



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of the Environment, Transport,
Energy and Communications DETEC

Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE
Energy Research and Cleantech

SWEET Programme

Statistics

Version 1.0 of 18 June 2026

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BFE-D-6B253501/403

Suggested citation:
Swiss Federal Office of Energy, "SWEET Programme Statistics", Berne, Switzerland, 2026.

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1 Introduction

[SWEET](#) (SWiss Energy research for the Energy Transition) is a funding programme owned and managed by the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE). The purpose of SWEET is to fund solution-oriented research and innovation activities with a focus on the targets of Switzerland's [Energy Strategy 2050](#) and [long-term climate strategy](#). To achieve these targets, transdisciplinary research is required to generate knowledge that is scientifically robust and evidence based as well as relevant to common policy, practice, and societal interests. Close collaborations between a broad range of academic disciplines and non-academic actors are therefore essential. Such collaborations, in the form of transdisciplinary consortia, are central to the SWEET programme. SWEET consortia apply for funding in response to competitive calls for proposals.

The design of the SWEET programme, especially its focus on transdisciplinary consortia and competitive calls for proposals, is based on the recommendations of the Extended Energy Commission of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences¹ and the Federal Energy Research Commission CORE.² The SWEET programme, including its focus on transdisciplinarity and competition, was [approved by Federal Parliament](#) on 15 September 2020. From 2020 to 2024, seven calls for proposals were published that resulted in ten consortia. The purpose of this document is to present statistical information on the proposals submitted in response to the calls, the success rates, and the composition of both funded and funded consortia.

¹ Extended Energy Commission of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences (2020), [Energieforschung 2020+ in der Schweiz – Empfehlungen für zukünftige programmatische Finanzierung](#).

² Federal Energy Research Commission CORE (2021), Empfehlungen zur Energieforschung der Schweiz ab 2021.

2 Submissions and success rates

2.1 Per call

Call	Numbers			Success rates (%)			Comments
	PP	FP	FC	FP/PP	FC/FP	FC/PP	
1-2020	n/a	13	4	n/a	31	n/a	Single-stage call (no pre-proposals)
1-2021	5	4	2	80	50	40	
2-2021	1	1	0	100	0	0	This call resulted in several changes
1-2022	1	1	1	100	100	100	As exception, only 1 consortium desired
2-2022	3	2	1	67	50	33	
1-2023	3	2	1	67	50	33	
1-2024	2	2	1	100	50	50	
Total		25	10		40		Call 1-2020 included
Total	15	12	6	80	50	40	Call 1-2020 excluded
Average	3.3	2.5	1.3	77	50	38	Calls 1-2020, 2-2021, and 1-2022 excluded

Legend: PP = Pre-proposal, FP = Full proposal, FC = funded consortia

Notes on comments

1. The first call was executed as a single-stage call because of the tight schedule that arose out of the SFOE's intention to support the first SWEET consortia soon after the end of the SCCER programme. All subsequent calls have been executed as two-stage calls.
2. As indicated in the above table, several changes were made because of Call 2-2021. The primary reasons for the changes were that only one pre-proposal was submitted and that the evaluation panel, which was composed of international experts independent of the SFOE, recommended that the full proposal not be funded. The changes included a soft limit on the consortium size and clearer descriptions of the expectations of the SFOE.
3. Call 1-2022 is an exceptional call in that its overarching goal is to establish in the field of energy research a close collaboration between the natural sciences/engineering on the one hand and the social sciences and humanities on the other hand. In particular, the call aims to encourage greater participation from those disciplines within the SSH that have so far been rather underrepresented in energy research. To achieve the closer collaboration and greater participation, the SFOE stipulated that as an exception, only one consortium will be invited to prepare a full proposal.

Note on success rates

The average success rate of funded consortia relative to the submitted pre-proposals (FC/PP) reported in the above table can be put into context by comparing it to those of other funding programmes:

Programme / Call	Success rate	Source
Innosuisse Flagship Call 2023	33%	Swiss Science Council (2026), Evaluation of the Innosuisse Portfolio
SNF Sinergia (2008-2020)	33%	SSC (2022), Evaluation of the Swiss National Science Foundation , Annexe I-IV
SNF NRP 59	31%	Technopolis (2018), Impact evaluation of National Research Programmes 59, 60 and 61
SNF NRP 61	23%	Technopolis (2018), Impact evaluation of National Research Programmes 59, 60 and 61
Innosuisse Flagship Call 2021	19%	Swiss Science Council (2026), Evaluation of the Innosuisse Portfolio

SNF NRP 60	18%	Technopolis (2018), Impact evaluation of National Research Programmes 59, 60 and 61
Horizon Europe	16%	sciencebusiness.net (2022), Horizon Europe grant success rates are up compared with Horizon 2020
SNF NCCR (1999-2017)	14%	Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education (2021), Swiss National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR), Evaluation of the Selection Process of the Fifth Series
SNF NRP 70 & 71	11%	SNF (2014), NRP 70 and NRP 71: selection of 128 pre-proposals , SNF (2014), NRPs 70 and 71: 15 joint projects and 26 single projects launched

2.2 Per domain

Call	Domain	Numbers			Success rates (%)			Comments
		PP	FP	FC	FP/PP	FC/FP	FC/PP	
1-2020	ETH		8	3		38		Single-stage call (no pre-proposals)
	Univ.		3	1		33		
	UAS		2	0		0		
1-2021	ETH	3	2	1	67	50	33	
	Univ.	0	0	0				
	UAS	2	2	1	100	50	50	
2-2021	ETH	1	1	0	100	0	0	This call resulted in several changes
	Univ.	0	0	0				
	UAS	0	0	0				
1-2022	ETH	0	0	0				As exception, only 1 consortium desired
	Univ.	1	1	1	100	100	100	
	UAS	0	0	0				
2-2022	ETH	2	2	1	100	50	50	
	Univ.	0	0	0				
	UAS	1	0	0	0			
1-2023	ETH	1	1	1	100	100	100	
	Univ.	0	0	0				
	UAS	2	1	0	50	0	0	
1-2024	ETH	2	2	1	100	50	50	
	Univ.	0	0	0				
	UAS	0	0	0				
Total	ETH		16	7		44		Call 1-2020 included
	Univ.		4	2		50		
	UAS		5	1		20		
Total	ETH	9	8	4	89	50	44	Call 1-2020 excluded
	Univ.	1	1	1	100	100	100	
	UAS	5	3	1	60	33	20	
Average	ETH	2.0	1.8	1.0	88	57	50	Calls 1-2020, 2-2021, and 1-2022 excluded
	Univ.	0.0	0.0	0.0				
	UAS	1.3	0.8	0.3	60	33	20	

Legend: PP = Pre-proposal, FP = Full proposal, FC = funded consortia

2.3 Per host institution

Host institutions are Swiss institutions that are entitled to receive funding from the SWEET programme and that apply for funding on behalf of a consortium. For the calls issued between 2020 and 2024, the host institutions were required to be Swiss institutions of higher education.

2.3.1 ETH domain

Call	Institution	Numbers			Success rates (%)			Comments
		PP	FP	FC	FP/PP	FC/FP	FC/PP	
1-2020	Empa		2	0		0		Single-stage call (no pre-proposals) Funded consortia: EDGE, PATHFNDR, SURE
	EPFL		4	1		25		
	ETH		1	1		100		
	PSI		1	1		100		
1-2021	Empa	0						Funded consortium: SWICE
	EPFL	1	1	1	100	100	100	
	ETH	2	1	0	50	0	0	
	PSI	0						
2-2021	Empa	0						This call resulted in several changes
	EPFL	0						
	ETH	0						
	PSI	1	1	0	100	0	0	
1-2022	Empa							As exception, only 1 consortium desired
	EPFL							
	ETH							
	PSI							
2-2022	Empa	1	1	1	100	100	100	Funded consortium: reFuel.ch
	EPFL	1	1	0	100	0	0	
	ETH	0						
	PSI	0						
1-2023	Empa	0						Funded consortium: RECIPE
	EPFL	0						
	ETH	1	1	1	100	100	100	
	PSI	0						
1-2024	Empa	1	1	1	100	100	100	Funded consortium: ACHIEVE
	EPFL	1	1	0	100	0	0	
	ETH	0						
	PSI	0						
Total	Empa		4	2		50		Call 1-2020 included
	EPFL		7	2		29		
	ETH		3	2		67		
	PSI		2	1		50		
Total	Empa	2	2	2	100	100	100	Call 1-2020 excluded
	EPFL	3	3	1	100	33	33	
	ETH	3	2	1	67	50	33	
	PSI	1	1	0	100	0	0	
Average	Empa	0.5	0.5	0.5	100	100	100	Calls 1-2020, 2-2021, and 1-2022 excluded
	EPFL	0.8	0.8	0.3	100	33	33	
	ETH	0.8	0.5	0.3	67	50	33	
	PSI	0.0						

Legend: PP = Pre-proposal, FP = Full proposal, FC = funded consortia

2.3.2 Universities

Call	Institution	Numbers			Success rates (%)			Comments
		PP	FP	FC	FP/PP	FC/FP	FC/PP	
1-2020	UniBS		2	0		0		Single-stage call (no pre-proposals) Funded consortium: DeCarbCH
	UniGE		1	1		100		
1-2021	UniBS	0						
	UniGE	0						
2-2021	UniBS	0						This call resulted in several changes
	UniGE	0						
1-2022	UniBS	1	1	1	100	100	100	As exception, only 1 consortium desired Funded consortium: CoSi
	UniGE	0						
2-2022	UniBS	0						
	UniGE	0						
1-2023	UniBS	0						
	UniGE	0						
1-2024	UniBS	0						
	UniGE	0						
Total	UniBS		3	1		33		Call 1-2020 included
	UniGE		1	1		100		
Total	UniBS	1	1	1	100	100	100	Call 1-2020 excluded
	UniGE	0						
Average	UniBS	0.0						Calls 1-2020, 2-2021, and 1-2022 excluded
	UniGE	0.0						

Legend: PP = Pre-proposal, FP = Full proposal, FC = funded consortia

2.3.3 Universities of applied sciences

Call	Institution	Numbers			Success rates (%)			Comments
		PP	FP	FC	FP/PP	FC/FP	FC/PP	
1-2020	HEP PH FR		1	0		0		Single-stage call (no pre-proposals)
	HES-SO VS		0	0				
	OST		1	0		0		
	ZHAW		0	0				
1-2021	HEP PH FR	0						Funded consortium: Lantern
	HES-SO VS	1	1	1	100	100	100	
	OST	0	0	0				
	ZHAW	1	1	0	100	0	0	
2-2021	HEP PH FR	0						This call resulted in several changes
	HES-SO VS	0						
	OST	0						
	ZHAW	0						
1-2022	HEP PH FR	0						As exception, only 1 consortium desired
	HES-SO VS	0						
	OST	0						
	ZHAW	0						
2-2022	HEP PH FR	0						
	HES-SO VS	0						
	OST	0						
	ZHAW	1	0	0				
1-2023	HEP PH FR	0						
	HES-SO VS	1	1	0				
	OST	0						
	ZHAW	1	0	0				
1-2024	HEP PH FR	0						
	HES-SO VS	0						
	OST	0						
	ZHAW	0						
Total	HEP PH FR		1	0		0		Call 1-2020 included
	HES-SO VS		2	1		50		
	OST		1	0		0		
	ZHAW		1	0		0		
Total	HEP PH FR	0						Call 1-2020 excluded
	HES-SO VS	2	2	1	100	50	50	
	OST	0						
	ZHAW	3	1	0	33	0	0	
Average	HEP PH FR	0.0						Calls 1-2020, 2-2021, and 1-2022 excluded
	HES-SO VS	0.5	0.5	0.3	100	50	50	
	OST	0.0						
	ZHAW	0.8	0.3	0.0	33	0	0	

Legend: PP = Pre-proposal, FP = Full proposal, FC = funded consortia

3 **Host institutions**

Host institutions are Swiss institutions that are entitled to receive funding from the SWEET programme and that apply for funding on behalf of a consortium. For the calls issued between 2020 and 2024, the host institutions were required to be Swiss institutions of higher education.

Domain	Host institution	Count	Funded consortia
ETH	Empa	2	reFuel.ch, ACHIEVE
	EPFL	2	EDGE, SWICE
	ETH	2	PATHFNDR, RECIPE
	PSI	1	SURE
Universities	Basel	1	CoSi
	Geneva	1	DeCarbCH
UAS	HES-SO	1	Lantern
Total		10	

4 Consortium compositions

SWEET consortia are composed of members and collaboration partners. Members finance their activities in consortia through SWEET funding as well as own and third-party contributions, whereas collaboration partners finance their activities solely through own and third-party contributions.

In interpreting the tables shown in this section, it should be kept in mind that the composition of consortia can change with time. The red and blue shading in the tables indicates the institutions with the largest and second-largest shares of the total number of members and collaboration partners.

4.1 Average compositions over all calls

Institution		Funded consortia				Unfunded consortia			
		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.	
		Avg.	%	Avg.	%	Avg.	%	Avg.	%
Academia	ETH domain	8.7	44	0.4	1	4.9	29	0.3	2
	Universities	3.5	18	0.2	1	2.7	16	0.1	0
	UAS	5.2	26	0.2	1	5.1	30	0.8	1
Non-comm. research institutes		0.1	1	0.0	0	0.2	1	0.0	0
Companies	Private sector	1.3	7	15.8	51	2.4	14	8.7	62
	Public sector	0.1	1	0.6	2	0.0	0	0.1	1
Associations		0.1	1	5.6	18	0.3	2	2.1	15
Cantons		0.0	0	2.4	8	0.1	0	0.6	4
Cities		0.2	1	1.1	4	0.1	1	0.7	5
Communes		0.0	0	0.3	1	0.0	0	0.2	1
NGOs (incl. foundations)		0.2	1	0.8	3	0.1	1	0.4	3
Other		0.4	2	3.7	12	1.0	6	0.8	6
Total		19.8	100	31.1	100	16.9	100	14.7	100

4.2 Compositions per call

4.2.1 Call 1-2020

Call 1-2020																	
Institution		DeCarbCH				EDGE				PATHFNDR				SURE			
		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Academia	ETH domain	2	12	0	0	8	47	0	0	16	67	0	0	9	53	0	0
	Universities	3	18	0	0	3	18	0	0	2	8	0	0	4	24	0	0
	UAS	11	65	0	0	4	24	0	0	5	21	0	0	2	12	0	0
Non-comm. research institutes		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Companies	Private sector	0	0	28	72	2	12	17	77	0	0	27	84	1	6	3	19
	Public sector	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
Associations		0	0	6	15	0	0	2	9	0	0	2	6	0	0	5	31
Cantons		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	25
Cities		0	0	3	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6
Communes		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NGOs (incl. foundations)		1	6	1	3	0	0	2	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	13
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	1	4	3	9	1	6	0	0
Total		17	100	39	100	17	100	22	100	24	100	32	100	17	100	16	100

4.2.2 Call 1-2021

Call 1-2021									
Institution		Lantern				SWICE			
		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.	
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Academia	ETH domain	2	11	0	0	11	46	0	0
	Universities	3	17	1	3	3	13	0	0
	UAS	9	50	0	0	5	21	1	4
Non-comm. research institutes		1	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Companies	Private sector	0	0	14	45	4	17	9	33
	Public sector	0	0	1	3	0	0	2	7
Associations		1	6	6	19	0	0	4	15
Cantons		0	0	2	6	0	0	3	11
Cities		2	11	3	10	0	0	3	11
Communes		0	0	1	3	0	0	2	7
NGOs (incl. foundations)		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Other		0	0	3	10	1	4	2	7
Total		18	100	31	100	24	100	27	100

4.2.3 Calls 1-2022, 2-2022, 1-2023, and 1-2024

Call 1-2022						Call 2-2022						Call 1-2023						Call 1-2024					
Institution		CoSi				reFuel.ch				RECIPE				ACHIEVE									
		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.		Members		Coll. part.							
		Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%						
Academia	ETH domain	7	27	0	0	9	56	0	0	5	50	1	5	18	62	3	11						
	Universities	11	42	0	0	2	13	1	1	0	0	0	0	4	14	0	0						
	UAS	8	31	0	0	4	25	0	0	2	20	1	5	2	7	0	0						
Non-comm. research institutes		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
Companies	Private sector	0	0	5	22	0	0	36	49	1	10	9	43	4	14	10	37						
	Public sector	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	1	10	1	5	0	0	0	0						
Associations		0	0	8	35	0	0	13	18	0	0	4	19	0	0	6	22						
Cantons		0	0	2	9	0	0	4	5	0	0	5	24	0	0	4	15						
Cities		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4						
Communes		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0						
NGOs (incl. foundations)		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	10	0	0	1	3	1	4						
Other		0	0	8	35	0	0	18	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	7						
Total		26	100	23	100	16	100	73	100	10	100	21	100	29	100	27	100						