



SWEETER Call 1-2026

Questions and answers (Q&A)

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



1 Questions related to the pre-proposal phase

Q 1.1: The call states that one host institution is allowed. Would it also be possible to have two co-host institutions?

Answer: No, only one host institution is permitted.

Q 1.2: The call states that one director is allowed. Would it be possible to appoint two co-directors? If so, could they be affiliated with different host institutions?

Answer: No, only one director is permitted. You are free to have several deputy directors, however.

Q 1.3: In Table 3-3 what exactly does the 85% (“Sum of SWEETER funding for all WPs”) refer to?

Answer: This is the fixed budget, see Section 3.3.1 in the Call Guideline. Assuming the number of members is not greater than 15, the fixed budget amounts to 85% of 11.95 Mio CHF. (The remaining 15% is the flexible budget.)

Q 1.4: What is the expected relationship between SWEETER funding and in-kind contributions for both academic and non-academic members?

Answer: We assume that by ‘in-kind contributions’ you mean ‘own contributions.’ There is no relationship in the sense that there is no expected minimum for own contributions, irrespective of whether they come from academic or non-academic partners. However, note that evaluation criterion C5 includes the aspect “Plausibility of the budget allocation in light of the principle of subsidiarity, the research challenges, and the proposed activities”, where the “principle of subsidiarity” is explained at the beginning of Section 3.3: “To ensure that the overall funding is sufficient for the work programme of the consortium, members and collaboration partners supplement the requested SWEETER funding, each according to its abilities, with own and third-party contributions: [...]”

Q 1.5: Is there a maximum percentage of SWEETER funding that can be allocated to an industry partner, with the remainder to be provided as in-kind contribution? If so, what proportions apply?

Answer: No, there is no maximum percentage for members, irrespective of whether they are academic or non-academic. However, note again evaluation criterion C5 as stated in our answer to Q1.4.

Q 1.6: Do you know of any interested Swiss universities or institutes of the ETH domain we could join as consortium partner? Is there a matchmaking platform available or an event planned to support the consortium creation in order to submit a joint notification of intent to submit a pre-proposal?

Answer: The SFOE does not get involved in the formation of consortia. After 12 May, the SWEET Office will publish the names of the directors of those consortia that have submitted a notification of intent to submit a pre-proposal (see Section 4.1 of the Call Guideline) and that have agreed to the publication of their names.



Q 1.7: Can the Coordinator change between the 12th of May and the preproposal submission?

Answer: Yes, it is possible to change the director between the notification and the pre-proposal submission. Unless otherwise specified, the SWEET website will display the name of the person listed in the notification until the pre-proposal is submitted.

Q 1.8: Is it correct that it will be possible to join to a consortium also in phase of pre-proposal, after the 12th May?

Answer: Yes, by 12 May, only the potential host institutions need to have been identified; the full consortia do not need to be finalised yet (see Point 5a in Section 1.2.1 of the Call Guideline).

Q 1.9: Do both topics need to be addressed within a single consortium (1. High temperature processes and 2. Reuse, repurposing, remanufacturing and recycling), or may a consortium focus on either Topic 1 or Topic 2?

Answer: A consortium must address both research challenges, see the beginning of Section 2 in the Call Guideline.

Q 1.10: In the proposal it states that the director must provide 30% of his time to the project - may this 30% be delegated to his group heads as deputy directors? Or are deputy directors additional?

Answer: No, the required 30% FTE must be provided by the director personally and cannot be delegated. Deputy directors may support the director, but they are additional and do not replace this requirement.