

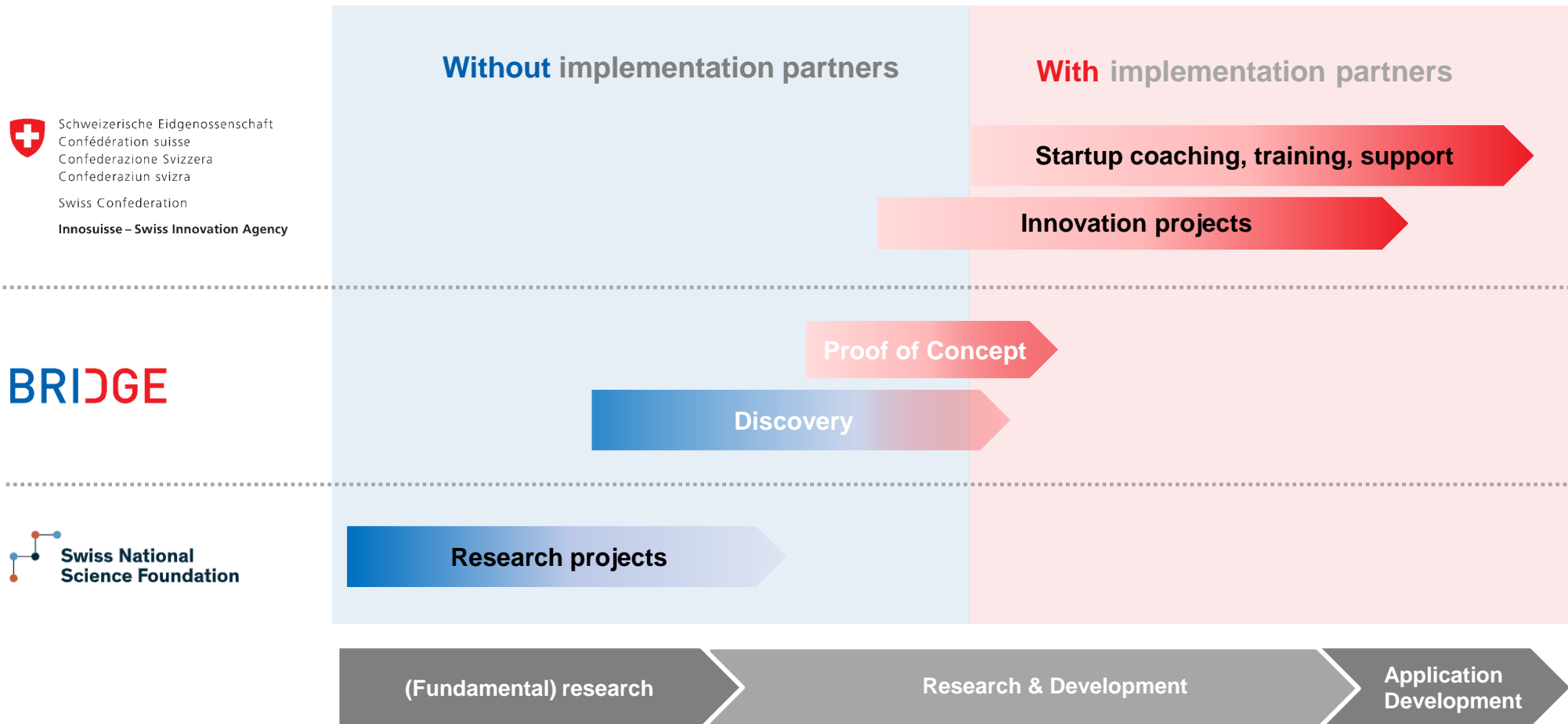
# BRIDGE



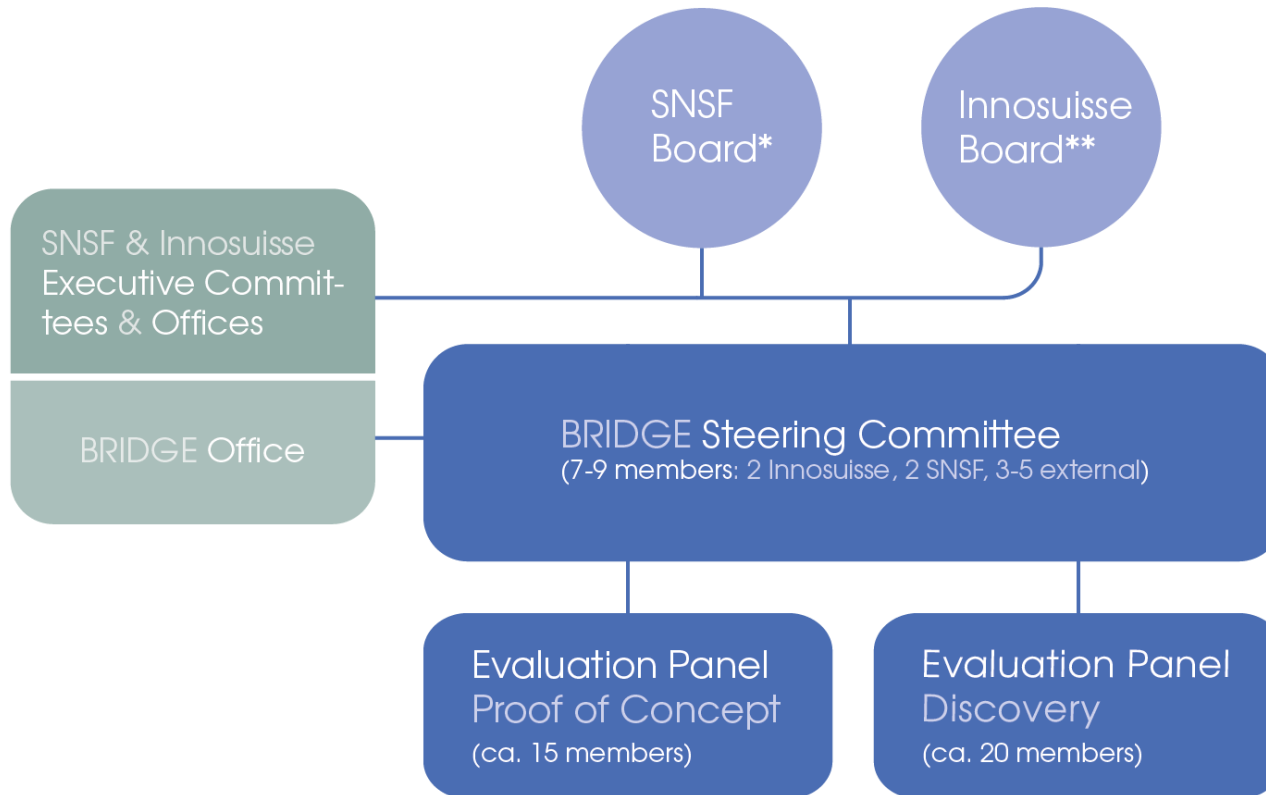
## Building Bridges

[https://www.snf.ch/media/de/MidiFiP2DarHMDIS/BRIDGE\\_presentation\\_general.pdf](https://www.snf.ch/media/de/MidiFiP2DarHMDIS/BRIDGE_presentation_general.pdf)

# Complete the funding portfolio



# BRIDGE governance



\* SNSF Presiding Board of the National Research Council

\*\* Innosuisse Board of Directors

## Overall responsibility

SNSF Presiding Board, Innosuisse Board of Directors

## Program-specific functions

- Steering Committee
- Evaluation Panels

## Advisory function

Stakeholder Group

## Administrative support

BRIDGE Office (supported by SNSF & Innosuisse)

# Goal of the **program**

« Turn scientific results into economic or societal innovation »

## **BRIDGE...**

- ... fosters the economic and societal potential of scientific research
- ... supports projects in the critical precompetitive phase that have a clear vision of potential application
- ... facilitates cooperation between Universities, ETHs, research institutes, and Universities of Applied Sciences, Universities of teacher education

# Two lines of funding

## Proof of Concept

- Scientific results developed into a product or an application
- Young researchers on their way to entrepreneurship or willing to implement their research findings
- Open to all types of innovation

## Discovery

- Interaction between basic and applied research to realise the innovation potential of scientific results
- Importance of the societal and economic impact
- Projects may cover any type of innovation or research field

**Discovery**

# Discovery

## Details of the funding scheme

### Eligibility criteria for the applicants

- Experienced researchers at a Swiss research institution

### Requirements for the project

- Integration of excellent science and high-impact innovation
- Research is at a stage where the risk is too large for implementation partners to co-fund
- Projects may cover any type of innovation or research field
- Up to 3 applicants of independent research groups with a clear vision of innovation

# Discovery

## Details of the funding scheme

- One call per year
- One project per applicant

### Eligible costs

- Project budget: max. 850'000 CHF per applicants for 4 years
  - Salaries of project personnel, excluding the salary of the applicants (special conditions may apply for UAS and CSEM researchers)
  - Project costs directly related to the project

### Duration

Up to 4 years

### Overhead

max. 15% overhead paid to the host institution



# Discovery

## Details of the funding scheme

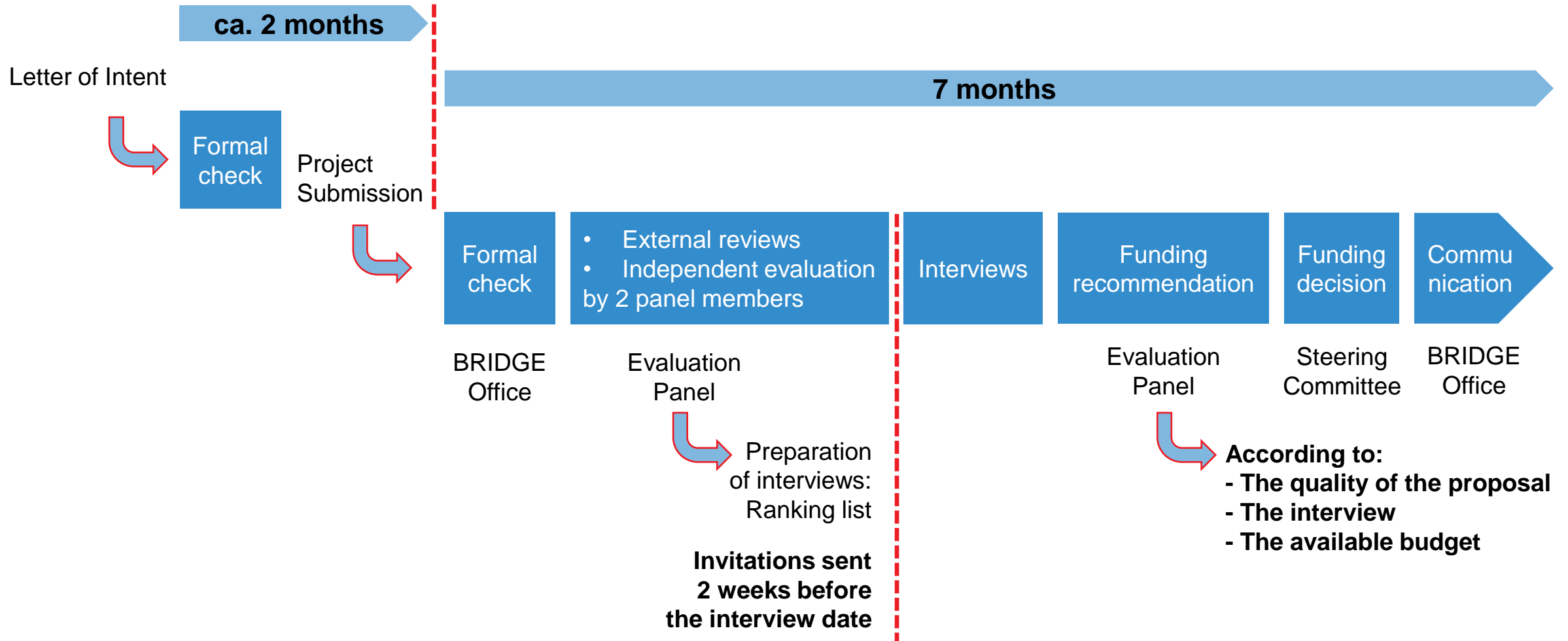
### Evaluation criteria

- **High scientific quality** going beyond state of the art
- The project contains a credible vision of the potential societal, environmental, technological or economical **impact** and benefits of the innovation and its possible **implementation**
- Convincing **roadmap towards implementation**
- Scientific and **innovation-oriented**, **entrepreneurial** as well as management competence of the applicants

### Evaluation procedure

- Evaluated by the Discovery Evaluation Panel and external experts
- Two levels:
  - evaluation of submitted documents (project)
  - interview of the applicant(s)
- Decision within 7 months

# Discovery Evaluation Process



# Discovery

## Additional support

### Assisted patent searches

An [assisted patent search for research and innovation](#) can be requested while you are running a BRIDGE project.

### Support for women

- BRIDGE supports career development and network building for the next generation of female researchers through the SNSF's [Gender Equality Grants](#)

### Support for PhDs and postdocs working on the project

- BRIDGE provides SNSF's [Flexibility Grants](#) to help researchers better balance their childcare responsibilities with their scientific work and academic careers

# **BRIDGE Application**

# BRIDGE Application

## Dos and Don'ts

### Dos

- Provide answer to the problem (start from the end)
- Follow the structure of the template (do not leave blank)
- Know and follow the evaluation criteria (self-evaluation)
- Start early (necessary documents and signatures, proofreading)

### Don'ts

- Focus only on the scientific part
- Neglect “impact” and “implementation”
- Hope for exceptions to the rules
- Imply too much

# BRIDGE Application

If you are not successful...

**... please first:**

- Read the decision letter carefully
- If you have questions, ask the BRIDGE Office to clarify
- Possibility of asking for reconsideration or of appealing against the decision

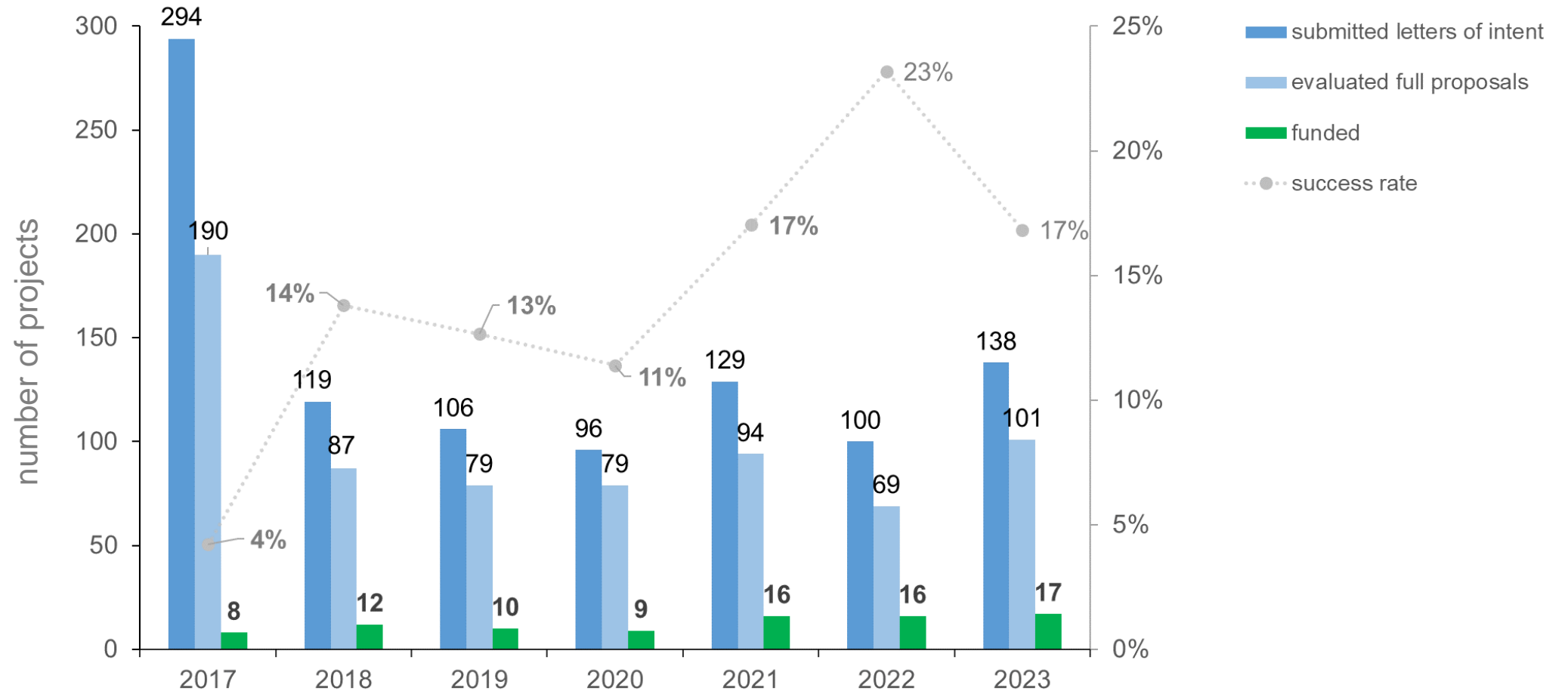
**Can you improve your application?**

- If rejected, you can apply a second time for the same project, provided you still meet all the formal requirements
- List and explain the changes made to the former version of the project

**BRIDGE 2017-2023**

# Discovery Current Status

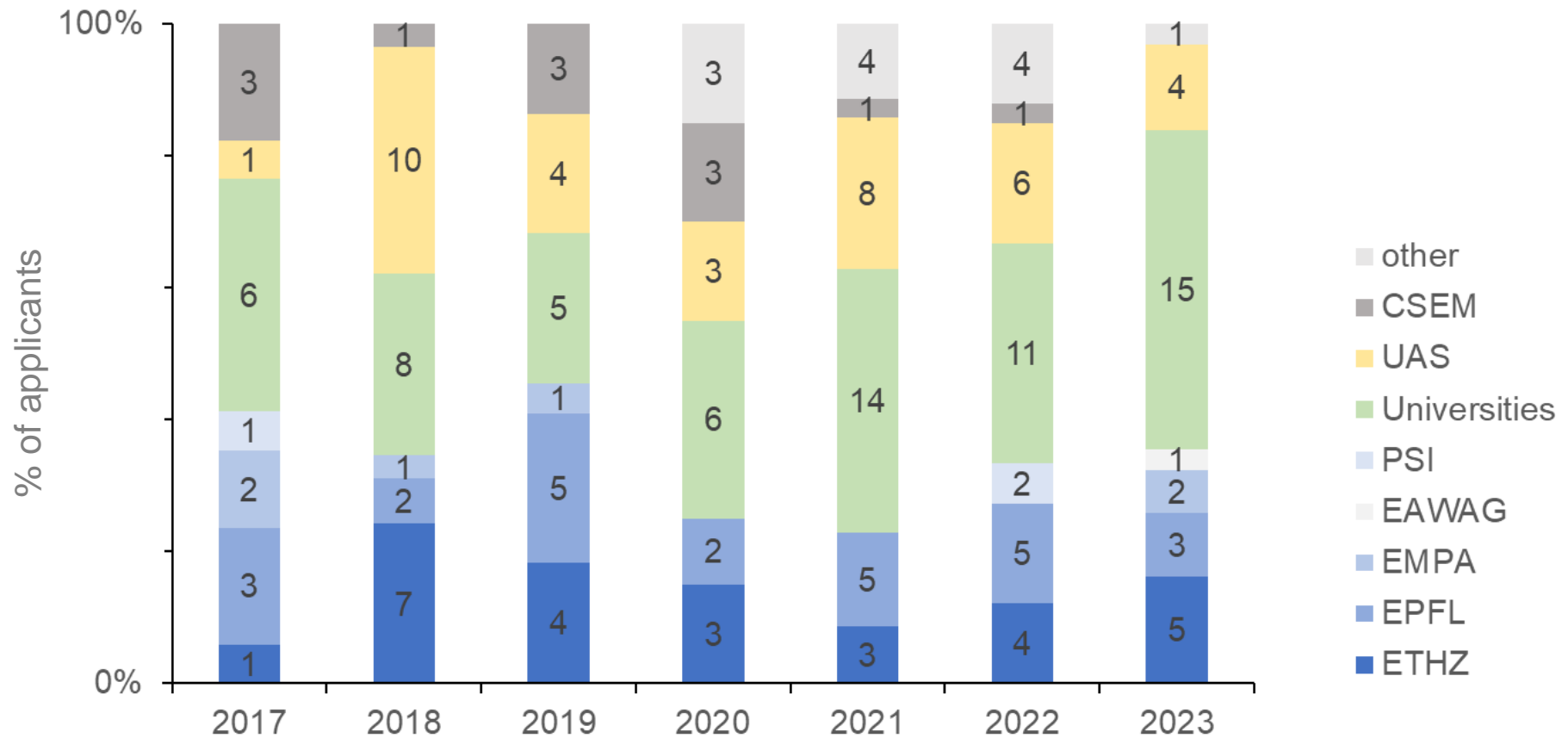
Submitted and accepted projects





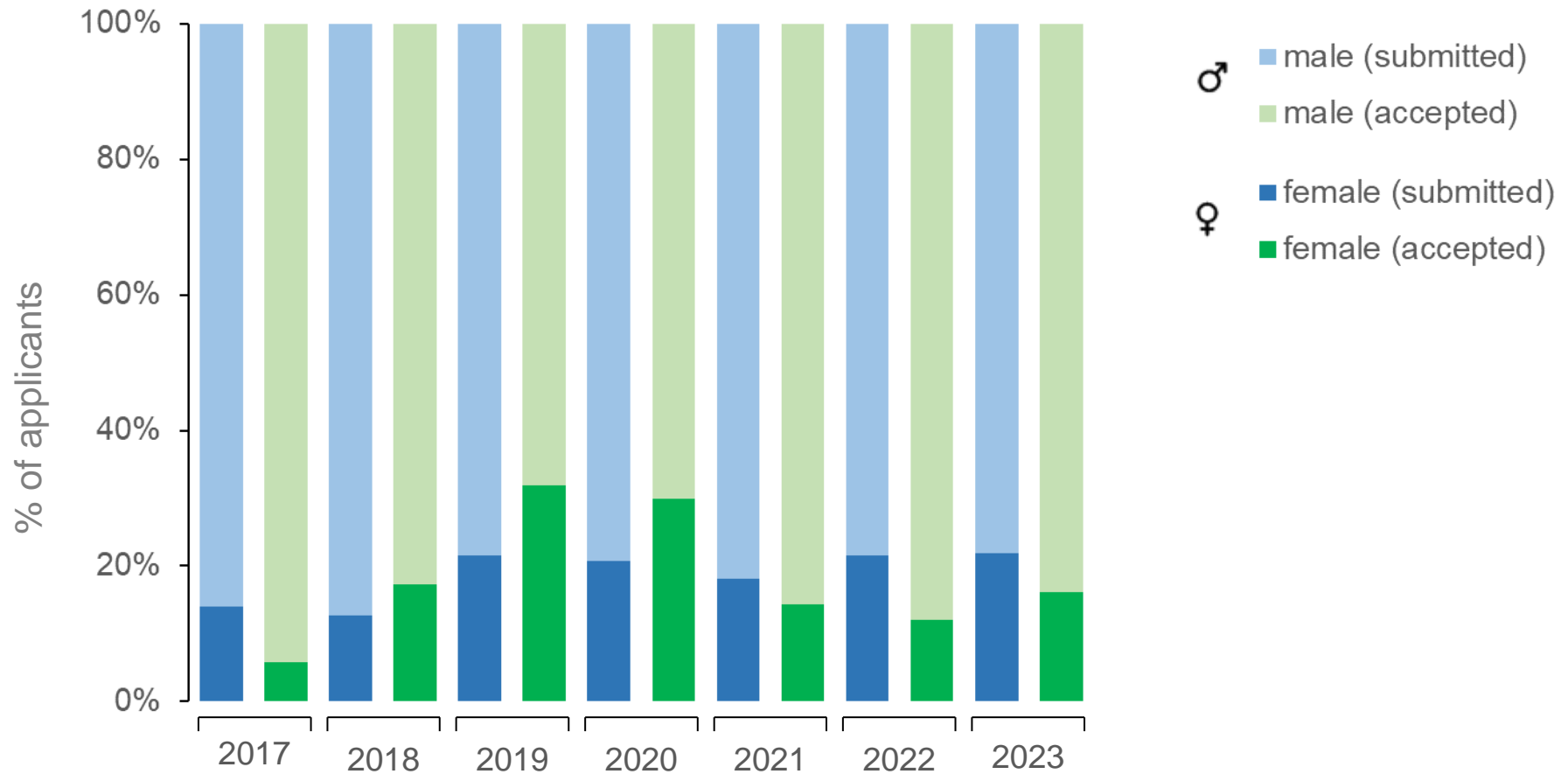
# Discovery information 2017-2023

Funding evolution – Involved institutions (all applicants)



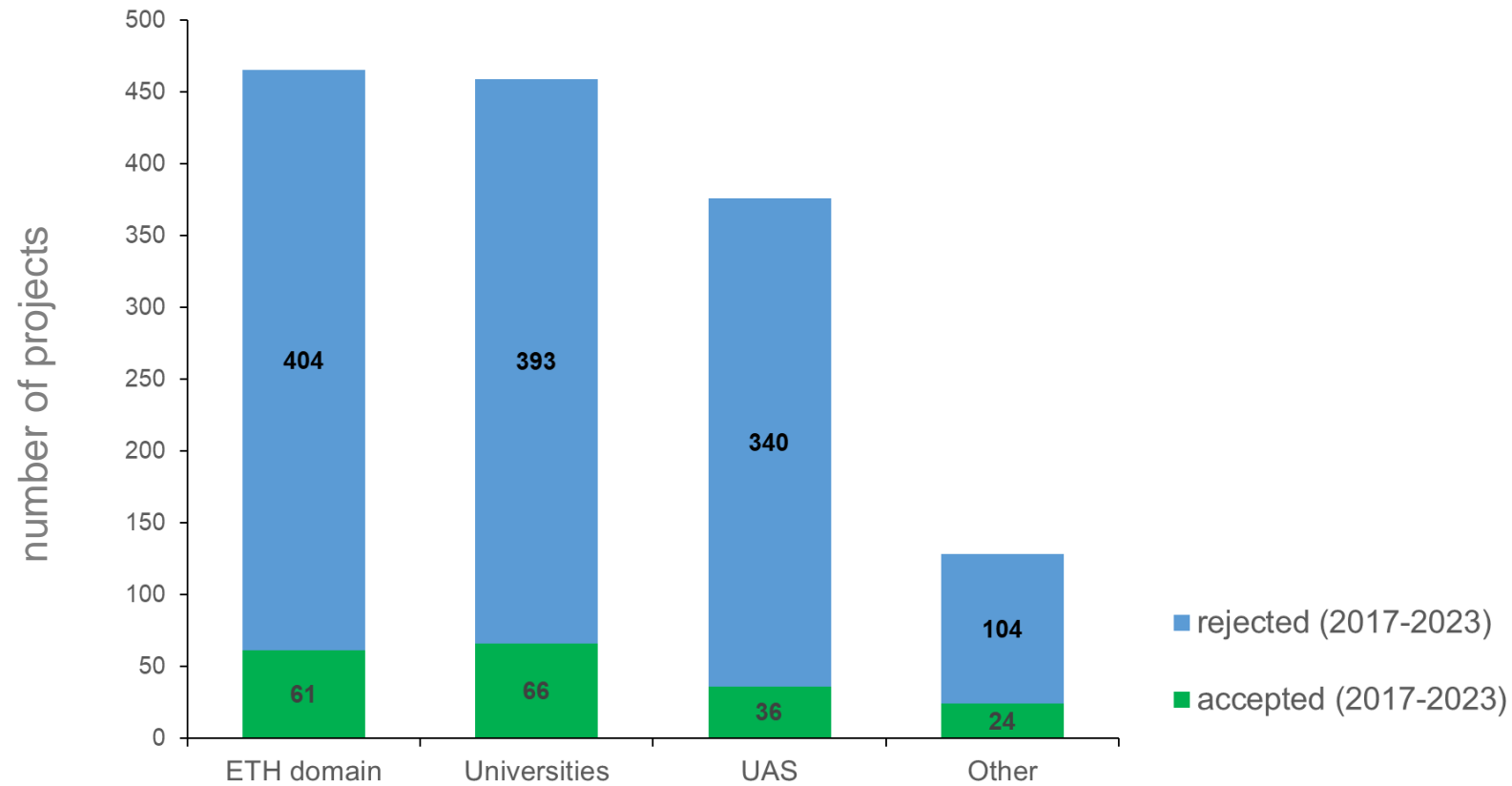
# Discovery information 2017-2023

## Funding evolution - Gender



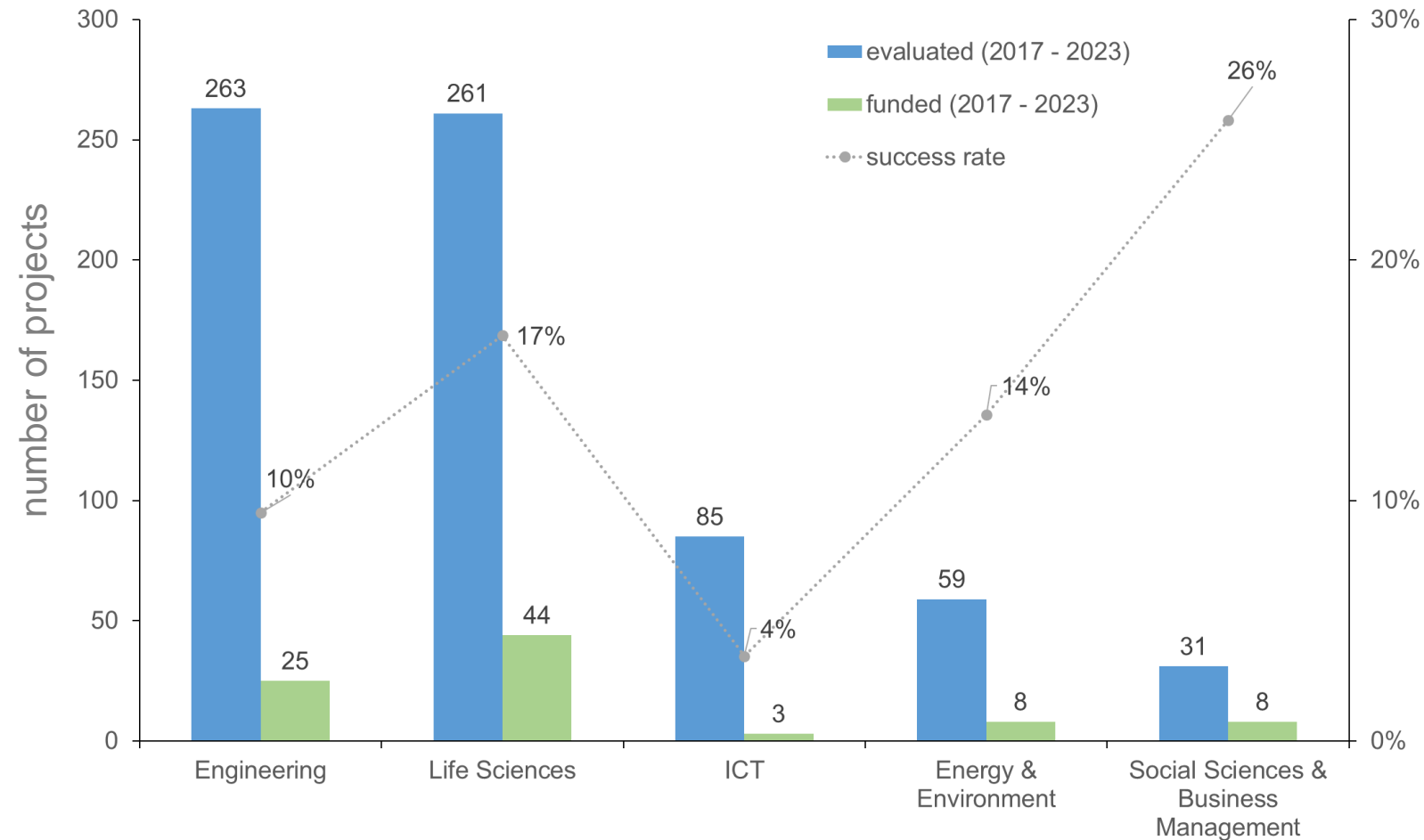
# Discovery information 2017-2023

Submitted/funded projects by institutions 2017-2023

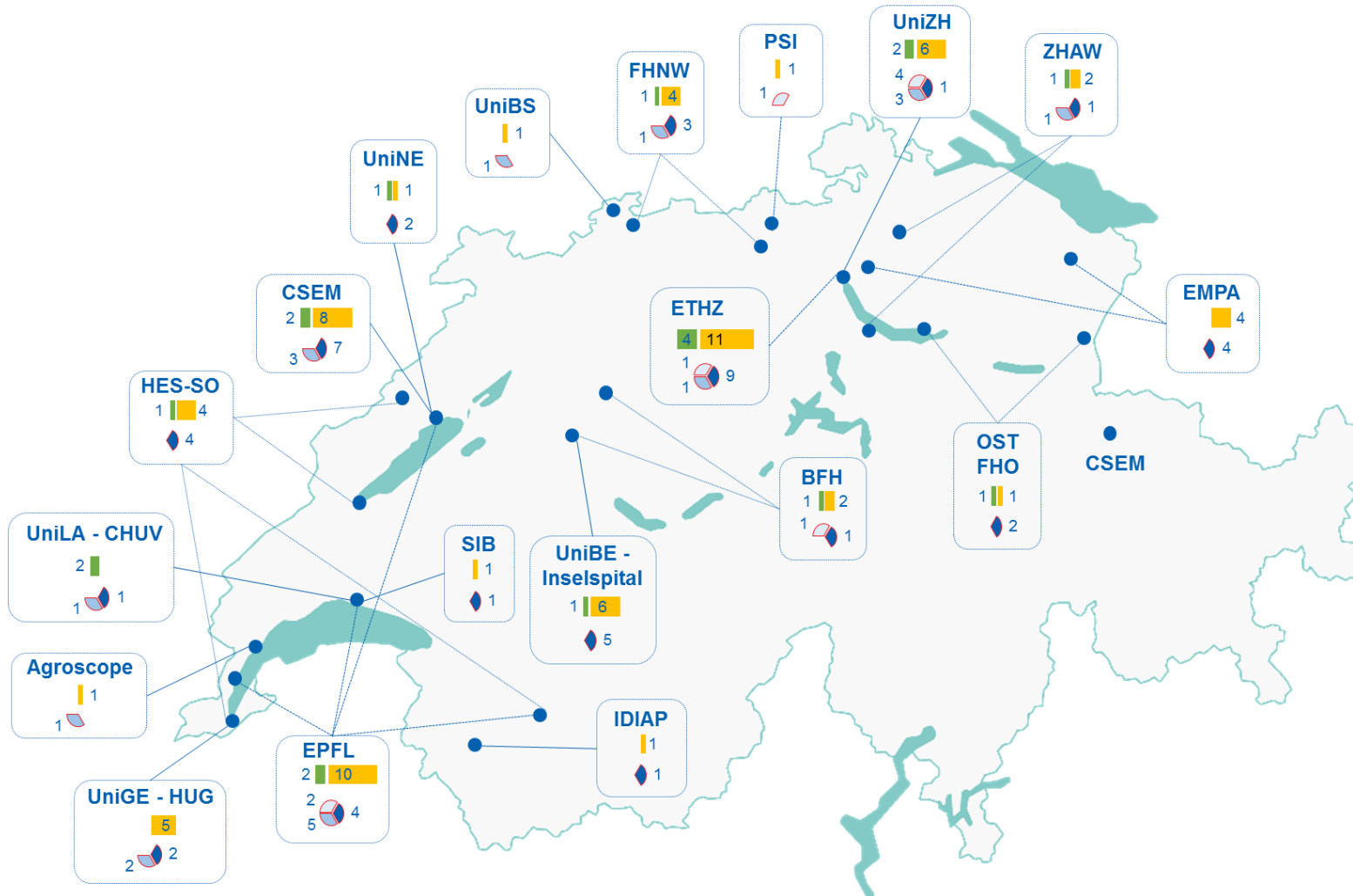


# Discovery information 2017-2023

Disciplines (calls 2017-2023)



# Discovery financed projects 2017-2020



4 calls  
435 applications  
39 projects approved

Total budget approved: **46.5 mioCHF**  
Average grant/project: **1.2 mioCHF**  
Average duration: **43 months**

## Host institution

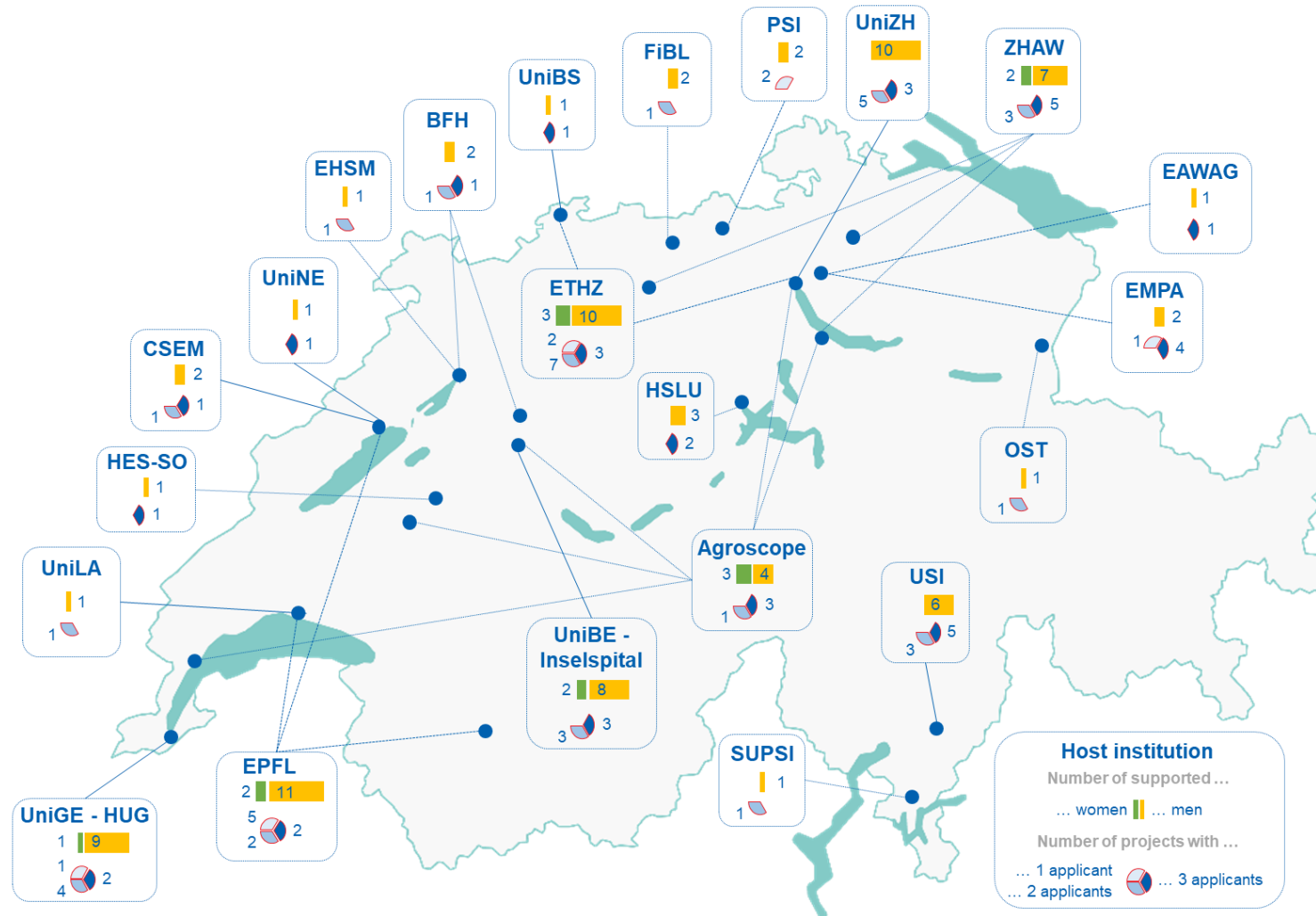
Number of supported ...

... women ... men

Number of projects with ...

... 1 applicant ... 2 applicants ... 3 applicants

# Discovery financed projects 2021-2023



3 calls  
264 applications  
49 projects approved

Total budget approved: **57.0 mioCHF**  
Average grant/project: **1.2 mioCHF**  
Average duration: **43 months**

## Host institution

Number of supported ...

... women ... men

Number of projects with ...

... 1 applicant ... 2 applicants ... 3 applicants

## Host institution

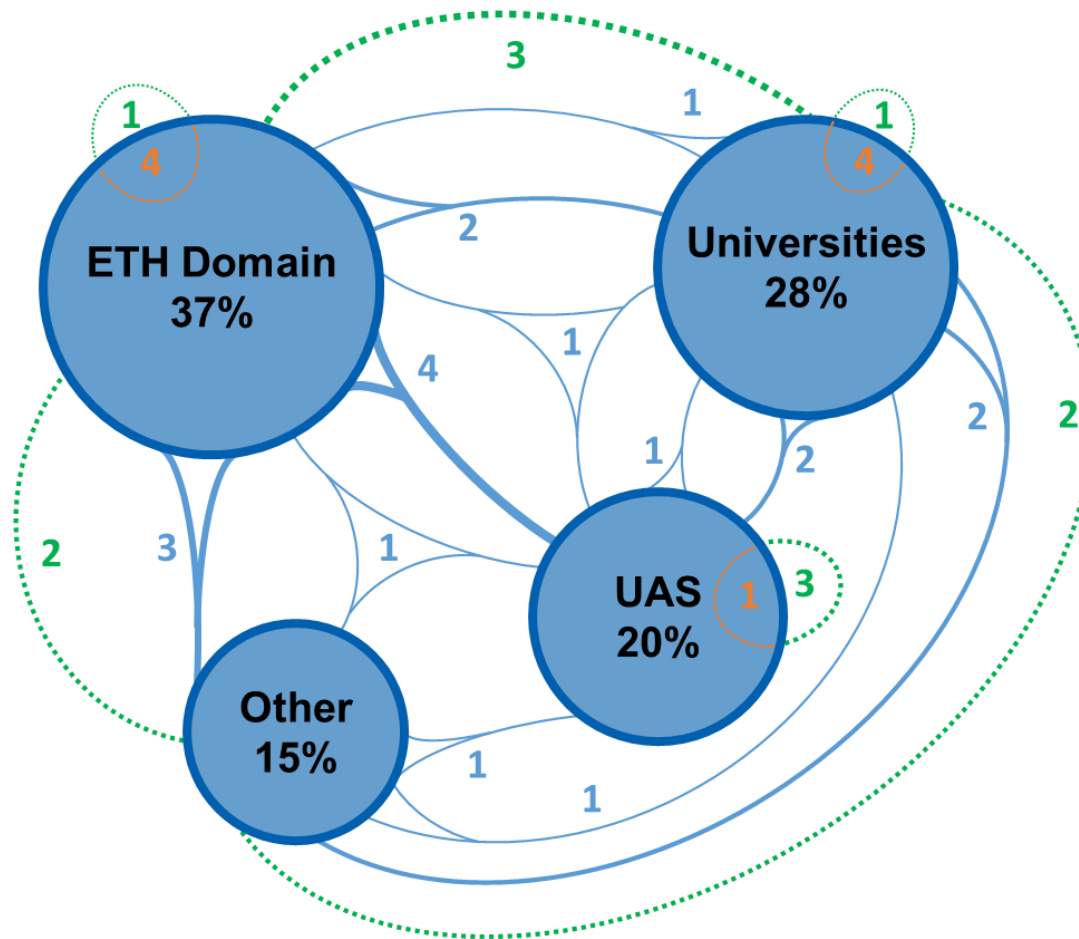
Number of supported ...

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Number of projects with ...

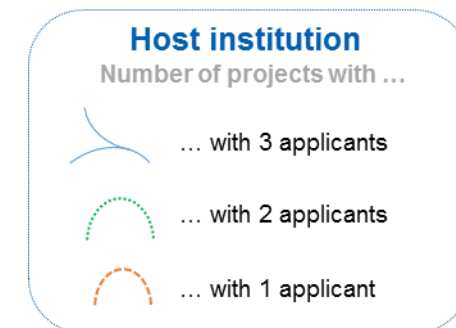
... 1 applicant ... 2 applicants ... 3 applicants

# Discovery financed projects 2017-2020



**39** projects approved  
**88** research groups involved  
Average applicant per project: **2.3**

**9** projects with 1 applicant  
**11** projects with 2 applicants  
**19** projects with 3 applicants



# Discovery **financed projects:** outcomes

Start-ups coming from a Discovery project:



Implementation partner founded by one of the co-applicant:



Declared use-inspired outputs: **27** Patents



# **BRIDGE Next Calls**

# Submission Deadlines

Deadline always 17:00 Swiss local time

## Discovery: 8<sup>th</sup> call

- **Letter of intent: 28 February 2024**
- **Full proposal: 13 May 2024**
- *Interviews: 26/27 November 2024*

Check our website: [www.bridge.ch](http://www.bridge.ch)

# BRIDGE Office Team

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# BRIDGE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

**Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency**

# BRIDGE Steering Committee 2024



## Innosuisse

**chair** Nicoletta Casanova (FEMTOprint | Engineering)  
Dave Brown (Angel Investor and Mentor | ICT) (**chair EP PoC**)



## SNSF

Bernd Gotsmann (IBM Research | Engineering)  
Mirjam Christ-Crain (Uni Basel | Life Sciences)



## external

Mariana Christen Jakob (seif | Social Innovation)  
Götz Schlotterbeck (Canton Basel-Stadt | Chemistry)  
Penny Schiffer (Raized.AI | Entrepreneurship)



## advisory function

Jakob Rhyner (Uni Bonn | Sustainability / Physics) (**chair EP Discovery**)

# Discovery Evaluation Panel 2024

## Life Sciences

<b>Claude Clément</b>	Freelance
<b>Ursula Graf</b>	3dcellculture
<b>Emanuela Keller</b>	Uni Hospital Zurich
<b>Giuseppe Perale</b>	USI, IBI SA
<b>Stefan Weber</b>	Artorg UniBE
<b>Wolfgang Haap</b>	Roche
<b>Kaspar Binz</b>	Binz Biotech Consult.
<b>André Mercanzini</b>	Aleva Neurotherapeutics

## Environment

<b><u>Jakob Rhyner</u></b>	University of Bonn
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## ICT

<b>Luca Gambardella</b>	USI, Artificialy SA
<b>Anne-Marie Kermarrec</b>	EPFL
<b>Stéphane Marchand-Maillet</b>	UniGE
<b>Helmut Grabner</b>	ZHAW

## Engineering

<b>Marc Bohner</b>	RMS Foundation
<b>Dimos Poulikakos</b>	ETHZ
<b>Yves Perriard</b>	EPFL
<b>Pierangelo Groening</b>	EMPA
<b>Alke Fink</b>	AMI UniFR
<b>Göran Stemme</b>	KTH (Sweden)
<b>Emine Cagin</b>	Heidelberg Instruments Nano

## Energy

<b>Stephen Wittkopf</b>	HSLU
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## Social Sciences

<b>Sven Schimpf</b>	Fraunhofer IAO
<b>Christine Mohr</b>	UniLA
<b>Naomi Häfner</b>	UniSG