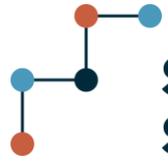


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# MULTILATERAL ACADEMIC PROJECTS (MAPS)

Isabelle Fellner

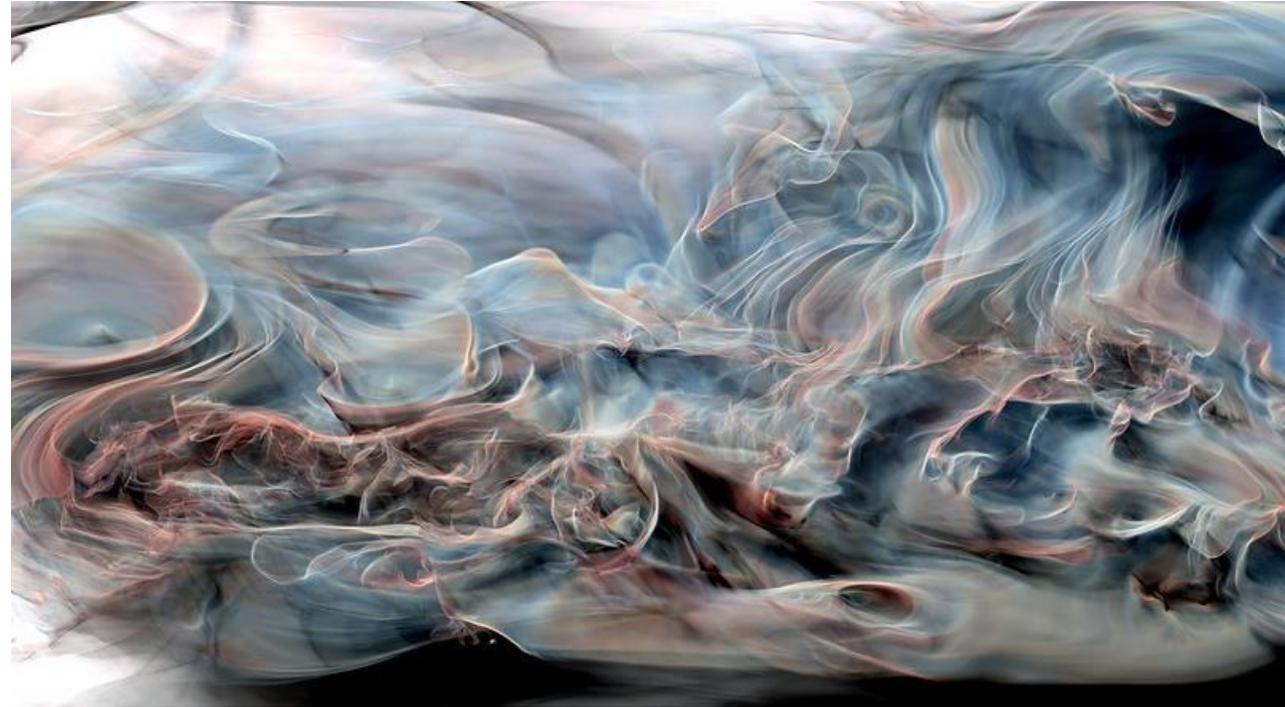
International Cooperation - SNSF

17 April 2024

# Overview

- Second Swiss Contribution
- MAPS – Multilateral Academic Projects
  - Eligibility criteria
  - Finances
  - Composition
  - Timeline
  - Submission
  - Evaluation
- Questions

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© "Visualization of atmospheric air currents" by Tobias Günther, ETH Zurich

**SECOND SWISS CONTRIBUTION**

# Second Swiss Contribution

The second Swiss contribution is a key part of Switzerland's European policy, helping to foster cohesion and stability in Europe as well as to consolidate and develop bilateral relations with partner countries.

The CHF 1.302 billion contribution runs until 2029 and will be used to support the states that joined the EU after 2004 (the EU-13) or countries facing major migration flows. The second contribution aims to reduce economic and social disparities in Europe and promote measures to manage migration.

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), and the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) are responsible for the distribution of the funds.

# Second Swiss Contribution

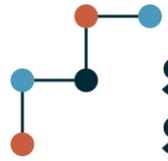
The SNSF received a mandate from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) to implement three funding instruments in the field of basic research:

- Promotion of Young Scientists in Central and Eastern Europe (PROMYS)
- Sciex
- MAPS – Multilateral Academic Projects

Of all the countries collaborating with Switzerland in the field of basic research, only Bulgaria chose all three programmes. Regarding PROMYS, the projects are currently under evaluation. The Sciex call will be opened in fall 2024.

Aside from Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, and Romania participate in MAPS.

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MAPS: THE CALL

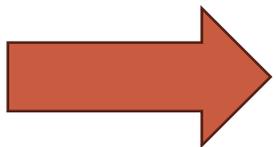
# MAPS – Multilateral Academic Projects

- Development of new funding scheme, that helps to fosters cooperation with EU partner countries
- Research consortia include researchers from at least two participating EU member states + one researcher based in Switzerland
- Bottom-up approach in choosing the research topic
- Max. amount per partner CHF 350'000
- Project duration: up to 4 years
- Common call office evaluates the proposals
- No common pot = funds will be spent nationally

# General eligibility criteria

Applicants must:

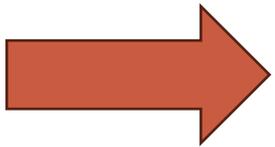
- Be a natural person (SNSF does not understand research institutions as applicants)
- Have obtained a PhD 4 years before the submission date
- Be able to carry out a project independently
- Be employed at least by 50% at an eligible research institution for the duration of the whole project
- Have access to the relevant infrastructure



For exceptions, please check annex 2 of the call document for additional information

# Eligibility research institutions

- Public research institutions
- Non-profit research institutions



please check annex 2 of the call document for additional information

# Eligibility Bulgarian researchers

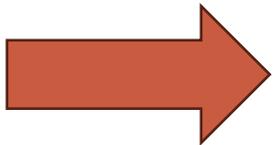
Applicants must

- be representatives of higher education institutions under Art. 85 para. 1, item 7 of the Higher Education Act, which are accredited by the National Evaluation and Accreditation Agency (NEAA) to conduct training for the educational and scientific degree "doctor" OR
- be representatives of Scientific organizations under Art. 47, para. 1 of the Higher Education Act, which are accredited by the NEAA to conduct training on the educational and scientific degree "doctor"
- have at least a doctorate (PhD)
- have the rights to supervise PhD students under Art. 9, para 3 of the Regulations on the Implementation of the Development of Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria Act
- have at least four years of research experience after finishing their PhD (the research experience might be achieved in Bulgaria or abroad).
- Applicants can submit a proposal to MAPS even if they hold another Bulgarian grant or have applied for one;
- An applicant can participate in only one proposal.

# Eligible costs

Within a consortium, each applicant can request CHF 350'000

- Personnel / Staff costs
- Travel and subsistence allowances
- Equipment (up to 30% of the overall budget)
- Consumables
- Other direct costs (organising seminars and conferences, dissemination of results, etc.)
- Project partners – only for the Swiss applicants
- Subcontractors: up to 20% (for profit companies can be subcontractors)
- Overhead for EU-13 countries: up to 5%



Please check annex 2 of the call document for any specific rules

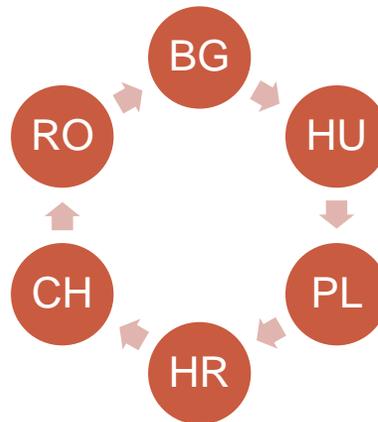
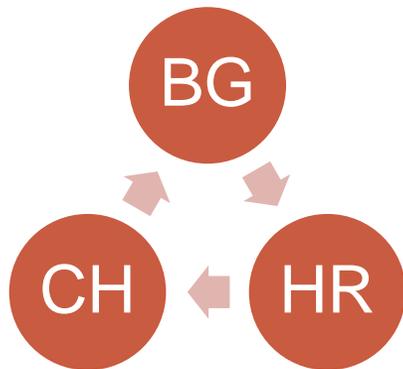
# Financial issues

- The budget for the whole consortium needs to be submitted in Swiss francs.
- For your partners from abroad: please use the daily middle exchange rate from the respective national bank.
- Furthermore, please note that the social security contribution for all partners from abroad need to be included in the salary costs.
- Applicants in Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania can request their own salary (not in Switzerland and Croatia).

# Composition consortium

A research consortium must include at least:

- One eligible applicant based in Switzerland
- And two to five eligible applicants from Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, or Romania
- Only one applicant per country can participate in a consortium – no co-applicants
- All applicants have the same rights and obligations
- The Swiss applicant is responsible to ensure the communication with the SNSF – corresponding applicant





**ADMINISTRATIVE MODULES**

Change password

**BROKERAGE MODULES**

Your Profile

Search for  
Partners

Matching platform: <https://roch.brokerage.uefiscdi-direct.ro/>

# Search Partner

## Partner Country

Your potential partner afi

## Domains

Please choose domains

Offering expertise in

## Free Text

Free Text

Search a potential partner

# Timeline

The second Swiss contribution needs to be completed until **3 December 2029**

## Timeline MAPS

- 2 April 2024: launch of the call
- 1 May 2024: pre-registration deadline (not mandatory)
- 1 July 2024: submission deadline, 5pm Swiss local time
  
- Preliminary check: missing information will be requested by the SNSF.
  
- Start of the projects between April 2025 and July 2025
- Project should end by June 2029

# Submission

- All proposals need to be submitted through mySNF
- Submission deadline is 1 July 2024 – 17:00:00 Swiss Local Time
- Croatia and Romania: applicants need to submit the same proposals also through the national system
- Bulgaria: No national submission necessary, only via mySNF



Applications and Projects

Grant application 7

1. Personal data

- Responsible applicant
- Consortium partner
- Applicants' employment

2. Application data

- Basic data I
- Basic data II
- Link to other SNSF projects
- Further requested and available funds (not from the SNSF)
- University or research institution
- Collaboration (national and international)

Requested funding



Grant application 7

New application

MAPS

Deadline: 01 July 2024 17:00:00 Swiss local time

Start: -

In preparation

Make a separate entry for each planned expense you intend to request in your application. A separate budget must be entered for each country using the template below. Please use the budget items with the corresponding country designation for this. Please also note the conditions and information in the help texts. Choose a tab to display and edit the entered costs in different structures and views. **Enter all figures of the amounts in full, i.e. do not use abbreviations such as "kCHF"**. Only the applicants in Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania can request their own salary. For all other exceptions, please consult Annex 2 of the call document. As of 1 April 2018, costs for open access publications **are no longer regarded as eligible costs under SNSF grants** and must be applied for separately. For further information, please go to: [www.snf.ch/oa](http://www.snf.ch/oa)

The budget for the whole consortium needs to be submitted in Swiss francs. For your partners from abroad: please use the daily middle exchange rate from the respective national bank. Furthermore, please note that the social security contribution for all partners from abroad need to be included in the salary costs. Important: when adding the expenses, please make sure to indicate to which applicant the budget item is related (under general information – relation to person/project).

Finances

+ Add expense

Collaboration (national and international)

Requested funding

Research requiring authorisation or notification

Exclusion of external reviewers

General remarks on the project

3. Annexed documents (upload)

Research plan

CV and major achievements

Quotes

Cover letter

Official certificates

Other annexes

Administrative part of the application

Information/documents

+ Add expense

Other direct costs

Travel costs Bulgaria

Consumables Bulgaria

Equipment costs Bulgaria

Other direct costs Bulgaria (incl. Overhead)

Salary for employees from Bulgaria - postdoctoral researchers



Salary for employees from Bulgaria - doctoral students

Salary for employees from Bulgarien - further employees

The applicant's own salaries Bulgaria

Postdocs are researchers seeking to achieve academic independence after obtaining a doctorate; they generally hold temporary academic posts. As postdocs, their main aim is to achieve the qualifications required to independently develop and conduct research projects and to assume scientific leadership positions. They must make a specific contribution to the research project and work primarily on achieving the said scientific qualifications.

Postdocs must be remunerated in accordance with national regulations. For further information, please see annex 2 of the call document.

# Evaluation

- Evaluation criteria (not listed in the order of priority):
  - scientific relevance;
  - originality of the aims and objectives;
  - appropriateness of the methodology and feasibility;
  - track record and expertise of the researchers;
  - complementarity of the research partners.
- International peer review
- Evaluation panel
- Funders Forum
  - Selection of the strongest proposals based on the scientific evaluation and available funds

# Funders Forum

Ranked projects	Country A 4 projects	Country B 5 projects	Country C 4 projects	Country D 5 projects	Switzerland	Decision
Project 1	X		X	X	X	Funded
Project 2	X		X	X	X	Funded
Project 3	X	X	X		X	Funded
Project 4			X	X	X	Funded
Project 5	X	X	X	X	X	Rejected
Project 6	X		X		X	Rejected
Project 7	X	X			X	Funded
Project 8	0	X	X	X	X	Rejected

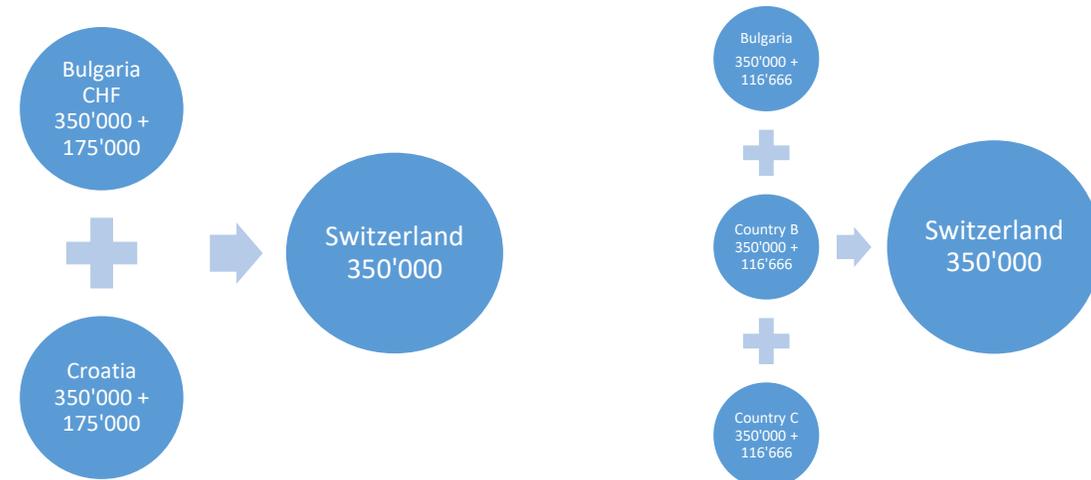
# MAPS budget

<b>Country</b>	<b>Support Measure Partners</b>	<b>Funding CHF</b>
Bulgaria	Ministry of Education and Science	CHF 6'176'471
Croatia	Croatian Science Foundation HRZZ.	CHF 6'176'470
Hungary	National Research, Development, and Innovation (NRDI) Office	CHF 3'948'749
Poland	Polish National Science Centre, Poland (NCN)	CHF 5'250'000
Romania	Executive Agency for Higher Education, Research, Development and Innovation Funding (UEFISCD)	CHF 10'294'117

# Number of fundable proposal

The budgets of the Support Measure Partners are not only charged to support their own PIs, but also need to pay a share of the project costs for the Swiss PI.

- Bulgaria and Croatia: between 11-14 projects
- Hungary: between 7-10 projects
- Poland: between 10-13 projects
- Romania: between 19-22



# Number of projects per grantee

– In the project funding scheme, grantees may receive a maximum of three grants from the SNSF for the same funding period, provided at least one grant is for an EU consortium project or has been granted on the basis of:

- Lead Agency
- Weave
- International Co-investigator scheme

➔ International programmes such as MAPS do not count towards this.

# Contact and further information

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Switzerland, Isabelle Fellner und Timothy Ryan

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Thank you very much for your attention.