

## SWISS LEADING HOUSE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

### USEFUL RESOURCES

Funded projects must be based on the principles of equitable partnership, open science and shared responsibility. Here are some resources to help researchers prepare their applications.

#### 1. EQUITY IN RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

International collaborations must be based on reciprocity, co-construction and mutual trust. Unbalanced partnerships can affect the scientific quality, sustainability and impact of the project. It is recommended to anticipate, from the design phase onwards, the distribution of roles, joint governance and the equitable recognition of contributions.

#### RESOURCES

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Two publications from the Swiss Alliance for Global Research Partnerships (ex-KFPE)

[KFPE Guide - 11 principles & 7 questions - GRP Alliance](#)

→ *A guide to conceive balanced and sustainable research partnerships.*

[Report: Evaluating the Quality of Global Research Partnerships - GRP Alliance](#)

→ *An evaluation grid useful for the writing and the management of projects.*

## 2. OPEN ACCESS & OPEN DATA

The free, accessible and responsible dissemination of scientific results is an increasing requirement of funding bodies. The Swiss LHMENA supports the principles of open science, in particular:

- Open access publications,
- Responsible management of research data (Open Data),
- Compliance with FAIR principles: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable.

### RESOURCES

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#### [FAIR Principles - GO FAIR](#)

→ *Presentation of the FAIR principles, an international standard for data management.*

#### **Tip :**

Contact the support services of your institution (libraries, research services, etc.) for personalized assistance: drafting a data management plan, choosing open access journals, recognized repositories, etc.

### 3. SAFETY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Some projects may involve increased risks (conflicts, crises, natural disasters). It is essential to assess these risks in advance and plan mitigation measures.

Another aspect to consider is the risk of dual use: certain technologies or data may be misused for military or unethical purposes, particularly in sensitive disciplines (biotechnology, AI, cybersecurity, etc.).

#### RESOURCES

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[Guidelines to conflict sensitive research - GRP Alliance](#)

→ *Recommendations on conducting research in high-risk contexts.*

[Travel Advice - Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA](#)

→ *Up-to-date information on the security situation in each country.*

[List of dual-use goods and technologies \(Annex 2 - in Swiss official languages only\) - State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO](#)

→ *Official Swiss list of dual-use goods subject to authorization.*

**Tip :** Check whether your institution offers guidelines or support for assessing the risks associated with international partnerships (mobility, country context, ethical or sensitive issues, etc.).

## 4. IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL PARTNERS

All proposals must be submitted by at least two partners: one in a university or eligible research institution in Switzerland, and one in an accredited or public research institution from a country of the MENA region (the list of eligible countries is given in the call document).

The Leading House facilitates partnership between researchers in Switzerland and the MENA region by providing match-making tools. Researchers interested in a collaboration can register to appear on a list, which is published online so that they can be found by potential partners.

If you are a researcher from the MENA region, you can find below some useful resources to help you identify potential partners.

### RESOURCES

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#### [Match-making tools - LHMENA](#)

→ *Registration form for researchers, and lists of potential partners.*

#### [Accredited Swiss Higher Education Institutions - swissuniversities](#)

→ *List of all accredited universities in Switzerland, including universities of applied sciences and universities of teacher education.*

#### [Institutions and Bodies within the ETH Domain - State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI](#) (Swiss national languages only)

→ *List of the Federal Institutes of Technology, including EPFL and ETH Zürich.*

#### [Research institutions of national importance - State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation SERI](#) (Swiss national languages only)

→ *List of research institutions supported by a Swiss federal funding.*

**Tip :** If you would like to check the eligibility of a potential partner or of your own institution, you can contact directly the Swiss LHMENA by email ([lhmena\\_at\\_hes-so.ch](mailto:lhmena_at_hes-so.ch)).

## 5. ADDITIONAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Research Partnership Grant offers financial support to initiate collaborations between partners. In order to ensure the sustainability of these partnerships, it is crucial to identify potential instruments that can support the next steps of the collaboration.

### RESOURCES

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#### Funding possibilities - GRP Alliance

→ Overview of funding opportunities for global research partnerships between Switzerland and low- and middle-income countries.

#### Funding opportunities - research.swiss

→ SERI official platform, giving an overview of the most important funding instruments, calls for joint research projects, and mobility programs available in Switzerland.

#### Scientific Exchanges - SNFS

→ The SNSF Scientific Exchanges scheme supports researchers who wish to organize a scientific event in Switzerland, host international colleagues for research visits, or visit collaborators abroad

#### Project funding - SNFS

→ The SNSF Project funding scheme, among others, can support international collaboration. If a collaborative project includes three or more applicants, one person can work at a research institution abroad.