



## Q&A NTN-Innovation Booster – update 05.02.2020 (updated fields are highlighted in yellow)

	Questions	Answers
0.1	<p>What are the exact roles of the leading house and the consortium? Are members of the leading house and consortium members also allowed to be part of innovation teams and get idea financing?</p>	<p>The consortium is defining and steering the individual "NTN-Innovation Boosters" and the leading house acts as an applicant vis-à-vis Innosuisse on behalf of the consortium. The activities of the "NTN-Innovation Booster", however, must address a broader community and be open for anyone, who is interested and eligible to participate.</p> <p>In principle, also individual members of the consortium and the leading house can be part of innovation teams and receive idea funding, if any potential conflict of interest in the decision making process to distribute the funds can be excluded.</p>
<b>Methodology</b>		
1.1	<p>What is the difference between a structured challenge and an ill-structure challenge?</p>	<p>For a structured challenge, the goal is clear and the way to achieve this goal plannable.</p> <p>Further information see Design Thinking brochure on <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/de/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/de/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html</a></p>
1.2	<p>How to practice Open Innovation in relation to intellectual property-concerns?</p>	<p>This question cannot be answered in a general way, but must be answered in an individual way for each NTN-Innovation Booster.</p> <p>This problem has to be addressed proactively by the Leading House and the concept has to be presented in the proposal.</p>
1.3	<p>How do we get the mindset of design thinking with customers/stakeholders?</p>	<p>This is up to the Innovation Booster managers and has to be described in the proposal</p>
1.4	<p>Are Design Thinking methods a must for the success of an application?</p>	<p>No, but a concept that contains Design Thinking ideas are preferred. Beyond, there will be mandatory yearly workshops on peer-learning ("Weiterbildung")</p>

1.5	Is it possible to hire an external company and not an external person to support methodological competencies?	Yes
<b>Questions on Concept and Process</b>		
<b>• Fundamental Understanding</b>		
2.1	The basic conditions of the program: Open innovation - 10 ideas per year - a consortium: this is it, right?	All details are described in the concept of the tender: <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html</a>
2.2	How many innovation projects are expected per consortium and year?	This question can not be answered in a general way, but must be answered in an individual way for each NTN-Innovation Booster.
2.3	Evaluation of the ideas: is it possible to include experts of Innosuisse? Do they have to be independent?	Innosuisse experts can not be involved in the NTN-Innovation Booster because of conflict of interest.
2.4	Who will assure the need for building up science based projects?	The applicant has to demonstrate the need in the application. This is one of the evaluation criteria.
2.5	Per NTN Innosuisse want to have 10 radical ideas in 4 years?	It is the ambition of the overall program (8-10 NTN-Innovation Boosters) to create 100 radical ideas in 4 years.
2.6	Has the NTN-Innovation Booster approach been tested with SME's?	The NTN-Innovation Booster is a new concept addressed to companies that are interested in an open innovation format. It has been developed based on similar successful programs of CTI and refined in discussions with selected stakeholders.
2.7	Is it desirable for the consortium to include a partner for innovation methods or is the methodological competence fully covered by Innosuisse (compulsory training and support by Spark Works)?	The methodological competences are to be covered by the applicant / the consortium in the implementation of ideas, if necessary with the help of partners. Support from Innosuisse is only complementary.
2.8	Will the leading house have methodological support?	Every Leading House is responsible to organize the methodological support. The costs for buying external assistance are eligible and will be covered by Innosuisse with the NTN-Innovation Booster budget. Support from Innosuisse is only complementary.
2.9	The major objective of the NTN-Innovation Booster is, as understood, to firstly stimulate and test novel ideas and to secondly enable radical follow up projects. What are valuable examples of radical follow up projects? And, are new, continuative Standard-Innosuisse Projects accepted as	Yes: Innosuisse innovation projects can in some cases be considered as radical innovation, if they radically change position on the market or business model of the implementation partner.

	"radical follow up" (if approved by Innosuisse)?	
2.10	Can one innovation team submit several innovation ideas and be supported under the scheme?	Yes. The details on the idea evaluation, selection and support must however be clear and transparent and specified in the application to the Innovation Booster initiative.
2.11	Is the Innovation Booster based on leading role of academic partner?	No, any non-for-profit organization based in Switzerland can apply as leading house
2.12	If the NTN decides that the financing of the idea should be of CHF 25k, can they present a third party that tops or matches such a financing or the total amount, including third-party participation, needs to be no more than CHF 25K?	Yes, the combination of idea funding with third-party funding is possible.
2.13	Can international partners be involved in an Innovation Booster?	Yes, however the impact on Swiss society will be evaluated in the proposal.
2.14	<del>The major objective of the NTN is, as understood, to firstly stimulate and test novel ideas and to secondly enable radical follow up projects. What are valuable examples of radical follow up projects? And, are new, continuative approved Standard Innosuisse Projects accepted as "radical follow up"?</del>	<del>Yes. Radical follow up projects depend on the maturity of ideas and on the thematic. Innosuisse innovation projects can be, depending on the scope and content, radical follow up projects indeed.</del> Please note that a better formulated answer to this question was provided: Q2.9
2.15	Does Innosuisse foresee transversal collaboration among InnoBoosters (in the same spirit as the collaborative intelligence needed to develop & foster ideas within each Booster)?	Yes, and Innosuisse will organize once per year a peer-learning and community building workshop with all the active Innovation Boosters.
2.16	When looking at the examples, the NTN can still organise and operate different events (ex: workshops, launchpads) in order to reunite the different stakeholders to generate solutions for the challenges highlighted and in a second phase the solutions prototyped. Can you confirm?	Yes
2.17	As a university, we are a non-profit organization. However, if we submit the application as an Innovation Leading House, can we continue to have research project applications co-financed through the NTN or is there a restriction on participation in projects?	A University or organization acting as a leading house can also continue to have separate Innosuisse research projects. However the evaluation process for the NTN – Innovation Booster idea funding must be setup and described to be completely neutral in the application already (no conflict of interest and compliance of evaluators with respect to projects submitted is very important).
•	• <b>Application</b>	

2.18	Implementation partner contribution?	Innosuisse wishes to see that there is an interest from implementation partners. Applicants have to come up with their own proposition of third party contribution. Some examples are specified in the call documents online (two steps ideas funding, matching funds...)
2.19	Competition between the teams: winning and losing teams? How can we insure that the people are not in competition? Normally SME are in competition.	There should not be competition between teams, <b>except in the sense of only the best ideas should be funded.</b> The NTN – Innovation Booster success is centered around the Open Innovation idea and as such sharing of (non-confidential) projects and ideas must be taken into account from the start. <b>Once ideas are submitted for evaluation,</b> the details on the idea evaluation, selection and support must be clear and transparent and specified in the application to the Innovation Booster initiative.
2.20	Is it planned that Innosuisse will provide legally substantiated model contracts for the financing of ideas (i.e. the contracts between the Leading House and the members of the project team) or will these have to be developed and legally checked by each individual NTN Innovation Booster?	There will be no model contracts provided by Innosuisse.
2.21	Is evidence of non-profit orientation sufficient if the statutes of the Leading House state this or does it require recognition as a charitable organization by the tax authorities?	Statutes of the Leading House specifying the non-profit nature of the organization should be presented with the application and is enough for eligibility.
2.22	The application form (page 16) provides for only five consortium partners. Is this the maximum size of the consortium or can it include more partners and how should they be recorded in the form?	There is no maximum size of the consortium. Additional partners can be entered into new text fields (copy & paste) in the application form. <b>Please also see the answer to questions 2.32 and 2.33.</b>
2.23	Are there guidelines regarding the minimum size of the starting consortium at the time of submission of our file?	There are no requirements for a minimum or maximum size consortium
2.24	Should there be a minimum number of partners who have already officially notified their integration to our consortium on the date of submission of the application? Or is a Letter of Intent from these potential partners sufficient?	A letter of intention is enough, the main point is to show Innosuisse the interest of actors from the academic side, from the societal and implementation side on the topic, and to show that these actors are interested in participating to the Innovation Booster activities.

2.25	Can we plan to officially include new partners between the date of submission of the files and the official start of the NTN?	Yes as there is no contractual obligation of the consortium towards Innosuisse, but you lose the possibility of using the new partners to convince the Innosuisse experts of their participation in the Innovation Booster activities at evaluation.
2.26	Who exactly will be deciding on the various bids? The Innovation Council? External experts? Innosuisse staff members?	The Innovation Council (resp. a subgroup) will evaluate the proposals on the basis of thematic experts evaluation, invite the best proposals to a hearing in Bern and decide after the hearing.
2.27	Who are the decision-makers for applications? What is their professional/scientific background?	See: <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/ueber-uns/organisation/expertinnen-und-experten.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/ueber-uns/organisation/expertinnen-und-experten.html</a> And <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/ueber-uns/organisation/innovationsrat.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/ueber-uns/organisation/innovationsrat.html</a>
2.28	Selection of topics: what's appropriate for Innovation Booster, what's not?	Following a bottom-up approach, any topic of relevance for the Swiss society and research ecosystem is appropriate.
2.29	Are the following organizations eligible to participate in the project: - Pension Funds - Swiss Sustainable Finance (Non-profit) Also, can we involve international organizations such as WWF and UN PRI in the project or should we just describe the potential collaboration?	Any non-profit organization based in Switzerland can apply as leading house. Any organization can be included in the consortium or in the activities, as long as the final goal of all activities is to have a societal and economic impact in Switzerland.
2.30	How do you define "national importance" when defining the innovation theme? Must the consortium include at least one stakeholder representing each key region?	The thematic must not be limited to a certain area/region, but be of relevance for the whole of Switzerland and participation to activities open to any interested player independently where it is based.  This could be an advantage.
2.31	Are joint project tenders of two (or more) NTN - Innovation Boosters conceivable, in which the contributions to the financing of ideas are combined?	Yes, but the evaluation mechanisms have to be very well described in the application if relevant. <b>Please note that the maximum funding per idea must remain under 25kCHF in any case.</b>
2.32	Is it possible to add a 6th or more person/company/school-university on the Consortium Partners' list?	Not in the given application template document. Further consortium partners can be indicated separately. <b>Please see the answer 2.33 as well.</b>

2.33	It is not possible to copy and paste the consortium member tables in order to add more members. How do I add members? (copy paste does not work).	You can use the text fields to comment in case the consortium has more than 6 members. Please list the most significant members and partners.
2.34	How many letters of intent do you recommend to collect per submission?	The applicant should make sure that the interest from academic and industrial world from different regions of Switzerland is clearly shown in the application, either via consortium members, letters of intent or described via clear examples.
•	<b>• Organization</b>	
2.35	How about Governance? People in the booster can also be in the innovation teams?	The whole process must be transparent and well documented. Compliance reasoning must be specifically addressed in the proposal and in the evaluation processes.
2.36	Can the leading house be a holding of various associations and organizations?	Yes, as long as this holding is not profit-oriented
2.37	Will the Innosuisse contract be only with the leading house?	Yes
2.38	Can international partners be part of the consortium?	Yes, if they bring added value to the innovation theme. The final goal is however to create societal value or impact in Switzerland.
2.39	Can Universities be Leading Houses? How about international partners?	Yes as long as they are non-profit organisations based in Switzerland.  International partners can be part of the consortium.
2.40	Can organizations which act as Leading House for an NTN - Innovation Booster also receive Innosuisse funding for special events during the funding period?	As long as it does not refer to the same activity, yes
2.41	From the Innosuisse point of view, is it better to form a broad consortium, as large as possible, or rather a smaller, more efficient one?	This depends on the thematic and has to be assessed and decided by the applicants.
2.42	Can a person who works for the Leading House of an approved NTN-Innovation Booster also receive additional Innosuisse funding as an accredited innovation mentor during the funding period?	Special cases like this one have to be checked with our compliance department bilaterally.
2.43	What happens if a canton participates in the consortium? Would that be allowed?	Yes, the consortia can be open to any type of organisation. The added value should be shown of having additional organisations in.
2.44	Can all projects of one consortium/leading house be focused around one topic (e.g.	<del>Yes</del> Every NTN – Innovation Booster needs a main thematic focus, around

	greentech) and be interconnected or has there to be a variety of different projects and topics and industries?	<p>which the activities and idea generation efforts are centered; this thematic can be quite wide, with the intent (specified in the application) to then focus it on more specific topics each separate year, or around different transversal industries... The goal is to achieve a final impact and to bring together academics and industrial actors that have a high potential of collaboration. How to do that needs to be well specified in the proposal and depends on the thematic around which the NTN – Innovation Booster is active.</p> <p>Just as an example, an NTN – Innovation Booster could choose the Greentech wide thematic, specifying in the proposal that the first year will be centered around 'CO2 reduction by behavioural changes', the second year around 'New materials for lower house emissions'...</p>
2.45	Member composition of the consortium?	Non profit, people of academia and industry (→ to cover all relevant competences), consortium needs to be open.
2.46	How many members does a network need to have (minimum / maximum)?	The NTN – Innovation Boosters are intended as initiatives and not as networks anymore, they can thus even not have members anymore. It is important that players from the academic and industrial world are implicated in the activities of the initiative, to reach the societal and economic impact that is requested in the end.
2.47	We understand that a non-profit association can apply as leading house for the innovation booster, but where is the limit in which we have to separate a current association with its members and the potential Innovation booster activity, specially knowing that such association already works for a collaborative innovation?	The applicant needs to demonstrate that the funding received by Innosuisse will represent a significant support for the organization of the NTN – Innovation Booster activities. The Innosuisse funding should not be secondary in the frame of the Innovation Booster activities but can be combined with existing funding or activities.
2.48	Does the organization, which acts as the leading house, have to be established when the application is submitted or can it only be founded after the funding has been approved?	The applicant must be an existing non-profit organization based in Switzerland. At application, an UID number must be produced to prove that the organization is based in Switzerland, and statutes of the association must prove that the organization is a non-profit.

2.49	If the consortium realises that the thematic is too narrow, in that case can the thematic be changed?	Not for the current application, but a separate application can be submitted in a future call for the different thematic. Please note that there is some wiggle room between the general wider thematic of the NTN –Innovation Booster and the more specific focus that every initiative intends to have in their four years of activity; see also answer 2.44.
2.50	Can individuals and organizations participate in more than one NTN booster consortium?	Yes
2.51	Can the organization that acts as the leading house also be a non-profit limited company?	The applicant must be an existing non-profit organization based in Switzerland. Non-profit 'société à responsabilité limitée' are for instance also eligible.
2.52	While the members of the consortium to be formed can write letters of support for the applications, other stakeholders from a wider Network would also like to express their support and their opinion on the importance of the topic. How can support from a wider Network be expressed in the application?	Letters of support can be received also from non-members of the consortium and attached or described in the application.
2.53	How have the processes to be like in a Innovation Booster Network?	Network has to define, for the evaluation of ideas and funding of ideas, processes that are fair and transparent.
	<b>• Financial</b>	
2.54	There is no funding for infrastructure? What about overhead? Is there possibility to cover overhead costs of the leading house?	There is no overhead cost integrated. The NTN-Innovation Booster is not an innovation project. It is a program.
2.55	How are the engaged companies/institutions (in the consortium/leading house) compensated for their hefty work? Is a part of the Innosuisse budget planned/reserved to pay for the work of the leading house/consortium partner or is the Innosuisse contribution 100% reserved for the evaluation and setup of the innovation projects?	Funding covers all eligible costs, including the management of the program, the organization of events, the methodological support if needed and relevant.
2.56	Idea funding: can funding go to implementation partner?	Yes. Applicants have to come up with their own proposition of how to structure the idea funding.
2.57	How do you see the return of investment in more than 4 years (10 year lap)?	A first aim of this is to mobilize and dynamize the ecosystem. A second aim is to increase the number of disruptive innovation projects.

2.58	Are there any restrictions on who the Leading House pays the funds for financing ideas (for example, only to universities, also to companies, also to private individuals, etc.)?	No, there are no restrictions except for the participation of the academia and industry side at idea generation phase.
2.59	Are the innovation teams also allowed to use the funds from the financing of ideas for services provided by third parties (which are not part of the innovation team)?	Yes, in theory. Applicants have to come up with their own proposition of how to structure the idea funding.
2.60	I have a question regarding the tender for the leading house. It is noted that this must be a non-profit organization. When is it exactly? Can an SA be considered a non-profit organization? For example, by having in these statutes the fact of not paying a dividend or a clause such as "The company is intended to make a profit only to the extent necessary for the pursuit of its purpose"?	This example is not ok. The organisation of a Leading House must be a non-profit organisation. For more details please see the answer 2.51.
2.61	Is it possible to count as third-party funds all third-party funds that go into the consortium or only the third-party funds that are paid into the leading house?	For the annual KPI, the only third-party fund that counts is the third-party funds to the Leading House
2.62	Who is responsible for the finances towards Innosuisse? The leading house or the consortium?	The Leading House remains the only legal partner and contract counterpart to Innosuisse.
2.63	Can "activity financing" adequately finance costs for complementing / refining an existing online platform serving the NTN-Innovation Booster, supporting the process of Idea Development - Idea Evaluation - Project Development and animate the community?	In principle yes, and indeed from the subsidies. These costs can not be claimed separately.
2.64	Third-party funds do not include own work and funds paid by third parties for follow-up work on specific R&D projects that have been established with the assistance of the "NTN-Innovation Booster". Likewise, other own contributions by the consortium and / or Leading House can not be credited as third party funds, the development and animation support a learning innovation community and be further developed.	Yes
2.65	Third-party funds from the public sector (e.g. NRP funds, cantonal WTT funds) are available to an "NTN-Innovation Booster", but are not counted towards Innosuisse as a successful third-party funding acquisition.  Does this include the involvement of RIS community actors? How do you count the performance of a RIS partner who participates in defined benefits that add value to the Innovation Booster?	If by a the 'actor of the RIS community' is intended a non-profit organisation, then this organisation is eligible for participation as Leading House and to receive funding accordingly  The possible involvement of RIS in the NTN – Innovation Booster activities is also very possible in the form of strategical support for SMEs and industrial actors, who will need to include the ideas generated with the

	Conversely, is it not possible for a RIS actor participating in an Innovation Booster to finance this call with Innosuisse?	NTN – Innovation Booster in their own commercial strategy. In this sense, the RIS would fulfil their mandate and ensure a good collaboration between innovation support actors at national and regional level.
2.66	Training: How much budget should be allocated per network per year for the exchanges and trainings organized by Innosuisse?	15kCHF per year as specified in the call documents published online.
2.67	For validating ideas, 5kCHF and more are available. What exactly are these costs for? Respectively, what can be done? Can also partners be involved, such as provider of Design Thinking and Innovation?	Applicants have to come up with their own proposition of how to structure the idea funding.
2.68	Contribution dependent on third-party funds – what funds are considered as third party funds? Are these all funds which are not Swiss Government funded (e.g. funds from Cantons, from Wirtschaftsförderung, from EU-Projects or Research funding, and of course from privat organizations, such as industries etc.) or are third-party funds considered here, only those generating money from private organizations only (such as companies, foundations etc., but not "public" money)?	Only cash contribution from private organisations can count towards the third party funding objectives.
2.69	In our Lab, we have no human resources to test industrial ideas in a first and simple prototype. Is it possible with the conveying means e.g. to hire a technician who closes this gap?  Our research takes place on the construction site scale and therefore we focus on large-scale demonstrators. According to the tender, however, the focus is on many ideas that you can initially test with 10kCHF. Therefore, I would also be interested in whether instead of the desired 40 - 80 ideas can focus on only 20, but in large format.	No, this is outside of the scope of the Innovation Booster (no participation of societal partner, no idea generation, no open submission of ideas and evaluation process)  The maximum idea funding per idea is 25kCHF. <del>Outside of this limitation anything is possible.</del> Applicants have to come up with their own proposition of how to structure the idea funding.
2.70	I did not understand a point on the NTN innovation booster. This fund aims to fund ideas or projects. The maximum amount allocated is 500kCHF / year over 4 years. As for ideas, maximum 25kCHF per idea. My question is, does a consortium have to test several ideas (financed by the 25k) and the ideas "retained" can then be developed into projects? I do not understand the nuance / the connection between the two.	See "The key points in brief" on <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html</a>

2.71	Use of the funding money? How much third-party funding does an NTN have to have?	see documents on <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html</a>
2.72	Contribution dependent on third-party funds – what funds are considered as third party funds? Only those generating money from private organizations?	Yes: third party funding is defined as cash contribution by non-public organisations. Please also see answer 2.68.
2.73	Do the total funds for developing an idea always be provided 50% by Innosuisse and 50% by the implementation partner, regardless of which model we choose?	No, the idea-funding can be provided to any type of organization as specified in the NTN – Innovation Booster concept and proposal. For details read documents on <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html</a>
2.74	If the consortium is organized as an association, can the membership fees of the consortium members be declared to the association as third-party funds?	Yes. However the third-party funds must be a clear signal that there is a concrete interest from private organisations and structures in the activities and support offered by the NTN – Innovation Boosters.
2.75	Can the funds provided by the implementation partner by "in kind", or does it have to be cash?	Funds must not be provided by an implementation partner, but third-party funding must be intended as cash contributions. This means that any non-public organization can provide third-party fund required, in form of cash contribution either to the activities of the Innovation Booster or to complement the idea-funding scheme.
2.76	The tender documents contain a note that the implementation partner should provide financial support for the financing of ideas. Does this contribution have to be a cash contribution or can it also be the contribution of the implementation partner? If it has to be cash and personal contribution does not count, what is the advantage of the implementation partner to go this way instead of applying for an Innoscheck, where he does not have to pay cash and can obtain a university contribution of CHF 15,000? Isn't there a risk that the implementation partners will switch to the Innoscheck as soon as they have to pay in the NTN system?	<p>It is not mandatory that an implementation partner does not have to provide financial support for ideas funding. Industrial organisations and for profit organisations can even receive direct funding if so decided by the NTN Innovation Booster and detailed in the accepted proposal.</p> <p>However, third party fund must be generated to prove the interest of implementation partners in the actions and activities of the NTN – Innovation Booster.</p> <p>If the concept of the NTN – Innovation Booster plans that implementation partners must contribute to the idea funding activities, then external expenses (e.g. costs at Universities, tests, materials...) from implementation partners for the development of the ideas can be counted as third-party cash contributions.</p>

2.77	The maximum funding for tests is set at 25'000 CHF per idea. Should a test prove sufficiently successful, can it – with added new and refined elements – be reconsidered for a new test for up to 25'000 CHF? Can a test exceed in exceptional circumstances 25'000 CHF? Certain tests may have to involve more costly evaluations. Prototyping may be adequate for testing technology but not necessarily services to vulnerable people.	It depends on the “new and refined” elements, but principally not (the idea funding is intended as a first proof of concept support step).  No. We want to fund “prof of principle” test. More advanced projects should be submitted as an innovation project.
2.78	The various documents on the tender are not entirely clear on this: staff costs (booster coordination & admin) are included in the maximum funding of 500'000 for activities and idea testing? Should this be the case, this means that activities funding will by and large cover costs for methodological support (e.g. design thinking experts, specialized facilitators, etc.) and staff?	Yes; plus organization of events, workshops and activities needed to make the initiative work.
2.79	From your experience with previous NTN how much would you budget (in terms of %) for the personnel costs (coordination & admin) of a full innovation booster?	The budget of each NTN Innovation Booster has to be decided by the leading house and justified in the application. The average Innosuisse contribution is thought to be around 300k. – of which at least half should be distributed for idea funding. The specifics have to be defined for each NTN Innovation Booster. For more details, please also see the Guide to Application on the Innosuisse website <a href="http://www.innosuisse.ch/innovationbooster">www.innosuisse.ch/innovationbooster</a> , pages 5 and 20.
•	• <b>Performance</b>	
2.80	How do you measure success?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key indicators - tangible measures</li> <li>• Numbers of ideas - a set of indicators that Innosuisse proposes</li> </ul> Even you can propose your own indicators
2.81	Does Innosuisse define the indicators measuring performance?	Yes. One part is defined by Innosuisse. One part by the Leading House (specific to the boosters). They propose and Innosuisse will negotiate with them to accept them. Impact is very hard to measure. If the innovation culture is different in 4 years in some sectors - This would be a great success for the program.
2.82	KPIs: are they about the number of projects accepted and going into implementation - which would be along the lines of what has been set prior for the NTN's?	Yes, this is one of the KPIs. For details read documents on <a href="https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html">https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home/be-connected/nationale-thematische-netzwerke/ntn-innovation-booster.html</a>

•	• <b>Various</b>	
2.83	Does Innosuisse support SME's in case of IP issues?	It is not the role of Innosuisse to regulate IP questions. It is case specific. <b>Please also see answer 2.85</b>
2.84	Social value: how about "pulling the plug" with vulnerable people? For example after an innovation idea has been rejected by the jury?	Design thinking helps us in some way. Maybe design thinking is not the way social innovation happens. All our examples are illustrations - those are examples, it does not have to be like this in every sector / branch. Innosuisse might test it for a year. Part of program is to install an innovation culture. Innosuisse is open in you suggesting methods.
2.85	IP: is there support for SME's for IP?	Innosuisse will not be directly involved in IP issues, but will advice to organisations that take care of such with internal or external expertise.
2.86	Point 4.2: Organizational form of the applicant: As a bicantonal university, the University of Basel is not profit-oriented. Does this have to be confirmed by a specific text passage?	Yes, according to Innosuisse legal framework, only applications from non-profit organisations based in Switzerland will be formally accepted and evaluated. The non-profit form will have to be proven by the applicant by a specific mention in the statute or "Reglemente" of the organization, and the base in Switzerland will have to be proven by UID number.
2.87	<p>We consider the creation of an association as leading house. Does this association already need to be registered at the submission date or is the simple creation via the signature of the statutes by the founding members of the association sufficient?</p> <p>Likewise, given the fact that money from the confederation will be managed for ideas funding, does the association need to foresee that its accounting is subject to external audits?</p>	<p>Please see answer 2.86.</p> <p>Yes. Financial have to be transparent and be able to be questioned and audited.</p>
2.88	<p>Under the umbrella of an innovation theme, the consortium/leading house should develop concrete ideas, which provide verifiable solutions and product and service concepts to the Swiss industry and society with a focus on customers' needs, feasibility and profitability."</p> <p>As most of the swiss companies are exporters, can the products and services which will be developed solve issues in foreign countries?</p>	<p>Yes, as long as the final goal of the Innovation Booster activities can be proven to have also a societal and economic impact in Switzerland (for instance, in form of job creation in Switzerland).</p>
2.89	Can the consortium apply with a newly registered association or must this association	New associations can apply if they show support or interest from important players in the thematic.

	<p>have been existing for already a certain period of time? In one of the examples you mention "they bring other important players on board and take part in the Innosuisse tender with a joint application for the purpose of setting up the association", which if we understand correctly would mean that there are two entities applying and can present in the application their ambition to set up the association.</p>	<p>A single entity must assume for every application the role of leading house, however further organizations and other players can be listed as members of a consortium or provide letter of intents.</p>
2.90	<p>It is mentioned that we need to present a list of ideas and what would be the amount invested vs. just presented a budget pool for the financing of the ideas. How detailed should we be in listing the ideas as technically this will take place during the "Development of working themes and formation of innovation teams"?</p>	<p>The list of ideas funded will need to be presented as a proof of utilization of the idea-funding budget. Innosuisse does not need technical details but a confirmation that the funds were spent towards idea-funding activities.</p>
2.91	<p>Innovation teams - must it be a separate innovation team for each idea?</p>	<p>One innovation team could potentially come up with more than one idea and apply for more than one (clearly separated) proof-of-concept or idea-funding grant.</p>
2.92	<p>Can organizations which act as Leading House for an NTN - Innovation Booster also receive Innosuisse funding for special events during the funding period? As long as it does not refer to the same activity, yes. This answer is unclear. Are you saying that you can't receive funding from the TSE vehicle if the thematic is similar to that of the NTN? Wouldn't it be a great way to fuel specific working themes for the upcoming years?</p>	<p>Innosuisse cannot double-fund the same activities. In general, organization of events and workshops in the thematic of the NTN – Innovation Booster should be covered with the Activity Funded budget allocated within the action.</p>