The Swiss Labour Market

and the Swiss Unemployment Insurance

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Facts and figures about the Swiss labour market

- Population of 8.54 million, 25.1% resident foreigners (end 2018)
- Four official languages: German (63%), French (23%), Italian (8%), Romansh (0.5%) (end 2017)
- Employment rate (15 - 64 age range): 80.6% (Q2 2019)
- Unemployment rate by ILO standards: 4.2% (Q2 2019)
- Youth unemployment rate ILO: 6.2% (Q2 2019)
Registered unemployment: Regional differences (August 2019)
The Swiss unemployment insurance

Main tasks

- Ensure a replacement income (70% or 80% of previous salary)
- Promote a quick and sustainable integration of jobseekers into the labour market
- Preventive measures (e.g. qualification programs and employment centres in case of mass redundancies)
- Short-time working and bad weather benefits
- Insolvency compensation
Labour market & unemployment authorities

SECO – Directorate of Labour
Labour Market / Unemployment insurance

Public employment services PES

Unemployment funds

Regional Employment Centres REC

Employers

Jobseekers

Disability Insurance Agency

Social Security Services

Private Employment Agencies

Labour Market Measures

Career Counselling

Federal

Cantonal

Labour Market

Cooperation
Labour market & unemployment authorities at federal level: SECO – Directorate of labour

Responsible for Unemployment Insurance Act AVIG

- Administration and monitoring of the unemployment insurance fund
- Support of the cantons in strategic management
- Implementing of specific labour market measures
Labour market & unemployment authorities in the cantons

- Implementing relevant legal acts
- Organising different public employment services: Regional Employment Centres, unemployment funds, Logistical Centres for Labour Market Measures
- Implementing labour market measures

→ Most operative work delegated to public employment services
Regional Employment Centres REC in the 26 cantons

- More than 120 Regional Employment Centres
- More than 1,500 advisors
- 4 instruments:
  - advising
  - placement in the labour market
  - training / labour market measures
  - control of the services and sanctions
Finances of the Swiss unemployment insurance

Expenses 2018 (in millions CHF)

- Direct cash benefits: 5152.3
- Labour market measures: 610.2
- Administration and implementation: 756.4
- Total expenses: 6 518.9
Thank you for your attention

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