with selected partner organizations, we support projects worldwide that aim to have a positive economic or social impact and that support the implementation of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We focus on the topics future skills, financial education, and financial inclusion.

Our commitment in Switzerland

As part of our social commitment and in line with SDG 17 "Partnerships," we aim to find solutions to social challenges in Switzerland together with our partner organizations. With the topic future skills, we engage in projects that equip young people with the skills they need to develop their full potential irrespective of their socio-economic background. In addition, we support programs that provide them with knowledge in the fields of finance and debt prevention. To achieve this, we enable our employees to take part in volunteering assignments, provide access to our network and expertise as a bank, and support our charitable partners with financial contributions.

Voluntary assignments by our employees

Credit Suisse operates one of Switzerland's most extensive corporate volunteering programs. We empower our employees to make their own personal contribution and get involved in projects for the common good carried out by our partner organizations. In addition to that, these assignments are also opportunities for professional and personal development. Employees are provided up to four workdays per year for volunteering; selected assignments can last several weeks.

One major focus of our volunteering program is on projects where our employees share their expertise with others. These include passing their knowledge of finance and economics on to children and young people, providing support with finding an apprenticeship, supporting mentoring programs at universities and universities of applied sciences, and coaching people from immigrant backgrounds. When carrying out assignments in our partner organizations, employees also support capacity building in these organizations with their wide-ranging experience and expertise.

Our volunteers also provide hands-on support to nature projects, help integrate disabled or socially disadvantaged people, assist rescue organizations with drills, or are active as blood donors.



Social commitment of Credit Suisse volunteers in Switzerland (annual average).

Expertise and network

As a company, we are highly active in many networks, and our employees have diverse experience and skills. We use our network of relationships to facilitate ties between stakeholders and share our extensive expertise with working groups, at conferences, and in partner projects. In focusing on the topic of future skills, we also contribute to public awareness and the development of this area.

An important part of our social commitment is to enable our employees to contribute as volunteers on boards of charitable organizations, such as foundations and associations. Within our global initiative Board Connect, we provide a training program for employees who hold a board mandate in a charitable organization or are looking to take on such a mandate in the future. The training aims to enable employees to use their professional skills complemented by their knowledge of foundations to make a positive contribution to the boards of a charitable organization. In collaboration with the organization benevol-jobs.ch, we support an external platform for the referral of positions on boards of charitable organizations. We also hold regular community building events for alumni of the Board Connect program and employees with a board mandate in a charitable organization.

Financial support

We support selected partner organizations with financial project contributions and corporate donations. We also enable our employees to conduct fundraising activities for charitable causes via the fundraising platform we developed with Copalana.org. The platform facilitates the organization of fundraising campaigns and the creation of a strong fundraising community.

Credit Suisse Foundation

In Switzerland, the Credit Suisse Foundation maintains partnerships with charitable organizations that operate nationally and supports regional projects, primarily in the areas of future skills and financial education. It also presents awards for achievements in culture and science, in particular the Credit Suisse Award for Best Teaching, and the Credit Suisse Young Artist Award and the Prix Credit Suisse Jeunes Solistes in alternating years.

Selected partner organizations

Pro Juventute

We collaborate with Pro Juventute in a variety of ways, including the support for the development of their Future Skills-platform. Volunteering activities are also an important part of our partnership, e.g., job interview trainings in preparation for an apprenticeship and the budget game to teach financial skills.

Wirtschaftsbildung.ch

Every year, around 180 high school classes hold an economy week. With the newly developed simulation project "Wirtschaft entdecken" (Discovering economics), middle school students explore the worlds of production and work in an interactive, digital format. Credit Suisse employees support them as instructors.

Durchstartertag (IWJB)

We are the initiating corporate partner for IWJB to bring the financial education workshop "Durchstartertag" to schools in Switzerland. The school workshop provides young people with a basic understanding of finances, taxes, health insurance and renting an apartment. Our support ranges from capacity building assignments, volunteering as experts in the school workshops to providing access to our network and seed funding.



Bergwaldprojekt (mountain forest project): multi-year commitment for nature projects in a designated mountain region

Capacity: labor market integration and entrepreneurship coaching for people with migrant/refugee background

Robotics/Lego Mindstorms: technology workshops for children and teenagers

Schweizer Tafel: support for daily food distribution tours and main partner of Soup Day

St. Jakob Foundation and Stöckenweid Foundation: collaboration on integrating people with disabilities

Swiss Red Cross (SRK): SRK Young Leaders Forum and annual Credit Suisse Red Cross Youth Award; social, integration and support assignments; semi-annual blood donation drives

University of St. Gallen: mentoring program for students

University Children's Hospital Zurich: assignments with young patients

WWF: nature assignments to maintain dry grasslands

YES: financial and community education in schools with the programs "Unsere Gemeinde" and "Fit für die Wirtschaft"

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