



SOUR Call 1-2021

Questions and answers (Q&A)

Please carefully read the SOUR Call Guideline and this Q&A document.



1 Questions related to the scope of the call

Q 1.1: Do SOUR proposals of the current call have to focus on the guiding theme or one of the 4 Research Challenges of the first SWEET call or are SOUR proposals thematically free in the field of energy research?

Answer:

Proposals submitted to the current SOUR call must focus on the guiding theme of SWEET Call 1-2020 (Integration of Renewables into a Sustainable and Resilient Swiss Energy System), but are not restricted to one of the 4 Research Challenges (see also Call Guideline, page 4).

Q 1.2: Is an application with broad potential in overseas countries and limited potential in Switzerland (niche application) worth to hand in, or are the chances low that it will get funded under these circumstances?

Answer:

The aim is to complement the SWEET Call 1-2020 (Integration of Renewables into a Sustainable and Resilient Swiss Energy System) with alternative approaches. Only proposals within the scope of this call, i. e. within the guiding theme are eligible for consideration (eligibility criteria E4).

2 Questions related to the application procedure

Q 2.1: Does the 5-page limit for the project description include or exclude the cover page? The red box in the template explains that the document must not exceed 5 pages (i.e. including the cover page); however, the page numbering in the template starts with "1" on the second page (indicating that the cover page should not be counted).

Answer:

The 5-page limit for the project description does not include the cover page. Therefore, the page numbering in the template is adjusted so that the second page receives the page number -1-.

Q 2.2: May projects also be submitted without a partner?

Answer:

Yes, having project partners is optional (Call Guideline, 2.2.3. "may seek support").

Q 2.3: Can the partner be another researcher from the same institution?

Answer:

Yes

Q 2.4: May publication fees, conference fees and travel cost be included in the eligible cost?



Answer:

Please carefully study section 2.4 and Appendix B of the Call Guideline. Publication fees, conference fees and travel cost are included in the eligible cost.

Q 2.5: Is the financial contribution only for the salary of the applicant within the host institution, or can it be used for more than one person within the host or partner institution?

Answer:

As can be seen in 2.4 the financial contribution can also be used for the salaries of the project partners.

Q 2.6: What is the difference between the "company" and the "host institution"?

- a. is it meant that the researcher leaves its current employee for the time of the project and works at another Institution?
- b. is it also possible that "company" and "host institution" are the same, i.e. the researcher stays with the University or company where he is currently employed for carrying out the SOUR project?

Answer:

The host institution must be an eligible Swiss research institution (see 2.2.2 of the Call Guideline) and therefore not a "company".

How the relationship between the researcher and the host institution is regulated is up to the applicant. In case of success, the host institution will become the contractual partner of the SFOE and must therefore confirm its role in advance with the required Letter of Commitment (see section 3.2.3 of the Call Guideline). All payments related to the SOUR grant will be made to the host institution. How the researcher is "paid" by the host institution must be regulated in a separate agreement between the researcher and the host institution.