EU ENLARGEMENT CONTRIBUTION FOR CYPRUS
6 MILLION FRANCS

Population: 0.8 million
Swiss imports from Cyprus: 8.5 million francs
Swiss exports to Cyprus: 70.7 million francs
Real GDP growth rate: 0.5 percent
Purchasing power in relation to EU-Ø (2010): 99.0 percent
(Source: Eurostat, Swiss Foreign Trade Statistics, 2011)

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

3 projects, accounting for some 5.7 million francs, have been approved in Cyprus. All projects further one of the following objectives:

- **Promoting economic growth and improving working conditions**
  
  *Modernise vocational training in technical fields*
  
  In Cyprus, Switzerland is supporting a project on modernising vocational training in technical fields. The aim is to help young people enter professional life, minimise the social marginalisation of unemployed people, and create and ensure opportunities for employees to improve their occupational skills in the long run.

- **Protecting the environment**
  
  *Construction of a new water purification plant to treat industrial and household sludge*
  
  One project supports the construction of a modern water purification plant for the purpose of raising the quality of water in the Polemidia reservoir to the required level. The plant treats sludge from septic tanks and polluted water flowing from a large rubbish dump - two sources of uncontrolled water pollution - preventing the sludge and waste products entering the reservoir. In this way the project contributes to eradicating a serious environmental problem in Cyprus.

- **Strengthening civil society**
  
  *Centre to promote cultural interaction in Cyprus*
  
  With the help of other donor countries participating in this project, an abandoned house in the Cypriot buffer zone could be acquired, completely renovated and transformed into a meeting place and cultural centre. The centre was opened in May 2011 and since then has been used to promote dialogue between the population groups. The project is making an important contribution to reconciliation and peacebuilding in Cyprus.

You can find additional information at www.swiss-contribution.admin.ch/cyprus

Figure: Allocation of the Swiss contribution to the enlarged EU by project goal

- Promoting economic growth and improving working conditions
  
  1 Project
  
  CHF 1,599,700

- Protecting the environment
  
  1 Project
  
  CHF 3,935,150

- Strengthening civil society
  
  1 Project
  
  CHF 153,150

Total CHF 5,688,000
The remaining amount covers expenses for administrative costs on the Swiss side.