

# 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 of 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 voluntary 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. These assignments provide them with opportunities for professional and personal development at the same time. 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 make a practical contribution 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 contribute to public awareness and the development of this area, among other things.

An important part of our social commitment is to enable our employees to participate in boards of trustees and boards of charitable organizations. Within our global initiative Board Connect, we provide a training program for employees who work as members of boards of trustees or association boards. This training aims to enable employees to use their professional skills and knowledge of foundations to make a positive contribution to the management committees of charitable organizations. In addition, we provide an external platform for the referral of positions on boards of trustees or associations in collaboration with the organization [benevol-jobs.ch](http://benevol-jobs.ch), as well as a network with regular events.

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## Financial support

We support selected partner organizations with financial contributions. At the same time, we 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. At the start of every year, our employees choose a Charity of the Year, which receives financial support from fundraising campaigns by our employees and contributions by the bank throughout that year.

## 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.

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## Selected partner organizations

### Pro Juventute

We collaborate with Pro Juventute in a variety of ways, and support capacity building for the platforms Future Skills and Feriennet. Volunteering activities such as job interview training in preparation for an apprenticeship, the budget game to teach financial skills, and the traditional sales campaign before Christmas are also an important part of our partnership.

### Swiss Red Cross (SRK)

Credit Suisse supports the SRK's Young Leaders Forum and presents the Credit Suisse Red Cross Youth Award every year. Employees volunteer for the "2x Christmas" gift collection campaign, the SRK car pool, drills with the REDOG rescue dog group, the virtual assignment with "Missing Maps," and the "Mitten unter uns" (in our midst) integration project. In addition, some 1,200 volunteers donate blood every year.



### 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. Wirtschaftsbildung.ch has been responsible for the programs of the Ernst Schmidheiny Foundation since 2020.

**Bergwaldprojekt (mountain forest project):** nature assignments in designated mountain regions

**University of St. Gallen:** mentoring program for students.

**University Children's Hospital Zurich:** assignments with young patients.

**Robotics/Lego Mindstorms and Stiftung go tec! (go tec! foundation):** technology workshops for children and teenagers

**Schweizer Tafel:** supporting the food distribution runs and main partner of Soup Day.

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

**WWF:** nature assignments to maintain dry grasslands.

**YES:** specialist days in schools with the programs "Unsere Gemeinde" and "Fit für die Wirtschaft".



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