

Annex 1

COUNTRY-SPECIFIC SET-UP

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

between

THE SWISS FEDERAL COUNCIL

and

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
LITHUANIA**

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**

1. General provisions

- 1.1. This Country-Specific Set-Up is an integral part of the Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council (hereinafter referred to as “Switzerland”) and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as Lithuania) 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 (hereinafter referred to as the “Framework Agreement”).
- 1.2. For the purposes of this Country-Specific Set-Up, the definitions in the Framework Agreement shall apply.
- 1.3. This Country-Specific Set-Up lays down the thematic and geographic allocations of the Contribution and the specific rules agreed between Switzerland and Lithuania, as well as the attribution of responsibilities and tasks to entities involved in the implementation of the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme and in Support Measures respectively.
- 1.4. For specific rules and procedures not provided in the Country Specific Set-Up, the provisions of Regulations shall apply.

2. Roles and responsibilities for the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme

2.1. National Coordination Unit

The Partner State has authorized the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania to act on its behalf as National Coordination Unit of the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme.

The Investment Department of the Ministry of Finance (hereinafter referred to as the Investment Department) shall act as the National Coordination Unit. The Investment Department is a structural unit of the Ministry of Finance, directly subordinate to the Vice- Minister of Finance.

The Investment Department is also responsible for the management of a number of other funding sources, such as the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Union Investment Funds, European Economic Area and the Norwegian Financial Mechanisms.

The role and responsibilities of the National Coordination Unit are set out in the Regulations.

In addition, the National Coordination Unit shall delegate part of its responsibilities to the public body Central Project Management Agency. Specific division of responsibilities of the National Coordination Unit and the Central Project Management Agency will be determined by the order of the Minister of Finance.

2.2. Paying Authority

The Paying Authority is the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania.

The responsibilities of the Paying Authority shall be delegated to the State Treasury Department of the Ministry of Finance (hereinafter referred to as the State Treasury Department). The State Treasury Department is a structural unit of the Ministry of Finance directly subordinate to the Vice-Minister of Finance.

The roles and responsibilities of the Paying Authority are set out in the Regulations. In addition, the Paying Authority shall delegate part of its responsibilities to the public body Central Project Management Agency. Respecting a clear separation of tasks and responsibilities the public body Central Project Management Agency performs as the Programme Operator, National Coordination Unit and Paying Authority.

Specific division of responsibilities of the Paying Authority will be specified in the order of the Minister of Finance. The State Treasury Department shall perform the functions delegated to it by law such as opening/closing of bank accounts, executing payment transactions on behalf of the Republic of Lithuania and converting expenditure. Other responsibilities shall be carried out by the public body Central Project Management Agency.

2.3. Audit Authority

The Audit Authority is the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania.

The responsibilities of the Audit Authority shall be delegated to the Centralized Internal Audit Division of the Ministry of Finance. It is an independent division directly subordinate to the Minister of Finance.

The Audit Authority also carries out the responsibilities of the Audit Authority in several programmes, such as the Recovery and Resilience Facility, European Union Investment Funds, and the European Economic Area and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms.

The roles and responsibilities of the Audit Authority are set out in the Regulations.

2.4. Programme Operator

The Operator of Programmes is the public body Central Project Management Agency. The roles and responsibilities of the Programme Operator are set out in the Regulations.

The involved relevant ministries shall participate at the programme preparation stage and in certain processes during the programme implementation. Specific division of functions and responsibilities shall be determined in the three Support Measure Agreements.

3. Parameters of cooperation

3.1. Thematic allocation

<i>Specific objective & thematic area</i>	Indicative allocation of the Contribution [in CHF millions]
<i>1. Promoting economic growth and social dialogue, reducing (youth) unemployment</i>	
(i) Vocational and professional education and training	4.388
(ii) Research and innovation	0
(iii) Financing for micro, small and medium-sized enterprises	0
<i>2. Managing migration and supporting integration. Increasing public safety and security</i>	
(iv) Migration management and promoting integration measures	0
(v) Improving public safety and security	0
<i>3. Protecting the environment and the climate</i>	
(vi) Energy efficiency and renewable energy	0
(vii) Public transport	0
(viii) Water and waste-water management	0
(ix) Waste management	0
(x) Nature conservation and biodiversity	0
<i>4. Strengthening of social systems</i>	
(xi) Health and social protection	29.55
(xii) Minorities and socially disadvantaged groups	0
<i>5. Civic engagement and transparency</i>	
(xiii) Civic engagement and transparency	9.75
<i>6. Technical support</i>	
(xiv) Technical Assistance Fund	0.678
(xv) Support Measure Preparation Fund	0.834
Total allocation	45.2

Any unused balances in all the Support Measures of the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme may be transferred to any other approved Support Measure provided the feasibility until the end of the eligibility period, by mutual agreement (e.g. confirmed in the minutes of meetings or by correspondence) between the Competent Authorities mentioned in Article 6 of

the Framework Agreement in the course of the implementation of the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme. For the consequent modification of the Support Measure, Article 4.12 Regulations shall apply.

3.2. Pre-specified parameters per thematic area

(i) Vocational and professional education and training

Support Measure name	Vocational Education and Training
Support Measure type	Programme
Objectives	The programme envisages contributing to Lithuania's National Progress Plan 2021-2030 with the aim to ensure the relevancy of the Vocational Education and Training (hereinafter referred to as VET) system to the labour market needs by improving the match between the competences acquired in the education system and the requirements of the labour market and herein attracting highly skilled specialists.
Strategic Focus	<p>The programme's investments focus mainly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the piloting and implementation of the mastery qualifications' model acquired at the workplace. The model will enable recognition of the person's competences regardless of the means of their acquisition; - the development and piloting of a quality assurance model for non-formal practical work-based training which will facilitate the incentive to improve the competences of the employees; - the adaptation of the VET system for the integration of migrants with the aim to address the needs of migrants and facilitate their integration into the labour market and society.
Swiss indicative Commitment	CHF 4.388 million (this figure excludes the estimated contribution to the Support Measure Preparation Fund of CHF 0.112 million).
Project or Programme Operator	The public body Central Project Management Agency with the involvement of the Ministry of Economy and Innovation of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport of the Republic of Lithuania
Swiss Support Measure Partner(s)	Swiss Public VET schools, companies (SMEs), professional associations, expert organisations and Swiss authorities
Other specificities related to the Support Measure	

(xi) Health and social protection

Support Measure name	Maternal and Child Health and Wellbeing
Support Measure type	Programme
Objectives	The programme envisages contributing to Lithuania's National Progress Plan 2021-2030 by improving the quality and accessibility of maternal, infant and child healthcare and social services, with an emphasis on outpatient care.
Strategic Focus	<p>The programme focuses mainly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- improving the quality and accessibility of outpatients' health care services for pregnant women, new-borns and infants;- improving the health and wellbeing of infants and children with development disorders through the implementation of holistic child development services;- adopting a systemic and integral approach, the programme may work along multiple strategic axes, including the development of strategies, standards, guidelines of diagnostics, treatment and evaluation as well as the acquisition of necessary medical equipment and the capacity building of health and social care staff.
Swiss indicative Commitment	CHF 29.55 million (this figure excludes the estimated contribution to the Support Measure Preparation Fund of CHF 0.45 million).
Project or Programme Operator	The public body Central Project Management Agency with the involvement of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania
Swiss Support Measure Partner(s)	Public institutions, private sector and civil society/ non-governmental organisations in Switzerland with relevant expertise and experience in the health sector.
Other specificities related to the Support Measure	The Support Measure Preparation Fund will be used for conducting a feasibility study in order to determine the specific needs of support.

(xiii) Civic engagement and transparency

Support Measure name	Civic Engagement
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Support Measure type	Programme
Objectives	The programme envisages contributing to Lithuania's National Progress Plan 2021-2030 by empowering the civil society and strengthening its participation in the decision-making process and improving the quality of civil society organizations.
Strategic Focus	<p>The programme's investments will focus mainly on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strengthening civic participation in decision- making by developing tools focusing on the first-time participants (the youth and foreigners); - strengthening civil society organizations through development of an accountability standard for non-governmental organizations with additional focus on migrant-led local organisations; - increasing the quality of volunteering through the development of an organizational standard for quality volunteer management, including the development of virtual volunteering (e-volunteering) activities.
Swiss indicative Commitment	CHF 9.75 million (this figure excludes the estimated contribution to the Support Measure Preparation Fund of CHF 0.25 million).
Project or Programme Operator	The public body Central Project Management Agency with the involvement of the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania
Swiss Support Measure Partner(s)	Public institutions, private sector and civil society/non-governmental organisations in Switzerland with relevant expertise and experience in civic participation and migrant integration.
Other specificities related to the Support Measure	

4. Partner State specific rules and procedures

Switzerland and Lithuania shall agree to the following specific provisions in derogation / modification / complement / specification of the regulations:

4.1. To complement paragraph 5 c) and paragraph 6 c) of Article 4.12 of the Regulation to read as follows: it shall be agreed that the currency exchange rate of the Central Bank of Lithuania will be applied from the date of signature of the Support Measure Agreement.

4.2. To complement paragraph 1 c) of Article 7.2 of the Regulation to read as follows: it shall be agreed that the currency exchange rate of the Central Bank of Lithuania will be applied from the date of signature of the Support Measure Agreement.

4.3. To replace paragraph 2 c) of Article 4.15 of the Regulation by the following paragraph: are properly maintained by ensuring enough resources for this purpose.

4.4. To replace paragraph 1 b) of Article 7.2 of the Regulation by the following paragraph: a notice with basic information on the tender shall be requested for the announcement of the tender in Switzerland. The notice shall be submitted to the Swiss Contribution Office no later than five working days before publication of the tender in order to allow an announcement of the tender in Switzerland shortly after the announcement of the tender in the Partner State.

4.5. To replace paragraph 2 of Article 11.1 of the Regulation by the following paragraph: Irregularities may include, but are not limited to, unjustified utilisation of funds, corruption, theft, embezzlement, fraud or other crimes against property, documents forgery, undue acceptance of a gift or other advantage, unresolved conflict of interest, violation of codes of conduct, sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment (SEAH)¹, concealment of pertinent information, use and/or disclosure of sensitive information, violations of public procurement rules. Administrative mistakes whose impact the NCU deems as minor, are not irregularities.

In the event of a conflict between the Regulations and these specific provisions, the specific provisions of this Annex shall prevail.

¹ Consistent with UNGA Resolution A/RES/73/148 for the definition of sexual harassment and UNSG Bulletin ST/SGB/2003/13 for the definition of sexual exploitation and abuse.