



Bilateral research collaboration with the South Asia and Iran 2017 – 2020

Call for mobility grants with South Asia and Iran, Q1 2018

Background

The State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) has commissioned ZHAW as Leading House for the bilateral research collaboration with partner institutions in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

This call allows funding of approximately 4 mobility grants, subject to the number of applications received as well as compliance with the criteria for evaluation and selection (see section Evaluation and selection in this document for details).

Goals and objectives

Mobility grants enable young scientists (i.e. those with a Master's degree but no PhD yet and with not more than 6 years of professional research experience) to integrate in international R&D. The mobility grants help build up new partnerships through personal contacts early on in a scientist's career and thereby make such partnerships more sustainable.

Mobility grants

1. Encourage young talented Swiss researchers to enhance their career by spending time in an academic environment in one of the countries mentioned above
2. Enable young talented researchers from the countries mentioned above to work on a project in Switzerland.

This early international exchange should inspire researchers to seek international collaborations later in their scientific career.

Eligibility

1. All applicants

Mobility grants can be awarded to young scientists who hold a Master's degree but no PhD yet, and with not more than 6 years of professional research experience.

The call is open for activities in all scientific disciplines and fields of research, including social sciences and humanities.

Host researchers must be permanently employed principal investigators at a university or research institute in their respective country.

The applicant's mobility visit should be for a duration of between 1 – 3 months, and the amount not more than CHF 10,000 per grant.

2. Addition information for Swiss applicants

Mobility grants can also foster research stays abroad of young Swiss researchers within collaborative projects that have received seed funding in the past from a Leading House, or who are applying for a bridging



grant simultaneously (please visit www.zhaw.ch/leadinghouse for country-specific information about these grants).

Applicants need to be scientists with a Swiss federal or cantonal university, university of applied sciences or university of teachers' education, or a public research institution.

They need to hold Swiss nationality, permanent residence in Switzerland, residence or cross-border commuter permit for Switzerland, or be in marriage or in a registered partnership with a Swiss citizen.

3. Applicants from one of the partner countries

Applicants need to be scientists with a government accredited, mandated or appointed, or public research institute in their respective country.

They need to hold nationality of the country where their home institute is, permanent residence or cross-border commuter permit there, or be in a marriage or in a registered partnership with a citizen of the country where their home institute is.

Partnerships

The mutual commitment of the partners in both countries (i.e. Switzerland and a partner in one of the countries listed above) will serve as an indicator for the strength of the grant application. This includes commitment of funds and in-kind resources by all partners.

Funding and budgeting

- *Budget for Swiss researchers going abroad*

The hosting partner abroad should fund living allowances for Swiss candidates, while the Leading House will fund flights for Swiss candidates (actual cost up to CHF 2,000). The grant can include living costs, a flat rate for travel expenses and, if justified, a contribution towards research and conference costs as well as matriculation fees at the host institute.

- *Budget for researchers from abroad in Switzerland*

The Leading House will fund living allowances for candidates from abroad (actual cost up to CHF 2,500 per month during maximum 3 months), while the partner institutes abroad should fund their flights.

You should clarify as early as possible whether a stay at the host institution is subject to any conditions. For example, some host institutions ask fellowship holders to contribute a sum of money towards the institution's overhead. However, the Leading House does not cover any overhead costs incurred at host institutions.

Please also clarify your status at the host institution. Some host institutes demand that visiting researchers be officially employed at the host institution. In such cases, it is possible that a portion of the grant is spent on social security contributions. The amount that ought to be available to the visiting researchers to cover their living costs is thereby reduced. The same is applicable to costs such as insurance, tax etc.

Please note that the Leading House will disburse funds to the Swiss sending and/or host institute only. It will make no remittances to any other organization (e.g. host institution, tax authorities, insurance companies, etc.) or individual. The Swiss institute will be responsible for spending the grant money in the spirit of this application.



The host institution may also ask for funds to cover the research costs. Such costs must not be covered by a mobility grant. However, Swiss researchers may submit a separate application for a bridging grant (see <https://www.zhaw.ch/leadinghouse/> for details).

Application

The applicant must be employed at one of the above-mentioned Swiss institutions. Applications need to be submitted in English to the Leading House South Asia and Iran (leadinghouse@zhaw.ch).

The Swiss application should include:

1. Completed application form below
2. Supporting/nomination letter from the supervisor at the sending institution, explaining also why an exchange with a specific researcher in the host country is planned
3. Acceptance letter from the supervisor at the host institute.

Timeline

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Applications will be accepted between: | Latest mobility visit start date: |
| 01 January 2018 – 31 March 2018 | May August 2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation and funding decision: Within 2 months after an application is received (subject to timely response from research partner institutes abroad) • Notification: Within 1 week after the funding decision • Mobility visit duration: 1 - 3 months | |

Evaluation and selection

Swiss applications will be evaluated by experts in Switzerland. Based on the experts' grading the Leading House South Asia and Iran will make a nomination of candidates to the concerned research partner institute abroad, who will make the final selection. Decisions will be communicated to the Swiss candidates by the Leading House South Asia and Iran.

The evaluation is based on the following criteria (not listed in order of priority):

- Conformity with the mobility grant programme's objectives
- Suitability of the candidate and the research partner institute's host supervisor
- Benefit of the proposed visit(s) for cooperation, synergies between the two involved research organizations (previous contacts between these organizations are considered an advantage, but are not mandatory)
- Quality of the proposed project

Reporting

After completion of the visits, the applicant together with the Swiss institute (whether sending or host) shall submit a scientific report as well as a financial statement to the Leading House South Asia and Iran not later than one month after the visits.

Contact

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Annex: Application form



Bilateral research collaboration with the South Asia and Iran 2017 – 2020

Call for mobility grants with South Asia and Iran 2017-2019

Application form

| Personal details and home institution of the applicant in Switzerland | |
|--|--|
| Surname | |
| First name(s) | |
| Date of birth | |
| Gender | |
| Nationality | |
| Title | |
| Academic degree | |
| Current position | |
| Home institution | |
| Address at home institution | |
| Postcode, city | |
| Country | |
| Email | |
| Phone number(s) | |

| Educational background of the applicant in Switzerland | | | |
|---|---------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Field | Name of university/institute | (Expected) Date obtained |
| Bachelor's degree | | | |
| Master's degree | | | |
| Doctoral degree | | | |
| Language abilities (add lines if required) of the applicant in Switzerland | | | |
| | Writing | Reading | Speaking/hearing |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |



| Employment record (begin with the most recent one; add lines if required) of the applicant in Switzerland | | |
|---|----------------------|----------|
| Name of institution | Period of employment | Position |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| Major publications (add lines if required) of the applicant in Switzerland | | | | |
|--|-------|---------|---------------|------------|
| Authors (all) | Title | Journal | Vol. no., pp. | Month/year |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |

| Academic awards (add lines if required) received by the applicant in Switzerland | |
|--|-------|
| Year | Award |
| | |
| | |

| Supervisor at home institution in Switzerland | |
|---|--|
| Surname | |
| First name(s) | |
| Title | |
| Academic degree | |
| Institution | |
| Address | |
| Postcode, city | |
| Country | |
| Email | |
| Phone number(s) | |

| Past stay(s) in the destination country in South Asia or Iran |
|---|
| |



| Place | Duration | Purpose |
|-------|----------|---------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| Details of the proposed host researcher and host institution in South Asia or Iran | |
|---|--|
| Family name | |
| First name(s) | |
| Academic degree | |
| Sex | |
| Date of birth (dd/mm/yyyy) | |
| Nationality/nationalities | |
| Institution | |
| Full postal address | |
| Postcode & city | |
| Country | |
| Email | |
| Phone numbers (country code, area code, phone number) | |
| Proposed stay | |
| Project title | |
| Keywords | |
| Present research | |
| Proposed research to be conducted in the country abroad, including specification of necessary equipment, reagents, materials, access to geographic locations, access to people and organizations, etc. for conducting the said research | |
| Expected outcome of the proposed research | |
| Intended start date | |



| | |
|---|--|
| Duration (months; maximum 3 months permitted) | |
|---|--|

Final statement

| | |
|---|--|
| Person to be notified in your home country in case of emergency | |
| Please fill out the information requested as it may be needed in the case of an emergency | |
| Name in full | |
| Address | |
| Phone number | |
| Fax number | |
| Email address | |
| Relationship to you | |

I hereby confirm that all the information given in this application and the attachments is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Place, Date

Swiss applicant