

Boost your Horizon Europe projects: Collaborate with a Swiss partner!

Eligibility and Participation of Swiss Partners

1. *Can Swiss-based applicants apply to calls in Horizon Europe?*

Yes! While Switzerland is still considered a non-associated third country, Swiss-based organisations (including universities, companies, SMEs, NGOs, etc) are eligible to apply to most collaborative calls in Pillars II and III and some calls in Pillar I and the Widening Pillar. Where stated below that funding is provided nationally by the Swiss government, this is managed by the Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation (SERI):

Pillar I

- ERC-Synergy grants (One PI per team allowed from a non-associated country, eligible for EC funding)
- MSCA – Postdoctoral Fellowship – Global Fellowship, with Switzerland as the host institution in the outgoing phase (eligible to apply and eligible for EC funding)
- MSCA – Doctoral Networks (eligible to apply, funding provided nationally)
- MSCA – Staff Exchanges (eligible to apply, funding provided nationally)
- MSCA-COFUND (eligible to participate in a cascading structure, funding provided nationally)
- Research Infrastructures (eligible to apply, funding provided nationally)

Pillar II

- All collaborative projects including CSAs, RIAs, IAs, Partnerships, and Missions (eligible to apply, funding provided nationally).
- Exceptions may exist based on call topic text (e.g. exclusion of third countries)

Pillar III

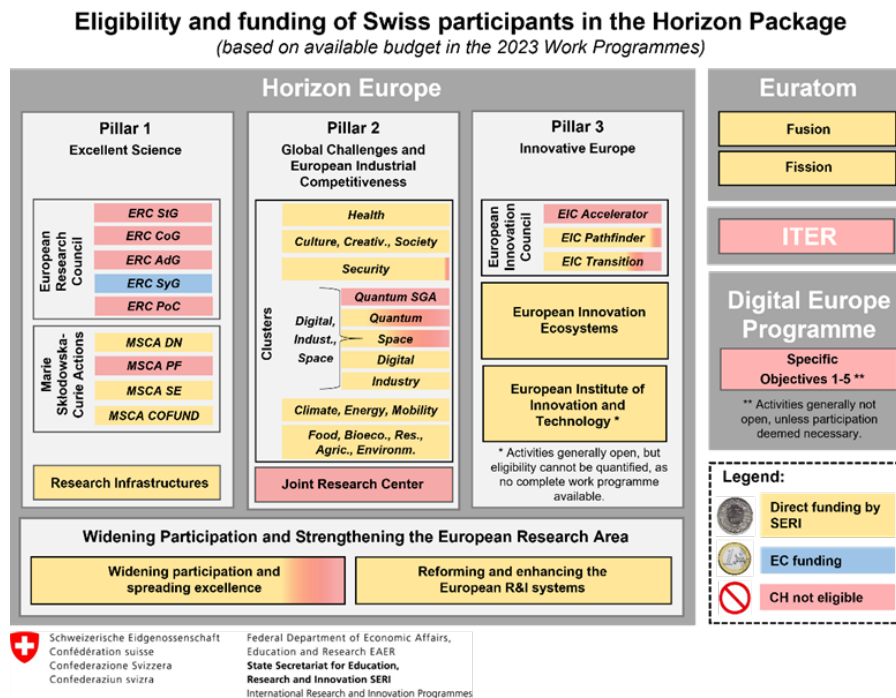
- EIC Pathfinder and EIC Transition (eligible to apply, funding provided nationally)
- EIT (eligible to apply for most KICs, funding provided nationally)
- EIE European Innovation Ecosystems (eligible to apply, funding provided nationally)

Widening and Strengthening the European Research ERA

Eligible to apply and funding provided nationally for all calls that do not otherwise restrict participation by a non-Widening country.



The figure below (produced by the SERI) shows the eligibility of Swiss-based organisations at a glance:



2. How can Swiss-based applicants apply?

Swiss-based applicants apply as 'associated partner' instead of as beneficiary. As associated partners, Swiss-based participants:

- Can have an active role in the project with tasks and deliverables
- Should have a clearly defined role in the proposal
- Cannot act as coordinator of the whole project
- Can lead work packages or tasks in the project
- Usually sign the Consortium Agreement
- Do not sign the Grant Agreement
- Can sign a Collaboration Agreement
- Do not count towards the minimum size and do not count towards the rule of a minimum of 3 partners required to form a consortium (but can be added on top of the 3 required)
- Must give details to the coordinator to allow them to complete the proposal (including details on person months and budget details for the Swiss national funding)

More information about the role and implementation of associated partners can be found [here](#) on the Euresearch website.

3. *Who will fund Swiss-based applicants' participation in Horizon Europe calls?*

The Swiss Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation (SERI) will fund all Swiss-based applicants who are part of successful proposals. SERI provides:

- A guarantee of this funding [here](#)
- Further information on the status of Switzerland in Horizon Europe [here](#)
- A collection of FAQs on Swiss participation in Horizon Europe
- National funding is entirely based on the European Commission's positive evaluation of the proposal and a signed Grant Agreement
- Funding within 60 days of the funding request being made
- NO re-evaluation before approving funding

4. *Will Switzerland be associated to Horizon Europe?*

Switzerland, as a non-EU country, must negotiate its association to Horizon Europe. Full association to the programme remains the ultimate goal of the Swiss government and Swiss Federal Council, who are working toward association at the soonest possible date.

Further information on all aspects of Swiss participation in Horizon Europe can be found on the Euresearch website [here](#). This page is regularly updated.

CONTACT: All Swiss National Contact Points (NCPs) based at Euresearch are happy to answer any questions you might have regarding Swiss participation in Horizon Europe. Please check our website [here](#) for contact details of the appropriate NCP.

