



# Sinergia

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SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



## Interdisciplinary project support: Sinergia

### Aim

- Promote **interdisciplinary** and **collaborative** projects that propose breakthrough research

### Requirements

- Research across disciplinary boundaries and beyond existing models, theories or methods
- Goals can only be reached through the integration of elements from two or more disciplines
- Joint research approach of applicants with complementary expertise and knowledge
- Similar importance of all disciplines and applicants involved



## Interdisciplinary project support: Sinergia

### Grant conditions

- 2 to 4 applicants and their groups collaborate closely in a network
- When 3 or 4 applicants, 1 can be based abroad
- Grants for up to **3.2 Mio CHF for** up to **4 years** (typically 200'000 CHF per year and applicant)

### Call frequency

- Every 6 months
- Deadlines: 1 June and 1 December

## Stages of the evaluation process

Submission of proposal



Formal check (completeness, minimal requirements)



Attribution to a referee & co-referee by AO (4-eyes principle)



Criteria-based international peer-review process



Recommendation by referee and co-referee based on the peer-reviews



Evaluation meeting – Presentation of proposal by referee & co-referee – Comparative ranking



Decision by Presiding Board



## Evaluation

- Standard SNSF criteria (quality of research + qualification of research team)
- Additional specific criteria:
  - interdisciplinarity
  - collaboration set-up
  - potential for breakthrough
- The list of criteria-based questions used for assessment is available to applicants



## Evaluation

**Each evaluator is requested to give his opinion on the statements:**

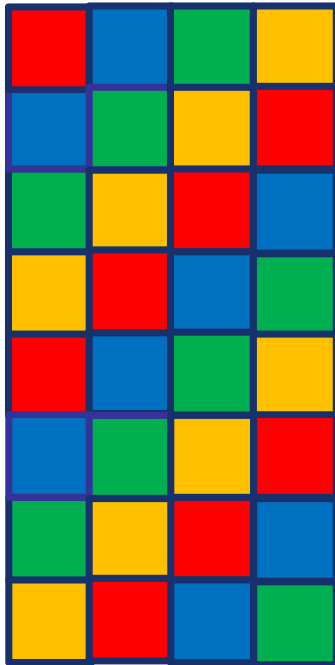
- “The research approach described in the proposal is well-conceived, consistent and risk-balanced”
- “The proposal presents a truly interdisciplinary approach with a highly qualified and complementary research team”
- “The researchers are convincing as a team and have the necessary expertise to carry out the project”
- “The proposal represents a substantial contribution with breakthrough character beyond disciplinary boundaries”

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>fully agree</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>mostly agree</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>partly agree</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>partly disagree</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>mostly disagree</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>fully disagree</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Not considered</b>
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## Example: excellent interdisciplinarity

Charting emotion components and dynamics in the human brain using virtual reality and cinema



### Disciplines of the project

-  Theatre and Cinema
-  Information Technology
-  Neurophysiology and Brain Research
-  Psychology

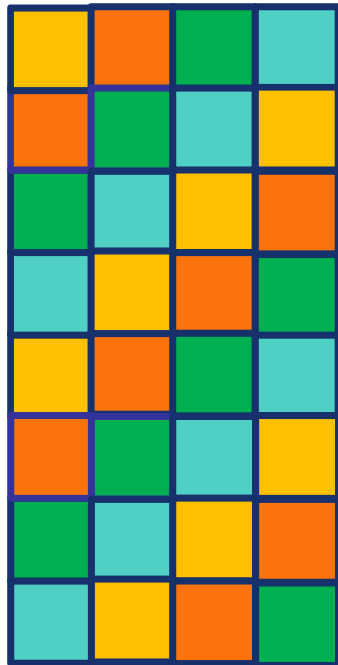
### Specific expertises of the applicants

Cognitive Neurosciences & Neuroimaging  
Signal Processing  
Virtual Reality  
Critical Film Analysis



## Example: good interdisciplinarity

Herbal safety in the pregnancy - Treatment options for nonpsychotic mental diseases



### Disciplines of the project

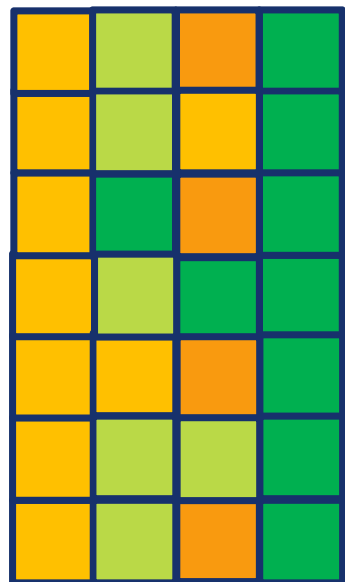
- Pharmacology
- Organic Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Public Health and Health Services

### Specific expertises of the applicants

- Obstetrics
- Pharmaceutical Biology
- Hospital Epidemiology & Public Health
- Food Microbiology



## Example: interdisciplinarity not sufficient



### Disciplines of the project

- Pharmacology
- Endocrinology
- Biochemistry
- Cellular Oncology

### Specific expertises of the applicants

- Biomedicine
- Endocrinology
- Pathology



## Typical reasons for rejection

- Low interdisciplinarity - An outstanding proposal, but with too low/lack of interdisciplinarity/lack of interdisciplinary integration is not fundable by Sinergia
- Lack of focus
- Lack of clear hypothesis
- Low potential for breakthrough / incremental contribution
- Missing competences in the research team

# Information concerning funded Sinergia proposals

Data and Documentation | Open Data Policy | FAQ | EN ▾

**P<sup>3</sup>** Projects  
People  
Publications

**FNSNF**  
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Search P3, the SNSF grant database... **Advanced search**

The database P<sup>3</sup> contains data on research projects approved by the SNSF.  
P<sup>3</sup> currently contains:

72,476 Projects	101,150 People	121,393 Publications
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Explore the P<sup>3</sup> data through interactive visualizations

**P<sup>3</sup> Data**

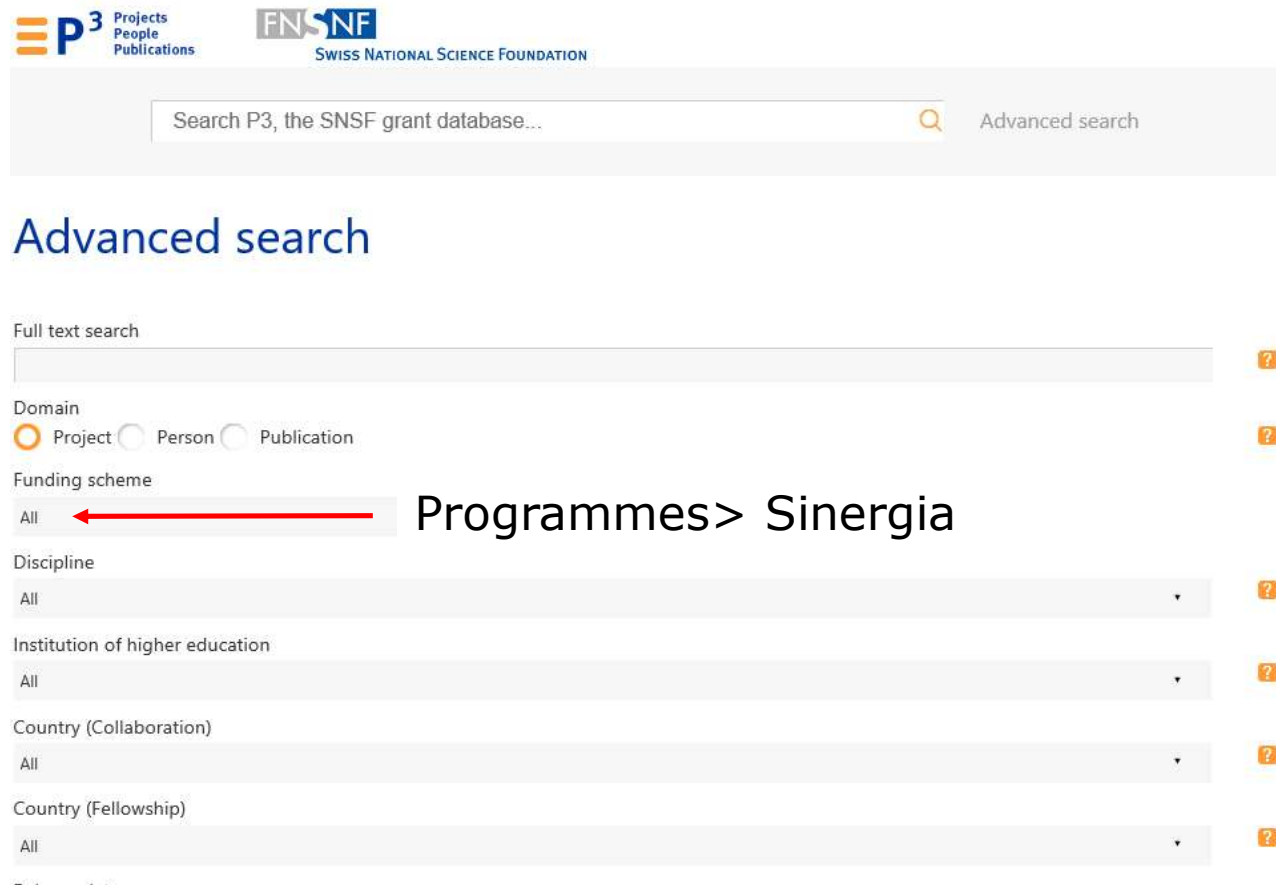
Grants by Discipline | Int. collaborations | more...

**Other SNSF Data**

Annual report Profile 2018 | Energy Research Funding | more...

<http://p3.snf.ch/>

# Information concerning funded Sinergia proposals



The screenshot shows the P3 search interface for the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). At the top, there are logos for 'P3 Projects People Publications' and 'FNSNF SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION'. Below the logos is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Search P3, the SNSF grant database...' and a magnifying glass icon. To the right of the search bar is a link for 'Advanced search'.

## Advanced search

Full text search

Domain

Project  Person  Publication

Funding scheme

All **← Programmes > Sinergia**

Discipline

All

Institution of higher education

All

Country (Collaboration)

All

Country (Fellowship)

All



## Further information



**[www.snf.ch/sinergia](http://www.snf.ch/sinergia)**



**[sinergia@snf.ch](mailto:sinergia@snf.ch)**