

Financial statement 2023

Reg. No. 929.23403.003

Report of the statutory auditor

***to the Foundation Council of the
Swiss National Science Foundation, Berne***

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of the Swiss National Science Foundation (the Foundation), which comprise the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, the statement of income, the statement of cash flows and the statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER and comply with Swiss law and the Foundation's deed.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Swiss law and Swiss Standards on Auditing (SA-CH). Our responsibilities under those provisions and standards are further described in the «Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements» section of our report. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with the provisions of Swiss law and the requirements of the Swiss audit profession, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Foundation Council's responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Foundation Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements, which give a true and fair view in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, the provisions of Swiss law and the Foundation's deed and internal regulation, and for such internal control as the Foundation Council determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Foundation Council is responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern, and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Foundation Council either intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Swiss law and SA-CH will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Swiss law and SA-CH, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Foundation's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Foundation Council's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.

We communicate with the Foundation Council or its relevant committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with Art. 728a para. 1 item 3 CO and PS-CH 890, we confirm that an internal control system exists, which has been designed for the preparation of the financial statements according to the instructions of the Foundation Council.


We recommend that the financial statements submitted to you be approved.

Berne, 22 March 2024

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Enclosure:

Financial statements 2023, comprising statement of financial position, statement of income, statement of cash flows, statement of changes in equity and notes

Income statement

in CHF 1,000	Annex	2023	2022
Federal contributions	15	1,295,357	1,157,597
Further contributions	16	4,014	3,125
Research funding expenditure	17	-1,015,129	-970,699
Expenditure to cover indirect research costs (overhead)	18	-145,542	-115,040
Scientific evaluation and governance	23	-14,283	-14,089
Public relations work		-2,467	-3,123
Administration expenses	19	-55,853	-54,266
Other operating income	20	294	143
Other operating expenses	20	-391	-178
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	19	-288	-423
Depreciation of intangible assets	19	-330	-264
Operating result		65,383	2,782
Financial result	21	5,390	-18,398
Investment in restricted funds	9	-412,519	-279,003
Withdrawals from restricted funds	9	375,225	293,752
Income from restricted funds		-37,294	14,749
Ordinary income		33,479	-867
Non-operating income	22	436	27
Extraordinary income		-	-
Annual result		33,915	-840

All figures stated in this report have been individually rounded.

Balance sheet

in CHF 1,000	Annex	31.12.2023	Share in %	31.12.2022	Share in %
Assets					
Current assets					
Cash and cash equivalents	1	676,214	74	642,182	79
Accounts receivable	2	102,294	11	41,248	5
Other short-term receivables	3	107	0	111	0
Prepaid expenses		1,528	0	2,127	0
Total current assets		780,143	85	685,668	84
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	4	14,038	2	13,167	2
Financial assets	5	123,207	13	118,359	14
Intangible assets	6	365	0	330	0
Total fixed assets		137,610	15	131,856	16
Total assets		917,753	100	817,524	100
Liabilities					
Short-term liabilities					
Liabilities from approved grants	7	418,754	46	388,733	48
Liabilities to third parties	7	1,860	0	2,198	0
Other short-term liabilities	7	707	0	765	0
Short-term provisions		510	0	422	0
Deferred income		3,922	0	3,631	0
Restricted funds	9	44,845	5	18,891	2
Total short-term liabilities		470,598	51	414,640	51
Long-term liabilities					
Long-term provisions	8	526	0	1,509	0
Restricted funds	9	309,269	34	297,930	36
Total long-term liabilities		309,795	34	299,439	37
Total liabilities		780,393	85	714,079	87
Equity					
Foundation capital	11	1,330	0	1,330	0
Free funds	12	117	0	154	0
Free reserves		135,913	15	101,961	12
Total equity		137,360	15	103,445	13
Total liabilities		917,753	100	817,524	100

Statement of changes in equity

	Foundation capital	Free funds	Free reserves	Total in CHF 1,000
Annual result 2021	-	-33	-2,382	-2,415
Equity as at 31.12.2021	1,330	224	102,732	104,286
Annual result 2022	-	-70	-770	-840
Equity as at 31.12.2022	1,330	154	101,962	103,446
Annual result 2023	-	-37	33,952	33,915
Equity as at 31.12.2023	1,330	117	135,914	137,361

Cash flow statement prepared according to the indirect method

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Operating activities		
- Annual profit	33,915	-840
+ Depreciation of fixed assets	618	688
- Decrease in provisions that do not affect funds	-895	-
- Increase in accounts receivable	-61,046	18,494
+ Decrease in other receivables and prepaid expenses	602	-1,861
-/+ Non-realised price gains / losses on financial assets	-5'391	18,398
+ Increase in liabilities from approved grants	30,021	6,609
- Decrease in accounts payable	-338	757
+ Increase in other short-term liabilities and deferred income	233	16
+ Increase in restricted funds	37,294	-14,749
Cash outflow from operating activities	35,013	27,512
Investing activities		
- Outflows for investments (acquisition) in tangible assets	-1,159	-1,798
+ Payments received from divestments (sales) of financial assets	542	40
- Outflows for investments (acquisition) in intangible assets	-365	-365
Cash outflow from investing activities	-982	-2,123
Financing activities		
+/- Assumption/repayment of current financial liabilities	-	-
+/- Assumption/repayment of non-current financial liabilities	-	-
Cash outflow from financing activities		
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	34,032	25,389
Statement		
Cash and cash equivalents as at 1 January	642,182	616,793
Cash and cash equivalents as at 31 December	676,214	642,182
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	34,032	25,389

Transfers between cash & cash equivalents and financial assets are now stated separately in cash outflow from investment activities. The prior year has been restated accordingly.

Notes to the financial statement as at 31.12.2023

Introduction

The SNSF is a private foundation based in Bern with a federal mandate to fund basic research and promote young researchers in Switzerland using public money.

The SNSF has the equivalent of 306.1 full-time employees (2022: 301.85).

Valuation principles

General accounting principles

The SNSF financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER (Accounting and Reporting Recommendations) in their entirety and present a true and fair view of the financial position, the cash flows and the results of operations. The financial statements are presented in such a way that they will also be in compliance with the requirements of the Swiss Code of Obligations.

Valuation principles

Valuation is generally based on the principle of cost of acquisition or production, with the sole exception of securities with a quoted market price, which are shown at their current values.

The principle of the individual valuation of assets and liabilities applies.

The carrying amount of long-term assets is reviewed at each balance sheet date. If there is evidence of a sustained decrease in value, the recoverable amount is ascertained (impairment test). If the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount, an extraordinary impairment loss is recognised in the income statement.

Currency conversion

The foreign currency transactions and positions contained in these financial statements are converted as follows: Transactions in foreign currencies are converted into the currency of account at the average exchange rate of the month in which the transaction took place. At year-end, monetary assets and liabilities in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement at the exchange rate prevailing on the balance sheet date. Further explanations can be found in the detailed notes on the individual balance sheet positions.

Notes on the income statement and the balance sheet

1 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at hand and current account balances with the federal government and Postfinance. They are recognised at their nominal value.

in CHF 1,000	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
Cash at hand	-	3
Current account with Postfinance	120,871	83,089
Current account assets with SERI	555,342	559,050
SwissCore operating assets, incl. bank deposits	-	40
Total	676,213	642,182

2 Accounts receivable

Accounts receivable are recognised at nominal value and include grants for projects and fellowships invoiced to third parties, services provided by the Administrative Offices and charged to third parties, advances and recoverable withholding taxes. Specific provisions are set aside to cover any losses from operational risks.

in CHF 1,000	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
From third parties	1,092	440
From the federal government		
SERI mandates	76,003	-
SDC mandates	11,645	13,800
BRIDGE programme mandates	13,554	27,008
Total (gross)	102,294	41,248
Value adjustments	-	-
Total (net)	102,294	41,248
thereof due within 360 days	95,149	17,994
thereof due after 360 days	7,145	23,254

3 Other short-term receivables

Other short-term accounts receivable are recognised at nominal value. They include grants for projects and fellowships invoiced to third parties, services provided by the Administrative Offices and charged to third parties, and rental deposits. Specific provisions are set aside to cover losses from operational risks.

in CHF 1,000	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
From third parties	107	111
From the federal government	-	-
From governing and executive bodies	-	-
Total (gross)	107	111
Value adjustments	-	-
Total (net)	107	111

4 Tangible assets

Tangible assets include movable and immovable property. The capitalisation limit is CHF 25,000 per item. Tangible assets are recognised at acquisition cost less necessary operating depreciation on a straight-line basis over their useful economic life. This was defined as follows:

- Buildings: 30 years
- IT equipment: 3 years
- Movable property: 5 years
- Fixtures and fitting: 5 years

	Assets under construction	Land and buildings	IT equipment	Movable property	Fixtures and fittings	Total tangible assets
in CHF 1,000						
Costs as at 1.1.2022	463	23,875	616	-	167	25,121
Additions	1,769	-	-	-	29	1,798
Disposals	-	-	-210	-	-	-210
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-	-
Costs as at 31.12.2022	2,232	23,875	406	-	196	26,709
Accumulated depreciation as at 1.1.2022	-	12,683	481	-	167	13,331
Planned depreciation	-	283	135	-	6	424
Impairment losses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-210	-	-	-210
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation as at 31.12.2022	-	12,966	406	-	173	13,545
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2021	463	11,192	135	-	-	11,790
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2022	2,232	10,909	-	-	23	13,164

The table above shows the fixed assets schedule for the year 2022, the table below the figures for 2023.

	Assets under construction	Land and buildings	IT equipment	Movable property	Fixtures and fittings	Total tangible assets
in CHF 1,000						
Cost as at 1.1.2023	2,232	23,875	406	-	196	26,709
Additions	1,159	-	-	-	-	1,159
Disposals	-	-	-406	-	-	-406
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cost as at 31.12.2023	3,391	23,875	406	-	196	27,462
Accumulated depreciation as at 1.1.2023	-	12,966	406	-	173	13,545
Planned depreciation	-	283	-	-	6	289
Impairment losses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-406	-	-	-406
Reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation as at 31.12.2023	-	13,249	-	-	179	13,428
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2022	2,232	10,909	-	-	23	13,164
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2023	3,391	10,626	-	-	17	14,034

Assets under construction represent accrued costs for the planning of new office premises in Wankdorf.

5 Financial assets

Financial assets include assets that originate from donations and inheritances. In accordance with the Investment Regulations, the assets are invested with a Swiss bank in an asset management mandate. They are recognised at the market price on the balance sheet date.

in CHF 1,000	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
Cash, cash equivalents and time deposits	8,310	2,792
Securities	114,896	115,567
Total	123,206	118,359

6 Intangible assets

This item essentially consists of IT software. Acquired intangible assets are capitalised if they yield measurable future economic benefits for the organisation over several years. Intangible assets are recognised at acquisition cost less necessary depreciation and impairment losses. Depreciation is on a straight-line basis over the useful economic life of the asset. The useful economic life of IT software is three years.

in CHF 1,000	Software	Other intangible assets	Total intangible assets
Cost as at 1.1.2022	689	-	689
Additions	365	-	365
Disposals	-260	-	-260
Reclassifications	-	-	-
Cost as at 31.12.2022	794	-	794
Accumulated depreciation as at 1.1.2022	459	-	459
Planned depreciation	264	-	264
Impairment losses	-	-	-
Disposals	-260	-	-
Reclassifications	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation as at 31.12.2022	463	-	463
Net carrying amounts as at 1.12.2021	230	-	230
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2022	331	-	331

The table above shows the fixed assets schedule for the year 2022, the table below the figures for 2023.

	Software	Other intangible assets	Total intangible assets
in CHF 1,000			
Cost as at 1.1.2023	794	-	794
Additions	365	-	365
Disposals	-168	-	-168
Reclassifications	-	-	-
Cost as at 31.12.2023	990	-	990
Accumulated depreciation as at 1.1.2023	463	-	463
Planned depreciation	330	-	330
Impairment losses	-	-	-
Disposals	-168	-	-
Reclassifications	-	-	-
Accumulated depreciation as at 31.12.2023	625	-	625
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2022	331	-	331
Net carrying amounts as at 31.12.2023	365	-	365

7 Liabilities

This concerns research grants and fellowships that are due for payment but have not yet been drawn on, unpaid invoices from service providers, as well as obligations towards social security funds. They are disclosed at nominal value.

Short-term liabilities

in CHF 1,000	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
From third parties	421,321	391,696
From the federal government	-	-
From governing and executive bodies	-	-
Short-term liabilities	421,321	391,696

8 Provisions

Provisions are booked to cover a probable obligation that is based on a past event and whose amount and/or due date is uncertain but can be estimated. Valuation of the provision is based on the estimated cash outflow needed to satisfy the obligation.

in CHF 1,000

	Provisions for employee benefit obligations	Restructuring provisions	Other provisions	Total provisions
Carrying amount as at 1.1.2022	1,931	-	-	1,931
Formation	-	-	-	-
Appropriation	-	-	-	-
Release	-	-	-	-
Carrying amount as at 31.12.2022	1,931	-	-	1,931
of which short-term provisions	422	-	-	422
of which long-term provisions	1,509	-	-	1,509

The table above shows the level of and changes to the provisions for 2022, the table below the figures for 2023.

in CHF 1,000

	Provisions for employee benefit obligations	Restructuring provisions	Other provisions	Total provisions
Carrying amount as at 1.1.2023	1,931	-	-	1,931
Formation	-	-	-	-
Appropriation	-395	-	-	-395
Release	-500	-	-	-500
Carrying amount as at 31.12.2023	1,036	-	-	1,036
of which short-term provisions	510	-	-	510
of which long-term provisions	526	-	-	526

The provisions from employee benefit obligations relate to measures taken to compensate for the lowering of the pension conversion rate at the PKG pension fund.

9 Restricted funds

This position comprises funds designated for a specific purpose, as well as donations and bequests. These are resources allocated to the Swiss National Science Foundation which are still pending appropriation for research grants and fellowships that meets the designated purpose. Designated funds are used for activities which the SNSF carries out mainly in consultation with the SERI, the SDC and Innosuisse.

in CHF 1,000

	Status				Status
	01.01.2022	Additions	Appropriation	Transfer	31.12.2022
Funds related to research funding	194,811	277,573	-274,041	281	198,625
Funds from restricted donations/bequests	136,768	1,432	-19,714	-282	118,204
Total restricted funds	331,579	279,005	-293,755	-	316,829

The table above presents the 2022 figures of the funds that are designated for specific purposes. It only shows the total of funds designated for specific funding and earmarked donations and bequests as well as the overall total.

in CHF 1,000

	Status 01.01.2023			Status 31.12.2023
	Additions	Appropriation	Transfer	
Funds for specific funding purposes				
r4d fund	840	247	-433	654
SOR4D fund	18,490	-	-2,363	16,127
FLARE fund	2,556	10,841	-12,548	849
Bilateral programmes fund	29,316	9,379	-8,191	30,504
COST fund	13,636	4,092	-5,250	12,478
NRP fund	12,681	15,140	-15,877	11,944
NCCR fund	4,005	54,577	-51,190	7,392
Special biology and medicine programmes fund	24,459	12,096	-17,295	19,260
BRIDGE programme fund	74,273	15,756	-23,851	66,178
Enlargement contributions fund	-	2,000	-88	1,912
Funds for Horizon Europe transitional measures	12,143	85,455	-83,848	13,750
Funds for Horizon Europe complementary measures	-	5,000	-466	4,534
International project and talent promotion fund (AG 2023)	-	50,000	-6,586	43,414
Funds for Horizon Europe accompanying measures	1,851	52	-	1,903
Croatia fund	9	16	-	25
Energy research fund	301	6	-307	-
Fonds Joint Programming on neurodegenerative diseases	23	-	-	23
Overhead fund	4,042	141,630	-145,672	-
Subtotal	198,625	406,287	-373,965	230,947

Energy research fund: all research contributions relating to special measures for promoting young talent in the energy field were concluded at the beginning of 2023. The residual balance in the energy research fund was wound up by agreement with the SERI. The proceeds resulted in an improvement in annual profit and an increase in the free reserves.

Funds originating from restricted donations/bequests

Subtotal	118'204	6'233	-1'260	-	123'177
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Support projects totalling CHF 7.6 million were approved in 2023.

Total restricted funds	316,829	412,520	-375,225	-	354,124
of which recognised in short-term funds	18,891				44,845
of which recognised in long-term funds	297,930				309,269

The subdivision into short-term and long-term funds is based on the 2024 budget, according to which the short-term funds designated for specific purposes will be used within 12 months. Receipt and use include income from corresponding financial assets.

10 Pension funds

The SNSF has an affiliation agreement with the PKG Pension Fund in Lucerne.

SNSF employees are insured with the PKG against the economic consequences of old age, disability and death under a defined contribution plan. Under this plan, the employees and the employer pay fixed contributions. Contributions are recognised in the income statement of the period in which they are incurred. In the 2023 fiscal year, contributions of TCHF 5,384 were paid into pension plans (2022: TCHF 5,113). The SNSF has no employer contribution reserves.

The SNSF has no economic obligations towards, nor does it derive economic benefits from, the PKG. The PKG has an (unaudited) cover ratio of 111% (2022: 106%).

11 Foundation capital

The foundation capital comprises a total amount of CHF 330,000 by the founders and a one-time payment of one million Swiss francs from the federal government.

12 Funds in equity

in CHF 1,000

	Status 01.01.2022	Additions	Appropriation	Transfer	Status 31.12.2022
General funds					
Funds of non-restricted donations and bequests	224	-	-70	-	154

in CHF 1,000

	Status 01.01.2023	Additions	Appropriation	Transfer	Status 31.12.2023
General funds					
Funds of non-restricted donations and bequests	154	-	-37	-	117

These funds comprise resources which the SNSF may use at its own discretion.

13 Off-balance-sheet transactions

a) Approved contributions for future fiscal years as at 31.12.2022

in CHF 1,000

	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Total
Total	793,235	510,389	282,702	91,479	18,655	170	1,696,630

Approved contributions for future fiscal years as at 31.12.2023

in CHF 1,000

	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Total
Projects	430,345	300,515	166,287	43,615	2,559	-	943,321
Careers	198,579	135,745	88,134	46,341	18,488	1,278	488,565
Programmes	157,553	117,668	59,401	17,949	-	-	352,571
Infrastructure	29,084	710	-	-	-	-	29,794
Additional tasks	16,365	3,748	58	-	-	-	20,171
Scientific communication	3,127	371	-	-	-	-	3,498
Total	835,053	558,757	313,880	107,905	21,047	1,278	1,837,920

According to the federal budget for 2024, contributions to the SNSF (excl. overhead and Horizon Europe transitional measures) will amount to CHF 1,077,537 thousand. According to ERI Dispatch 2025–2028, total federal contributions (excl. Overhead and Horizon Europe transitional measures) totalling CHF 4,477,300 thousand are planned.

b) Other non-recognisable commitments

The following operational leasing/rental commitments which cannot be terminated within one year were in place as at the balance sheet date.

in CHF 1,000	31.12.2023	31.12.2022
1 to 2 years	208	208
3 to 5 years	-	-
Over 5 years	-	-
Total	208	208

14 Open derivative financial instruments

in CHF 1,000		31.12.2022	
Underlyings	Purpose	Assets	Liabilities
Foreign currency	Currency hedges	566	49

in CHF 1,000		31.12.2023	
Underlyings	Purpose	Assets	Liabilities
Foreign currency	Currency hedges	-	-

As at 31.12.2023 there are no contingent liabilities from derivatives not carried in the balance sheet.

15 Federal contributions

These federal contributions are earmarked for funding research in particular projects, programmes and fellowships. They also cover the indirect research costs of the research institutions as well as costs of service provision. Service provision includes scientific evaluation and governance, PR work, and running the Administrative Offices in Bern and the representative office in Brussels. Federal contributions are accounted for via the income statement if they were approved by the government, i.e. there is a ruling or a contract confirming them.

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Basic contribution	998,029	927,573
National Centres of Competence in Research NCCR	54,340	56,430
National Research Programmes NRP	14,820	14,850
Additional tasks/Federal funding mandate	19,675	19,243
SDC contributions	2,000	-
Overhead	124,428	115,821
SwissCore	500	500
Various federal contributions	610	44
Federal contribution for Horizon Europe transitional measures	75,955	23,136
Federal contribution for Horizon Europe complementary measures	5,000	-
Total	1,295,357	1,157,597

According to the service level agreement with the SERI, as of 2021 the contributions for the BRIDGE programme will be part of the basic contribution and no longer subsumed under supplementary tasks. The corresponding share for BRIDGE was CHF 13.1 million in 2023 (2022: CHF 13.1 million).

16 Further contributions

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Contributions from Innosuisse for SwissCore	125	125
Innosuisse contributions for BRIDGE projects	-	-
Other	3,889	3,000
Total	4,014	3,125

17 Research funding expenditure

The grants awarded are divided into instalments according to project years, with no further accrual by calendar years. Project years begin on the research grant commencement date planned at the time of its award. Grants are recognised in expenses beginning in the year in which the planned grant commencement date falls. Accordingly, where a project lasts longer than 12 months, grant instalments will be recognised annually in chronological order, beginning from the planned project commencement date.

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Projects	509,645	484,035
Careers	234,616	220,908
Programmes		
National Centres of Competence in Research	51,190	56,942
National Research Programmes	15,581	16,327
Other programmes	140,875	116,145
International cooperation	15,531	13,462
Total programmes	223,177	202,876
Infrastructure	36,922	38,435
Scientific communication	19,135	30,457
Supplementary tasks	20,314	19,940
Repayments	-22,952	-18,765
Contributions approved but not used	-5,728	-7,188
Total	1,015,129	970,698

18 Overhead

Based on Art. 10 para. 4 of the Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation and Art. 33 ff. of the Ordinance on the Promotion of Research and Innovation, the SNSF pays overhead contributions to research institutions. These are intended to cover some of the overhead incurred by the institutions as a result of SNSF-sponsored research projects. The SNSF determines the amount of the overhead contributions on the basis of project grants approved in the previous year. The contributions are paid annually in a lump sum.

19 Administration expenses and depreciation

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Payroll	42,871	41,392
IT expenses	10,494	10,870
Immovable property expenses	1,181	860
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	288	423
Depreciation of intangible assets	330	264
Other administration expenses/External mandates	1,307	1,145
Total	56,471	54,954

20 Other operating income/expenses

Other operating income

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Canteen	254	133
Rental income	40	9
Total	294	142

Other operating expenses

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Canteen	391	178
Total	391	178

21 Financial income / financial expenditure

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Financial income	5,568	663
Financial expenditure	-178	-19,061
Total financial result	5,390	-18,398

The financial result arises from the financial assets originating from donations and bequests.

22 Non-operating income / expenses

In CHF 1,000	2023	2022
Non-operating income*	436	27
Non-operating expenses	-	-
Total	436	27

*CO2 redistribution, reimbursement for insurances

23 Transactions with related parties

Related parties or organisations comprise whosoever may, either directly or indirectly, significantly influence the financial or operational decisions of the Swiss National Science Foundation. The following transactions with related parties have taken place:

- Approval of research grants for members of the Foundation Council: CHF 4,301 million (2022: CHF 5,468 million)
- Approval of research grants for members of the Research Council: CHF 24,331 million (2022: CHF 23,753 million)

The total of the amounts paid to members of all the governing and executive bodies, including the Research Council, was CHF 131,656 thousand (2022: CHF 121,635 thousand).

24 Remuneration of governing and executive bodies

In the year under review, the members of the Foundation Council and the Research Council (including presidents and vice presidents) received CHF 2,738 million in remuneration and daily allowances (2022: CHF 2,751 million).

In addition, the members of the Research Council received relief payments in the amount of CHF 2,620 million (2022: CHF 2,699 million).

In 2023, the members of the Executive Management received gross salaries of CHF 1,107 million (2022: CHF 1,124 million).

25 Auditing fees

in CHF 1,000	2023	2022
for auditing services	40	37
for other services	-	-
Total	40	37

26 Events after the balance sheet date

No noteworthy events took place after the balance sheet date on 31 December 2023. Events after the balance sheet date were considered until 22 March 2024.

27 Approval of the financial statements

At the recommendation of the Swiss Federal Audit Office, which examined the statements in its capacity as external auditor, the Foundation Council approved the financial statements 2023 at its meeting of 22 March 2024.