The Commitment to Development Index (CDI) ranks 27 of the world’s richest countries based on their dedication to policies that benefit poor nations. Looking beyond standard comparisons of foreign aid flows, the CDI measures national policies in seven areas that are important to developing countries: aid, trade, finance, migration, environment, security, and technology. This report reviews Switzerland’s performance on the 2013 CDI. For more details, visit cgdev.org/cdi.

Switzerland's 2013 CDI performance:
- Overall rank 2013: 19
- Overall score 2013: 4.6
- Change since 2003: 0.0
  (using 2013 methodology)

Switzerland ranks 19th overall in 2013. Switzerland bears a large share of the burden of refugees during humanitarian crises and the quality of its foreign aid is relatively strong. But these contributions to development are offset by Switzerland’s poor performance on other CDI components. Switzerland is one of the smallest contributors to international peacekeeping operations. It also has some of the highest barriers to exports from developing countries, especially agricultural goods, provides little support for research and development, and has poor investment practices from the perspective of developing countries. Switzerland is one of only three CDI countries without a national political risk insurance agency and its non-transparent financial sector places it in the last place of the financial component.

www.cgdev.org/cdi
Aid

Aid quality is just as important as aid quantity, so the CDI measures gross aid as a share of GDP adjusted for various quality factors: it subtracts debt service, penalizes “tied” aid that makes recipients spend aid only on donor goods and services, rewards aid to poor but relatively well-governed recipients, and penalizes overloading poor governments with many small projects.

- **Score:** 5.4
- **Rank:** 10

**Strengths**
- Small share of tied or partially tied aid (2.54%; rank: 7)
- Large share of aid to poor and better-governed recipients (selectivity rank: 9)
- Large amount of private charitable giving attributable to tax policy (0.01% of GDP; rank: 5)

Finance

Rich-country investment in poorer countries can transfer technologies, upgrade management, and create jobs. Conversely, policies that permit financial secrecy of companies and banks can facilitate illicit activities and financial flows abroad. The CDI rewards policies that support healthy investment in developing countries and promote transparency in financial transactions at home.

- **Score:** 3.2
- **Rank:** 27

**Strengths**
- Active participation and leadership in extractive industries transparency initiatives such as the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and the Kimberley Process on blood diamonds
- Provides assistance to companies looking for investment opportunities in developing countries
- Strong support to identifying bribery and corrupt practices

Trade

International trade has been a force for economic development for centuries. The CDI measures trade barriers in rich countries against exports from developing countries. It also penalizes costly importation processes and restrictions against purchasing services from foreigners.

- **Score:** 1.8
- **Rank:** 24

**Strengths**
- Low tariffs on rice (0.2% of the value of imports; rank: 4)
- Low tariffs on clothing (5.1% of the value of imports; rank: 2)
- Few limitations on the importation of services (Services Trade Restrictions Index score: 12.9; rank: 4)

Migration

The movement of people from poor to rich countries provides unskilled immigrants with jobs, income, and knowledge. This increases the flow of money sent home by migrants abroad and the transfer of skills when the migrants return.

- **Score:** 6.4
- **Rank:** 9

**Strengths**
- Bears large share of the burden of refugees during humanitarian crises (rank: 4)

**Weaknesses**
- Small share of foreign students from developing countries (34.5%; rank: 21)
Environment
Rich countries use a disproportionate amount of scarce resources, and poor countries are most vulnerable to global warming and ecological deterioration, so the CDI measures the impact of policies on the global climate, fisheries, and biodiversity.

- **Score: 6.1**
- **Rank: 18**

**Strengths**
- Low greenhouse gas emissions rate per capita (6.1 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent; rank: 3)
- No fishing subsidies (rank: 1)
- No fossil fuel production (0 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent; rank: 1)

**Weaknesses**
- Low gas taxes ($0.63 per liter; rank: 22)
- High consumption of ozone-depleting chemicals per capita (rank: 21)
- Has not ratified the UN Fisheries Agreement

Technology
Rich countries contribute to development through the creation and dissemination of new technologies. The CDI captures this by measuring government support for R&D and penalizing strong intellectual property rights regimes that limit the dissemination of new technologies to poor countries.

- **Score: 4.9**
- **Rank: 14**

**Strengths**
- Provides patent exceptions for research purposes
- Revokes unused patents

**Weaknesses**
- Low tax subsidy rate to businesses for R&D (rank: 21)
- Allows patents on plant and animal varieties
- Pushes to extend intellectual property rights in bilateral trade treaties (“TRIPS Plus” measures) that restrict the flow of innovations to developing countries
- Imposes strict limitations on anti-circumvention technologies that can defeat encryption of copyrighted digital materials
- Offers patent-like proprietary rights to developers of data compilations, including those assembled from data in the public domain
- Does not force patent holders to license to meet social needs

Security
Since security is a prerequisite for development, the CDI rewards contributions to internationally sanctioned peacekeeping operations and forcible humanitarian interventions, military protection of global sea lanes, and participation in international security treaties. It also penalizes arms exports to poor and undemocratic governments.

- **Score: 4.6**
- **Rank: 16**

**Strengths**
- Participates in major international security treaties and regimes

**Weaknesses**
- Low personnel contributions to UN peacekeeping and humanitarian interventions over last decade (rank by share of GDP: 23)
- Relatively small contribution to the UN Peacekeeping Operations budget (rank by share of GDP: 23)
- No protection of global sea lanes

For More
Visit cgdev.org/cdi for the complete 2013 edition of the Commitment to Development Index. There, you can explore the numbers with our interactive graphing tool, view additional publications and background papers, and dive deeper into the CDI methodology by downloading our data and code.
Commitment to Development Rankings, 2013

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<th>Overall</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Aid</th>
<th>Trade</th>
<th>Finance</th>
<th>Migration</th>
<th>Environment</th>
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The above table lists ranks for each of the 27 CDI countries across seven policy areas. The final column shows the change in each country’s overall rank since 2012 (using 2013 methodology).

About the CDI

The Commitment to Development Index has been compiled each year since 2003 by the Center for Global Development (CGD), an independent think tank that works to reduce global poverty and inequality through rigorous research and active engagement with the policy community. CGD Europe director and senior fellow Owen Barder directs the Index, building on the previous work of CGD former senior fellow David Roodman. Petra Krylova is the CDI coordinator. Collaborators have included William R. Cline on trade; Theodore H. Moran and Petr Janský on finance; Jeanne Batalova, Kimberly A. Hamilton, and Elizabeth Grieco on migration; Amy Cassara and Daniel Prager on environment; Michael E. O’Hanlon, Adriana Lins de Albuquerque, Mark Stoker, and Jason Alderwick on security; and Keith Maskus and Walter Park on technology. The Index is supported by the CDI Consortium.

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