



Information on the direct funding by SERI of mono-beneficiary projects (ERC and EIC) submitted and evaluated under Horizon Europe

Information from 17 December 2021

State of play

As of 22 June 2021, Switzerland is considered a non-associated third country for the submission of research and innovation projects for Horizon Europe and related programmes and initiatives. In principle, it is not possible for participants from a non-associated third country to conduct mono-beneficiary projects and to be funded by the European Commission (EC).

However, project proposals submitted by researchers and innovation actors from Switzerland were evaluated by the EC within the frame of the **2021 calls for ERC Starting Grants (StG), ERC Consolidator Grants (CoG) and EIC Accelerator (first cut-off)**. Research and innovation actors with a positively evaluated 2021 ERC Starting Grant or CoG application (an application on the so-called “main list”, selected for funding if the institution were eligible for EU-funding) and EIC Accelerator application (an application receiving a full ‘GO’ in the evaluation of the full proposal) will be funded directly by SERI. This accounts for projects implemented with an institution in Switzerland as beneficiary. This direct funding is provided for in the [Federal Decree](#) on the Horizon Package 2021-2027. A Financial Guarantee for Swiss Participants in the 2021 ERC StG and ERC CoG Calls, signed by State Secretary Martina Hirayama, is available [here](#).

Direct funding from SERI will also be used to finance so-called **transfer grants**. Thus, researchers who have obtained project funding under Horizon Europe from an institution in an EU Member State or an Associated Country and accept a call to a Swiss institution will be directly funded by SERI as long as Switzerland is considered a non-associated third country.

Applying for direct funding from SERI for mono-beneficiary projects

SERI has set up a [platform](#), where R&I actors with a positively evaluated proposal of a mono-beneficiary project can submit their personal data and documents. The requested information includes:

- documents that have already been submitted to the EC as part of the proposal submission and
- documents that confirm the positive evaluation by the EC.

A **guide on how to apply for direct funding in mono-beneficiary projects** is available [here](#).

The **subsidy contracts** are expected to be issued by SERI in the same timeframe as is foreseen by the ERCEA/EISMEA in the corresponding Horizon Europe instruments.

A **guide on the submission of financial reports** is already available [here](#). This guide is primarily intended to serve as a reference for compiling financial reports to SERI in order to comply with national legislation. Unless otherwise stipulated in national legislation, SERI will align itself with the funding and calculation principles established by the EC, which are fully explained in the [Annotated Model Grant Agreement](#) (version as of 30 November 2021).

Contact

State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI
Unit EU Framework Programmes

Hotline: Tel. +41 58 463 50 50, europrogram@sbfi.admin.ch