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## Programme Open Science I, Phase B – ORD 2022–2024 Call for proposals C2.1: Developing good practices for research data management (RDM) training at higher education institutions

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### 1. Context

#### 1.1 Open Research Data Strategy and Action Plan

In January 2020, the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) charged swissuniversities with drafting a [Swiss National Strategy for Open Research Data](#) and an associated action plan. The [Action Plan for Open Research Data](#), published in January 2022, details the measures of the ORD Strategy (2021); the Action Plan was developed jointly by swissuniversities, the ETH Domain, the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences.

The Open Science Delegation manages the Open Science I, Phase B – ORD programme on behalf of the Board of swissuniversities. The programme implements all action lines of the ORD Action Plan that fall under the responsibility of swissuniversities and finances them through federal project contributions (PgB).

1.2 Measure C2 of the ORD Action Plan: Training researchers for RDM and ORD practices

Research data management (RDM) is understood as the professional and transparent organisation and handling of research data throughout their entire life cycle. As such, RDM forms an integral part of the research process and is a central element in the implementation of the ORD approach. To illustrate this: research funders now also require data management plans for the projects they finance. The overall aim of measure C2 of the ORD Action Plan, Training researchers for RDM and ORD practices, is to promote RMD education and training for students and researchers at Swiss higher education institutions.

**2. Call for proposals C2.1: Developing good practices for RDM training at higher education institutions**

The call for proposals for the implementation of action line C2.1 of the ORD Action Plan is addressed to [eligible Swiss higher education institutions](#).

2.1 Goals

The submitted projects must have the aim of developing good practices in RMD education and training for students and researchers. The process of developing good practices must involve research communities and other relevant actors in the field of RDM.

The proposed good practices must fulfil the following requirements:

- Consider the needs of different types of institutions, higher education institutions, and research communities
- Build on existing internal and external structures of higher education institutions and work in the area of RDM
- Address international developments and standards in RDM

2.2 Selection procedure

Project proposals are evaluated by the swissuniversities Open Science Reviewers' Pool; the decision-making body is the Delegation Open Science. It is expected that the Delegation Open Science will approve one project that coordinates cooperation between all interested institutions. For this reason, the extent to which a project proposal adequately addresses and incorporates the needs of the different institutions, types of higher education institutions, and research communities is given particular weight in the evaluation. Cooperation with other [Swiss higher education institutions eligible for funding](#) is therefore desirable.

In case of a positive decision on the application, the swissuniversities Open Science programme will support the project financially through federal project contributions (PgB) from the federal government. Applicants are expected to be informed of the decision on their application in November 2023.

2.3 Timetable

06 April 2023	The call for proposal is opened
<b>13 June 2023</b>	<b>Submission deadline</b>
June–August 2023	Evaluation of applications by the Open Science Reviewers' Pool
October 2023	Decision by the Delegation Open Science with subsequent announcement
<b>December 2023</b>	<b>Earliest possible project start</b>

## 2.4 Formal requirements

<b>Submission</b>	The <a href="#">application</a> and budget form ( <a href="#">individual project</a> , <a href="#">cooperation project</a> ) must be sent to the following address with the subject line "Action Line C2.1: <i>Title of project proposal</i> ": <a href="mailto:open-science@swissuniversities.ch">open-science@swissuniversities.ch</a> The deadline for submissions is 13 June 2023
<b>Signature</b>	The application must be signed by the president or rector of the participating higher education institutions
<b>Project duration</b>	The earliest project start is expected to be December 2023, projects must be concluded by the end of 2024 at the latest
<b>Budget</b>	Up to CHF 240,000 in federal funding

## 2.5 Content requirements

The project proposals for the development of good practices in RDM education and training are evaluated by external reviewers from the Open Science Reviewers' Pool and must meet the following requirements:

- (1) Align with the description of action line C2.1 of the [National ORD Action Plan](#) (pp. 26–27)
- (2) Fulfil the requirements listed under point 2 of this document: Call for proposals C2.1: Developing good practices for RDM training at higher education institutions
- (3) Verify the existence of realistic project planning
- (4) Contain detailed financial planning for the annual costs up to the end of 2024
- (5) Give an outlook on the continuation after 2024

## 3. Regulations for federal project contributions (PgB)

### 3.1 Matching funds principle

Subject to the budgetary decision of the Federal Assembly, federal funds are allocated by the State Secretariat for Education, Research, and Innovation (SERI) and awarded to the higher education institutions via swissuniversities; the regulations for federal project contributions (PgB) therefore apply. In particular, this includes the matching funds principle: the higher education institutions are required to cover at least 50 percent of the total project costs from their own resources. More information is available in the Guidelines for the PgB-funded programmes managed by swissuniversities ([German](#) | [French](#) | [English](#)).

### 3.2 Reporting

The project leaders must submit to swissuniversities an annual as well as a final content and financial report. Detailed information on reporting can be found in the Guidelines for the PgB-funded programmes managed by swissuniversities ([German](#) | [French](#) | [English](#)).

## 4. Contact

In case of questions, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Katja Fiechter, policy officer in the division Higher Education Policy:

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