



SNSF & INNOSUISSE FUNDING SCHEME EVENT

19 October 2023

Please note that these presentations are only summaries. In case of doubt, please refer to the relevant regulations published on our websites.

Programme Presentations

Schedule	Subjects
09:00 – 09:10	Welcome speech
09:10 – 09:35	Innosuisse Instruments – Innovation projects
09:35 – 10:00	Investigator Initiated Clinical Trials (IICT)
10:00 – 10:25	Project funding

Programme

Q&A sessions

Links available on
www.snsf.ch/liveevents

Schedule	Subjects and links for the Q&A sessions
10:30 – 11:30	Innosuisse Instruments
	Investigator Initiated Clinical Trials (IICT)
	Project funding
	BRIDGE
	Agora
	Postdoc.Mobility
	Ambizione
	Doc.CH
	COST & International cooperation
	National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR)

Informations about the presentations

- Both your microphone and camera are switched off. You see the presentation and video of the person speaking.
- If you're experiencing technical problems, you can contact us using the chat function.
- The presentations are recorded (only the slides and the voice/video of the speakers).
- The slides and recordings of all presentations will be available on our website in the days after each event.
- Immediately after each presentation, we will only be able to take a very limited number of questions. Use the chat!
- For further questions, please use the **Q&A session** for the scheme you are interested in. These sessions will take place after the last presentation. You'll find all the links on our website.

Horizons – The Swiss Research Magazine

Latest developments in
science and research policy

Published by the **SNSF** and
the **Swiss Academies of Arts
and Sciences**

Publication: **Four times** a year
(March, June, September,
December)

Printed version:
German & French

Editors are **independent**

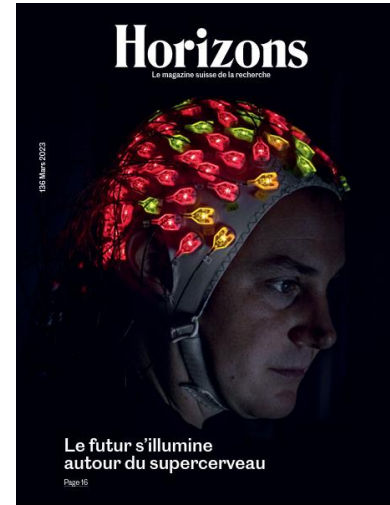
Free magazine

Online version:
German, French &
English

Horizons – Recent topics



How the cash flows



The boundaries of brain research



AI, the new research partner

Where can you find Horizons?



Online version (English: <https://www.horizons-mag.ch/>)



Subscription (<https://www.horizons-mag.ch/subscribe/>)



[Horizons Magazine \(@horizons_en\) / X \(twitter.com\)](https://twitter.com/horizons_en)



[Horizons Magazine \(@horizons_mag\)](https://www.instagram.com/horizons_mag)

MOVING THE WORLD WITH SWISS INNOVATION

MATTHIAS FURLER
Co-Leader Innovation Projects

19.10.2023



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency

INNOSUISSE SWISS INNOVATION AGENCY

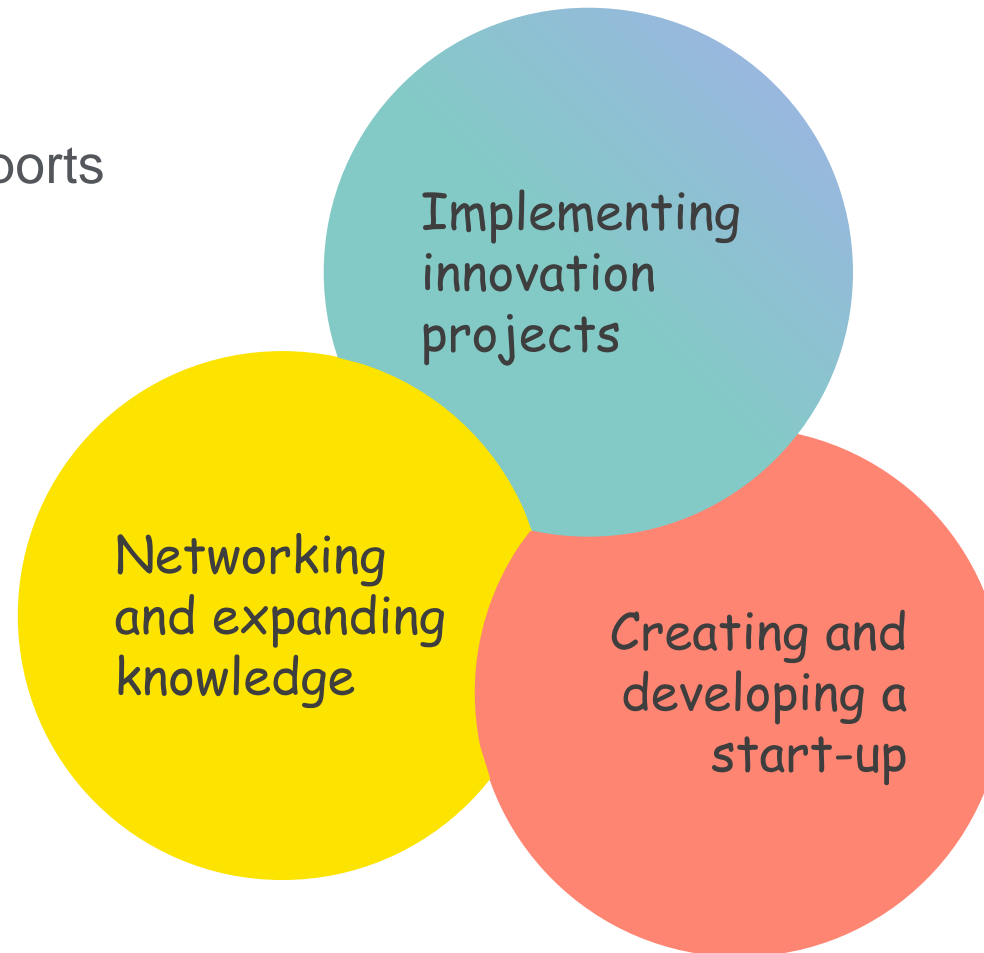
Innosuisse is the Swiss Confederation's agency for promoting innovation.

OUR MANDATE

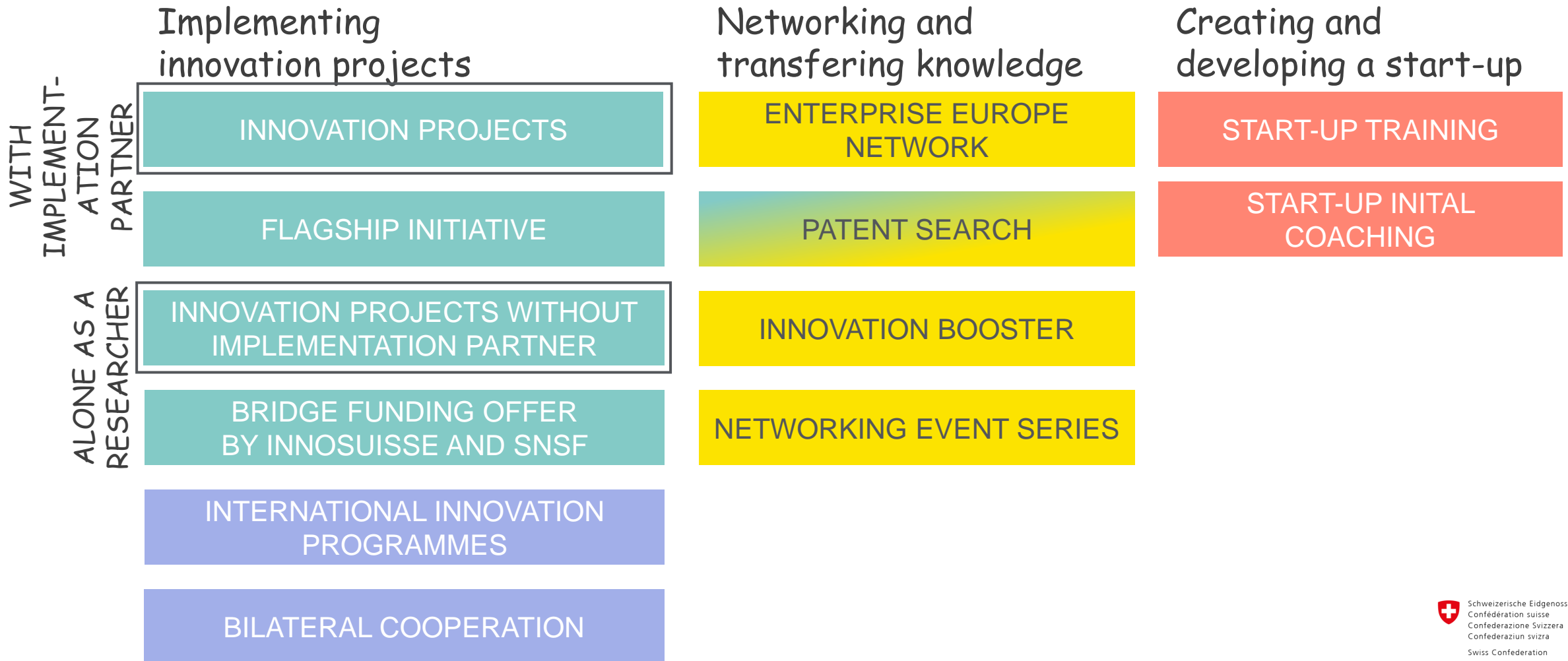
Innosuisse promotes **science-based innovation in the interest of the economy and society** in Switzerland – in all disciplines.

INNOSUISSE – YOUR PARTNER FOR INNOVATION

How Innosuisse supports
your science-based
innovation:



WHAT INNOSUISSE OFFERS FOR RESEARCHERS



IMPLEMENTING INNOVATION PROJECTS

WITH RESEARCH AND
BUSINESS PARTNERS
IN SWITZERLAND

INNOVATION PROJECT BETWEEN COMPANIES AND RESEARCH INSTITUTES

INNOVATION PROJECTS

IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER

(industry partner, SME, NGO, administration)

- Wants to develop innovative products, services or processes with the help of a Swiss research institute

RESEARCH INSTITUTE

- Provides scientific skills and research infrastructure

INNOVATION PROJECT

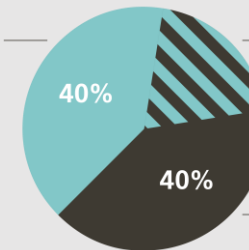
Duration: no limit,
usually 6 to 36 months

Project costs: amount unlimited

Own contribution: 40–60% of the total costs

Cash contribution: 5% of the total costs

Funded by
Innosuisse



Flexible bandwidth:
by Innosuisse and/or
implementation partner

Contribution by the
implementation partner
incl. 5% cash contribution

MARKET IMPLEMENTATION OF INNOVATION



Submit an application:

<https://www.innosuisse.ch/application>

FOR AN INNOVATION PROJECT A GOOD APPLICATION IS...

CONCRETE:

- Market interest exists
- Access to the market has been described
- Product or service has been defined

CLEAR:

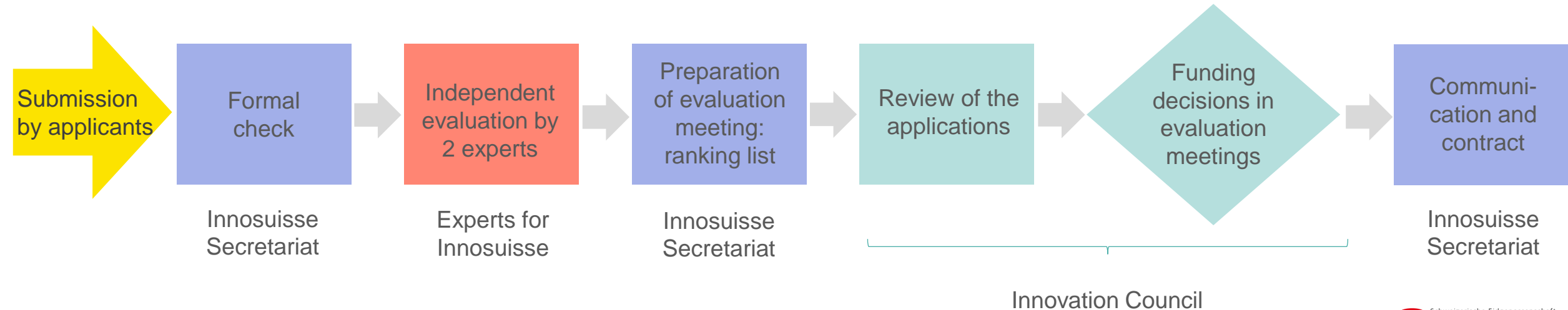
- Innovative content is clearly indicated
- Project plan is comprehensible
- Tasks are clearly defined and meaningful
- Milestones are set reasonably and goals are described quantitatively

CONSISTENT:

- Research and implementation partners work together, not side by side or against each other
- Project planning and financial planning are consistent
- Timetable and resource allocation are realistic

INNOVATION PROJECTS EVALUATION PROCESS

Evaluation duration (in weeks) – depending on [dates of evaluation meetings](#)



INNOVATION PROJECTS ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

TWO INDEPENDENT EVALUATIONS

with the same weighting

Evaluation expert 1

Evaluation expert 2

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

- ✓ Innovation degree
- ✓ Sustainability and value creation in Switzerland
- ✓ Methodology and team competences

The Innovation Council makes the assessment and takes its independent decision on the basis of the experts' evaluation

IMPLEMENTING INNOVATION PROJECTS

ALONE AS
A RESEARCHER

INNOVATION PROJECT WITHOUT AN IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER

PROJECTS WITH NO
IMPLEMENTATION PARTNER

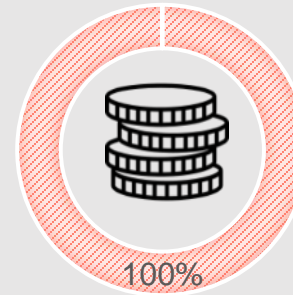
RESEARCHERS

- who, during their research work, have come across an innovative idea with **great market potential**;
- who have not yet found a partner for implementation on the market;
- You can apply for financial support for feasibility studies, prototypes and testing facilities – especially for **high-risk projects** with **strong innovation potential**.

Submit your application online:
<https://www.innosuisse.ch/application>

INNOVATION PROJECT

Duration: Max. 18 months

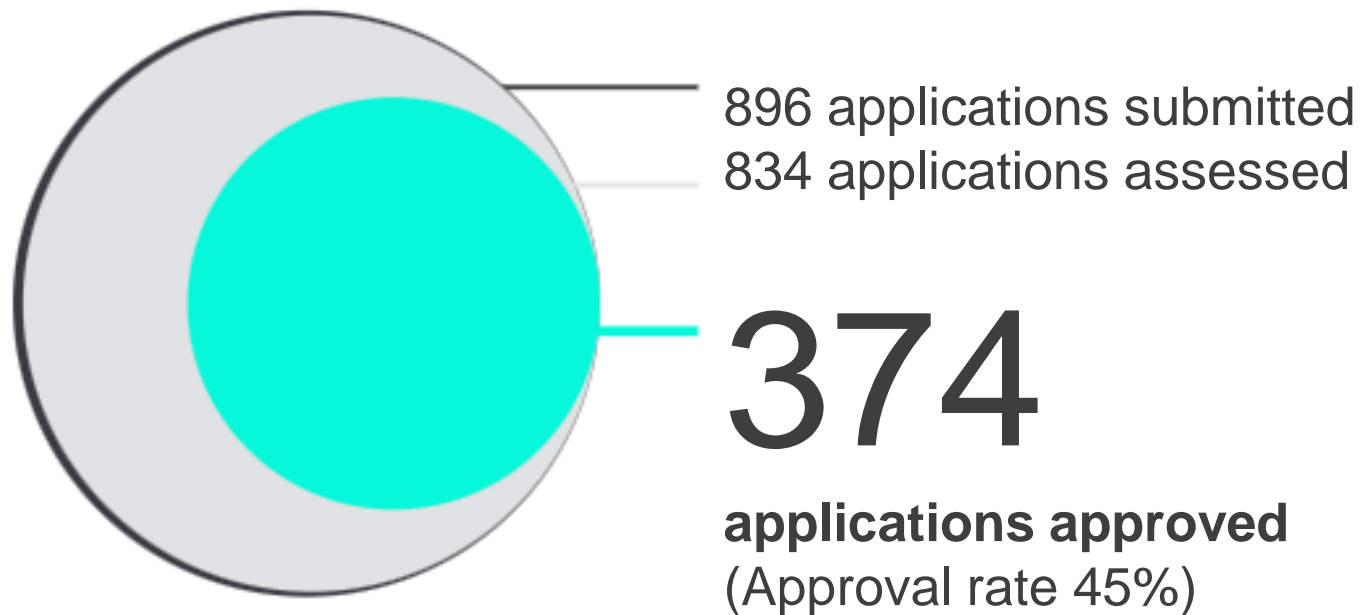


■ Funded by Innosuisse

FUTURE MARKET IMPLEMENTATION OF INNOVATION



FACTS AND FIGURES 2022: INNOVATION PROJECTS



2021

887 applications submitted
857 applications assessed
438 applications approved

2020

783 applications submitted
858 applications assessed
472 applications approved

2019

794 applications submitted
663 applications assessed
391 applications approved

YOUR CONTACTS FOR INNOVATION PROJECTS



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Sybille Aeschbacher

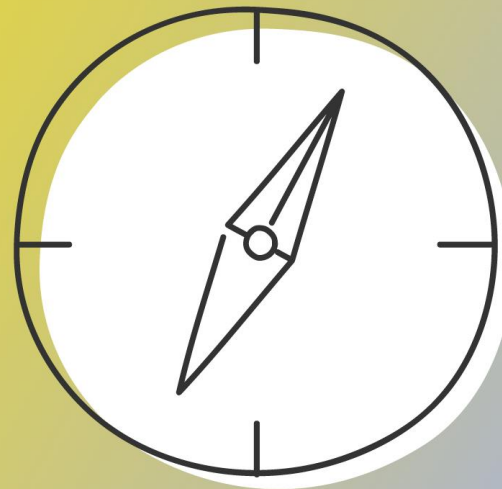
+41 58 467 17 55

ict@innosuisse.ch

THE INNOSUISSE GUIDE HELPS YOU FIND THE RIGHT SUPPORT OFFER IN JUST A FEW STEPS

**Navigation
for your
innovation**

www.innosuisse.guide



MOVING THE WORLD WITH INNOSUISSE



THANK YOU

www.innosuisse.ch
info@innosuisse.ch

MOVING THE WORLD WITH SWISS INNOVATION



twitter.com/innosuisse



linkedin.com/company/Innosuisse



INVESTIGATOR INITIATED CLINICAL TRIALS (IICT)

19 October 2023

Deborah Studer
IICT Programme Coordinator
Projects Section (LS)

IICT - aim and scope

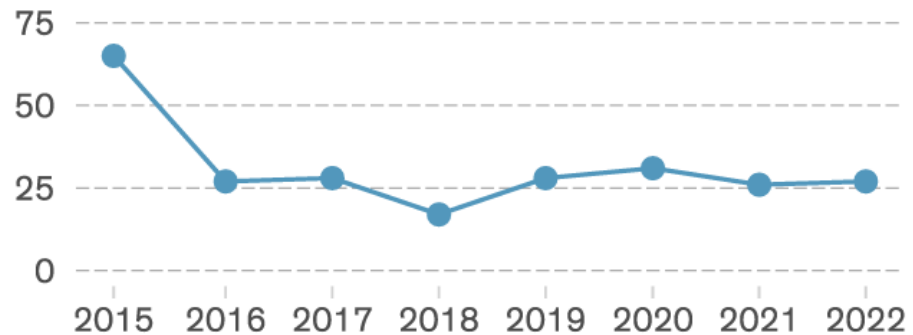
Funding of Investigator Initiated Clinical Trials

- Of value to the patients
- Addressing important unmet medical and societal needs
- Not in the industry focus

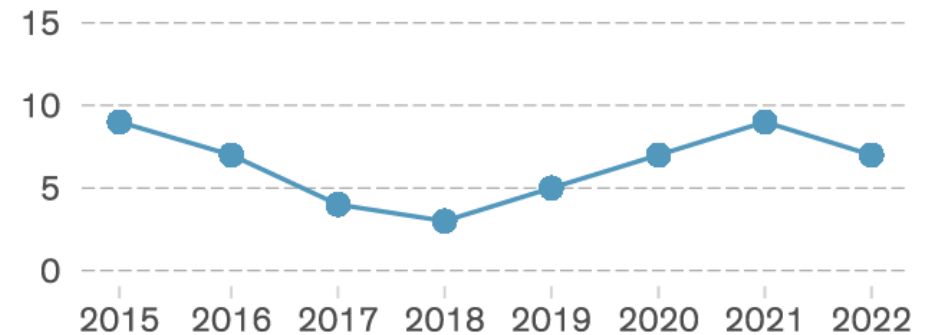
- Limited to **randomised clinical trials** (RCTs)
- Excluded are: pilot studies, proof of concept studies, observational studies, preclinical studies

IICT – key figures

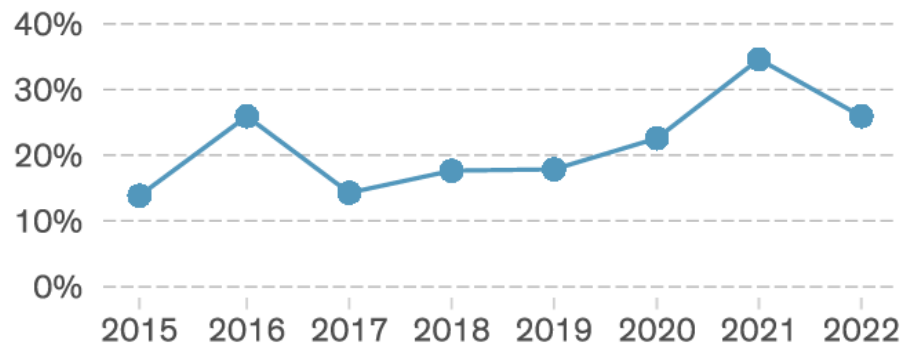
Number of evaluated proposals



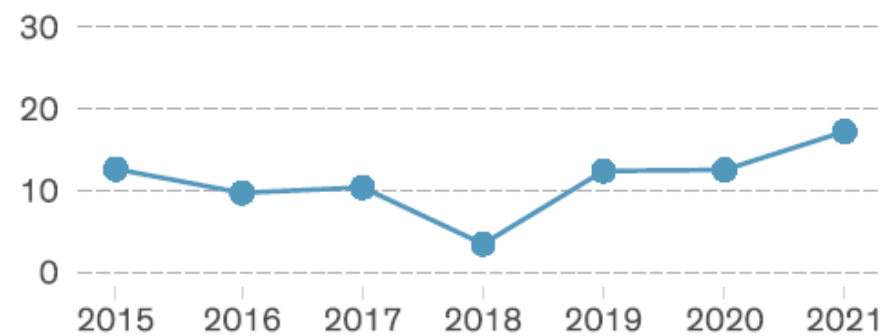
Number of funded grants



Success rate



Total granted amount (MCHF)



IICT - guidelines

- Project duration:
 - **5 years**, including a potential preparation phase (e.g. to finalise the study protocol, obtain the authorisations needed to conduct the project, organise data collection and register the study) of max. 12 months
 - Possibility to apply for a supplementary grant of max. 24 months to address endpoints beyond the 60-months funding period; additional evaluation required
- Budget: no fixed maximum amount; min. amount CHF 50'000. All costs must be justified
- Research plan: based on SPIRIT 2013 Statement
- The trials must be initiated in Switzerland and coordinated by a Swiss group.
- Multicentre trials (in general > 2 sites); International sites can be financed through the IICT grant in case the sample size cannot be reached in Switzerland alone.

IICT - eligibility

In general same eligibility requirements as for project funding except for IICT specific guidelines:

- Research team: max. **5 applicants**;
- Maximum one application per IICT call
- Researchers may participate as grantees in two IICT projects during the same funding period if the overlap does not last for more than 2 years

IICT grants do NOT count towards the limit for project funding

IICT – to consider in the planning

It is highly recommended to

- include the **patient perspective** in the whole lifecycle of the project (including the planning and writing of the proposal); consider patient-centred outcome measures (PROMs)
- involve a **clinical trial unit** to assure high quality methodology/statistics
- appoint a dedicated **trial manager**

IICT - evaluation criteria

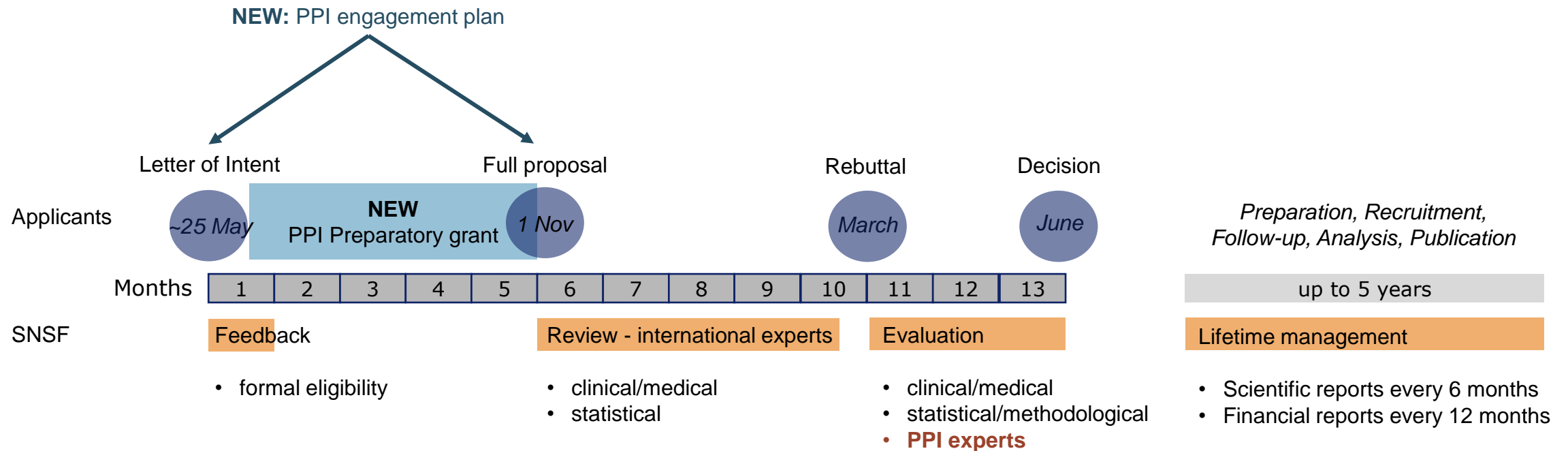
Project

- Originality, clinical relevance, scientific value and topicality of the study
- Suitability of methodological approach and feasibility of the project
- Documentation of patient and public involvement;

Applicants

- Applicants' scientific track record and expertise in relation to the project, particularly with regard to multicentric clinical studies.

IICT – submission & evaluation process



PPI preparatory grant

- Supports patient engagement activities during the development of the grant application
- Based on the PPI engagement plan submitted together with the Letter of Intent
- Budget up to CHF 5'000

Activity	<i>What is the role of the PPI contributor(s)?</i>	<i>What is the objective of the activity?</i>	Budget _Compensation (hourly/half-day/day) _Reimbursement (travel/accommodation/meals)
<i>Total Sum</i>			<i>Total Cost</i>

Patient and public involvement (PPI)

Patient and public involvement (PPI) in clinical research can be defined as **research carried out *with or by* patients and members of the public** rather than *to, about, or for* them. This means that patients and members of the public become actively involved in shaping the goals, design, and evaluation of research projects by sharing their specific experience with a disease.

Examples of PPI include (but are not limited to):

- using patient input to identify research priorities
- determining patient-relevant clinical endpoints
- including patients/members of the public in a research project's advisory or steering group
- asking patients/members of the public to comment on and develop patient information leaflets or other research material
- having patients/members of the public support the dissemination and publication of study results.

For more information see SCTO webpage
<https://www.scto.ch/en/patient-and-public-involvement.html>

swiss
clinical
trial
organisation



IICT 2023 Application: How to Successfully Address the PPI Requirement

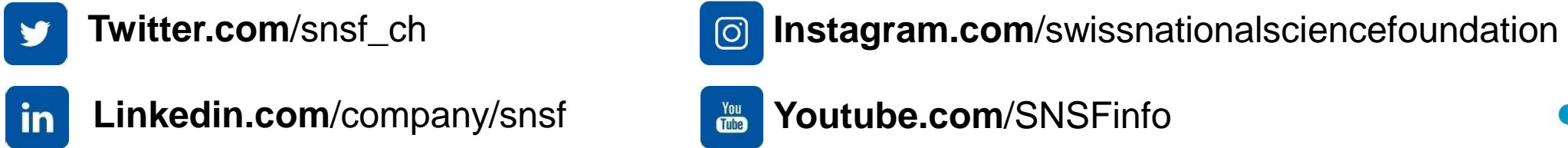
Online course on patient and public involvement (PPI) for investigator initiated clinical trials (IICT) call applicants

Tuesday, 21 March 2023, 16:00-18:00h

Takes place also next year!



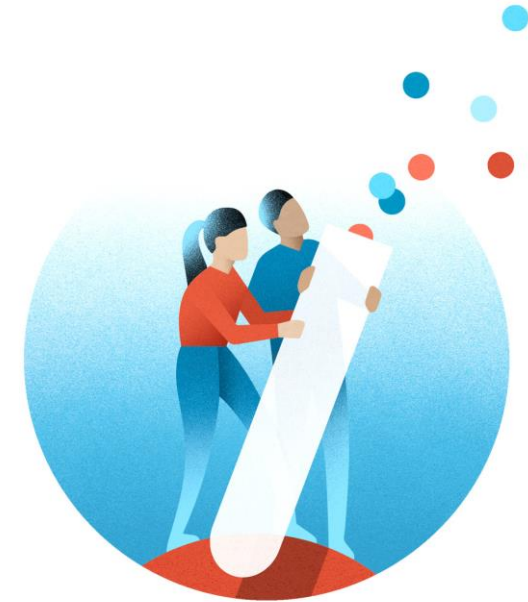
Thank you!



Check out our website: [Investigator initiated clinical trials \(IICT\)](#)

Visit the SNSF Data Portal: data.snf.ch!

You can contact the IICT team at iict@snf.ch





PROJECT FUNDING

19 October 2023

Pascal Fischer
Head of Projects
Projects Section (MINT)

Project funding

- Open to **all disciplines** twice a year, **submission deadline** on 1 April and 1 October at 17:00
- Research projects have **no commercial goals**, distinguished by research freedom and freedom of publication
- **Individuals** or research groups (**collaborative projects** with multiple applicants) can apply
- Project **duration**: min. 1 year, max. 4 years
- Costs covered by the grant: personnel, consumables, travel and small non-standard equipment; applicants' salary is not covered
- Max 250kCHF per year and applicant, up to 1MCHF per year
- All costs must be justified

Types of Project funding grants

Individual projects:

- submitted by 1 applicant

Collaborative Projects:

- submitted by several applicants;
- specialist knowledge and the scientific contribution of two or more applicants are required;
- collaboration is essential for achieving the research goals and creates an additional benefit.

Interdisciplinary projects

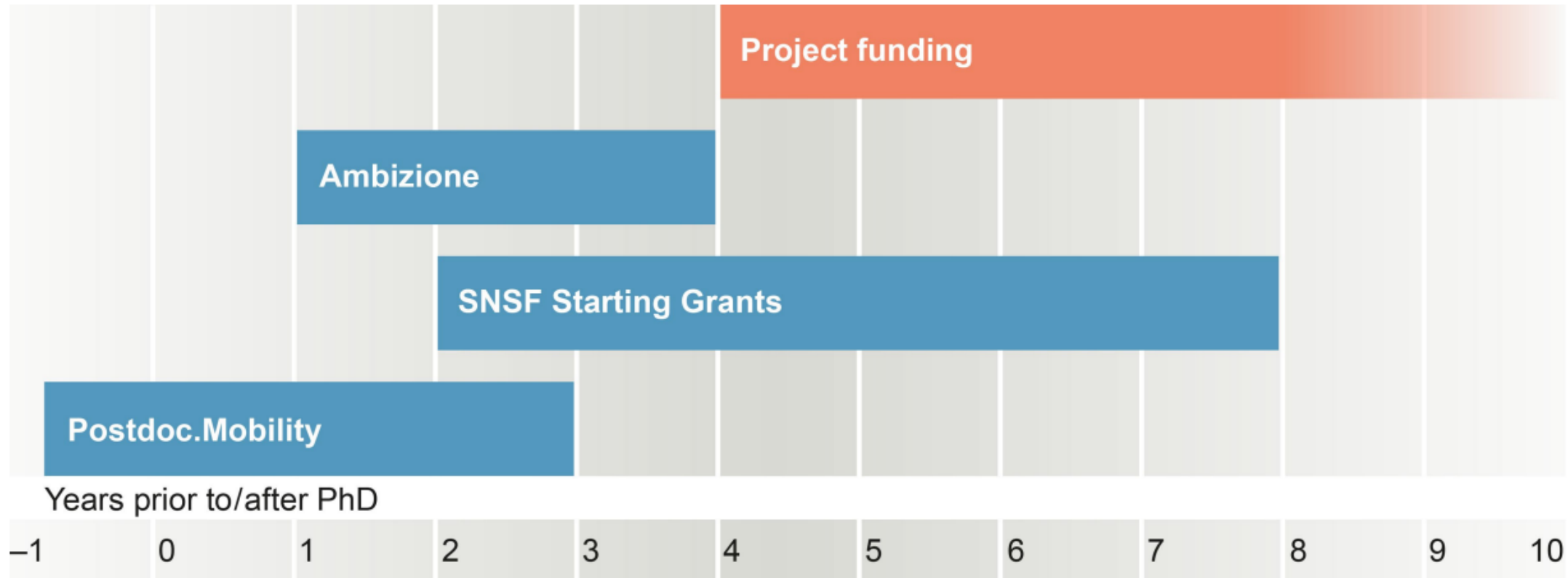
- research that goes beyond the limits of existing disciplines.
- the intended research goals require the integration of elements (such as theories, methods, concepts) from two or more disciplines;
- combining these elements is not yet customary in the field concerned;
- the various disciplines contribute to the proposed research from different perspectives.

General eligibility requirements

- **Employed at least 50%** at a Swiss institution in accordance with Swiss law
- Researchers devoting less than 50% of their time to science are eligible if their scientific research and teaching activities are usually carried out as part of another professional activity, e.g. physicians.
- In collaborative projects with at least 3 applicants, one applicant may be employed by a research institute outside Switzerland, provided their expertise is required for the project.

Eligibility requirements for project funding

Researchers with **at least 4 years' experience after doctorate or an independent research position** with an **employment** for the duration of the project*



* Exceptions possible

Eligibility requirements for project funding

Eligible:

- Full professors
- Associate & Assistant professors
- Chief consultants (Oberärzte/innen), senior staff physicians (leitende Ärzte/innen), chief physicians (Chefärzte/tinnen)
- Senior scientists / Researchers
- Group leaders
- Senior assistants (Oberassistent/innen / Maître-assistant-e-s)
- Heads of teaching and research (Maître d'Enseignement et de Recherche)

Special for qualification positions:

- Grant release at the condition the contract is confirmed for the next year

Grant conditions in project funding

- Maximum **one proposal submission as applicant per deadline**
- **Up to three project funding grants in parallel**, provided at least one is for an EU consortium project or has been granted on the basis of a lead agency, Weave or International Con-investigator scheme evaluation.
- All grants must have **clearly different topics**, aims, objects of study and research questions and if applicants can show that they will make a substantial contribution
- Lead Agency, Weave projects, Sinergia grants and ERA-Net grants are a part of project funding

Project partners & Subcontracting

Project partner: makes a scientific contribution; at a public, private or commercial research institution/company in CH or abroad under the condition that the contribution does not result in a direct monetary benefit for the employer

- Salaries of the project partners are not eligible for funding
- Project partners might employ personnel

Subcontracting: buy-in of services, often from companies

Costs for project partners and subcontracting: **max. 20% of total requested Swiss funds**

Grants in the form of global budgets

- **Global budgets** are the rule, paid out in annual instalments, under responsibility of the PI
- **Grant holders can dispose freely of the budget** within the framework of the applicable regulations, the submitted research plan and goals
- In exceptional cases, cost categories or budget items are defined by the SNSF
- In any case, changes to the project design that will result in major deviations from the research plan and goals must be submitted to the SNSF for approval

Eligible costs: categories

- Personnel (salaries and social security; not the PI)
- Material costs that are directly related to the research work: expendable items, field expenses, travel expenses, equipment (up to 100k CHF)
- Direct costs for using infrastructures, computing time and data
- Conferences and workshops
- Collaboration costs (national & international)
- Costs for coordinating the research project in the case of applications with three or more applicants
- Third-party expenses (project partners, subcontracting)
- Costs of career measures
- Costs of scientific open research data

Information on submitting a project grant proposal

Information on: www.snf.ch

- Regulations on project funding
- Funding regulations
- General implementation regulations
- Website, FAQs

The screenshot shows the SNSF website's 'Project funding' section. At the top, the SNSF logo and navigation links (What's new, Research, Funding, A) are visible. A breadcrumb trail reads: Homepage > Funding > Find funding scheme > Project funding. On the left, a sidebar menu lists: Open calls, Find funding scheme (highlighted), Updates, Information for researchers, and How to. The main content area is titled 'Project funding' and features a large orange square with a glowing lightbulb. Below this, text states: 'Individual or collaborative, disciplinary or interdisciplinary – realise your ideas with the SNSF. We can finance your research project for one to four years.' The submission deadline is listed as 02.10.2023. On the right, 'Submission deadlines' (1 April and 2 October 17:00 Swiss local time) and 'Contacts' (Project funding SSH, MINT, Life Sciences, and ID) are provided. Social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, Email, and LinkedIn are also present. At the bottom, a 'Changes in project funding' section mentions 'News "Amended regulations and SNSF Portal – what's new in project funding"' dated 23.06.2023.

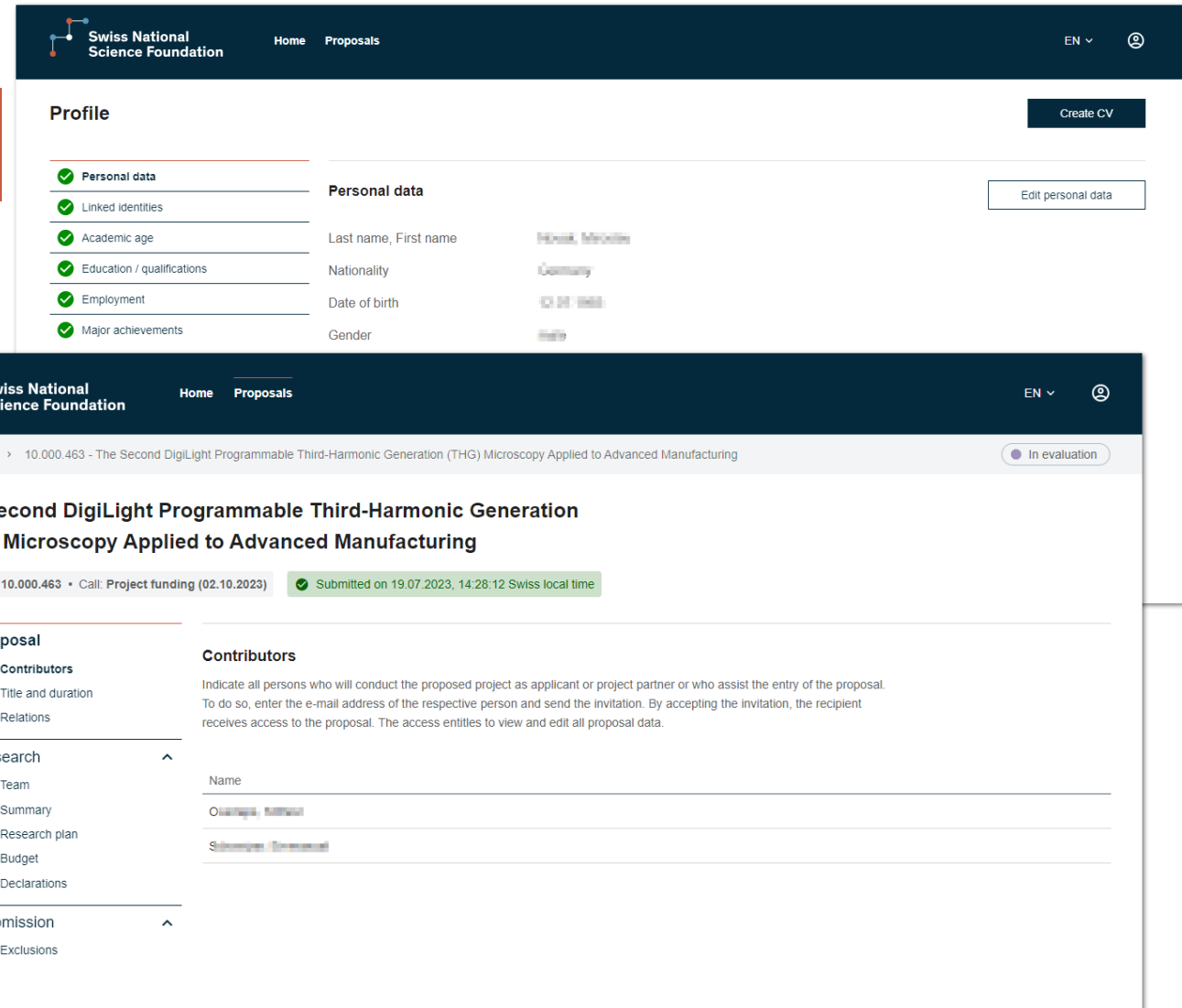
Submitting a project grant proposal

Submission on: portal.snf.ch

Evaluation:

1. Formal
2. Peer review
3. Selection by National Research Council in a competitive procedure

Decision: about 6 months after submission



The image shows two screenshots of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) portal. The top screenshot displays a user profile page with a sidebar menu containing: Personal data, Linked identities, Academic age, Education / qualifications, Employment, and Major achievements. The main content area shows the 'Personal data' section with fields for Last name, First name, Nationality, Date of birth, and Gender. The bottom screenshot shows a proposal submission status page for 'The Second DigiLight Programmable Third-Harmonic Generation (THG) Microscopy Applied to Advanced Manufacturing'. It indicates the proposal was submitted on 19.07.2023 and is currently 'In evaluation'. The sidebar menu on this page includes: Proposal, Contributors, Research, and Submission. The main content area shows the 'Contributors' section with instructions and input fields for Name, Organization, and Signature.

Writing a project proposal

General remarks

Start planning your submission early

- » Deadlines are strict
- » Request the required logins early: SWITCH edu-ID & *mySNF* login

Invest enough in preparing all required documents

- » It is a competitive process

Question “rumours/myths” you may have heard from third parties

- » Carefully go through the regulations. If you have questions, contact the SNSF

Writing a project proposal

What does a good research plan contain?

A contextualization with regard to your own work and the current state of research in the field

- » Show knowledge of state-of-the-art; cite recent related work in the field
- » Demonstrate your expertise by outlining what you have done

A concrete research plan

- » Is hypothesis driven and contains specific aims/research questions
- » Understandable for experts in the wider discipline

A well-structured research plan

- » Describes methods, risks, alternatives, management
- » Is specific and sufficiently detailed to allow evaluation based on the evaluation criteria

Use the number of pages allowed but do not exceed that: **15 pages** (17 for collaborative projects) **and 60,000 characters** (68,000 characters for collaborative projects)

Writing a project proposal

The SciCV format

- Academic age
- Education
- Employments
- Up to 3 achievements, with max 10 outputs
- ORCID account

In order to comply with the DORA principles, the SNSF defined a new structure for the CV and requests a standardised set of information from all applicants. **Specifically, applicants will have to compile their CV according to a new template on the SNSF Portal and subsequently upload a PDF in the data container “CV and major achievements”.**

The portal can be accessed under portal.snf.ch.

Writing a project proposal: Is my project use-inspired?

Typology of aspects indicating that a project is use-inspired:

- **Aim:** the project aims to produce scientific insights and, at the same time, to solve practical problems
- **Cognitive/Conceptual:** although the project is primarily concerned with basic science, it could help to resolve practical problems or issues
- **Source of the research question:** the question was defined by scientists in collaboration with a user/practitioner community
- **Implementation in the near future:** the project has the potential to be implemented in the near future (e.g. by means of technology transfer)
- **Types of output:** the project will produce academic and non-academic publications
- **Target audience:** the results will be made accessible for a lay public outside academia
- **People involved:** the research team plans to collaborate with practitioners

WEAVE / Lead-Agency / ICIS Agreements

10 multilateral Weave agreements with

- Austria
- Belgium (Flanders)
- Belgium (Wallonia)
- Croatia
- Czech Republic
- Germany
- Luxemburg
- Poland
- Slovenia
- Sweden (FORMAS)

6 Bilateral LA agreements with

- France (Expression of Interest needed)
- Israel
- Sao Paulo state
- South Africa
- South Tyrol province
- USA (NSF) (Expression of Interest needed)

5 International Co-Investigator agreements with:

- Denmark
- Sweden
- Norway
- Netherlands
- Great Britain (only SSH)

Special requirments apply!

Please consult www.snf.ch and/or contact the SNSF office for futher information!

If you are successful...

Conditions for the release of funds:

- The project must start within 12 months after approval letter
- Submit the DMP
- Write a Lay summary
- Request for changes to personnel
- Project specific conditions, budget, licenses

During the project:

- Extensions possible for a maximum of 12 months under specific circumstances –
- Annual financial report
- Output data

At the end of the project :

- Output data
- Scientific report
- Financial report
- Update of the DMP

If you are not successful...

Read

- the rejection letter
- the peer reviews

If you are thinking of resubmitting:

- contact the SNSF administrative office if you have questions
- consider the points criticized by the Research Council and the international experts and carefully revise your proposal based on the feedback
- list and explain your revisions made in the point-by-point response

If you strongly disagree with the decision:

- you can ask for reconsideration or appeal against the decision

Thank you!



Twitter.com/snsf_ch



Linkedin.com/company/snsf



Instagram.com/swissnationalsciencefoundation

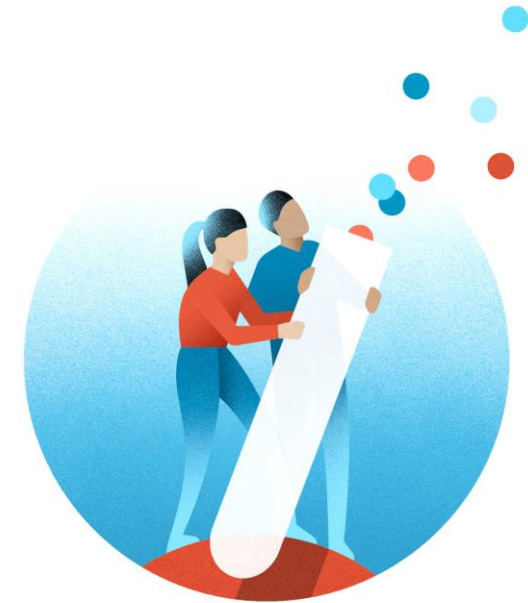


Youtube.com/SNSFinfo

Check out our website: [Project funding](#)

Visit the SNSF Data Portal: [data.snf.ch](#)!

You can contact the Project Funding team at projects.ssh@snf.ch ;
projects.mint@snf.ch ; projects.ls@snf.ch



Programme

Q&A sessions

Links available on
www.snsf.ch/liveevents

Schedule	Subjects and links for the Q&A sessions
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