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Programme Open Science II

Call for proposals: National Diamond Open Access Consortium

List of Approved Projects

Call Deadline: 02.03.2025

Decision by the Delegation Open Science: 23.06.2025

Overview Approved Projects

Submitted projects: 1

Approved projects: 1 (with conditions)

Success rate: 100%

Short title	Full title	Leading institution	Partner institution(s)	Project Manager	Total costs	Funds requested
CoDOA-CH	Creating a Sustainable Funding Scheme for Diamond Open Access through Institutional Collaboration in Switzerland	Consortium of Swiss Academic Libraries	EPFL, ETHZ, IHEID, Lib4RI, UNIBAS, UNIFR, UNIGE, UNILU, UNINE, UZH/ZB Zurich	Susanne Aerni	CHF 571 000	CHF 250 000

Short Summary of the Project

Abstract by the applicants:

Creating a Sustainable Funding Scheme for Diamond Open Access through Institutional Collaboration in Switzerland

Diamond Open Access refers to a model of open access publishing that is scholar-led and free of charge for authors and readers. Instead of levying fees, Diamond Open Access journals and infrastructures are currently financed through individual initiatives at higher education institutions and their libraries, scholarly societies and/or research funders. Across Switzerland, there are over 240 journals, with a majority being multilingual and belonging to the social sciences, arts and humanities. According to the PLATO study (Hahn et al. 2022), sustainable funding presents itself as the key challenge for these journals.

Against this background, the project devises a community-driven and collaborative process with the aim of setting up a national Diamond Open Access consortium to enable a long-term and sustainable consortial funding scheme for high-quality scholar-led and non-profit Diamond Open Access journals in which researchers at Swiss research institutions publish.

The proposed project brings together eleven partner institutions and has received support from an additional thirteen institutions across Switzerland (see attached list of associated partners and letters of support). Aiming at maximum inclusiveness and transparency, further stakeholders will be systematically involved in the project as part of thematic working groups (SNSF, Academies of Arts and Sciences) and an advisory board (institutional and non-institutional service providers in Diamond OA publishing). On the basis of this broad and inclusive approach, the project seeks to empower Swiss research performing institutions and their libraries as decision-making bodies in scholarly publishing.

The project encompasses two phases: The first phase will be dedicated to setting up the administrative, legal and financial framework of a broadly supported and inclusive consortium and its future funding scheme whose implementation and piloting will be planned during the second project phase.