



## Collaboration opportunities with Switzerland

### Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme

A formal framework agreement in the field of science and technology, which eventually led to the initiation of the Indo-Swiss Joint Research Programme (ISJRP), was signed in 2003. This programme was initiated by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) in Switzerland, and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) on the Indian side. Started as a pilot programme, it has since developed into a competitive research funding programme. The Swiss National Science Foundation is responsible for the management of calls for the joint research projects.

For more information:

<https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home/research-and-innovation/international-cooperation-r-and-i/bilateral-programmes.html>

<https://www.snf.ch/en/UKQxILyeulyH9qfi/funding/programmes/bilateral-programmes-indo>

### Swissnex in India

Swissnex is the Swiss global network connecting the dots in education, research, and innovation. Its mission is to support the outreach and active engagement of our partners in the international exchange of knowledge, ideas and talent. The five main Swissnex locations are established in some of the world's most innovative regions. Together with around twenty Science and Technology Offices (STO) and Counsellors (STC) based in Swiss Embassies, they contribute to strengthen Switzerland's profile as a world-leading innovation hotspot.

The Swissnex network has a presence in Boston, San Francisco, Brazil, China, India, and soon in Japan. An initiative of the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) in association with the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Swissnex in India is part of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Bangalore.

Swissnex in India is the 'go-to' partner for cooperation with Switzerland in the areas of:

- [University Partnerships](#): Connecting Swiss and Indian universities at department, faculty, researcher and student levels; enabling the exchange of ideas and catalysing collaborations.
- [Start-up Partnerships](#): Serves as a launchpad for Swiss start-ups to expand into the Indian market.
- [Corporate Innovation](#): Enabling corporates to map the opportunities and find solutions from the right start up partners, and across industries

Swissnex in India connects Swiss and Indian players across disciplines with a focus on health (from antimicrobial resistance, digital health, gene therapy, to rare and neglected tropical diseases), sustainability (with a focus on biodiversity, decarbonisation and renewable energy), and digital transformation.

For more information: <https://swissnex.org/india/>

### Services for start-ups

**Academia Industry Training Camp:** The Academia Industry Training program is specifically designed for Swiss and Indian researchers who are passionate about pursuing entrepreneurship. Swiss and Indian start-ups are introduced to the Indian innovation ecosystem via business cultural sessions, knowledge sessions (on market strategy, patent strategy, etc.), refining pitches with expert feedback, 1:1 connects with domain-specific mentors, VCs and more. This is followed by a similar camp in Switzerland.

For more information: <https://swissnex.org/india/event/academia-industry-training-2022/>

### **Research scholarships**

**ThinkSwiss Research Scholarships 2023:** These scholarships open doors for students from India, Australia and Singapore to the world of Swiss academia that combines high quality curriculum with innovative thinking. Masters students or undergraduate students who have completed their 2<sup>nd</sup> year and are currently enrolled in an Indian university or institution are eligible to apply. It is open to students from all fields, with an acceptance letter from a professor at a Swiss university or institution for a research stay in his/her group. The scholarships can be availed for a duration of three months between April and December 2023.

*Call for applications currently open:*

*Deadline for applications: 15 January 2023*

*For more information and application: <https://swissnex.org/india/thinkswiss/>*

### **Leading House for India**

The Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW) is the Leading House for research collaboration with partner institutions in South Asia and Iran. Mandated by the Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) in 2017, the ZHAW promotes and fosters scientific cooperation with key institutions in South Asia and Iran during the funding period 2021-2024. The South Asia region includes Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, the Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, with Iran as an additional country.

*For more information: <https://www.zhaw.ch/en/research/leading-house-south-asia-and-iran/>*

*Call for applications currently open: The call aims to promote research related to sustainability, specifically in the following SDGs: SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) and SDG 13 (climate action).*

*Application deadline: 15 January 2023*

*For more information: <https://www.zhaw.ch/en/research/leading-house-south-asia-and-iran/funding-instruments-leading-house-south-asia-and-iran/#c95247>*

*To subscribe to the Leading House mailing list to be informed of upcoming opportunities:*

*<https://www.zhaw.ch/en/research/leading-house-south-asia-and-iran/registration-form-leading-house-south-asia-and-iran/>*

### **Swiss National Science Foundation**

Funding schemes from the SNSF that provide opportunities for international partners to participate include the following:

**Project funding:** While applicants for funding from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) have to be employed in a Swiss research institution or university, in principle, they can spend up to 20% of the project funding that they receive from the SNSF for non-Swiss partners (only research costs are funded).

*For more information: <https://www.snf.ch/en/WAVYcY7awAUGoIST/funding/projects/projects-in-all-disciplines>*

*Application deadlines: 1 April and 3 October*

**Sinergia:** Sinergia promotes interdisciplinary collaboration of two to four research groups that propose breakthrough research for a duration of one to four years. Based on their expertise, one of the applicants may be based at a research institution outside Switzerland.

*For more information: <https://www.snf.ch/en/HzVMPWm96mz69ZJ8/funding/programmes/sinergia>*

*Next application deadlines: 17 April, 2023; 01 October 2023; 01 April, 2024*

**Ambizione:** Ambizione grants are aimed at young researchers who wish to conduct, manage and lead an independent project at a Swiss higher education institution. The funding scheme would like to promote researchers from Switzerland as well from abroad. In addition, researchers working as non-professorial teaching staff at higher education institutions are entitled to apply for project funds under Ambizione. An Ambizione grant comprises the salary of the grantee and project funds, whereas, an

Ambizione project grant contains only project funds. The grants are awarded for a maximum of four years.

For more information: <https://www.snf.ch/en/N18L3oGWomTSSGkF/funding/careers/ambizione>

Next application deadline: 1 November 2023 (tbc)

**PRIMA:** PRIMA grants are aimed at excellent *female* researchers from Switzerland and abroad who aspire to a professorship in Switzerland. PRIMA grantees lead their own research project at a Swiss higher education institution. They work independently and have a team of their own. A PRIMA grant comprises the grantee's salary and project funds for a duration of up to 5 years, the possibility to plan a stay at another host institution and the offer of a mentoring network. With this generously endowed grant, the promoted researchers should be able to enhance their academic profile. The SNSF intends to award up to 12 grants each year to excellent women researchers.

For more information: <https://www.snf.ch/en/soMWfibVDpNMVR36/funding/careers/prima>

**Scientific Exchanges:** Scientific Exchanges are aimed at researchers who want to host their own scientific event in Switzerland, invite colleagues from abroad for a research visit to Switzerland, or visit their colleagues in another country. Scientific conferences and workshops are the two types of event covered by the scheme. Research visits by Swiss researchers to other countries or by researchers from abroad to Switzerland are funded for a period of 1 to 6 months. For scientific events, the travel expenses and food and board costs of participants from abroad are covered, for research visits those of travelling guests

For more information:

<https://www.snf.ch/en/wSd33rwrhn7Q16jl/funding/science-communication/scientific-exchanges>

Application deadlines: All year round (at least 4 months before the event or visit).

### **Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships**

Each year the Swiss Confederation awards Government Excellence Scholarships to promote international exchange and research cooperation between Switzerland and over 180 other countries. The Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships are aimed at young researchers from abroad who have completed a master's degree or PhD. Three types of scholarships are awarded – Research, PhD and post doc. India is a priority country of the attribution of these scholarships. There are no predefined fields for these scholarships.

For more information: [http://www.sbf.admin.ch/scholarships\\_eng](http://www.sbf.admin.ch/scholarships_eng)

Next call for applications expected in August 2023

Send an email to [newdelhi.scholarship@eda.admin.ch](mailto:newdelhi.scholarship@eda.admin.ch) and the application package will be emailed to you when they become available.

### **Scholarships from Swiss universities**

Scholarship opportunities from Swiss universities and Swiss research organisations are listed at <https://www.studyinswitzerland.plus/scholarships/>

### **Scholarship and Job opportunities in Switzerland**

**ETH Get Hired** is an ETH Zurich online job platform which aims to reach and connect students and employers - companies as well as universities - in Switzerland. Funded positions in academia and jobs in industry are advertised here.

For more information: <https://eth-gethired.ch/en/>

**myScience** is the career and information portal for scientists, specialists and engineers in Switzerland. myScience.ch gives an overview of science and research in Switzerland, and includes a. myScience.ch is intended for researchers, scientists, engineers, academics, and everyone interested in science.

For more information: <https://www.myscience.ch/en/jobs>

### **Find the degree programme best adapted to your needs**

This searchable database lists all the courses offered by the Swiss universities, the Universities of Applied Sciences and Arts, the Universities of Teacher Education and university level institutions.

<https://studyprogrammes.ch/en/start>

### **Participation in the European research framework programmes**

Swiss and Indian researchers have also collaborated through the European Union's research framework programmes in the past. Switzerland has been associated to the EU framework programmes for research since Framework Programme 6 in 2004. Switzerland has been highly successful in attracting research funding from the research framework programmes, and is the host for a large number of individual fellowships through the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Action and the grants of the European Research Council.

Please note that Switzerland is currently not an associated country to Horizon Europe. However, the Swiss Federal Council remains committed to a full association to Horizon Europe and other related programmes and initiatives as soon as possible and provides funding for the participation of its research and innovation actors in the EU Framework Programmes for Research and Innovation.

*For more information on Switzerland's status in Horizon Europe:*

<https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home/research-and-innovation/international-cooperation-r-and-i/eu-framework-programmes-for-research/horizon-europe.html>

This will offer another cooperation possibility for Indian researchers to collaborate with their Swiss partners. While Indian entities will not be funded directly by Horizon Europe, it is expected that Indian funding agencies will establish mechanisms where they will agree to fund the successful Indian participants in joint collaboration projects with European partners.

### ***Need help to put together your European project in Switzerland?***

**Euresearch** is the Swiss network mandated by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation to provide targeted information, hands-on advice and transnational partnering related to European research and innovation programmes. Once you have found a host institution in Switzerland and a concrete project idea, Euresearch will guide you through all the steps of your application for a successful European grant.

*For more information:* <https://www.euresearch.ch/en/>

### **Links and Contacts:**

**Swiss State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation:**

<https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home.html>

**Swissnex in India:** <https://swissnex.org/india/>

**Embassy of Switzerland in India:** <http://www.eda.admin.ch/newdelhi>

**Swiss National Science Foundation:** <http://www.snf.ch/en/Pages/default.aspx>

**Leading House - Zurich University of Applied Sciences:**

<https://www.zhaw.ch/en/research/leading-house-south-asia-and-iran/>

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