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Zurich, 17 May 2017

Swiss National Bank releases updated banknote app

Discover new 20 and 50-franc notes on mobile devices

The Swiss National Bank (SNB) is releasing an app for mobile devices, designed to help the public familiarise themselves with the new banknotes. The app – an updated version of the ‘50-franc’ app launched last year to accompany the issue of the new 50-franc note – is now called ‘Swiss Banknotes’ and can be downloaded free of charge from the Apple (itunes.apple.com) and Google Play (play.google.com) app stores. Anyone who has already downloaded the app can update their software via the relevant app store. It explains in an engaging way key information on the security features and interesting details about the design.

‘Swiss Banknotes’ is an augmented reality app which operates with the camera of a smartphone or tablet. When the device’s camera is positioned over a new 20 or 50-franc note, the app displays the note’s various security features and design elements. It is also possible to enlarge the individual features or watch a short video clip. Although the app helps users to explore the new banknotes, it cannot be used to test if a note is genuine.

The app can be run on either the iOS (Apple) or Android (Google) operating system and is available in both smartphone and tablet versions (Apple: iPhone 4S or newer and for iPad; Google: for high-performance devices running Android 4.1 or later). It is available in English, French, German and Italian.

On 6 April 2016, the SNB launched its new banknote series with the 50-franc note. Issuance of the 20-franc note – the second denomination to enter circulation and presented to the public on 10 May 2017 – is now underway. The next denomination, the 10-franc note, will be issued on 18 October 2017. Issuance of the remaining notes in the series is scheduled to be completed by 2019. All notes from the eighth banknote series will remain legal tender until further notice.



Press release

Further information on Swiss banknotes can be found on the SNB's website, under *Banknotes and coins* (www.snb.ch).