

## Our vision Our values

## **OUR VISION**

The goal of *Building Bridges* is to accelerate the transition to a **global economic model** aligned with the **needs of a sustainable and just society**, as articulated in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Paris Climate Agreement, and other relevant national and international agreements. It does so by identifying, advocating, and contributing to the **implementation of actions** that bring about that goal.

At the core of the initiative is the recognition that the scale and complexity of the transition require "building bridges" between the multiple stakeholders in the finance, government, and sustainable development communities.

Building Bridges is an open and collaborative effort that aims to accelerate the transition to a more sustainable economy in Switzerland and abroad. To this end, Building Bridges promotes the finance community's contribution to realising the SDGs. Practically, the initiative provides a forum for discussion and cooperation among financial and other private sector actors and institutions, public authorities, international organisations, as well as not-for-profit and academic stakeholders dedicated to achieving the transition to a financial system that is fit for the future.

Ultimately, this is about creating suitable conditions for developing products and solutions needed to channel both public and private capital optimally towards activities that generate prosperity while preserving or restoring our planet's delicate balance.

Switzerland is unique in having a broad spectrum of financial expertise – especially across multiple segments of sustainable investing - and for being home to one of the world's foremost centres for international organisations, serving as a crucial hub for SDG implementation. Building Bridges aims to leverage these comparative advantages to build and consolidate Switzerland's profile as a leading centre of excellence for sustainable and innovative finance thereby reinforcing its role as an important player in setting the global agenda for sustainable finance.



## **OUR VALUES**

The following values underpin and guide the cooperation among stakeholder groups in the Building *Bridges* Initiative:

- Building Bridges is an open-source platform on which the different stakeholders seek to identify, advocate and implement actions that increase the flow of finance to activities compatible with sustainable development while reducing and eventually eliminating flows that undermine sustainable development.
- 2. Building Bridges is the property of nobody and aims to serve the needs of Swiss and international stakeholders that wish to work together to accelerate the transition to sustainable finance. It welcomes all those that can make a positive contribution to that objective.
- Building Bridges operates in the space of **common interest** among a large range of stakeholders each of which brings value to the table and where the combination generates an impact greater than the sum of the individual contributions. As such, all contributors are regarded as valid and all are deserving of respect.
- 4. Building Bridges operates on the basis of appropriate transparency and co-creation. Topics and events brought onto the platform represent a shared interest of a range of stakeholders and not the particular interests of any one player.
- Decisions relating to *Building Bridges* and events hosted on the platform should reflect as wide as possible a **range of interests and ideas** relating to the sustainable finance transition and its state of progress in Switzerland, but also beyond.
- While the interest of Geneva both as a global centre for international cooperation on sustainable development and as the technical and operational base for the SDG implementation challenge means that part of the focus of Building Bridges will inevitably be on Geneva itself, the platform intends to highlight the special value of Switzerland as a whole in rising to the sustainable finance challenge.
- 7. Finally, as a highly-respected and neutral locus for international cooperation, Switzerland should make *Building Bridges* events a platform for the best and most relevant innovations from other parts of the world. The platform is outward not inward looking.

