

Annex 2

Poland, National Science Centre

1 Eligibility

1.1 Personal Eligibility (Polish applicants)

The Polish Principal Investigators must meet the following criteria:

- have obtained their PhD at least 4 years prior to the submission deadline;
- be scientifically independent researchers and be able to lead the project team;
- be employed under an employment contract at an eligible research institution for the duration of the whole project, giving them access to the relevant research infrastructure.

1.2. Institutional Eligibility (Polish institutions)

The project must be submitted by a Swiss applicant. All Swiss applicants must meet the eligibility requirements of the SNSF specified in annex 2 for Switzerland.

Each project must comprise at least three eligible Principal Investigators, including two applicants from two different participating countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Romania or Poland) and one applicant from Switzerland.

The Polish Principal Investigator must be employed under an employment contract throughout the duration of the project in one of the following types of eligible host institutions:

1. universities;
2. federations of science and HE entities;
3. research institutes of the Polish Academy of Sciences, operating pursuant to the Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 1796, as amended);
4. research institutes operating pursuant to the Act on Research Institutes of 30 April 2010 (Journal of Laws of 2022, item 498);

5. international research institutes established pursuant to separate Acts, operating in the Republic of Poland;
6. Łukasiewicz Centre operating pursuant to the Act on the Łukasiewicz Re-search Network of 21 February 2019 (Journal of Laws of 2020, item 2098);
7. institutes operating within the Łukasiewicz Research Network;
8. Polish Academy of Arts and Sciences;
9. other entities involved in research independently on a continuous basis;
10. research centres of the Polish Academy of Sciences within the meaning of the Act on the Polish Academy of Sciences of 30 April 2010;
11. scientific libraries;
12. legal entities with their registered office in Poland;
13. President of the Central Office of Measures.

Groups of entities¹ comprising of at least two entities mentioned in sections 1-7 may also apply. In such case the host institution of the Principal Investigator is the leader of the group of entities, which provides merit-based and financial information in the application and reports for the entire group. The CV in the application is provided by the PI only.

2 Funding Modalities

A maximum amount of CHF 350,000 is allocated per project for the Polish side. All costs of the Polish part of the project are covered by SNSF. The call is not co-funded from the Polish national contribution.

The Polish part of the budget is prepared in CHF using the daily middle exchange rate of the Polish National Bank prevailing at the day of the announcement of the call (April 2, 2024). For the reporting of all costs incurred in national currency, a daily middle exchange rate of the Polish National Bank prevailing at the last working day of the reporting period will act as reference for the conversion from national currency to Swiss Franc.

It is not necessary to submit the application in the national application system of the NCN. Merit based and financial details concerning the Polish side of the partnership must be completed in the SNSF's electronic submission system mySNF. A declaration, signed by an authorised representative of the Polish host institution confirming the institution's necessary involvement and support for the project should it be awarded funding, must be submitted in mySNF. More details and template of the declaration are available on the NCN web site.

The Polish host institution is not required to sign a grant agreement with the NCN, nor submit any financial reports. The grant agreement is signed by the Polish PI and an authorised representative of the Polish host institution, the consortium partners including an authorised representative of the respective host institution as well as the Swiss PI, who is responsible for transferring funds to the Polish host institution.

Eligible costs are specified in the call text.

VAT is eligible if the host institution is entitled to reclaim VAT.

¹ Entities other than the PI's host institution are NOT "project partners" referred to in chapter 5.1 and the list of eligible costs of the Call for Proposals.

Personnel costs are eligible under the following conditions:

- Actual salaries plus social security charges, benefits and other statutory costs included in the remuneration of the Principal Investigator up to a limit of 190,000 PLN per year, researchers up to a limit of 140,000 PLN per year and specialist auxiliary staff, lab managers and technicians up to a limit of 100,000 PLN per year can be covered according to national regulations and standard policy on remuneration at the host institution. These amounts concern full-time employment for a full year. Full time direct involvement in the implementation of the project must be supported by documentation in line with national and internal regulations e.g., employment contract, an appointment or secondment decision etc. In the case of employment for less than the entire year, the limits are proportionally calculated. In the case of part-time direct involvement in the implementation of the project the percentage of time spent on project implementation must be indicated in a document in line with national and internal regulations e.g., employment contract, an appointment or secondment decision etc. In case of part-time involvement in the project the limit is proportionally calculated.
- If the host institution opens a new post required for the implementation of the project, transparency of the vacancy announcement and selection procedure must be ensured.
- Additional remuneration for work performed as part of a project's implementation may be planned for members of the research team whose salaries are not covered partly or fully from the project budget. Additional remuneration can be claimed pursuant to full- or part-time employment contracts (e.g. in the form of a benefit, in Polish "dodatek"), as well as pursuant to civil law contracts. Research team members remunerated pursuant to an employment contract by a host institution may receive additional remuneration only in a form other than pursuant to a civil law contract.
- Additional remuneration is eligible up to a limit of 5,000 PLN per month for the Principal Investigator, 2,000 PLN per month for the researcher and 1,000 PLN per month for specialist auxiliary staff, lab managers and technicians. The overall amount of additional remuneration for all project team members, cannot exceed the limit of 9,000 PLN per month. Additional remuneration is eligible expenditure if the rules applicable at the host institution provide for such payments. Additional remuneration is eligible in case of those members of the research team, whose actual salaries are not claimed from the project budget.

3 Submission

The applications only need to be submitted via mySNF by the Swiss applicant. The Polish applicant does not need to submit the application in Poland.

For more information, please contact:

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