



## 1 Participation of Swiss Organisations

This Partnership is aimed at all types of organisations and entities that can contribute to the DUT vision: SMEs, start-ups, for-profit and non-profit organisations, smart cities, research partners, local or regional government entities.

A novelty in this partnership is that three Swiss Funding Agencies, [Innosuisse](#), the [Swiss National Science Foundation](#) and the [Federal Office of Energy](#), are complementing each other to fund projects across the value chain from research to implementation. The projects have to be categorised as either research oriented or innovation oriented approach. The conditions and contacts of the three funding agencies are in our [Factsheet](#).

In order find partners and build a DUT consortium, you can use the [B2Match Platform](#). Swiss partners can lead projects and take the role as a consortium leader, too. A DUT consortium must consist of at least three participating countries, whereas two have to be EU Member States or [Horizon Europe Associated Countries](#). The respective national and/or regional eligibility criteria apply.

## 2 Submit a proposal

The DUT Partnership manages the application procedure and the evaluation centrally. All relevant information and documents are available on the [partnership website](#) as well as the access to the submission platform. Please note that the Partnership uses a two-step approach, with Pre- and Full Proposals. Funding decisions will be announced in July 2024 by the DUT Partnership.

## 3 Innosuisse eligibility criteria

Projects submitted under a DUT call must fulfil following national eligibility criteria:

- The Swiss part of the consortium must at least contain of one Swiss implementation partner<sup>1</sup>. Participation of a Swiss research partner is optional.
- Swiss implementation partners can be end user organizations, cities, companies or other organizations based in Switzerland. A Swiss company identification number is generally considered evidence of its headquarters in Switzerland.
- Swiss research partners can be higher education research centres according to article 4 letter c RIPA<sup>2</sup> or non-commercial research centres outside the higher education sector according to article 5 RIPA.
- The share of the total eligible costs of the Swiss implementation partners must be higher than the cost of the Swiss research partner/s.

## 4 Funding rates

Research partners	100 % of the eligible costs
Implementation partners: SMEs, start-ups, for-profit and non-profit organisations, cities, local or regional government counting less than 250 full-time-equivalents	50 % of the eligible costs
Large companies and other implementation partners counting more than 250 full-time-equivalents	25 % of the eligible costs

<sup>1</sup> Implementation partners: organisations that later produce, sell or apply the results of the projects in practice, see also [SME Definition](#) by the EU commission

<sup>2</sup> Federal Act on the Promotion of Research and Innovation, [SR 420.1](#)

Implementation partners with less than 250 FTE requesting more than CHF 1 Mio. funding, have to submit a due diligence form to Innosuisse before the Full proposal deadline. The form can be downloaded from the [Innosuisse Call Website](#). If Innosuisse already checked the due diligence in the context of another Innosuisse funding instrument, the result will be considered accordingly. If the requested amount is less than CHF 1 Mio. they must submit the latest financial statements (annual accounts) over two years. Start-ups who do not have financial statements available, may submit a Business Plan. Contact for the submission see Chapter 7.

## 5 Eligible costs

Only costs directly related to the DUT project plan are eligible. They are defined in the present document, according to the Ordinance of 20 January 2021 on the measures for the participation of Switzerland in the Programmes of the European Union in the field of research and innovation (SR 420.126, in German<sup>3</sup>). Only salary costs documented by employment contracts of Swiss project partners or costs invoiced directly to Swiss project partners will be reimbursed.

All expenses must be specified and documented in detail for reporting and auditing purposes.

### 5.1 Salaries

For universities pursuant to Article 4 letter c RIPA, the institution's usual salary rates apply. Only effective wage costs will be reimbursed.

For companies as well as non-commercial research institutions and institutions outside the higher education sector, effective wage costs are eligible up to the following maximum amounts:

Employee category	Gross hourly rate	Gross annual salary
<b>Project coordinator, deputy project coordinator, experienced researcher</b>	max. CHF 119/h	max. CHF 220'500
<b>Research assistant, scientific collaborator</b>	max. CHF 68/h	max. CHF 126'000
<b>Technician, Programmer</b>	max. CHF 61/h	max. CHF 113'400
<b>Postgraduate, Assistant</b>	max. CHF 46/h	max. CHF 85'100

The gross hourly rates correspond to an annual full-time equivalent of 2100 hours including 13.5% holiday and public holiday compensation. On top of the gross salary rates, the effective social costs of the employee and of the employer are eligible.

Only salaries of personnel with a Swiss employment contract of a partner registered in Switzerland are eligible. Employees working at a foreign subsidiary count as subcontractors.

### 5.2 Fixed assets

Depreciation of fixed assets necessary for the execution of the project are eligible costs, unless the asset is fully depreciated by third-party funds specifically earmarked for this purpose. The depreciation rates for equipment are determined in accordance with the internal accounting rules. If the asset is not used exclusively for the project, the respective actual share of use in the project may be taken into account. The proportion of use of the asset must be verifiable (e.g. by means of laboratory records) and auditable. The following depreciating calculation applies:

$$\text{fixed asset depreciation cost} = \frac{\text{purchase price}}{\text{lifetime}} * \text{time fixed asset is reserved for project}$$

<sup>3</sup> FIPBV <https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2021/72/de>.

### **5.3 Consumables**

Consumables which are necessary for the execution of the project and are accounted for in the proposal and in the description of work, are eligible costs. Details will be negotiated during the elaboration of a national financial plan in the case the project receives a confirmation for funding.

### **5.4 Travel costs**

Travel costs within Switzerland are not eligible for funding.

Internationals travel costs, which are necessary for the execution of the project, are eligible costs. Travel costs for conferences abroad are only eligible for funding, if participation is linked directly to the DUT project and the partner makes an active contribution to the conference (presentation, poster, paper, booth). Effective costs for hotels are eligible up to CHF 300.- per night. Expenses for meals abroad are reimbursed at the following flat rates: CHF 14.- for breakfast; CHF 27.- for lunch or dinner. All other expenses must be specified and documented in detail.

### **5.5 Subcontracting**

Subcontracting is eligible for funding, if it is duly justified and complements the project partners own contribution to the project in a suitable way. It should not cover key work packages of the project and already existing project partners cannot be subcontracted.

### **5.6 Overhead costs**

Overhead costs correspond to the Innosuisse rate of 15 % except for research institutions with a separate agreement with Innosuisse.

Overhead costs include for example accounting fees, advertising, insurance, project related legal fees, office rent and supplies, telephone bills, etc.

### **5.7 Non-eligible costs**

Costs, which are not essential for the execution of the project and its work packages are not eligible for funding.

## **6 Payments**

Innosuisse contribution will be paid according to following schedule: The first payment after the signature of the contracts and the Consortium Agreement will cover 50%, the mid-term payment is 30% and the final payment 20% of the total funding contribution.

## **7 Contact**

Please read the provided information on the [DUT Call 2023](#) carefully.

For more information on the DUT Partnership and Innosuisse funding you can contact:

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