



**Platform  
Agenda  
2030**

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## **Switzerland Voluntary National Review**

### **Major Groups and other Stakeholders Statement**

**12 July 2022**

*Delivered by: Laura Ebnetter, Alliance Sud*

We commend the Swiss government's effort to present an exhaustive VNR. The government's report clearly shows that progress is not sufficient on several SDGs. It does not shy away from mentioning Switzerland's significant ecological, climate and social footprint in the Global South.

For us, members of the CSO, Switzerland's implementation of the Agenda 2030 is not on track. The government's translation of the SDGs into national strategies remains below the ambitions of the Agenda 2030. Many people are currently left behind. Poverty is increasing and asylum seekers and persons with disabilities are excluded from enjoying fundamental rights.

The Swiss Government lacks the political will to transform our economic system into a just system that respects the planetary boundaries. Swiss trade policy is not geared sufficiently to sustainable development. In free-trade agreements, strict intellectual property rights related to seeds violate farmers' rights to the seed they produce. With its fiscal policy, Switzerland protects its tax haven and undermines the efforts of states to contain illicit financial flows.

The present VNR does not mention concrete actions and measures to tackle the identified gaps and challenges. As the Swiss government has recognised civil society as the primary driver of sustainability, we invite them to cooperate with us in the process to adapt the national strategy for sustainable development 2030 and its action plan.

We ask the government the following questions:

- How will Switzerland increase action and policy coherence for a better implementation of the Agenda 2030?
- A recent CSO report sheds light on various gaps in the Swiss VNR analysis. How will the government assure that this analysis will be considered in the follow-up process?