



Rektorenkonferenz der Schweizer Universitäten  
Conférence des Recteurs des Universités Suisses  
Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Svizzere  
Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities

## Swiss Contribution



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Press Release

March 28<sup>th</sup> 2013

### Sciex-NMS<sup>ch</sup> - The Swiss contribution to EU enlargement

#### Results of the seventh call (November 2012):

**80 projects from excellent young researchers selected with a total funding of 6.6 million Swiss francs**

The Scientific Exchange Programme between Switzerland and the New Member States of the EU (Sciex-NMS<sup>ch</sup>) - part of the Swiss contribution to the EU enlargement - aims at establishing scientific partnerships in order to develop, on the long term, individual researchers' capacities, to foster innovation and to establish networks between researchers. In this way, the Sciex-NMS<sup>ch</sup> Programme finances fellowships for research stays of Doctoral Candidates or PostDocs in Swiss research teams for a period of 6 to 24 months.

The seventh call, which was opened to Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Romania, concluded on November 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. This call is again characterized by an increase in the number of submitted proposals - mostly resulting from an increase in proposals coming from the Human and Social Sciences.

170 eligible proposals were submitted and evaluated by experienced experts, covering the field of each proposal and following a procedure focussing on scientific quality. At the end of the procedure, the Sciex Steering Committee held a meeting in order to select the proposals on the basis of the results of the evaluation and the budget available.

#### **80 excellent researchers will carry out part of their research at a Swiss institution**

Altogether, the projects of 80 excellent researchers from Bulgaria (8), the Czech Republic (14), Estonia (5), Latvia (6), Poland (23) and Romania (24) were selected.

Among the selected researchers, 40 are Doctoral Candidates and 40 are PostDocs – and 41 are female researchers.

Again, the majority of the selected projects concerns the Natural and Technical Sciences: Engineering Sciences (12 projects), Basic Biological Research (12 projects), Chemistry (11 projects), Physics (9 projects), and Environmental Sciences (9 projects). 19 projects will be conducted in the Human and Social Sciences.

#### **A financial commitment of 6.6 million Swiss francs**

The total amount allocated for the seventh call amounts to 6.6 million Swiss francs - devoted to covering the costs for salaries and travel expenses of the researchers and split as follows:

- Bulgaria: 0.7 million CHF
- Czech Republic: 1 million CHF
- Estonia: 0.4 million CHF
- Latvia: 0.5 million CHF
- Poland: 1.8 million CHF
- Romania: 2.2 million CHF.

The list of all 80 selected Sciex Fellows and more detailed information about the Sciex Programme are available on the website [www.sciex.ch](http://www.sciex.ch). You will also find there the dates of the coming calls for tenders for the different partner countries.

#### **Repartition of the 80 projects between the Swiss universities and research institutes**

45 researchers will be integrated in a university:

- University of Bern: 6
- University of Fribourg: 7
- University of Geneva: 9
- University of Lausanne: 2
- University of Lucerne: 1
- University of Lugano: 2
- University of Neuchatel: 2
- University of St-Gallen: 1
- University of Zurich: 15

16 in a Swiss Federal Institute of Technology:

- EPFL - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne: 11
- ETHZ - Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich: 5

14 in a Swiss Federal Research Institute:

- EAWAG - Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology: 3
- EMPA - Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology: 10
- WSL - Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research: 1

5 in a university of applied sciences:

- BFH - Bern University of Applied Sciences: 1
- FHNW - University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland: 2
- SUPSI - University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland: 1
- ZHAW - Zurich University of Applied Sciences: 1.

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