



swisscontact
SENIOR EXPERT CORPS



Senior Expert Corps (SEC)

Promoting entrepreneurship through expertise
Imparting technical skills through volunteer work



SEC – A Swisscontact Project

Each year, roughly 140 SME and institutions benefit from an SEC assignment.

Founded in 1979, the Senior Expert Corps (SEC) provides rapid, hands-on support to small and medium enterprises and institutions in developing countries and Eastern Europe. Highly experienced volunteers impart their expert skills and knowledge to small and medium enterprises (SME) and institutions, which otherwise do not have access to this level of professional, affordable support.

Today, more than 700 technical experts, ranging from craftsmen to hotel managers to marketing specialists, provide their expertise and valuable professional experience. Since its inception, the SEC has carried out more than 2,000 consulting assignments, with experts having provided roughly 800,000 hours of voluntary work. This is equal to an estimated 30 million Swiss francs.



Sustainable Impact

Through their consulting services, our experts provide hands-on, cost-effective support towards sustainable development of companies and institutions.

Substantial impact achieved simply. SEC assignments result in:

- Improvements in product quality
- More efficient work flows
- Improved working conditions
- Higher competitiveness in the local market
- Employment creation
- Poverty reduction



Becoming an SEC Expert

Technicians from all professional fields who are willing to offer their volunteer services are welcome to apply to the SEC.

To be accepted as an SEC expert, you should meet the following criteria:

- Long-time professional experience
- Foreign language skills
- International working experience
- Good health
- An openness to different cultures and people
- Participate in SEC information and training events
- Willingness to prepare and follow up on assignments



Our Services

SME and education or training institutes, as well as other organisations in developing countries and Eastern Europe, can request an SEC expert if they require technical expertise to overcome business and structural impediments, but cannot afford this at market prices.

The goal of an expert intervention is to increase competitiveness, improve the skills level of staff members, and generate employment.

SEC Assignment:

- The client covers the expert's food and accommodation, as well as local travel expenses, while SEC covers the international travel costs.
- Depending on the requirements, SEC assignments can last between 2 and 12 weeks.

Procedure:

Contact the SEC Country Coordinator or the SEC Team at the Zurich Head Office.



SEC expert and marketing specialist on assignment. Sunflower seeds in Bulgaria: Europe's leading producer of wild bird food within ten years. Creating over 400 jobs.

Senior Expert Corps

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