Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI
The CTI – mandate, philosophy, facts
Innovation: driver of the Swiss economy

• Switzerland is a **small country with few raw materials**

• It has one of the **most open economies** in the world and is heavily dependent on exports. Almost one in every three francs is earned abroad.

• Swiss companies **compete with businesses throughout the world**.

• In order to survive in this competitive environment, their products must be **innovative**.
Switzerland as innovation champion

The World Competitiveness Scoreboard 2015
Global Innovation Index 2015
Union Innovation Scoreboard 2015

1st place: Switzerland
2nd place: Singapore
3rd place: Sweden
4th place: Finland
Strengths and weaknesses of innovation in Switzerland

+ Many companies carry out their own research
+ Solid basic research
+ Large number of patents
+ Strong education system

- Not enough engineers
- Little innovation in service industries
- Cultural weaknesses in entrepreneurship
- Little knowledge and technology transfer to SMEs
The CTI’s mandate

The CTI is mandated by the Confederation to improve the innovative strength of the Swiss economy.

- It promotes the **transfer of knowledge and technology** between higher education institutions and Swiss companies.
- It supports **start-ups** and thereby helps to create jobs for highly qualified workers.
- It funds and supports **cooperation projects** between companies and higher education institutions to encourage the introduction of innovative products on the market.
Principles and mission

• Primarily, innovation promotion for **Swiss businesses**
  – Promotion of UASs and SMEs desired side-effect

• Ideas come **bottom-up** from industrial partners

• Funding provided only when necessary
Public funding for education and research

Expenditure on ERI 2013–2016 (Confederation + Cantons)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic funding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VET</td>
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<tr>
<td>ETH</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cantonal universities</td>
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<tr>
<td>UASs</td>
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<tr>
<th>Funding for competitive activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>SNSF</td>
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<tr>
<td>CTI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other</td>
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CHF M/year 0 2000 4000 6000 8000 10000

CHF 547M
Three funding areas

Start-up and Entrepreneurship
Training modules, Coaching, Start-up Label, Access to investors

KTT Support
NTN
Innovation mentors Platforms

Projects
Joint projects companies - higher education institutions, innovation cheque, innovation voucher
CTI funding areas

- Total federal funding 2015: CHF 168.2 m
- R&D Funding 127.3
- SCCER 26.7
- Start-up and Entrepreneurship 9.8
- KTT Support 4.1
Focus in KTT Support

The CTI encourages

- Knowledge transfer between businesses and public-sector research
- Information on (future) possibilities of science-based innovations
- Transparency about funding instruments – also non-CTI

CTI KTT Support based on

- Knowledge and technology transfer “face-to-face”
- Industry’s needs, in particular those of SMEs
Focus in KTT Support

SwissText
KTT support: three elements

- National Thematic Networks (NTNs)
- Information platforms
- Innovation mentors (IMs)
Start-up and entrepreneurship
From ideas to successful companies

The CTI promotes growth-oriented, technology-based business projects in three ways:

- CTI Entrepreneurship
- CTI Start-up
- CTI Invest
CTI Start-up: high chance of survival

Companies with CTI Start-up label: 87% likely to survive
R&D Funding
Applications received in 2015

Life Sciences 230
Micro- and Nanotechnologies 165
Enabling Sciences 259
Engineering Sciences 259

Total applications 2015: 913
Focus on universities of applied sciences

Total federal funding 2015: CHF 125.7 m

ETH Domain 37.4
CSEM 6.8
Universities 17.8
Other 5.9
Universities of applied sciences 57.7
## The Process to apply for CTI Project Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Swiss Company, typically SME</td>
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<td>Innovative product or service idea</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solid business plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>IP Landscape and Research Landscape are not compromising</td>
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<tr>
<td>USP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Missing scientific background / scientific research required</td>
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<tr>
<td>One of the Swiss Research partners has these required capabilities</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Process to apply for CTI Project Funding

Research partner and industry partner write the application:
- Ends with about 40 to 50 pages
- Writing the application takes about 1 to 2 months
- May total to about 100 h
- CTI projects have a higher success rate than 55%
- It takes normally 3 to 5 months from trigger to project start
- Typical project volume 100k to 1.5M, max 50% of this total can be CTI funding

Project assessed by CTI experts

Contracts, interim and final reports

All info on www.kti.admin.ch
Contacts: mirco.nano.technologies@kti.admin.ch, life.sciences@kti.admin.ch, enabling.sciences@kti.admin.ch, engineering@kti.admin.ch
Finance flows

self-financing

CTI
max. 50%

Implementation partner(s)
min. 50%

10% of the 50%
cash

Implement. partner

Research partner(s)
max. 55%

Implement. partner
min. 45%
Selection criteria

- Contribution to sustainable development
- Employment and finance plan, intellectual property rights clear
- Own financial contribution
- Importance for science
- Market potential
Recent “SwissText Projects”

- Beekeeper/ZHAW (16810)
- Argus/ZHAW (17719)
- SpinningBytes/ZHAW (18832)
- Schweizer Stiftungsregister SR_2.0 (15666)
- Predicting customer behavior by combining freetext information with structured customer data (14611)
- Jobontomatch - ontologiebasiertes Matching von unstrukturierten CVs mit unstrukturierten Vakanzen (10186)
- Selbstlernendes und sprachunabhängiges Text Matching Framework (10006)
- SocialSalesMapTM: dynamischer Software Service zur Visualisierung und Management von B2B Geschäftsbeziehungen mit Nutzung sozialer Netzwerkkarten und sozialer Netzwerkanalyse
- Integrated Social Media Navigator (12777)
- Audience+ STORY: Museales Erzählen mit Social Media (14360)
- Effiziente Social Media Kommunikation im B2B Sektor (17049)
- ZHAW/Squirro

This listing has no claim to completeness, nor to scientific correctness, it's just an overview.
Innovation mentors (IM)

General
- Currently there are 15 innovation mentors.
- IMs directed centrally by CTI, with 3 regional head IMs.
- Head IMs head IM in their region and support SMEs.

Requirement profile
- Business experience
- Knowledge of research on topic
- Access to research
- Interdisciplinary skills

Service portfolio
- Support SMEs
- Network with research and funding institutions
- Part-time services
Thank you for listening.