



# Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

## Information Sheet

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## Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development (r4d.ch)

### Main objective

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Swiss National Science Foundation SNSF are offering a new funding scheme for development-related research on global issues. The main focus of the "*Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development*" (r4d.ch) lies on the generation of new insights and innovative approaches, solutions as well as on the application of research results into policy and practice through transnational research partnerships. In the focus of the programme is the reduction of poverty and global risks as well as the provision of public goods. Inter- and transdisciplinary research with a problem- and solution orientated approach will be funded. The implementation of the research results into policy and practice are of high significance and are considered as an integral part of the research activities.

### Structure of the fund

The new funding instrument consists of six modules, five with pre-defined thematic priorities and one for which the project themes can be freely chosen by researchers. The five thematic research modules have a duration of six years. The ideal scope is CHF 400'000 – 600'000 per year, i.e. approximately CHF 3 million per project. Research projects within the module without pre-defined themes will be three years. The maximum fund available for the 3-year period amounts to CHF 500'000.-. 10% to 15% of the amount awarded to a project must be used for application, implementation and communication.

### Themes

The SDC has defined the following five research themes with the objective of fostering a sustainable global development, which targets poverty reduction and the preservation of global public goods in developing countries:

1. Causes of and solutions to social conflicts in contexts of weak public institutions;
2. Reducing poverty through employment as well as favourable societal and state-related framework conditions;
3. Agricultural production systems and food security;
4. Sustainable use and management of ecosystems;
5. Provision systems and financing mechanisms in the public health sector.

### Funds

The overall financial volume is of CHF 97.6 million<sup>1</sup> for the period 2012-2022. The SDC will contribute CHF 72 mio. and the SNSF CHF 25.6 mio..

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<sup>1</sup> provided the budget will be approved.

CHF 14.1 million are available for each theme (including research, scientific synthesis and implementation work). This allows for each topic several major research partnership projects to be realised. Three calls for freely chosen thematic research will be launched, each with a total amount of CHF 5.9 million.

### Eligibility

- All researchers working at research institutions in Switzerland or in developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America are eligible (according to the OECD-DAC list<sup>2</sup>).
- The responsible applicant must be employed at a Swiss research institution.

Switzerland	Developing Countries
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universities</li> <li>• ETH &amp; institutions of the ETH Domain</li> <li>• Universities of applied sciences, universities of teacher education</li> <li>• Swiss federal research institutions</li> <li>• Other research institutions that do not conduct research for commercial purposes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institutions of higher education, universities</li> <li>• Research institutions</li> <li>• Other research institutions that do not conduct research for commercial purposes</li> </ul>

### Research partnership projects

- Only "research partnership projects" are funded. Such projects consist of at least one Swiss research group and for the thematic calls at least two research groups from two different countries of group 1 and one research group for the thematically open projects from a country of group 1. The participation of further groups from Switzerland and from developing countries is highly recommended.
- The following table gives an overview of the eligible developing countries.

Country group 1: Mandatory	Country group 2: Optional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Least developed countries, low income countries, and lower middle income countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America</li> <li>• SDC priority countries</li> </ul>	<p>Upper middle income developing countries in Africa, Asia (without Turkey) and Latin America (without the Caribbean) that play a major role with regard to global challenges - for instance, Brazil, India, China, South Africa, Indonesia and others.</p> <p>There is no definitive list in Group 2. Applicants must briefly describe the country's regional significance for the topic in the proposal.</p>

Calls: Topic/Type	Call	Funding-decision	Beginning of Research
1st Call for thematically open projects	Spring 2012	Beginning 2013	Beginning 2013
Topics 1+2	Spring 2012	Beginning 2013	Beginning 2013
Topics 3+4	Spring 2013	Beginning 2014	Beginning 2014
Topic 5	Spring 2014	Beginning 2015	Beginning 2015
2nd Call for thematically open projects	Winter 2014	End 2015	Beginning 2015
3rd Call for thematically open projects	Summer 2016	Summer 2017	Summer 2017

### Contact

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<sup>2</sup> OECD-DAC list: <http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/9/50/48858205.pdf>