



Open Access: Strategies and Activities of SNSF

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SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION



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The SNSF

- promotes scientific basic research on behalf of the Confederation
- invests in young scientists
- enables research stays abroad
- promotes international co-operation
- promotes gender equality

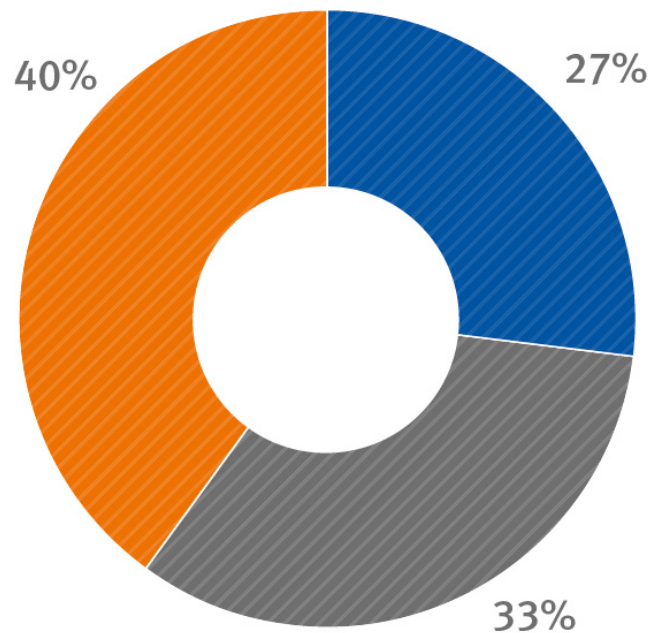


Foremost Swiss funding agency

Each year the SNSF invests

- approx. CHF 800 million
- in over 3,400 projects
- involving 14,000 researchers

Funding (general) by research area 2013



- Humanities and social sciences
- Mathematics, natural and engineering sciences
- Biology and medicine

Total: CHF 818.8 million

OA Policy of SNSF (I)

- Research funded by the public should be publicly accessible as far as possible, not least in the interest of science itself
- The SNSF supports the principle of open electronic access to scientific knowledge nationally and internationally.
 - 2006 SNSF signed the **Berlin Declaration** on OA
 - **Science Europe**: Position Statement – Principles for the Transition to OA to Research Publications (www.scienceeurope.org)
 - **Service Level Agreement (2013-2016) with the Confederation**: implementing measures aimed at OA



OA Policy of SNSF (II)

SNSF is looking to achieve this goal by following paths:

- Green Road of OA: researchers funded by the SNSF are obligated to, at least, self-archive their work in an institutional or specialist repository in addition to having it published in a journal.
- Gold Road to OA: the SNSF supports the Gold Road to OA by enabling researchers to cover the costs of direct publications in pure OA journals via their project budgets.
- On 1 July 2014, a new publication funding scheme for OA book publications enters into force



Green Road of Open Access (self-archiving in an institutional repository or repository of a specific discipline)

- The rules of the SNSF require the researchers it funds to opt for the Green Road.
- The SNSF expects researchers to whom it provides funding to, where possible, make their journal articles freely accessible via the Green Road no more than 6 months after and their book publications no more than 24 months after the first date of publication.

Exceptions to the requirement for Open Access are granted by the SNSF in the case of insurmountable legal and/or technical obstacles. In such cases, the affected researchers must inform the SNSF. In doing so they fulfil their obligations for Open Access.



Gold Road of Open Access (Direct publication in a purely Open Access journal)

- The SNSF encourages researchers to opt for the Gold Road where possible.
- For the duration of the project, the costs of publication in a purely Open Access journal can be claimed from the agreed project funding up to a limit of CHF 3000 per publication. The publication must be related to the SNSF grant.
- This measure came into effect on 1 October 2013 and is provisionally limited until 31 December 2016. It applies equally to projects that are already running on 1 October 2013. In the case of new applications, the OA publication can be included in the proposal.

Digital book publications (e-books) co-financed by the SNSF (I)

- 1.7.2014: Grants to cover the costs of digital book publications of **research results generated within the scope of a research project** funded by the SNSF are included in the eligible costs.
- Upon request, the SNSF awards grants to cover the costs of e-books of research results that were not generated within the scope of a project funded by the SNSF (**independent publication grants**).
- **It is open to researchers and publishers to print the book.**

Digital book publications (e-books) co-financed by the SNSF (II)

- Grants awarded by the SNSF must be used to cover the production costs. Such costs comprise: typesetting, layout, image rights, image processing, proofreading and digitisation.
- The publisher's services are remunerated through a lump sum of up to CHF 3000.
- Maximum grant of CHF 10,000 for a basic e-book;
- Maximum amount of CHF 20,000 for an enriched e-book
- Lump sum of CHF 6,000 for doctoral theses or habilitations.

Digital book publications (e-books) co-financed by the SNSF (III)

- Digital book publications whose **production is co-financed by the SNSF** must be made accessible in a disciplinary or institutional repository after an embargo period of no more than 24 months (Green Road of OA)
- If OA publication is not possible for insurmountable legal and technical reasons, the SNSF may upon request approve a text-only OA publication or release the authors from this duty altogether.
- This provision will enter into force on **1 July 2014**.



Regulation for book publications NOT financed by the SNSF (I)

Book publications of research results generated within the scope of a SNFS research project and the book **itself is not financed by the SNSF:**

- SNSF encourages researchers to opt for the Green Road where possible.
- If open access publication is impossible for legal reasons, grantees are obliged to inform the SNSF.
- The provisions do not limit the grantee's freedom to choose a publishing partner.



Hybrid Open Access (For a fee, release for Open Access of a publication already published in a journal)

- The SNSF does not support hybrid OA. The costs are duplicated and cannot be controlled by the SNSF: the author is required to pay a relatively high publication fee while the publisher additionally sells access licences to libraries at prices that are often just as high. Price reductions for subscriptions are generally to be regarded as positive; however, the SNSF cannot assess whether they are appropriate.
- The costs of hybrid OA publications must always be borne by the researchers.



Conclusion

“More science funders must put their money where their mouths are, and back their positive words with action. It will not be cheap, but the longer we wait, the more expensive it will be”

(Christoph Kratky, president of the Austrian Science Fund from 2005-2013)

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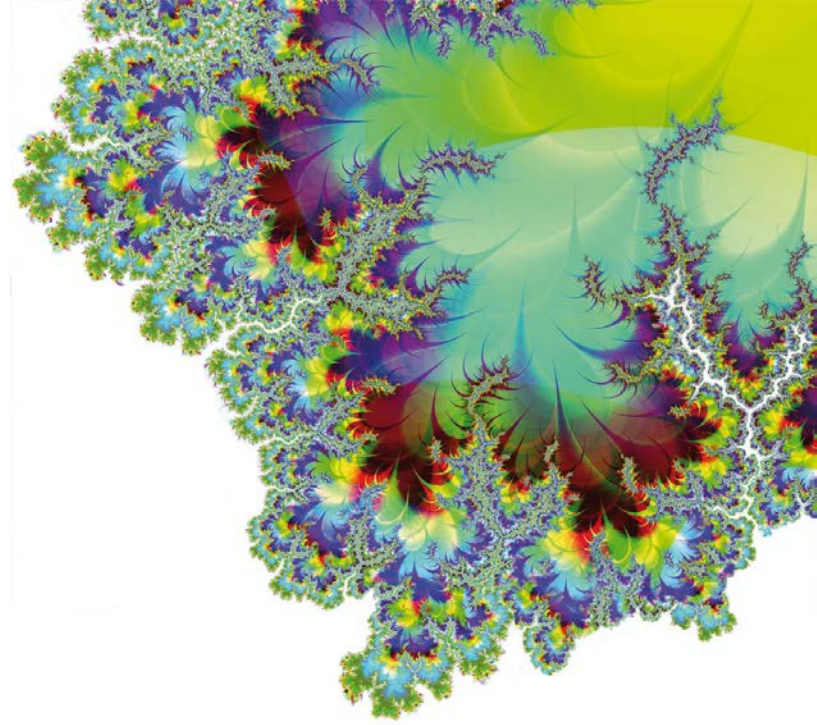
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Thank you for your attention