



Annual Report

2013



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Front page

“Innovations in research require scientific independence and excellent technical and administrative support – Switzerland and the SNSF offered me both.”

David Sander received the National Latsis Prize 2013 for his research on the functions of human emotions.

Annual Report
2013



From left to right:

Daniel Höchli, Director of the Administrative Offices

Gabriele Gendotti, President of the Foundation Council

Martin Vetterli, President of the National Research Council

Foreword

Does the SNSF have clients?

Ladies and gentlemen,

In 2013, the SNSF forged ahead with various ongoing projects and initiated some new ones: it started to fundamentally examine its contribution to the promotion of young researchers in a national context. It reviewed and reformulated its funding policies for research infrastructures and specific funding programmes. And it has elaborated proposals for improving its most important funding scheme, project funding. Work on these projects will also help the SNSF in formulating its multi-year programme 2017–2020.

“We want to ensure that the SNSF continues to be a flexible organisation.”

The SNSF wants to make sure that the changes to project funding are geared to the needs of researchers. In order to know more about what they expect from SNSF funding, the Executive Committee of the Foundation Council commissioned a client survey, the results of which have been analysed in the meantime. But is the term correct? Does the SNSF have clients?

From the Research Council’s point of view, the answer must be: no! The applicants are its peers and it views its mission as a service to the research community as a whole. The Research Council’s task is to ensure that the best researchers obtain funding and thereby to strengthen the Swiss research system. In addition, its funding policy is aimed at creating ideal conditions for researchers in Switzerland.

In contrast, the Administrative Offices consider the researchers to be their clients. Their aim is to answer researchers’ queries with regard to funding options and the evaluation procedure quickly and competently, to clearly communicate the decisions of the Research Council and to minimise the time and effort involved in submitting proposals and administering grants.

Whether peer or client: for individual researchers, research funding should be streamlined and simple. This poses a challenge: the accountability requirements set by the political authorities have increased and there is a greater need to collect data for the development of adequate funding policies. Today, the SNSF requires more information from the researchers than was the case some years ago.

In view of these basic parameters, we are delighted that the researchers have given the SNSF good marks with regard to the time needed to submit applications and manage grants. Our mission is to ensure that this assessment does not change and that the SNSF continues to be a flexible organisation.



Gabriele Gendotti



Martin Vetterli



Daniel Höchli

The Swiss National Science Foundation ...

... funds scientific research in Switzerland

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... promotes the international competitiveness of scientific research as well as the capacity for networking and problem-solving

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Taking stock and looking ahead

National Centres of Competence in Research: a new generation takes over

The year under review represented a period of transition for the National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCRs): on the one hand, 14 NCCRs of the first series completed their research work after twelve years of operation. On the other hand, eight new NCCRs were selected and are expected to get under way in spring 2014. A good time to take stock.

Overview of the National Centres of Competence in Research

36

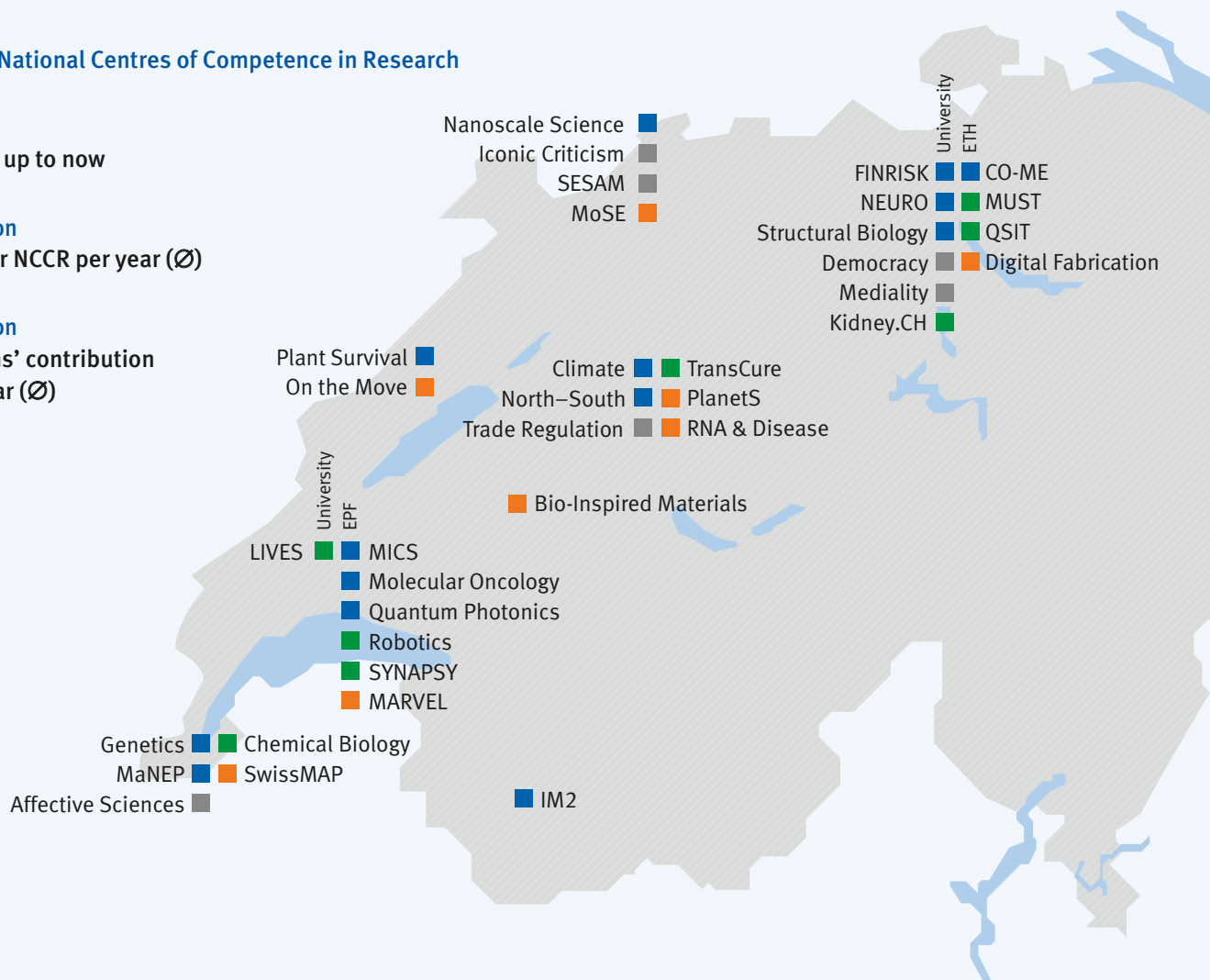
NCCRs launched up to now

CHF **3.5 million**

SNSF funding per NCCR per year (Ø)

CHF **1.5 million**

Home institutions' contribution per NCCR per year (Ø)



Output 2001 series

18,100
Peer review publications

1,778
Completed doctorates

79
Start-up companies

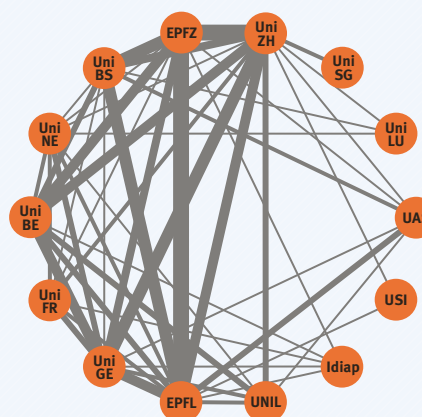
127
CTI projects

Long-term, autonomous and dynamic

The report year saw the conclusion of the first 14 NCCRs after a running time of twelve years – reason enough to take stock of this first series of centres of competence in research. The international reviewers who assessed the projects gave most of the NCCRs very good marks. According to their statements, Switzerland was able to strengthen its position in the research areas addressed by the NCCRs. They also stressed the benefits of a long running time and a high degree of autonomy. These features allow researchers to take more risks when fleshing out projects and to respond more rapidly to new insights and developments. As a result, most of the NCCRs were dynamic programmes in terms of project development and the research groups involved.

NCCRs interconnect Swiss research

2001/2005/2010/2014 series



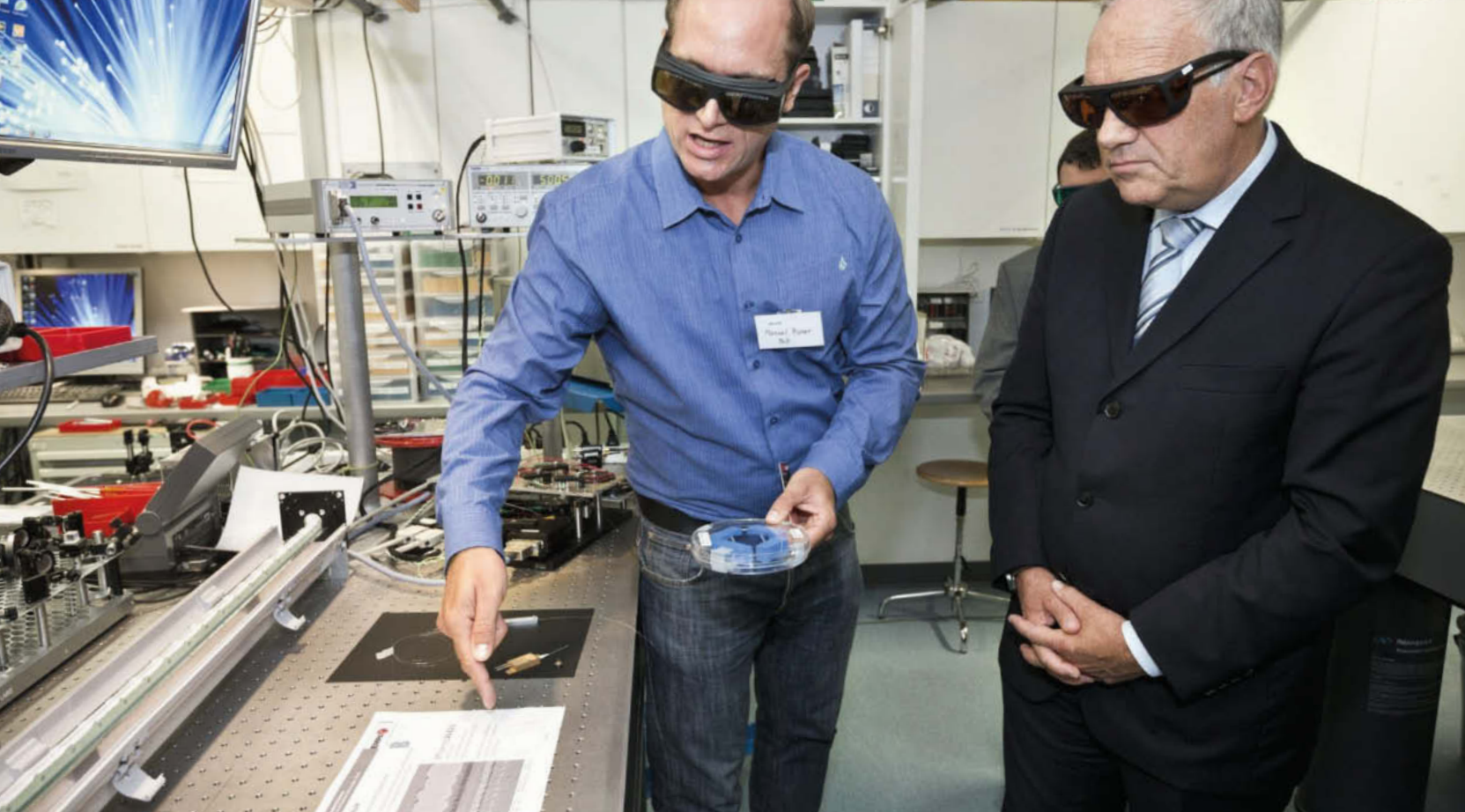
Attractive new structures

NCCRs are expected to sustainably renew and optimise research structures. This is achieved primarily by involving the higher education institutions, which need to make funds available in their role as home institution. They commit themselves to strengthening the relevant research field through internal structural changes and additional (assistant) professorships so that it can compete with the best in the global arena. In the context of the first 14 NCCRs, 237 professorships were either newly created or existing chairs thematically redefined. The drive for renewal and the stimulating intellectual environment of the NCCRs hold great appeal for researchers in Switzerland and abroad.

Stimuli for young researchers and innovation

The NCCRs make an important contribution towards the education of young scientists. The over 3,000 doctoral students and 1,800 postdocs involved in the first NCCR series reaped the benefits of an interdisciplinary environment and regular exchanges with researchers from other institutions. Many NCCRs set up local or inter-institutional doctoral schools, most of which will be continued after the completion of the relevant projects. In addition, the NCCRs played a key role in the setup and further devel- >

- 2001 series
- 2005 series
- 2010 series
- 2014 series



- > opment of bachelor and master programmes. In order to promote knowledge and technology transfer, the NCCRs initiated over 700 collaborations with companies and gave rise to 127 follow-up projects of the market-oriented Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI). Furthermore, 341 patents were applied for and 79 start-up companies founded or given substantial support.

Centres ensure sustainability

Institutional measures have contributed to the long-term impact of many NCCRs. Of the 14 concluded NCCRs, ten have led to the establishment of centres where the research questions will be pursued further. In addition, eight NCCRs have optimised structures at their higher education institutions by extending or overhauling existing institutes or departments. The new infrastructures and technical platforms will also play a role in ensuring the long-term impact of the NCCRs. The future of the nationwide networks set up by some NCCRs is, however, open. In several cases, associations or foundations were established to keep them operational.

In spite of these successes, it makes sense to limit the number of concurrent NCCRs as the higher education institutions are not in a position to co-finance countless research projects involving structural change. These structural effects are an important element in evaluating the effectiveness of the first series of NCCRs, which is precisely what the Swiss Science and Technology Council is doing on behalf of the

State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation. Results are expected in 2014.

New NCCRs get under way

In December 2013, Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann presented eight new NCCRs, which will get under way in the first half of 2014. The thematically open call generated a lot of interest: 63 project outlines for new centres of competence were submitted. After an initial evaluation by the SNSF, which included reviews from over 200 foreign experts, their number shrank to 23. This was followed by an in-depth evaluation by five international panels, on the basis of which the SNSF submitted a list of the ten scientifically most promising NCCRs to the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER). The EAER made the final selection based on research policy criteria.

The selected NCCRs address the following topics (see also p. 43): planetary research (director: Willy Benz), migration and mobility (Gianni D'Amato), digital fabrication (Matthias Daniel Kohler), computer-assisted development of new materials (Nicola Marzari), molecular systems engineering (Wolfgang Meier), RNA and disease (Oliver Mühlemann), bio-inspired materials (Christoph Weder) and mathematics of physics (Alexander Smirnov). <

“The world is envious of our NCCRs. The running time of twelve years is a major competitive advantage.”

Thomas Feurer, co-director of NCCR MUST

Federal Councillor visits National Centres of Competence in Research

Before making his decisions on the new NCCRs, Federal Councillor Schneider-Ammann visited the NCCRs “Trade Regulation” and “MUST” at the University of Bern in August 2013. The NCCR “Trade Regulation” examines the basic conditions of international trade, whereas “MUST” deals with ultrafast processes in molecular building blocks. The visit enabled the head of the EAER to gain an insight into the research work and talk to the researchers, the heads of the university and those responsible at the SNSF.



Innovative stimuli for the Swiss economy

As part of a package of measures to stabilise the economy, parliament allocated CHF 10 million to the SNSF for the promotion of innovation. This money was used to finance 28 technology transfer projects within the scope of the NCCRs. Industry partners (CHF 7 million) and higher education institutions (CHF 5 million) participated in these projects. The results were deemed to be positive in the final assessment made in 2013: the transfer projects have provided a number of stimuli for the companies involved, numerous SMEs were able to strengthen their market position as a result. In total, 43 prototypes and 34 new processes or products were developed.

In brief

Commission and software to thwart scientific misconduct

Since October 2013, the newly appointed Commission on Research Integrity has been responsible for investigating suspected cases of academic misconduct in connection with SNSF applications and grants. Kurt Seelmann, professor of criminal law and philosophy of law at the University of Basel, chairs the new commission. The SNSF began using a special software in the fight against plagiarism two years ago. An initial evaluation has shown that the software is good at detecting suspected cases of plagiarism, which is why the SNSF has decided to continue using it in the future.

Funding of precompetitive research

The goal of the precoR initiative (funding of Precompetitive Research) is to support the basic scientific research of projects that are focused on a commercial application but are not yet sufficiently mature to be of interest to partners in industry. This thematically limited pilot call for proposals worth CHF 2 million was launched by the Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences division of the SNSF in 2013.

Research infrastructures 2017–2020

In October 2013, the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) and the SNSF linked up to launch a joint call for proposals in the field of new research infrastructures. The SERI is updating the Swiss Roadmap for Research Infrastructures. This document identifies prospective research infrastructures of national importance and provides an inventory of existing research infrastructures. The requirement to produce a Swiss Research Infrastructure Roadmap periodically was recently set down in the revised Research and Innovation Promotion Act RIPA (enacted on 1 January 2014). The definitive funding decisions will be made in the framework of the 2017–2020 ERI Dispatch.





“As an SNSF Research Councillor, I can serve society and the SNSF while learning a lot about research in other disciplines. I also enjoy the interdisciplinary exchanges with my colleagues.”

Katharina Fromm became a fellow of the American Chemical Society in 2013 – she is the first European researcher to receive this honour.



Overview of funding

CHF 819 million for basic research

In 2013, the SNSF approved a total of 3,193 applications, to which it allocated CHF 819 million in total. In the SNSF's main funding category, project funding, the demand for funds remained high but stable after increasing continually between 2005 and 2011.

In 2013, the SNSF awarded a total amount of CHF 819 million or 8% more than in the previous year. While 51% flowed into project funding, the career funding schemes had 22%, programmes 20% and infrastructure funding 7% at their disposal.

In total, the SNSF supported 8,900 researchers, more than half of whom were doctoral students. These young researchers are either working in SNSF-funded projects or being supported within the scope of career funding.

A look at the distribution by science area of the CHF 819 million in new grants reveals that, as in previous years, the largest portion was awarded in biology and medicine, namely 40%. Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences received 33%, and the humanities and social sciences 27%.

Overhead contributions towards indirect research costs paid to higher education institutions in 2013 amounted to CHF 85 million in total. This corresponds to 15% of the grants eligible for overhead, as compared to 16% in the previous year.

Stable number of applications

Between 2005 and 2011, the number of applications in project funding increased continually, namely by 37% in total. Since then the numbers have stabilised, but their future development is hard to predict. Different tendencies are in evidence, depending on the science area. In April 2013, researchers in the humanities and social sciences submitted over 400 applications, the highest number ever. The SNSF made more money available for this set of disciplines already in 2013 in response to the increase in demand (see p. 31). <

SNSF funding 2013

3,403

Approved research projects

819

Approved amount
in CHF million

85

Overhead contributions
in CHF million

The SNSF from the researchers' point of view

In order to find out more about the needs of researchers, their expectations and the support they receive from their institutions, the SNSF commissioned the Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education (NIFU) to conduct an online survey in 2013. A representative sample of 8,000 researchers was approached. The response rate was high at 50%. The evaluation of the results in 2014 should, among other things, provide a basis for improvements to project funding and Sinergia.

Agora – public science communication

Grants for science in society projects

In 2013, the SNSF issued its third annual call for science communication projects targeted at public audiences. The first of the 49 projects supported to date were completed last year. They reveal a strong motivation on the part of researchers in Switzerland to engage with a larger public.

What influences the integration of Muslim immigrants into Swiss society? Do our farming practices influence climate change? How does fear function? – Research questions such as these illustrate the many societal and cultural implications science has. This has prompted the launch in 2011 of the Agora funding scheme, which supports science communication projects with the public. Until now, 49 projects have been funded to the tune of around CHF 7.5 million, with seven of them being completed in 2013.

Two-way dialogue

The 164 grant proposals received in response to the first three annual calls confirm the strong interest and motivation of researchers to engage in dialogue with the public about their work and its implications. In order to better reach their target audience, project teams often include individuals with different kinds of expertise, partnering researchers with communication specialists, science explainers, teachers or artists. Beyond the promotion of knowledge about scientific research, the scheme was created to foster dialogue. For this reason, the SNSF Commission for Communication Projects selected projects based on their ability to trigger two-way



Researchers hired a theatre in Zurich to stage a live experiment that drew an enthusiastic audience into discovering and discussing the mathematical challenges associated with interpreting scientific studies.

interactions between scientists and the public, opening up opportunities for the public to question and participate in the research process.

The experience gained in the initial projects has shown that creating room for two-way dialogue is crucial and fruitful. The places and tools chosen to engage the target groups are very diverse:

the public comes to where research is done, or scientists bring their research to classrooms, theatres, community centres or public parks; specific strategies are also developed to trigger dialogue online. Last but not least, the teams are evaluating their projects to gain a critical overview of their activities in view of the initially defined objectives. <



Promotion of young researchers

Bringing the next generation of scientists to the fore is one of the main priorities of the SNSF Action Plan 2013–2016.

Young researchers in Switzerland: improving basic conditions

Encouraging young talents to pursue a career in research is the uppermost priority of the SNSF. By consistently implementing measures designed to improve the basic conditions for up-and-coming scientists in Switzerland, the SNSF delivered on its promises in 2013.

In 2013, the SNSF funded a total of 2,500 doctoral students and 4,500 postdocs via projects and programmes. In addition, it made available CHF 180 million for career funding schemes, thereby supporting 1,100 young researchers who aim to pursue an academic career.

The SNSF is convinced that academic careers must become more attractive for young researchers if Switzerland is to maintain its leading position as a research location in the global arena. For this reason, grooming the next generation of scientists is one of the main aims of the SNSF's Action Plan 2013–2016, with a series of appropriate measures already having been agreed and/or introduced in 2013.

Doc.CH: 27 grants to young researchers

With the introduction of Doc.CH, the SNSF increased its efforts to promote doctoral students in Switzerland. The new career funding scheme enables promising young researchers in Switzerland to write a doctoral thesis on a topic of their own choice in the humanities and social sciences. The SNSF awarded the first Doc.CH grants in July 2013. Of the 96 applications received by the submission deadline in March 2013, the SNSF approved 27 in total, 14 thereof in the humanities and 13 in the social sciences.

New “return grant”

In order to create clearer conditions and more flexibility, the SNSF has reorganised its mobility fellowships for periods

spent abroad with effect from 2013. The age limits have been replaced by benchmarks in order to take better account of individuals' personal situations. Holders of Advanced Postdoc.Mobility fellowships can now divide their period abroad into individual stays. In addition, they can plan to return to a research institution in Switzerland thanks to the "return grant" introduced as of 2014. The grant runs for three to twelve months and comprises a salary and social security contributions.

Family: supporting postdocs

On 1 June 2013, the SNSF introduced the 120% support grant for postdoctoral researchers employed in SNSF-funded projects. The purpose of the grant is to help researchers find the right balance between their academic career and family commitments by allowing them to reduce their working hours. Using the freed-up work-time percentage and an additional 20% financed by the SNSF, they can hire a "support person" to work on their project. Alternatively, grantees can opt for a contribution towards childcare costs; the two options may also be combined.

Salary policy reviewed

In order to adequately support employees in projects, the SNSF decided last year to increase the salaries of doctoral students by 7% as of 1 January 2014. In addition, doctoral students can now benefit from a "protected time" of at least 60% of a full-time equivalent, during which they can concentrate on their doctoral thesis. The SNSF also decided to change the salary policy applicable to postdocs in 2014. The new features will include a simplified structure with regard to employee categories and new arrangements for postdocs whose salaries are paid by the SNSF: instead of the institution-based rates, a salary bracket of CHF 80,000 to 105,000 will apply to these researchers, with a transition period of five years.

An opportunity at the right moment

With these measures, the SNSF is looking to ensure that academic careers in Switzerland are seen as a more attractive prospect and to give young researchers an opportunity to prove themselves at key moments in their career path. The SNSF will review its career funding schemes in view of the multi-year programme 2017–2020. The Specialised Committee Careers will analyse the individual career phases (doctorate, postdoctorate, assistant professorship) by autumn 2014 and propose ways of optimising the current system to the National Research Council. <

In brief

The SNSF supports young energy researchers

Within the scope of the Dispatch on the Action Plan "Coordinated Energy Research in Switzerland", the SNSF has received an additional CHF 24 million for the period 2014–2016 to promote young researchers in scientific domains that are relevant to energy issues. The money will be awarded via three schemes: Ambizione, SNSF professorships and the newly created Assistant Professor (AP) Energy Grants. The targeted funding of young researchers is expected to contribute to the swift and flexible creation of competencies at the seven Swiss Competence Centres for Energy Research (SCCERs) that will be funded by the Commission for Technology and Innovation (CTI). The first call for Ambizione Energy and AP Energy Grants was issued in 2013.



Swiss Biobanking Platform

As part of the 2012–2016 multi-year programme and the 2013–2016 ERI Dispatch, the SNSF issued in August 2013 a call for proposals for the Swiss Biobanking Platform (SBP), which has been allocated CHF 3.2 million over four years. The goal of this platform is to coordinate and strengthen biobanking activities at national level by creating a catalogue of Swiss biobanks and providing access to data and services (technology standards, legal advice and information on ethics). It also creates a link to the European Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure (BBMRI). A consortium comprising several universities and its proposal have been selected and work to set up the SBP is now progressing.

Psychology and educational studies panel

Following an increase in the number of applications, the Humanities and Social Sciences division of the SNSF has appointed a new evaluation panel which commenced its four-year mandate in the autumn semester 2013–2014. The eight eminent researchers who have been chosen come from universities and universities of teacher education in the different linguistic regions and bring experience from a range of different fields in psychology and educational studies.

Martin Vetterli – his first year as president

“The SNSF can point the way for the higher education system”

Martin Vetterli has presided over the National Research Council of the SNSF since 2013. He made his presence felt from the beginning, through thought-provoking statements on funding young scientists as well as his move to setup the SNSF World Network. In this interview, he looks back on his first year in office.

Mr Vetterli, you succeeded Dieter Imboden as president in 2012. What was your main activity during your first year in office?

Well, to be quite frank with you: preparing PowerPoint presentations! I gave around 35 presentations before politicians, members of the science community and the public in order to explain to them what the SNSF does and where it is going. This is my job, and there's nothing wrong with that – but I hadn't expected it to be so time-consuming. However, the time invested in such activities pays dividends: it is important that we keep up the effort to convince young people in particular – for example at high schools – of our mission and its core message: Switzerland has strong research capabilities because we have a well-functioning research system in which the best basic science is funded – and that is exactly what the SNSF does!

What personal goals are at the top of your agenda?

It's not about personal goals. I see my work as a service to the research community and a contribution towards strengthening Swiss research. And here, without any doubt, my main focus is on young researchers: we need to win over young talents for research and we must create the right conditions for them to advance their careers – and this is not very easy in Switzerland right now. The SNSF is not an academic institution and cannot therefore exert any direct influence on the higher education system. However, by offering project and career funding we can point the way at the national level: which are the promising research fields? Who are the young talents?

Research is becoming increasingly international and competitive. Against this backdrop, what does Switzerland need to do to bring the next generation of talented young researchers to the fore?

The number one priority must be to maintain the high standards we have set for our education system as compared to other countries around the world. This is a prerequisite for everything else. Secondly, students at higher

education institutions should come into contact with research at a very early stage so that they can appreciate its fascination. This is already the case in many disciplines, particularly within the scope of small projects. And finally, we not only need to finance the promising young researchers emerging thanks to these measures, but also to challenge them so that they can hold their own in the international arena – at the end of the day, research is a highly competitive form of work and we cannot just introduce a quota for researchers with a Swiss passport. One way of encouraging this could be the tenure track system, well-established in the USA, where the requirements are very strict, but the rules clear.

One of your first aims as president was to set up the SNSF World Network for researchers funded by the SNSF. Why was this so important to you from the start?

I come from an environment where alumni networks are very important. In such networks, researchers with a shared academic background can get organised, exchange views and send information all around the globe. I felt it was necessary for the SNSF to offer such a network too. After all, we support our





President and researcher

Martin Vetterli divides his work into two parts: for 50% of his time, he is president of the National Research Council of the SNSF; the other 50% he devotes to research work as professor for communication systems at EPFL. As a researcher he has direct contacts with the scientific community and can constantly keep a finger on its pulse.

Thanks to the SNSF World Network, researchers remain on our radar once their funding has ended.

researchers with substantial amounts of money, and with the SNSF World Network they will remain on our radar after their funding has ended. Our network already has 2,000 mainly young members, and I am hoping that many older researchers will join too. The SNSF World Network can also be useful for recruiting academics to fill vacant chairs at higher education institutions. Networks such as ours can provide valuable hints about potential candidates who once did research in Switzerland and now work abroad. These people are difficult to trace as we do not know much about them yet.

When taking stock of gender equality in research funding, Dieter Imboden spoke of "mixed emotions". How do you feel about this issue today?

Alongside the promotion of young researchers, gender equality is probably our biggest challenge, not least because we live in an affluent country: Switzer-

land. In contrast to other countries, such as France, we seem to be able to afford being conservative with regard to gender roles. This is a luxury which puts women in general at a disadvantage in the world of work. We also lose many talents in this way! But there are no easy solutions to this problem; a policy of small but steady steps is needed and should be pursued by the SNSF too.

In addition, gender equality monitoring should be intensified with regard to the gender-related dynamic in the research system. Under my presidency, too, the SNSF will continue to act with conviction in this regard. <

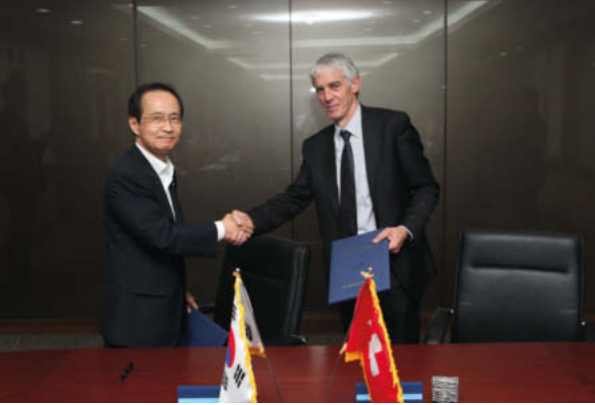
SNSF World Network: the online network for researchers



The SNSF has been offering past and present SNSF grantees a network of their own on the business platform LinkedIn since October 2013. The English-speaking "SNSF World Network" under the auspices of Martin Vetterli allows its members to get in

touch with each other and receive important news. Networks are established primarily on the basis of the personal profiles of the LinkedIn members. To encourage dialogue, either the members or the SNSF can launch a discussion. The published news are geared to the needs of the members and primarily contain information on the funding portfolio and policies of the SNSF.

> www.snf.ch/snsfworldnetwork



International cooperation

Strengthening bilateral relations

Researchers in Switzerland are working closely with partners at home and abroad. With its international strategy, reviewed in 2012, the SNSF seeks to support and simplify cross-border collaboration. In 2013, it strengthened its links with organisations that fund research in other countries.

Under the aegis of Science Europe, the SNSF is collaborating with other research organisations to make an active contribution to the development of tools aimed at facilitating cross-border cooperation. These efforts have been directly supported by two new agreements. Thanks to an agreement with the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) in the United Kingdom, SNSF projects in the humanities and social sciences may contain parts to be conducted in the UK; the SNSF will fund the UK parts up to a share of 30% of the overall project budget. In return, the ESRC and AHRC will fund Swiss parts of British projects supported by them. The second agreement relates to projects conducted with partners in France. In the future, thanks to a lead agency agreement signed with the Agence Nationale française de la Recherche (ANR), bilateral projects need to be evaluated by just one of the agencies, with the SNSF and the ANR taking turns in 2014 and 2015 respectively.

Collaboration across the globe

By strengthening its role in the Swiss Confederation's bilateral research programmes with non-European countries that show high research potential, the SNSF is participating actively in developing scientific links between Switzerland

and various partner countries. It organises calls for proposals together with other funding organisations, thereby seeking to establish bilateral links that enable the implementation of long-term structural measures, such as the Money follows Cooperation Line or Lead Agency agreements, and facilitating access to research groups in these countries.

South Africa is the first country with which the SNSF has organised a joint call for proposals for bilateral research projects for the 2013–2016 period. The political authorities have delegated the implementation of the call to their respective agencies: the National Research Foundation (NRF) in South Africa and the SNSF in Switzerland. This delegation of powers has allowed both the SNSF and the NRF to jointly evaluate applications, thus greatly simplifying the funding process. Martin Vetterli, President of the National Research Council of the SNSF, took advantage of his visit to South Africa with Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann to meet the Director of the NRF and hold discussions on future collaboration.

The National Research Foundation in South Korea and the SNSF have reached a cooperation agreement to support and co-fund scientific



On behalf of the SNSF, Martin Vetterli signed a cooperation agreement with the National Research Foundation of South Korea during a visit to Seoul by a Swiss delegation led by Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann in July 2013.

exchanges between the two countries. The agreement was signed by Martin Vetterli on the occasion of Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann's visit to Seoul in July. This prepares the ground for broader collaboration in the future. The year 2013 ended with the signing of an agreement with the Russian Ministry of Education and Science and the Russian Foundation for Humanities. The agreement paves the way for a call for Russian-Swiss joint projects in various areas of science, including the social sciences and humanities. <

Science Europe: new Roadmap

Science Europe, founded in 2011, is the umbrella association of the European funding and research organisations. With the publication of its new Roadmap, Science Europe has presented its vision for realisation of the European Research Area and defined specific areas where action is needed. These include access to research data, cross-border collaboration, gender and other diversity issues, open access to research publications, careers, research infrastructures, scientific integrity, research and evaluation policy as well as science and society. Working groups have been established for each area, with the SNSF taking an active role. The activities of Science Europe are supported by six scientific committees that represent a wide range of scientific communities and disciplines.

In brief

Developing countries

Funded jointly by the SNSF and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development (r4d.ch) aims to help resolve the major global challenges for development. Six projects in two thematic domains "Social Conflicts" and "Employment" will be funded for a period of six years, while eleven projects without pre-defined topics will be financed for three years. Two thematic calls for proposals in the domains "Food Security" and "Ecosystems" were launched in 2013, and two new calls are planned for 2014.



Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Horizon 2020

News from the European research community has been dominated by the negotiations on the new Horizon 2020 – Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, which is launched on 1 January 2014. In view of Swiss association, an analysis conducted with the support of SwissCore, the SNSF's liaison office in Brussels, revealed that the goals of the European funding schemes and the national goals of the SNSF complement each other. Particular attention has been and continues to be paid to the European Research Council (ERC) and to schemes in which the SNSF itself may participate (ERA-NETs, joint programming initiatives). The position of the ERC, whose funding principles are similar to those of the SNSF, has been confirmed by the new framework programme.

FLARE – first grants awarded

At the start of 2013, the SNSF for the first time evaluated applications submitted within the scope of the FLARE (Funding LARge international REsearch projects) funding scheme. FLARE is aimed at researchers who require funding for the construction and maintenance of equipment for large international research projects in particle physics, astrophysics and astroparticle physics. The eleven successful applications in response to the first call will benefit from total funding of CHF 5.7 million. The earliest starting date for projects was in April 2013.

Calendar of events

Key events in 2013



25 March

Federal Councillor Schneider-Ammann at international meeting in Berne

Thirty foreign scientific attachés meet their Swiss counterparts at a conference in Berne. The meeting, jointly organised by the Commission for Technology and Innovation, the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences, the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation and the SNSF, opens up the debate on the major topics that these institutions will encounter in the next four years.

Federal Councillor Johann Schneider-Ammann underlines that Switzerland's leading position must not be taken for granted and must be earned on merit through tireless efforts. To remain competitive, players in the education, research and innovation system (ERI) must continue to strengthen their international cooperation.



26/27 November

High-level speakers at the “Séance de Réflexion”

The Séance de Réflexion is devoted to the topic “Funding, Competition and Europe”. It gives the National Research Council the opportunity to reflect on its own funding activities.

The US researcher John Ioannidis (see picture) gives a thought-provoking speech titled “Funding Research: Impact, conformity and reproducibility”. Ioannidis is the author of “Conform and be funded” and “Why most published research findings are false”.

Michael Hampe's talk on whether competition benefits science also triggers a lively discussion. Finally, Helga Nowotny, the president of the European Research Council (ERC), speaks about the history and funding principles of the ERC.

23 April

[SwissCore](#) and the SNSF hold their [Annual Event](#) in Brussels. Gabriele Gendotti welcomes more than 100 participants and gives the floor to Roberto Balzaretto, Ambassador of Switzerland to the European Union. Then, Martin Vetterli holds his inaugural speech in Brussels on “ERA bottom-up”. Visits by various representatives of the Swiss research community take place prior to and following the reception.

15 May

The SNSF welcomes advanced researchers from all over Switzerland to its offices in Berne. The [Advanced Researchers’ Day](#) aims to inform applicants at postdoctoral level and beyond about SNSF funding schemes in line with their needs.

23 May

The Commission for Technology and Innovation launches a call for proposals for [Swiss Competence Centres for Energy Research](#) (SCCERs) in cooperation with the SNSF. An amount of CHF 72 million has been set aside for the 2013–2016 period.

14–21 July

The [International Biology Olympiad](#), held in Berne, welcomes the best high-school students from 62 countries, including Switzerland. The University of Bern and the Association of Swiss Scientific Olympiads organised the competition, with the SNSF as a partner.

3 September

The SNSF meets the Equal Opportunities Commission of the University of Bern to discuss [equal opportunities](#) and equality-related issues encountered in research funding. Plans are made to hold similar meetings with other institutions of higher education.

9 October

The SNSF concludes a [Lead Agency agreement](#) with the [French Agence Nationale de la Recherche](#). This agreement makes it possible for cross-border research projects to be evaluated by just one of the organisations. The SNSF will assume the role of lead agency for Franco-Swiss projects in 2014.

1 November

Lucia Malär (see p. 46/47), assistant professor of marketing at the University of Bern, receives the [Marie Heim-Vögtlin \(MHV\) Prize 2013](#) in recognition of her work on consumer perceptions of brands. The SNSF awards this distinction in honour of a notable piece of scientific work, giving a career boost to the women researchers who benefit from an MHV grant.

8 November

The University of Basel hosts the [Research Day](#), an event at which young researchers are able to obtain information and advice on the various funding schemes offered by the SNSF.

The SNSF signs an [agreement](#) with the UK’s [Arts and Humanities Research Council](#) and [Economic and Social](#)

[Research Council](#). Up to 30% of the project budget for applications in the humanities and social sciences submitted to one of these three institutions may be reserved for cross-border collaboration.

19 November

Celebrating the discovery of the Higgs boson and with the hope of better understanding its – revolutionary – implications for science and beyond, the Mission of Switzerland to the European Union and SwissCore organise a [Swiss “Boson” Lecture](#) with Christoph Rembser, Senior Physicist at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN), in Brussels.


2 December

Psychologist David Sander (see cover) is chosen to receive the [National Latsis Prize 2013](#). The specialist in emotions and their effect on cognitive function is Director of the National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) “Affective Sciences” and the Interfaculty Centre for Affective Sciences at the University of Geneva. The National Latsis Prize, worth CHF 100,000 is one of Switzerland’s most prestigious scientific honours.

10 December

The SNSF undertakes a complete overhaul of its [website](#). The redesign takes account of the changing needs of the scientific community and of the SNSF’s partners, focusing more on services, interaction and the integration of social media.





“Thanks to the SNSF, I was able to maintain my contacts in Switzerland while working in the USA for several years. This served as a basis for my successful return to Swiss research.”

Willy Benz leads the CHEOPS space mission, which will explore planets outside our solar system with a satellite as of 2017.

2013 – Research funding in figures

In 2013, the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) granted funding to the total value of CHF 818.8 million, 8.4% more than in 2012 (CHF 755.2 million). This financing was used to support over 3,400 research projects.

The statistics include all applications processed and approved during the financial year as well as contributions paid out in the area of National Centres of Competence in Research in 2013. Additional grants are not treated as separate applications but are included in the approved amounts. The gender statistics refer to the share of responsible applicants. Some of the total amounts may contain rounding differences.

The data in the statistical part of the annual report is not comparable with the figures in the annual statement.

Full version of the statistics: www.snsf.ch/statistics

Content

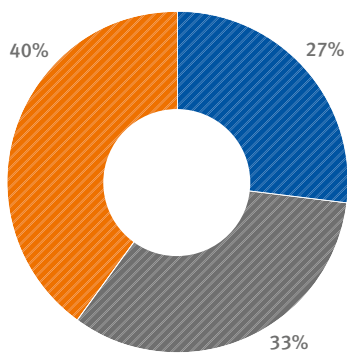
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1. Overview of funding

1.1 Funding by research area

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts



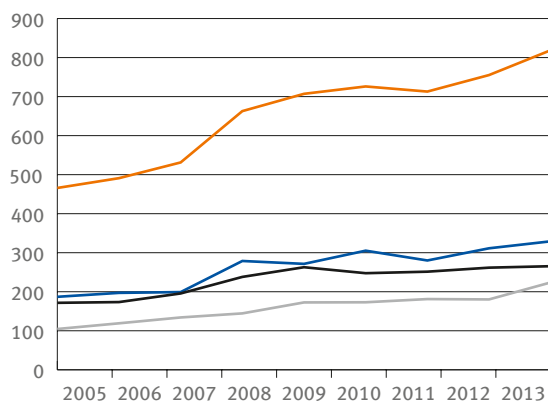
- Humanities and social sciences
- Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences
- Biology and medicine

	Amount	Women Men
Humanities and social sciences	223.8	32% 68%
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences	265.4	13% 87%
Biology and medicine	329.2	21% 79%
Unapportionable	0.4	
Total	818.8	21% 79%

The allocation to the research areas has changed slightly year-on-year. The share of the humanities and social sciences has risen by three percent.

Approved amounts since 2005

CHF million



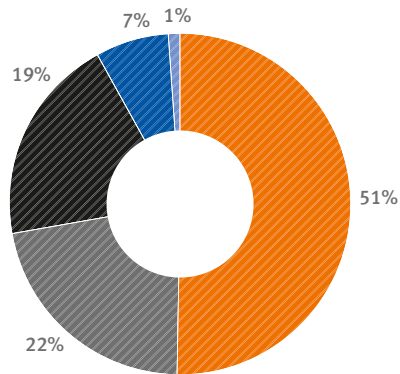
- Total
- Biology and medicine
- Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences
- Humanities and social sciences

The distribution of funds across the three research areas is based largely on demand.

1.2 Funding by scheme

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts



- Projects
- Careers
- Programmes
- Infrastructures
- Science communication

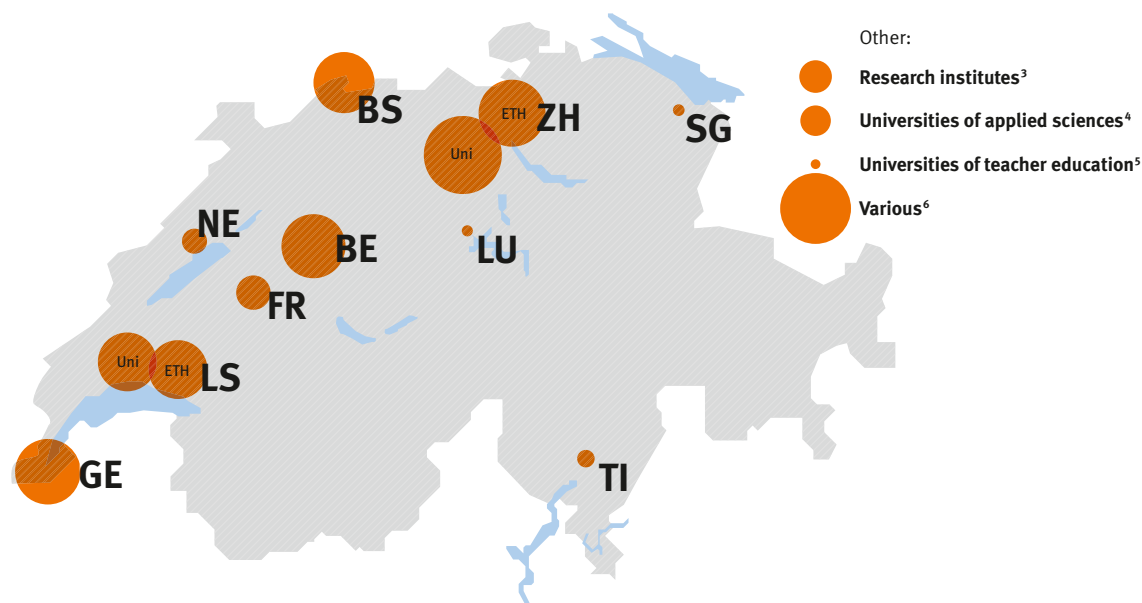
	Number	Amount
Projects	1,217	416.5
Careers	1,280	179.2
Programmes	432	160.4
Infrastructures	96	56.9
Science communication	378	5.8
Total	3,403	818.8

In 2013, the SNSF allocated more than half of its funds to its main funding scheme, project funding. The share of infrastructures has more than doubled year-on-year, from three to seven percent (for details see p. 44).

1.3 Funding by institution and research area

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts (incl. overhead)¹



Institution	Humanities and social sciences	Mathem., natural and engineering sciences	Biology and medicine	Unassignable	Total in CHF million	Total in %	Overhead ²	Total incl. overhead
Universities	144.5	107.3	244.1		496.0	61%	58.3	554.3
Berne (BE)	25.3	28.9	33.0		87.2	11%	7.7	94.8
Basel (BS)	17.5	14.6	44.4		76.6	9%	8.9	85.4
Fribourg (FR)	7.3	10.0	6.6		23.9	3%	3.2	27.1
Geneva (GE)	25.1	24.4	37.4		86.8	11%	12.1	98.9
Lucerne (LU)	2.4	–	–		2.4	0%	0.4	2.8
Lausanne (LS)	21.4	2.9	47.3		71.6	9%	8.7	80.2
Neuchâtel (NE)	7.1	4.3	1.0		12.4	2%	2.3	14.7
St. Gallen (SG)	2.4	0.0	0.0		2.4	0%	0.8	3.2
Ticino (TI)	3.4	3.1	0.0		6.5	1%	0.5	7.0
Zurich (ZH)	32.6	19.1	74.4		126.1	15%	13.9	139.9
ETH Domain	16.8	123.8	47.6		188.2	23%	21.8	210.0
EPF Lausanne	4.6	47.2	21.8		73.6	9%	7.2	80.9
ETH Zurich	11.6	59.8	21.3		92.7	11%	11.8	104.4
Research institutes ³	0.6	16.8	4.5		21.9	3%	2.8	24.7
Universities of applied sciences⁴	14.5	3.3	1.7		19.4	2%	2.0	21.5
Universities of teacher education⁵	2.0	–	–		2.0	0%	0.2	2.2
Various⁶	46.0	31.0	35.8	0.4	113.2	14%	2.7	115.8
Total	223.8	265.4	329.2	0.4	818.8	100%	85.0	903.8

¹ If no application was presented by the respective institution, this is denoted by a dash. Amounts lower than CHF 0.05 million are shown as zero.

² Entitlement to overhead in accordance with overhead regulations

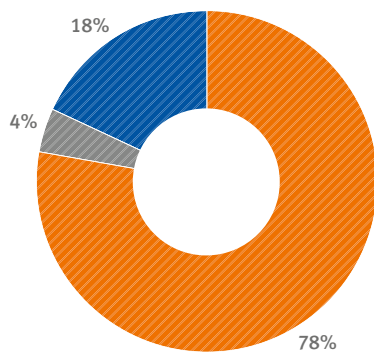
³ Research institutes in the ETH Domain (EMPA, EAWAG, PSI, WSL)

⁴ BFH, FHNW, FHO, HES-SO, HSLU, SUPSI, ZFH, Kalaidos. You will find the breakdown by institution in the web version.

⁵ Without universities of teacher education of FHNW and ZFH

⁶ Research centres, museums, libraries, individuals, companies, non-profit organisations and not assignable to an institution (e.g. Doc.Mobility, Early/Advanced Postdoc.Mobility)

1.4 Use of approved amounts



As in previous years, the approved funds were used by the researchers mainly to cover personnel costs, whether for the financing of individual salaries/fellowships in the context of career funding or for the appointment of personnel in research projects.

Total amount: CHF 818.8 million

- Salaries and fellowships (incl. social security contributions)
- Materials of enduring value
- Research funds

1.5 Personnel in research projects

In total, the SNSF supported approximately 8,900 collaborators in 2013: around 5,300 through project funding, 1,000 through career funding and 2,600 through programmes.

	Total	Women Men	
Scientists ¹	36%	44%	56%
Personnel at doctoral level	51%	43%	57%
Technicians, support staff	13%	65%	35%
Total	100%	46%	54%

¹ Senior researchers and postdocs

Funding for research projects primarily benefits the promotion of young scientists in Switzerland. Thus 76% of the collaborators are 35 years old or younger.

1.6 Success rates

Amounts in CHF million

	Success rate ¹			Number of applications submitted			Number of applications approved			Approved amount
	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	Total	Women	Men	
Projects	54%	47%	56%	2,266	488	1,778	1,217	227	990	416.5
Humanities and social sciences	47%	43%	49%	705	214	491	334	92	242	95.0
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences	63%	56%	64%	786	98	688	492	55	437	139.6
Biology and medicine	53%	46%	54%	669	143	526	352	66	286	166.2
Interdisciplinary research	37%	42%	34%	106	33	73	39	14	25	15.8
Careers²										
Doc.CH	29%	25%	35%	94	60	34	27	15	12	4.6
Doc.Mobility	56%	59%	54%	315	139	176	177	82	95	8.7
Early Postdoc.Mobility	59%	56%	61%	608	242	366	357	135	222	28.9
Advanced Postdoc.Mobility ³	49%	49%	49%	325	149	176	159	73	86	14.2
Marie Heim-Vögtlin grants (MHV)	22%	22%	–	175	175	–	39	39	–	7.8
Ambizione	20%	14%	23%	305	116	189	60	16	44	30.4
SNSF professorships	18%	14%	19%	248	71	177	44	10	34	81.0
Programmes										
Nationale Centres of Competence in Research ⁴	13%	0%	15%	63	8	55	8	0	8	123.0
National Research Programmes ⁵	27%	32%	24%	79	28	51	21	9	12	7.5
International programmes	69%	74%	67%	189	42	147	130	31	99	21.2
Sinergia	47%	53%	46%	99	17	82	47	9	38	56.6
Special programmes biology and medicine ⁶	33%	33%	33%	27	3	24	9	1	8	26.9
Infrastructures	81%	85%	81%	118	20	98	96	17	79	56.9
Science communication	84%	85%	84%	449	144	305	378	122	256	5.8

¹ Ratio of the number of applications approved to the number of applications submitted

² Success rates without follow-up applications

³ Incl. 15 grants from private foundations

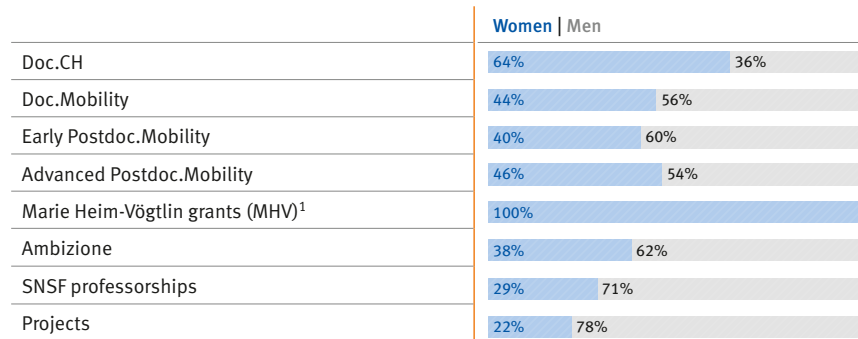
⁴ Based on pre-proposals; approved amount for four years

⁵ Based on pre-proposals for NRP 69

⁶ Longitudinal studies

The SNSF analyses the differences between the success rates of female and male applicants every year. For this purpose, it has introduced a gender equality monitoring system that examines the differences and attempts to identify the determining factors.

Submitted applications by gender



¹ The proportion of female applicants is 100% as the MHV grant is a programme for women scientists.

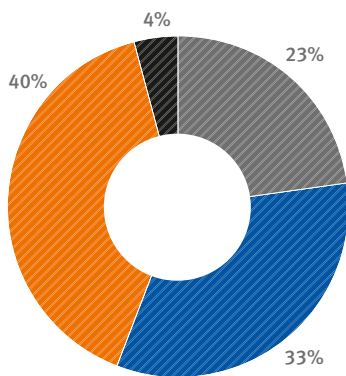
2. Projects

The SNSF supports research projects of high quality across all disciplines. The topics are selected by the researchers. Grants include contributions towards personnel costs, equipment, consumables and travel expenses.

2.1 Funding by research area

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts



- Humanities and social sciences
- Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences
- Biology and medicine
- Interdisciplinary research

	Amount
Humanities and social sciences	95.0
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences	139.6
Biology and medicine	166.2
Interdisciplinary research	15.8
Total	416.5

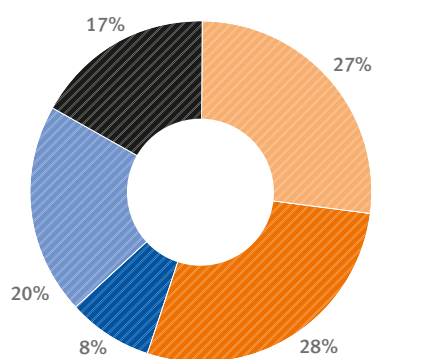
Due to rising demand, the SNSF has made more money available for the humanities and social sciences. Their share has grown by three percent to 23% in the last two years.

2.2 Funding by group of disciplines

Amounts in CHF million

Division I: Humanities and Social Sciences

Distribution of the approved amounts



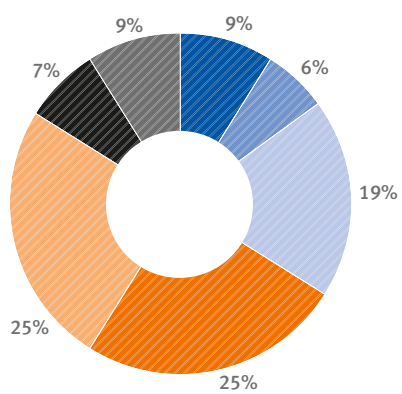
- Philosophy, psychology, educational sciences and religious sciences
- Legal and social sciences, economics
- History
- Archaeology, ethnology, art studies and social urban science
- Linguistics and literature

	Number	Amount
Philosophy, psychology, educational sciences and religious sciences	89	25.4
Legal and social sciences, economics	105	26.4
History	26	7.5
Archaeology, ethnology, art studies and social urban science	64	19.1
Linguistics and literature	50	16.6
Total	334	95.0

Compared to the previous year, the share of grants for history was significantly lower (14% > 8%). In contrast, the share of linguistics and literature was higher (10% > 17%). All in all, the changes can be regarded as normal fluctuations.

Division II: Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences

Distribution of the approved amounts

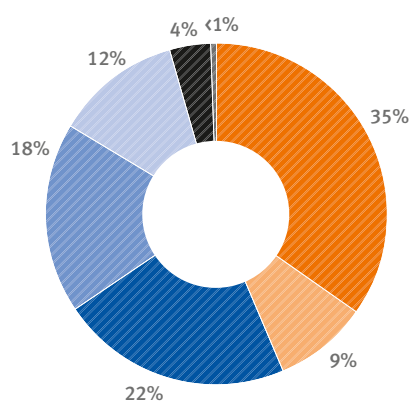


- Mathematics
- Astronomy, astrophysics, space sciences
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Engineering sciences
- Environmental sciences
- Earth sciences

	Number	Amount
Mathematics	42	12.1
Astronomy, astrophysics and space sciences	20	7.8
Chemistry	78	26.4
Physics	96	34.5
Engineering sciences	154	35.3
Environmental sciences	45	10.3
Earth sciences	57	13.1
Total	492	139.6

Division III: Biology and Medicine

Distribution of the approved amounts



- Basic biological research
- General biology
- Basic medical research
- Experimental medicine
- Clinical medicine
- Preventive medicine
- Social medicine

	Number	Amount
Basic biological research	106	57.7
General biology	37	14.9
Basic medical research	77	37.0
Experimental medicine	61	30.0
Clinical medicine	54	20.3
Preventive medicine (epidemiology/early diagnosis/prevention)	16	5.9
Social medicine	1	0.4
Total	352	166.2

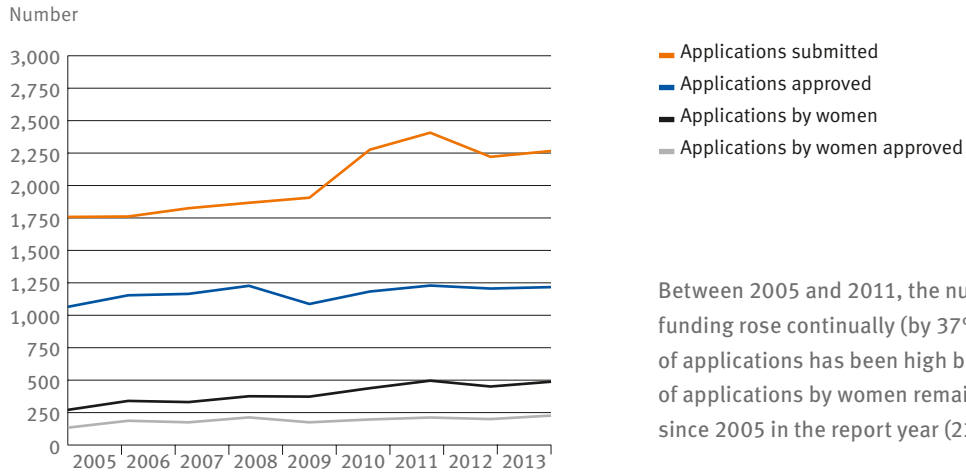
The funds of division III are mainly allocated to basic biological and medical research. Fewer applications are submitted and grants approved in more practice-oriented areas such as clinical medicine or social and preventive medicine.

2.3 Grants, reductions and rejections

Amounts in CHF million

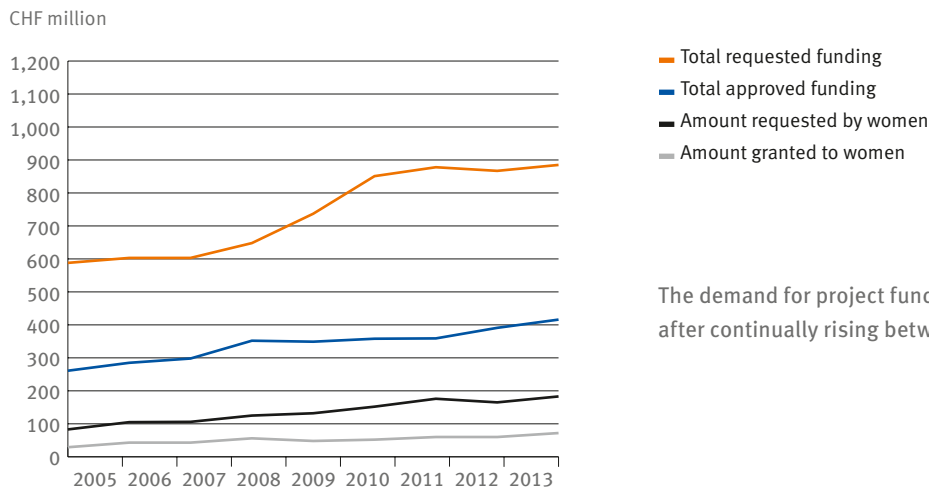
	Number	Amount	Grants Reductions Rejections, withdrawals
Humanities and social sciences			
Applications submitted	705		47% 53%
Requested amount		233.0	41% 6% 53%
Grants	334	95.0	
Reductions in approved applications	(224)	14.2	
Rejections, withdrawals	371	123.8	
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences			
Applications submitted	786		63% 37%
Requested amount		278.6	50% 18% 32%
Grants	492	139.6	
Reductions in approved applications	(397)	50.8	
Rejections, withdrawals	294	88.2	
Biology and medicine			
Applications submitted	669		53% 47%
Requested amount		325.8	51% 10% 39%
Grants	352	166.2	
Reductions in approved applications	(214)	32.8	
Rejections, withdrawals	317	126.8	
Interdisciplinary research			
Applications submitted	106		37% 63%
Requested amount		47.7	33% 6% 61%
Grants	39	15.8	
Reductions in approved applications	(24)	2.9	
Rejections, withdrawals	67	29.0	
Total			
Applications submitted	2,266		54% 46%
Requested amount		885.0	47% 11% 42%
Grants	1,217	416.5	
Reductions in approved applications	(859)	100.7	
Rejections, withdrawals	1,049	367.8	

2.4 Number of applications and grants since 2005



Between 2005 and 2011, the number of applications in project funding rose continually (by 37% in total). Since then, the number of applications has been high but stable. Although the share of applications by women remains low, it reached its highest mark since 2005 in the report year (22%).

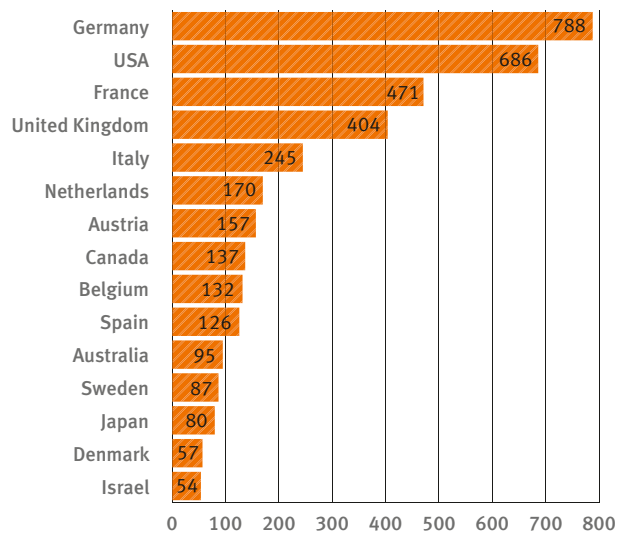
2.5 Requested and approved amounts since 2005



The demand for project funding has stabilised, albeit at a high level, after continually rising between 2005 and 2011.

2.6 International networking

Number of international collaborations



In total, 4,324 instances of international collaboration have taken place in the context of projects supported by the SNSF. The table shows the 15 countries collaborated with most frequently.

3. Careers

The SNSF has a wide range of funding options in place to promote the careers of young researchers.

3.1 Funding by scheme

Amounts in CHF million

	Number of applications submitted					Number of applications approved					Approved amount
	Total	New applications		Follow-up applications		Total	New applications		Follow-up applications		
		Women	Men	Women	Men		Women	Men	Women	Men	
Career funding schemes											
Doc.CH	94	60	34	–	–	27	15	12	–	–	4.6
MD-PhD fellowships	7	4	3	–	–	7	4	3	–	–	1.2
Doc.Mobility	315	139	176	13	7	177	82	95	10	5	8.7
Early Postdoc.Mobility	608	242	366	–	–	357	135	222	–	–	28.9
Advanced Postdoc.Mobility	325	149	176	6	26	159	73	86	4	13	14.2
Marie Heim-Vögtlin grants (MHV)	175	175	–	9	–	39	39	–	7	–	7.8
Ambizione	305	116	189	8	9	60	16	44	7	7	30.4
SNSF professorships	248	71	177	14	21	44	10	34	14	20	81.0
Measures for promoting careers											
Graduate courses	4	2	2	–	–	4	2	2	–	–	0.1
Summer courses	186	117	69	–	–	186	117	69	–	–	0.4
International short visits	145	45	100	–	–	130	38	92	–	–	1.0
Research semesters ¹	3	1	2	–	–	3	1	2	–	–	0.3
Mobility grants for doctoral students ²	(33)	(18)	(15)	–	–	(32)	(17)	(15)	–	–	0.4
120% support grants ²	(19)	(10)	(9)	–	–	(13)	(7)	(6)	–	–	0.2
Total	2,415	1,121	1,294	50	63	1,193	532	661	42	45	179.2

¹ Research semesters for departing members of the National Research Council

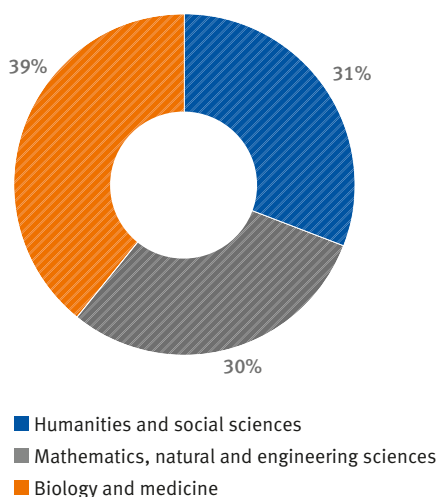
² Mobility grants and “120% support grants” are supplementary grants in projects and are therefore not treated as separate applications. Hence they are not accounted for in the total number of applications, but are considered in the amount.

All in all, the demand for career funding continued to rise strongly in 2013. The mobility fellowships were reorganised and the first Doc.CH grants were awarded (see p. 14/15). Postdoctoral researchers were able to apply for the new “120% support grants” as of summer 2013.

3.2 Funding by research area

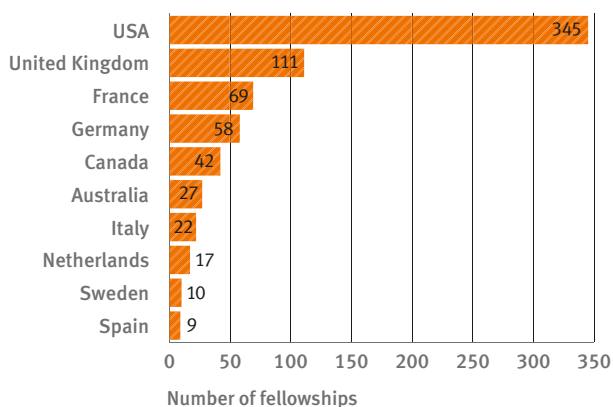
Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts



	Amount
Humanities and social sciences	55.8
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences	53.7
Biology and medicine	69.7
Total	179.2

3.3 Fellowships by host country



With 727 fellowships for young researchers, the SNSF supported a total of 809 research stays abroad. The graph shows the ten most frequent host countries.

4. Programmes

Programmes are funding schemes with pre-defined thematic, conceptual and organisational parameters. They are either suggested by researchers or their home institutions, or established by political actors.

4.1 Funding by scheme

Amounts in CHF million

	Number	Amount
National Research Programmes (NRPs)	52	14.6
National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCRs)¹	194	40.2
International programmes	130	21.2
Multilateral collaboration	7	0.5
Swiss South African Joint Research Programme	25	5.5
Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development (r4d.ch)	17	14.7
SCOPES	81	0.4
Sinergia	47	56.6
Special Programmes University Medicine	9	26.9
Longitudinal studies	9	26.9
Doctoral programmes (ProDoc)²	–	0.8
Total	432	160.4

¹ Sub-projects

² Additional personnel costs and supplementary grants

4.2 National Research Programmes

Amounts in CHF million

The National Research Programmes (NRPs) study problems of societal, political and economic importance for Switzerland. The topics are prescribed by the Federal Council.

Current NRPs	Approved amount 2013 ¹	Overall budget	Overall amount approved up to 2013 ²	Duration
NRP 60 Gender Equality	0.2	8.0	6.9	2010–2013
NRP 61 Sustainable Water Management	0.2	12.0	10.7	2010–2013
NRP 62 Smart Materials	0.1	11.0	9.6	2010–2014
NRP 63 Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine	3.4	10.0	9.0	2010–2014
NRP 64 Opportunities and Risks of Nanomaterials	1.5	12.0	10.8	2010–2015
NRP 65 New Urban Quality	0.5	5.0	3.9	2010–2013
NRP 66 Resource Wood	0.2	18.0	12.9	2012–2017
NRP 67 End of Life	0.1	15.0	10.5	2012–2018
NRP 68 Sustainable Use of Soil as a Resource	0.2	13.0	8.4	2013–2017
NRP 69 Healthy Nutrition and Sustainable Food Production	7.5	13.0	7.5	2013–2017
NRP 70 Transforming Energy	–	37.0	–	2013–2018
NRP 71 Options for Controlling Final Energy Consumption	–	8.0	–	2013–2018
Joint Programming Initiative on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change (FACCE-JPI)	0.6	4.0	0.6	2013–2017
Total	14.4	166.0	91.0	

¹ Excluding grants for formally terminated programmes (CHF 0.1 million)

² These amounts do not take account of repayments, third-party funds, etc.

In 2013, the SNSF issued calls for two new NRPs devoted to the topics “Energy Turnaround” and “Managing Energy Consumption” respectively.

4.3 National Centres of Competence in Research

Amounts in CHF million

With the National Centres of Competence in Research the SNSF promotes long-term research networks in areas of strategic significance for the future of Swiss science, economy and society.

Series 2005	SNSF contribution 2013 ¹	SNSF contribution for 12 years	Total budget for 12 years	Start	Home institution
NCCR Affective Sciences: Emotions in Individual Behaviour and Social Processes	1.9	28.1	84.9	2005	University of Geneva
NCCR Democracy: Challenges to Democracy in the 21 st Century	1.3	20.1	43.4	2005	University of Zurich
NCCR Iconic Criticism: Power and Importance of Pictures (Eikones)	1.6	19.9	52.1	2005	University of Basel
NCCR Mediality: Historical Perspectives	1.1	15.9	33.2	2005	University of Zurich
NCCR Trade Regulation: International Trade Regulation – From Fragmentation to Coherence	2.3	26.3	36.3	2005	University of Berne
Total	8.2	110.3	249.9		

Series 2010	SNSF contribution 2013 ¹	SNSF contribution for 4 years	Total budget for 4 years	Start	Home institution
NCCR Chemical Biology: Visualisation and Control of Biological Processes Using Chemistry	3.2	13.5	27.4	2010	University of Geneva ETH Zurich
NCCR Kidney.CH: Kidney Control of Homeostasis	4.5	16.5	27.2	2010	University of Zurich
NCCR LIVES: Overcoming vulnerability: life course perspectives	4.0	14.6	31.9	2011	University of Lausanne University of Geneva
NCCR MUST: Molecular Ultrafast Sciences and Technology	3.9	17.8	39.9	2010	ETH Zurich University of Berne
NCCR QSIT: Quantum Science and Technology	4.5	17.3	55.5	2011	ETH Zurich University of Basel
NCCR Robotics: Intelligent Robots for Improving the Quality of Life	3.5	13.3	29.9	2010	EPF Lausanne
NCCR SYNAPSY: The synaptic bases of mental diseases	4.7	17.5	41.1	2010	EPF Lausanne University of Lausanne University of Geneva
NCCR TransCure: From transport physiology to identification of therapeutic targets	3.7	14.1	28.3	2010	University of Berne
Total	32.0	124.6	281.2		

Series 2014	SNSF contribution for 4 years	Total budget for 4 years	Start	Home institution
NCCR Bio-Inspired Materials	12.0	26.9	2014	University of Fribourg
NCCR Digital Fabrication: Advanced Building Processes in Architecture	13.4	28.8	2014	ETH Zurich
NCCR MARVEL: Computational Materials – Design and Discovery	18.0	31.8	2014	EPF Lausanne
NCCR MoSE: Molecular Systems Engineering	16.9	37.1	2014	University of Basel ETH Zurich
NCCR On the Move: The Migration-Mobility Nexus	17.2	24.9	2014	University of Neuchâtel
NCCR PlanetS: Origin, Evolution, and Characterisation of Planets	17.6	37.9	2014	University of Berne University of Geneva
NCCR RNA & Disease: The Role of RNA Biology in Disease Mechanisms	16.6	38.5	2014	University of Berne ETH Zurich
NCCR SwissMAP: The Mathematics of Physics	11.2	27.5	2014	University of Geneva ETH Zurich
Total	122.9	253.4		
	SNSF contribution 2013	SNSF contribution for 4/12 years	Total budget for 4/12 years	
All NCCRs	40.2	357.8	784.5	

¹ Also contains contributions for management, knowledge and technology transfer, promotion of young scientists, etc.

The eight new NCCRs will start their research work in the first half of 2014.

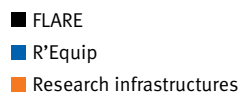
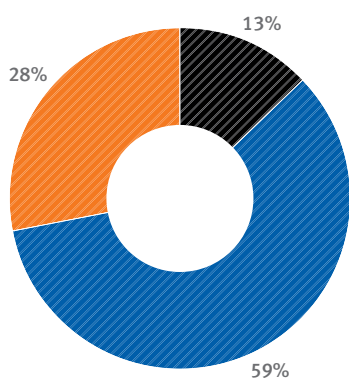
5. Infrastructures

In individual cases, the SNSF provides direct funding for research infrastructures that are indispensable for research projects. This is complemented by specific funding programmes.

5.1 Funding by scheme

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts

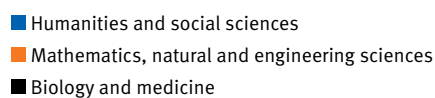
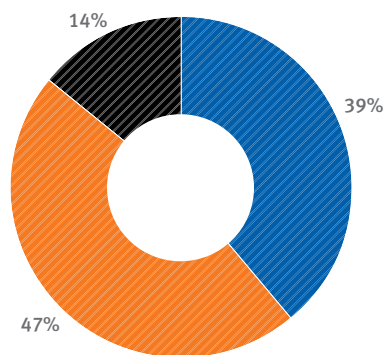


	Number	Amount
FLARE	11	7.3
R'Equip	60	33.4
Research infrastructures	25	16.3
Total	96	56.9

5.2 Funding by research area

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts



	Amount
Humanities and social sciences	22.4
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences	26.8
Biology and medicine	7.7
Total	56.9

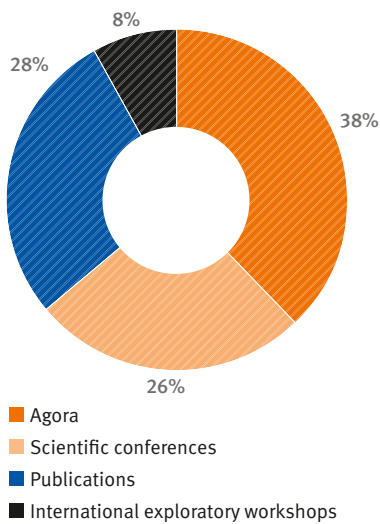
6. Science communication

The SNSF promotes communication between researchers as well as between science and society.

6.1 Funding by scheme

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts

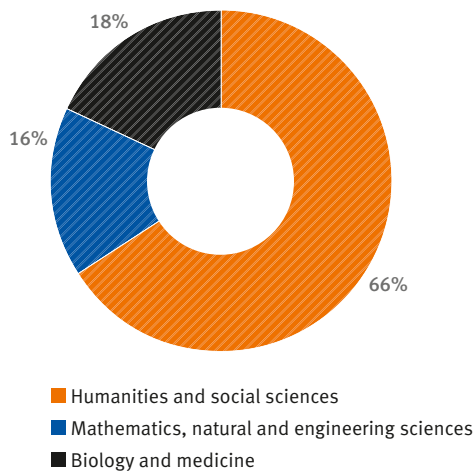


	Number	Amount
Agora	14	2.2
Scientific conferences	194	1.5
Publications	134	1.6
International exploratory workshops	36	0.4
Total	378	5.8

6.2 Funding by research area

Amounts in CHF million

Distribution of the approved amounts



	Amount
Humanities and social sciences	3.8
Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences	0.9
Biology and medicine	1.1
Total	5.8



“Thanks to the support from the SNSF, I was able to combine research work with family life.”

Marketing researcher Lucia Malär, job-sharing assistant professor, received the Marie Heim-Vögtlin Prize 2013 in recognition of her research work and her career development.



Bodies of the Swiss National Science Foundation

The bodies of the SNSF work at different levels towards a common goal: scientific evaluation and financing of researchers and the projects submitted by them.



Foundation Council and Executive Committee

Compliance Committee
Internal Audit

New as of 2014

The Compliance Committee supports the bodies of the SNSF in controlling the quality of funding decisions.

National Research Council

Divisions

- I Humanities and Social Sciences
- II Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences
- III Biology and Medicine
- IV Programmes:
National Research Programmes (NRPs)
National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCRs)

Specialised Committees Interdisciplinary Research
Careers
International Cooperation

Commissions Gender Equality in Research Funding
Research Integrity

New as of 2013

The Commission on Research Integrity examines suspected cases of scientific misconduct in connection with SNSF applications and grants.

Research Commissions at Swiss institutions of higher education

Administrative Offices

Executive Management
Staff Services
Research Funding divisions
Central Services

Foundation Council and Executive Committee

As the highest body of the SNSF, the Foundation Council (FC) is responsible for making decisions on a strategic level. It ensures that the Foundation stays on mission, defines the position of the SNSF on research policy issues and passes planning documents.

The responsibilities of the Executive Committee of the FC include the election of members of the Research Council as well as the adoption of the financial budget, the central regulations and the service level agreement with the federal government.

37 | 15
Members FC | Executive Committee

22% | 15%
Proportion of women on FC | Executive Committee

1–2 | 4
Meetings per annum FC | Executive Committee

Representatives of scientific organisations

Cantonal Universities

Basel	Prof. Edwin Ch. Constable, Deputy Prof. Ralph Hertwig (until 30.4.2013), Prof. Erich Nigg (from 1.5.2013)
Berne	Prof. Christian Leumann, Deputy Prof. Walter Perrig
Fribourg	Prof. Fritz Müller, Deputy Prof. Jean-Pierre Montani
Geneva	Prof. Howard Riezman, Deputy Prof. Ueli Schibler
Lausanne	Prof. Jacques Besson, Deputy Prof. Alexandrine Schniewind
Lucerne	Prof. Martin Baumann, Deputy Prof. Martina Merz
Neuchâtel	Prof. Kilian Stoffel, Deputy Prof. Alain Valette
St. Gallen	Prof. Torsten Tomczak, Deputy Prof. Bernhard Ehrenzeller
Ticino	Prof. Bertil Cottier, Deputy Prof. Massimo Filippini
Zurich	Prof. Thomas Hengartner, Deputy Prof. Roger M. Nitsch

Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology

Lausanne	Prof. Andreas Mortensen, Deputy Prof. Stephan Morgenthaler
Zurich	Prof. Lucas Bretschger, Deputy Prof. Nicholas Spencer

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS)

Prof. Martine Rahier, Deputy Dr. Raymond Werlen

Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences (KFH)

Prof. Crispino Bergamaschi (until 5.5.2013), Dr. Jakob Limacher (from 18.6.2013), Deputy Prof. Luca Crivelli | Prof. Markus Hodel, Deputy Prof. Lukas Rohr | Prof. Thomas D. Meier, Deputy Prof. Michel Fontaine | Prof. Monika Wohler, Deputy Prof. Ursula Blosser

Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education (COHEP)

Prof. Pascale Marro, Deputy Prof. Luca Botturi

ETH Board

Dr. Fritz Schiesser, Deputy Dr. Kurt Baltensperger

Swiss Lawyers Association

Prof. Regula Kägi-Diener, Deputy Prof. Christian Schwarzenegger

Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics (SSES)

Prof. Klaus Neusser, Deputy Prof. Volker Grossmann

Actionuni (pursuant to Article 10 paragraph 3 of the Statutes)

Dr. Odilo W. Huber, Deputy Dr. Matthias Hirt

Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences

SAHS	Prof. Anne-Claude Berthoud, Deputy Dr. Markus Zürcher
SAMS	Prof. Peter Meier-Abt, Deputy Prof. Prof. Verena Briner
SCNAT	Prof. Thierry Courvoisier, Deputy Prof. Nouria Hernandez
SATW	Prof. Ulrich W. Suter, Deputy Prof. Andreas Zuberbühler (until 21.3.2013), Dr. Monica Duca Widmer (from 22.3.2013)

Government appointed members

Judith Bucher (VPOD), Deputy Véronique Polito (SGB) | Isabelle Chassot (member of cantonal government [Fribourg]), no deputy | Gabriele Gendotti (former member of cantonal government [Ticino]), no deputy | Dr. Barbara Haering (former National Councillor), no deputy | Dr. René Imhof (F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd.), no deputy | Dr. Wolfgang A. Renner (Synthena Ltd.), no deputy | Prof. Luzius Mader (FOJ), Deputy Dr. Werner Bussmann (FOJ) | Dr. Andreas Langenbacher (Pro Helvetia), Deputy Marianne Burki (Pro Helvetia) | Jürg Burri (SERI), Deputy Dr. Gregor Haefliger (SERI) | Dipl. phys. Ulrich Jakob Looser (economiesuisse), Deputy Dr. Rudolf Minsch (economiesuisse) | Dipl. Ing. Walter Steinlin (CTI), Deputy Dr. Klara Sekanina (CTI)

Executive Committee

Gabriele Gendotti (former member of cantonal government, President), Prof. Anne-Claude Berthoud (Vice President), Prof. Crispino Bergamaschi (until 5.5.2013), Prof. Jacques Besson, Prof. Lucas Bretschger, Jürg Burri, Prof. Bertil Cottier, Prof. Thomas Hengartner, Prof. Christian Leumann, Dipl. phys. Ulrich Jakob Looser, Prof. Fritz Müller, Prof. Martine Rahier, Dr. Wolfgang A. Renner, Prof. Howard Riezman, Dipl. Ing. Walter Steinlin

Internal Audit

ERM Solutions Ltd., Wil/St. Gallen

Status as at 31.12.2013

National Research Council

97

Members

22%

Proportion of women

10–12

Meetings per annum

The National Research Council (NRC) is composed of eminent researchers. It reviews thousands of applications submitted to the SNSF each year and decides whether and to what extent they merit funding.

The National Research Council consists of four divisions: Humanities and Social Sciences; Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences; Biology and Medicine as well as Programmes. There are also three specialised committees: “International Cooperation”, “Careers” and “Interdisciplinary Research”.

Presiding Board

President NRC	Prof. Martin Vetterli
President Div. I	Prof. Walter Leimgruber (Deputy to the President of the NRC until 31.3.2013) Prof. Paul Schubert (from 1.4.2013)
President Div. II	Prof. Jürg Osterwalder
President Div. III	Prof. Denis Duboule
President Div. IV	Prof. Peter Chen
President Specialised Committee Careers	Prof. Katia Saporiti (Deputy to the President of the NRC from 18.6.2013)
President Specialised Committee International Cooperation	Prof. Andreas Strasser (until 30.9.2013) Prof. Urs Baltensperger (from 1.10.2013)
President Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research	Prof. Laurent Tissot

Division I: Humanities and Social Sciences

Prof. Walter Leimgruber (President until 31.3.2013), Prof. Paul Schubert (President from 1.4.2013), Prof. Lorenza Mondada (Vice President until 30.9.2013), Prof. Friedrich Wilkening (Vice President from 1.10.2013), Prof. Claudio Bolzman, Prof. Monica Budowski, Prof. Corina Caduff, Prof. Franz Caspar (from 1.4.2013), Prof. Rita Franceschini (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Andreas Furrer, Prof. Dario Gamboni, Prof. Annelies Häcki Buhofer, Prof. Alessandro Lomi, Prof. Katharina Maag Merki (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Jon Mathieu, Prof. Ioannis Papadopoulos, Prof. Anne Peters (until 31.8.2013), Prof. Kurt Reusser (until 30.9.2013), Prof. Katia Saporiti, Prof. Sabine Schneider, Prof. Silvia Schroer, Prof. Peter Schulz, Prof. Ola Söderström (from 1.4.2013), Prof. Laurent Tissot, Prof. Georg von Krogh, Prof. Eric Widmer

Division II: Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences

Prof. Jürg Osterwalder (President), Prof. Harald Brune (Vice President), Prof. Urs Baltensperger, Prof. David Andrew Barry (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Lukas Baumgartner, Prof. Eva Bayer-Flückiger, Prof. Christian Bernhard, Prof. Michal Borkovec, Dr. Urs Dürig, Prof. Jean-Pierre Eckmann, Prof. Antonio Ereditato, Prof. Kai Johnsson, Prof. Arjen K. Lenstra, Prof. Samuel Leutwyler, Prof. Simon Lilly, Prof. Marcel Mayor, Prof. Bradley Nelson, Prof. Oscar Nierstrasz, Prof. Marc Parlange (until 30.9.2013), Prof. Fritz Schlunegger, Prof. Michael W.I. Schmidt, Prof. Mohammad Amin Shokrollahi (until 31.3.2013), Prof. Andreas Strasser (until 30.9.2013), Prof. Lothar Thiele (from 1.4.2013), Prof. Antonio Togni, Prof. Sara van de Geer, Dr. Marco Wieland

Division III: Biology and Medicine

Prof. Denis Duboule (President), Prof. Urs Frey (Vice President), Prof. Hugues Abriel, Prof. Markus Affolter (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Konrad Basler (until 30.9.2013), Prof. Beatrice Beck Schimmer, Prof. Chris Boesch (from 1.4.2013), Prof. Sebastian Bonhoeffer, Prof. Thierry Calandra, Prof. Michael Detmar (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Marc Yves Donath, Prof. Matthias Egger, Prof. Markus Fischer, Prof. Stephan Grzesiek, Prof. Huldrych Fritz Günthard, Prof. Michael N. Hall, Prof. Markus Hermann Heim, Prof. Christoph Hock, Prof. Petra Hüppi, Prof. Laurent Keller, Prof. Christian Lüscher, Prof. Andreas Lüthi, Prof. Jean-Pierre Métraux, Prof. Anita Rauch, Prof. Walter Reith, Prof. Markus Rudin (until 31.3.2013), Prof. Dominique Soldati-Favre, Prof. Markus Stoffel, Prof. George Thalmann, Prof. Bernard Thorens (from 1.4.2013), Prof. Didier Trono, Prof. François Verrey (until 31.3.2013), Prof. Sabine Werner (until 30.9.2013), Prof. Hanns Ulrich Zeilhofer

Division IV: Programmes

Prof. Peter Chen (President), Prof. Frédéric Varone (Vice President), Prof. Kay W. Axhausen, Prof. Nina Buchmann, Prof. Susanna Burghartz, Prof. Fabrizio Butera, Prof. Christoph Dehio, Prof. Friedrich Eisenbrand, Prof. Dominique Foray, Prof. Katharina M. Fromm, Prof. Alexander Grob, Prof. Stefanie Hellweg, Prof. Michael O. Hottiger, Prof. Claire Huguenin, Prof. Isabelle Mansuy, Prof. Katharina Michaelowa, Prof. Philipp Rudolf von Rohr, Prof. Frank Scheffold, Prof. Jürg Ulrich Steiger, Prof. Dirk van der Marel

Specialised Committee Careers

Prof. Katia Saporiti (President), Prof. Michal Borkovec (Vice President), Prof. Lukas Baumgartner, Prof. Eva Bayer-Flückiger (from 1.7.2013), Prof. Beatrice Beck Schimmer, Prof. Nina Buchmann, Prof. Susanna Burghartz, Prof. Markus Fischer (from 1.4.2013), Prof. Petra Hüppi (ab 1.4.2013), Prof. Peter J. Schulz, Prof. Sara van de Geer (until 30.6.2013), Prof. François Verrey (until 31.3.2013)

Specialised Committee International Cooperation

Prof. Andreas Strasser (President until 30.9.2013), Prof. Urs Baltensperger (President from 1.10.2013), Dr. Marco Wieland (Vice President), Prof. Kay W. Axhausen, Prof. Monica Budowski, Prof. Denis Duboule, Prof. Jon Mathieu, Prof. Dominique Soldati-Favre, Prof. Jürg Ulrich Steiger

Specialised Committee Interdisciplinary Research

Prof. Laurent Tissot (President), Prof. Alessandro Lomi (Vice President), Prof. David Andrew Barry (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Antonio Ereditato, Prof. Christian Lüscher (until 30.6.2013), Prof. Andreas Lüthi (from 1.10.2013), Prof. Marc Parlange (until 30.9.2013), Prof. Walter Reith (from 23.1.2013), Prof. Philipp Rudolf von Rohr, Prof. George Thalmann, Prof. Dirk van der Marel

Commission on Gender Equality in Research Funding

Prof. Martin Vetterli (President), Prof. Matthias Egger, Susanne Grossniklaus, Prof. Claire Huguenin, Prof. Kai Johnsson, Prof. Katia Saporiti, Dr. Stephanie Schönholzer, Dr. Cornelia Sommer, Dr. Myriam Tapernoux, Maya Widmer, Dr. Marc Zbinden

Commission on Research Integrity (from 1.10.2013)

Prof. Dr. iur. Dr. h.c. Kurt Seelmann (President), Prof. Beatrice Beck Schimmer, Dr. Christian Brunner, Prof. Katharina M. Fromm, Prof. Andreas Furrer, Marie Guyaz del Aguila, Prof. Michael Hall, Dr. Marjory Hunt, Prof. Arjen K. Lenstra, Dr. Noémie Maillard Schaffter, Dr. Juliette Pont, Prof. Ian Sanders, Elisabeth Schenker, Prof. Dominique Soldati-Favre, Beatrice Tobler-Miescher, Dr. Marc Zbinden

Status as at 31.12.2013

Further information > www.snsf.ch/nrc

Research Commissions

The university-based Research Commissions of the SNSF act as a link between the university and the SNSF. In their function as an SNSF body, they are primarily responsible for awarding mobility fellowships to doctoral students (Doc.Mobility) and postdocs starting their careers (Early Post-doc.Mobility) as well as for selecting (in the first phase) candidates for Doc.CH grants in the humanities and social sciences. On behalf of the university, they also compile institutional statements on research projects submitted to the SNSF.

12
Research Commissions

182
Members

21%
Proportion of women

43
Meetings per annum

Presidents of the Research Commissions at Swiss institutions of higher education

Basel	Prof. Primo Schär
Berne	Prof. Chris Bösch (until 31.5.2013), Prof. René Bloch (from 1.6.2013)
Fribourg	Prof. Martin Wallmeier
Geneva	Prof. Rita Trigo Trindade
Lausanne	Prof. Othmar Müntener
Lucerne	Prof. Martin Baumann
Neuchâtel	Prof. Pascal Felber
St. Gallen	Prof. Oliver Gassmann
Ticino	Prof. Rico Maggi
Zurich	Prof. Daniel Wyler
EPF Lausanne	Prof. Benoît Deveaud-Plédran
ETH Zurich	Prof. Nicholas Spencer

Status as at 31.12.2013

Administrative Offices

The Administrative Offices of the SNSF support and co-ordinate the activities of the Foundation Council, National Research Council and Research Commissions. They make decisions, pass resolutions and monitor the financial aspects of research activity.

Among the key tasks performed each year are the commissioning and evaluation of several thousand expert opinions from national and international experts concerning research proposals. Furthermore the Administrative Offices maintain contacts with bodies responsible for research policy in Switzerland and abroad, represent the SNSF on relevant committees and ensure that the concerns of the Foundation are effectively communicated to the general public.

237

Employees

193

Full-time equivalents

66%

Proportion of women

312,800

Working hours 2013

Executive Management

Director	Dr. Daniel Höchli
Deputy Director	Dr. Angelika Kalt
Vice Director	Rosemarie Pécaut

Staff Services

Executive Staff/Legal Department	Inge Blatter
Communication	Philippe Trinchan (until 30.11.2013), Jürg Dinner (from 15.11.2013)
Equal Opportunities in Research Funding	Maya Widmer

Research Funding divisions

Division I, Humanities and Social Sciences	Privatdozentin Dr. Ursula Kundert (until 31.3.2013), Dr. Ingrid Kissling-Näf (from 1.3.2013)
Division II, Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences	Dr. Paul Burkhard
Division III, Biology and Medicine	Dr. Aysım Yılmaz
Division IV, Programmes	Dr. Dimitri Sudan
Division Careers	Dr. Marcel Kullin
Division Interdivisional Coordination and Co-operative Research (CoRe)	Dr. Angelika Kalt
Division International Cooperation/SwissCore	Dr. Jean-Luc Barras

Central Services and Support

Director	Rosemarie Pécaut
Human Resources	Andreas Michel, Rolf Zürcher
Strategic Planning and Controlling	Dr. Katrin Milzow
Finance	Markus König
IT Infrastructure Services	René Liechti
IT Business Services	Mario Andenmatten

Status as at 31.12.2013

National Centres of Competence in Research

With the National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCRs) the SNSF promotes long-term research projects in areas of vital strategic importance for the development of science in Switzerland, for the economy of the country and for Swiss society. The aim of the 13 ongoing NCCRs is to improve structures within the Swiss research community. The NCCRs are financed mainly through federal funds approved by parliament. These federal funds are complemented by funds from the universities themselves and by third-party funds.

Directors of the NCCRs

NCCR Affective Sciences	Prof. David Sander
NCCR Chemical Biology	Prof. Howard Riezman
NCCR Democracy	Prof. Daniel Kübler
NCCR Iconic Criticism	Prof. Ralph Ubl
NCCR Kidney.CH	Prof. François Verrey
NCCR LIVES	Prof. Dario Spini
NCCR Mediality	Prof. Christian Kiening
NCCR MUST	Prof. Ursula Keller
NCCR QSIT	Prof. Klaus Ensslin
NCCR Robotics	Prof. Dario Floreano
NCCR SYNAPSY	Prof. Pierre Magistretti
NCCR Trade Regulation	Prof. Manfred Elsig
NCCR TransCure	Prof. Matthias A. Hediger

Status as at 31.12.2013


National Research Programmes

The National Research Programmes (NRPs) study societal, political and economic topics of national significance on behalf of the Federal Council. This generally requires an interdisciplinary research approach and practical know-how on the part of researchers. At present 12 NRPs are running. NRPs last from four to five years and are funded with CHF 5 to 20 million.

Presidents of the Steering Committees of the NRPs

NRP 60	Gender Equality	Prof. Brigitte Liebig
NRP 61	Sustainable Water Management	Prof. em. Christian Leibundgut
NRP 62	Smart Materials	Prof. Louis Schlapbach
NRP 63	Stem Cells and Regenerative Medicine	Prof. Bernard Thorens
NRP 64	Opportunities and Risks of Nanomaterials	Prof. Peter Gehr
NRP 65	New Urban Quality	Prof. Jürg Sulzer
NRP 66	Resource Wood	Dr. Martin Riediker
NRP 67	End of Life	Prof. Markus Zimmermann-Acklin
NRP 68	Sustainable Use of Soil as a Resource	Prof. Joseph Zeyer (until 30.10.2013), post vacant
NRP 69	Healthy Nutrition and Sustainable Food Production	Prof. Fred Paccaud
NRP 70	Transforming Energy	Prof. Hans-Rudolf Schalcher
NRP 71	Managing Energy Consumption	Prof. Andreas Balthasar

Status as at 31.12.2013

A blurred background image showing a person sitting at a desk. The person is wearing a light-colored, textured jacket. On the desk, there are several papers and a pen. On the wall behind the person, there is a framed picture or drawing. The overall scene is out of focus, emphasizing the text in the foreground.

**“The National Centres of Competence
in Research offer incentives to higher
education institutions to focus on their
strengths and set priorities.”**

Martin Täuber, rector of the University of Bern



Financial figures in brief

Annual statement 2013

All amounts are stated in millions of Swiss francs.

Full version of the annual statement: www.snsf.ch/annualstatements

Income statement

Income

	2013	2012
Federal contributions (ordinary and other)	842.6	822.0
Federal contributions for overhead	85.0	83.0
Returns	22.8	18.1
Accrued income	9.0	30.0
Miscellaneous	1.0	1.0
Total	960.4	954.1

Expenditure

	2013	2012
Research funding	770.6	781.8
Projects	385.5	363.8
Careers	165.8	156.6
Programmes	135.2	183.5
Infrastructures	36.3	32.6
Science communication	5.4	5.2
Third-party programmes	42.4	40.1
Overhead payments to research institutions	85.0	83.0
Accrued expenses	70.1	6.4
Scientific evaluation and governance	9.3	8.7
Foundation Council	0.1	0.1
National Research Council	7.2	6.8
Miscellaneous	2.0	1.8
Public relations work	1.7	1.7
Administrative expenses	29.1	28.3
Personnel expenses	23.9	22.6
Information technology expenses	1.9	1.5
Miscellaneous	3.3	4.2
Other expenses	0.2	0.2
Expenditure/Surplus	-5.6	44.0
Total	960.4	954.1

Balance sheet

Assets

	2013	2012
Cash and cash equivalents	553.8	453.5
Other current assets	0.1	0.6
Fixed assets	8.6	9.1
Financial assets	70.0	62.7
Total	632.5	525.9

Liabilities

	2013	2012
Loan capital	491.5	386.7
Miscellaneous short-term liabilities	409.1	347.4
Miscellaneous provisions	82.4	39.3
Earmarked donations and bequests	68.4	61.0
Equity capital	72.6	78.2
Non-earmarked donations and bequests	0.4	0.4
Foundation capital	1.3	1.3
Reserves	76.5	32.5
Unappropriated surplus	-5.6	44.0
Total	632.5	525.9

Additional information on the annual statement

Grants approved but not entered for the years 2014 to 2016

As at 31 December 2013 the following liabilities existed which were not listed in the balance sheet:
CHF 606 million / EUR 0.2 million.

Remuneration of the Foundation Council

In 2013 the members of the Foundation Council received fixed remunerations and daily allowances totalling CHF 73,000.– (2012: CHF 101,833.–).

Transactions with related parties

In 2013 the members of the National Research Council and the members of the expert commissions used by them were awarded funding grants totalling CHF 26.6 million, representing 4.3% of the grants approved (2012: CHF 22.7 million or 3.8%). The ceiling set of 5% by the committee of the Foundation Council was not exceeded.

Approval of the annual statement

Following the recommendation of the Swiss Federal Audit Office, which audited the annual statement in its role as external auditor, the Foundation Council approved the annual statement at its meeting on 28 March 2014.

Abbreviations and glossary

Actionuni	Organisation representing young researchers as well as non-professorial teaching staff associations of the universities and the ETHs nationally and internationally
Advanced Postdoc.Mobility	Career funding scheme that enables postdocs to enhance their scientific profile at a research institution abroad. Includes the option of a return grant
Agora	SNSF funding scheme for the promotion of public science communication
Ambizione	Career funding scheme for qualified young researchers who aim to conduct a project of their own
BBMRI	Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure
BFH	Bern University of Applied Sciences
ERI Dispatch	Dispatch of the Federal Council on the Promotion of Education, Research and Innovation
COHEP	Swiss Conference of Rectors of Universities of Teacher Education
CRUS	Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities
CTI	Commission for Technology and Innovation of the federal government of Switzerland
CTU	Clinical Trial Units: centres of competence for patient-oriented clinical research
Division I of the SNSF	Humanities and Social Sciences division
Division II of the SNSF	Mathematics, Natural and Engineering Sciences division
Division III of the SNSF	Biology and Medicine division
Division IV of the SNSF	Programmes division (NRPs and NCCRs)
Doc.CH	Career funding scheme used to support dissertations in the humanities and social sciences
Doc.Mobility	Career funding scheme that enables doctoral students to enhance their scientific profile at a research institution abroad
Early Postdoc.Mobility	Career funding schemes that enables postdocs starting their careers to enhance their scientific profile at a research institution abroad
EAER	Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research
EAWAG	Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology
economiesuisse	Association of Swiss companies: largest umbrella organisation representing Swiss businesses
EMPA	Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology (ETH Domain)
120% support grant	SNSF measure to support postdocs and their families
ERA	European Research Area
ERA-NET	Scheme introduced by the 6 th European Framework Programme for coordinating research activities
ERC	European Research Council
ESTROM	Environmental Science and Technology in Romania
ETHZ / EPFL	Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology (Zurich and Lausanne)
FHNW	University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland
FHO	University of Applied Sciences Eastern Switzerland
FINES	Fund for the development of instruments for the European Southern Observatory (ESO)
FLARE	Funding LArge international REsearch projects: grants for large international projects in the fields of particle physics, astroparticle physics and astrophysics
FOJ	Federal Office of Justice, Switzerland
FORCE	Fund for research at CERN (infrastructure)
Funding rate	Percentage share of the total approved amount in the overall amount requested by researchers
HES-SO	University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland
HSLU	Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts
Idiap	Research institute specialising in perceptive artificial intelligence, Martigny, Switzerland
Kalaidos	Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences
KFH	Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences
Lead Agency process	Agreement and procedure for cross-border research projects thanks to which researchers can have their projects evaluated by a single organisation
MD-PhD	Doctorate in medicine and natural sciences
MHV	Marie Heim-Vögtlin grants (SNSF funding for women)
nano-tera.ch	Swiss initiative to engineer complex systems for health, security and the environment
NCCR	National Centre of Competence in Research, Switzerland
NRP	National Research Programme, Switzerland
Overhead	Contribution to indirect costs of SNSF-funded projects
P3	Research database of the SNSF
ProDoc	Post-graduate research programme of the SNSF
PROSPER	Funding scheme for social medicine and preventive and epidemiological research
PSI	Paul Scherrer Institute, Switzerland

R'Equip	Research Equipment – SNSF funding scheme for research equipment
RIPA	Federal Research and Innovation Promotion Act
SAHS	Swiss Academy of Humanities and Social Sciences
SAMS	Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences
SATW	Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences
Science Europe	Umbrella organisation of national research organisations in European countries
SCNAT	Swiss Academy of Sciences
SCOPEs	Scientific Cooperation between Eastern Europe and Switzerland (SNSF and SDC programme)
SCORE	Swiss Clinicians Opting for Research
SERI	State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation
SGB	Swiss Federation of Trade Unions
Sinergia	SNSF funding scheme to facilitate collaborative projects in independent research
SNSF	Swiss National Science Foundation
SNSF World Network	Online network for researchers funded by the SNSF (in English)
SSIC	Swiss Science and Innovation Council (from 1.1.2014)
SSTC	Swiss Science and Technology Council (until 31.12.2013)
Success rate	Percentage of approved applications among the submitted applications
SUPSI	University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland
SwissCore	Contact Office for European Research, Innovation and Education: SNSF office in Brussels, co-financed by SERI
Tenure track assistant professorship	Type of assistant professorship that may be converted into a permanent professorship if the holder's performance is considered outstanding during a pre-defined period
VPOD	Association of Swiss Civil Servants
WSL	Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (ETH Domain)
ZFH	Zürcher Fachhochschule

Further information

General information

› www.snsf.ch



Research magazine Horizons

› www.snsf.ch/horizons

Research database P³ (approved grants since 1975)

› www.snf.ch/p3

Images

Severin Nowacki, photographer

Born in Berne in 1971. Freelance photographer and lecturer. He is passionate about documentary and portrait photography – visual stories of people in their environment, daily life and work.

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Some goals for 2014



Optimisation of funding schemes

Pointing the way forward: some important decisions will need to be taken in 2014 to simplify the range of funding schemes in project and career funding and bring them more closely into line with the needs of researchers in Switzerland. One of the main concerns is to improve conditions for young researchers.



Flexible gender equality grant

In 2014, the SNSF aims to introduce a gender equality grant in project funding that can be geared to individual situations. Applicants will be able to request funding for specific measures aimed at promoting the careers of their female employees in the relevant discipline according to their personal situation, e.g. mentoring, coaching or networking meetings.



“Protected time” for doctors

Researchers who do clinical work will be able to reserve more time for their research as of 2014. For young doctors who successfully apply for project funding, the SNSF will assume up to 15% of the salary costs if the home institution guarantees a total protected time of 30% for research. With this measure, the SNSF aims to sustainably support the careers of medical researchers.

