



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports
Karmelitska 529/5
118 12 Prague 1

in bilateral collaboration between Czech and Swiss research infrastructures within the Czech-Swiss Research Infrastructure Initiative with project duration from 2025 to 2028. The initiative is realised in the framework of the Second Swiss contribution to selected EU member states

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (hereinafter MEYS) in accordance with Act No. 218/2000 Coll. on Budgetary Rules and on Amendments to Certain Related Acts and in accordance with Act No. 130/2002 Coll. on the Support of Research and Development from Public Funds and on Amendments to Certain Related Acts announces a **Call for Proposals under the Programme Czech-Swiss Research Infrastructure Initiative** (hereinafter 'Call 8K2502') with project duration from 2025 to 2028.

CALL OBJECTIVE

The Call aims at boosting the scientific research in the Czech Republic by promoting Czech-Swiss bilateral cooperation initiatives within research infrastructures (RIs).

The main objectives of Call 8K2502 are:

- Enhancing bilateral collaboration between Czech and Swiss research institutions to conduct excellent research, with a focus on long-term strategic cooperation.
- Strengthening the international integration of Czech research infrastructures by increasing participation in European and global research networks.
- Boosting capacity building within Czech research infrastructures through mobility, training, and joint initiatives; increase in the RI's user base.
- Enhancing the open access user program, aiming for a significant increase in Czech, Swiss and other foreign users.

 Fostering innovation and knowledge transfer by supporting research activities with potential applicability in the private sector.

2. CALL 8K2502 - SUBSTANTIVE FOCUS OF THE CALL

The substantive focus of Call 8K2502 is to provide **financial support to a Czech entity** that has established a **bilateral partnership with a Swiss institution** and submitted **a research project proposal with specified focus and within a designated research category**.

An application will be in compliance with the substantive focus of Call 8K2502 if the applicant **simultaneously** meets the following criteria:

PROJECT

The application for the grant must include a project in research, development, and innovation in accordance with § 2, paragraph 2, letter h) of Act No. 130/2002 Coll.

PARTNERSHIP

The applicant has formed a joint team with a foreign partner, i.e., an institution from the country of the bilateral partner of Call 8K2502. This foreign partner is defined in the relevant section of the application. Partnerships shall especially be encouraged in thematic areas in which there is a mutual interest.

Bilateral partner of Call 8K2502: Switzerland

PROJECT FOCUS The submitted project falls within the following scientific area:

- environmental sciences
- biological and medical sciences
- social sciences and humanities

CATEGORY OF RDI The submitted project falls within the category of:

- basic research
- industrial research
- experimental development

3. CALL ALLOCATION

The total allocation for this Call is 295 219 294 CZK (equivalent to 11 132 369 CHF), composed of 85% Swiss Contribution and 15% co-financing from the state budget of the Czech Republic, allocated at the level of the Programme Operator (PO) – the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS).

Applicants will receive 100 % of the grant without any obligation for co-financing.

The grant shall be awarded in **Czech crowns (CZK)**, and all financial flows between the Programme Operator and the beneficiary shall be carried out in CZK.

For the purpose of this Call, the official exchange rate ("Call Exchange Rate") shall be based on the average exchange rate for the period January to March 2025, as published by the Czech National Bank (ČNB).

The budget in the Project proposal shall be filled in CZK (and in CZK and in CHF for Swiss partner/s). The applicant shall quantify the total project costs in whole CZK exclusively (not in thousands!).

The indicative size of the grant per project ranges between 17 237 350 CZK-66 297 500 CZK (equivalent to 0,65–2,5 million CHF).

Note: The Call Exchange Rate is set solely for the purposes of this Call and may not reflect the actual exchange rate used by the Swiss partner. To ensure financial clarity and reduce currency risks, applicants are strongly encouraged to include provisions related to exchange rate handling and potential fluctuations in their internal project budgets and in the Partnership Agreement.

Costs related to the **Swiss partner(s)** are **eligible** under the same rules as for the Czech applicant. The grant is provided entirely in CZK, and the **Czech applicant** (as the beneficiary of the grant) **is fully responsible for covering any exchange rate differences** that may occur. The Swiss partner is **not required to provide any co-financing** and **must not bear any exchange rate risk**. The amount intended for the Swiss partner shall be defined in **CHF** and specified clearly in the **Partnership Agreement** (using the "Call Exchange Rate" is recommended), as well as in the relevant sections of the project proposal and internal project budgets.

The costs incurred by the Swiss partner(s) must not exceed a maximum of 50% of the total project budget.

4. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS AND PARTNERS

Call 8K2502 is aimed at advancing bilateral cooperation of **research infrastructures** (RIs) acting as the Czech and Swiss national nodes to distributed European research infrastructures, in which the Czech Republic and Switzerland participate either as members or observers. The eligibility under the Czech-Swiss Research Infrastructure Initiative is therefore limited to eight specific national nodes engaged in distributed European research infrastructures (see **Annex 2 – List of CZ-CH Nodes**).

Eligible applicant is Czech Large Research Infrastructure (represented by its hosting institution) listed in Annex 2, active in one of the 3 above declared scientific fields and having the respective Swiss project partner (as listed in Annex 2).

5. CALL TIMELINE

The call is opened on the day following the date of publication of Call 8K2502 on the MEYS website. It ends on 21st September 2025.

TIMELINE AND DEADLINES

| Call Announcement | 21 st July 2025 |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| Call Launch | 22 nd July 2025 |

| Call End | 21st September 2025 23:59.59 |
|--|--|
| Evaluation Launch | September 2025 |
| Evaluation End | October 2025 |
| Award of grants (Decision on Funding) | November 2025 |
| Expected start of the project implementation | November 2025 |
| Project Duration | November 2025 (the soonest) – 31 st December 2028 (the latest) Min. project duration: 2 years |
| Eligibility of costs | Date of Project Implementation launch – 31st December 2028 |

6. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

In order to fulfil all requirements of Call 8K2502, as well as § 14, paragraph 3 of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll. the applicant is obliged to use the **Application Form**.

One single application per node partnership is allowed—i.e. one application submitted by the Czech node (the hosting institution) which was prepared by respective Swiss and Czech members of the partnership in close cooperation, coordinating the submission effort, deciding about the most effective/relevant combination of components of the submitted project. Attention is to be paid to coherence, efficiency, long-term impact, and feasibility.

The application for the grant shall be prepared by the applicant in the **Czech language**, **with the exception** of selected parts explicitly designated to be completed in **English**. In the case of English texts submitted within the Call 8K2502, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports does not require an official certified translation pursuant to Section 16(2) of Act No. 500/2004 Coll., the Administrative Code, as amended.

The Czech node shall be the main recipient of funds and responsible for the implementation of the entire project.

The applicant shall ensure that the application form is properly filled in, is complete and includes all annexes and captures all necessary information.

The applicant's **Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** (or similar international advisory body) should carry out a **'preliminary assessment'** of the proposed project prior to submission. TAC shall ensure that proposals are scientifically sound and align with the overall goals of the call. Relevant TAC recommendations shall be incorporated into the application. Moreover, a **written statement** from TAC reflecting its evaluation of the project shall be included as a mandatory annex to the application. The written statement must also include a list of names of the members who evaluated the project.

MEYS designates **the preferred method of submitting** the grant application as a data message sent to the MEYS data mailbox: **vidaawt**.

MEYS requests applicants to enter the following in the data message:

in the "Subject" field: "Call 8K2502 - DO NOT OPEN!",

in the "To the Hands" field: "Unit 311".

and to tick the checkbox "Into Own Hands".

The application must be submitted to the Ministry before the end of the call.

The submission of an application does not give the applicant a legal right to obtain the grant.

Complete project proposal **always** consists of all parts and attachments required in the application form:

- Project description, including budget;
- Statement of TAC (or other similar international advisory body);
- CV (key/leading members of the Czech team);
- Detailed budget tables;
- Full draft of the Partnership Agreement with Swiss partner(s) (no missing sections or incomplete clauses)
 - (Note for applicants: The Partnership Agreement between the Czech applicant and the respective Swiss partner must be signed prior to issuance of the Decision on Funding.)
- Affidavit stating that the applicant is a research organisation

The partnership agreement must specify the role of the Swiss partner in the project, the expected outputs, the distribution of funds and other details in accordance with the Regulation (see Regulation on the implementation of the second Swiss contribution, Article 4.10, available at https://www.swiss-contribution.cz/en/general-information/legal-documents) and as agreed between the partners.

7. ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The call supports activities that foster scientific excellence, bilateral cooperation, and long-term development of Czech research infrastructures (RIs). Projects may include, but are not limited to, the following types of activities:

1. Joint Research and Co-Development Activities

Activities aimed at co-developing and testing new research methodologies, instruments, experimental setups, and data analysis approaches. Projects may include:

- Co-design, testing, or optimization of detectors, diagnostic tools, or other domainspecific technologies.
- Shared implementation of experimental campaigns or simulations.
- Joint development of models, protocols, or standards for collaborative research.

These activities should strengthen the technological and research capacities of the Czech RI and contribute to its scientific competitiveness and European integration.

2. Education, Training, and Human Capital Development

Projects are expected to include training and mentoring opportunities designed to strengthen the human resources of the Czech RI and its Swiss partner, such as:

- Specialized technical workshops or training programmes for researchers, engineers, or facility operators.
- Supervision and involvement of MSc, PhD students, and postdocs in joint activities.
- Capacity-building initiatives to strengthen internal know-how and staff competences.

3. Mobility and Knowledge Exchange

Support for short- or mid-term research stays, internships, or mobility exchanges between Czech and Swiss institutions. Activities may include:

- Internships for early-stage researchers or technical staff in the partner institution.
- Staff exchange between Czech and Swiss facilities for joint development or experimental support.
- Mobility schemes facilitating cross-border transfer of expertise and building sustainable partnerships.

4. Technology Development, Instrumentation, and Integration

Projects may include the development, adaptation, or integration of equipment and tools that enhance the Czech RI's operational or scientific capabilities, including:

- Development or customization of specialized hardware or software solutions.
- Adaptation or installation of novel technologies to support research operations or open access activities.
- Activities that improve system integration, automation, or efficiency of infrastructure services.

5. Support for Open and Transnational Access

Initiatives to increase the attractiveness and accessibility of the Czech RI to international users, with emphasis on open access principles. Activities may include:

- Support for infrastructure upgrades to enable new user experiments.
- Development of procedures or platforms facilitating remote or transnational access.
- Outreach and communication strategies targeting new international user communities.

6. Innovation Support and Industry Collaboration

Applicants are encouraged to propose activities that foster innovation and collaboration with the private sector. This may include:

- Proof-of-Concept projects testing application potential of RI-based technologies.
- Engagement of private partners through industry access or innovation co-design.
- Development of innovation management tools, IP strategies, or business interface mechanisms inspired by good practices (e.g. Swiss models).

8. ELIGIBLE COSTS

The eligible costs, to be claimed by the Czech participants in the project, are determined in accordance with the Act No 130/2002 Coll., on the Support of Research, Experimental Development and Innovation from the Public Funds. Eligible costs of the project are (in accordance with § 2 par. 2 letter m) of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll.) costs that can be spent by the beneficiary on research, development and innovation activities, i.e. on the solutions of the proposed research project. According to the § 2 paragraph 2 letter n) of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll., recognized project costs are such eligible costs, which are approved by the provider and are justified. Furthermore, the eligible expenditures under projects will comply with the CSSU (Country-Specific Set-Up), SMSU (Support Measure Set-Up) and the Article 6.2 of Regulations.

In the project proposal, the applicant proposes a structure of the necessary costs for the project.

The eligible costs are as follows:

- Personal costs
- Travel/Mobility costs (transportation, accommodation, insurance, per diems)
- Costs for acquisition of tangible and intangible assets (cap of 10%)
- Costs of services subcontracting costs are limited to 20% of the total eligible project budget
- Other operating costs (e.g. intellectual property rights, consumables, publication fees, etc.)
- Indirect costs (Overheads) flat rate of up to 25% of the total direct eligible costs, excluding subcontracting (as is applied in Horizon Europe projects)

A more detailed description of respective cost categories can be found in the **Guide for Applicants**.

The start and end dates for eligible costs will be specified in the Decision on Funding, which is an integral part of the Call documentation.

Ineligible/excluded costs

The following costs shall not be considered eligible (in accordance with Article 6.6 of Regulations):

- a) interest on debt, debt service charges and late payment charges;
- b) charges for financial transactions and other purely financial costs, except costs related to accounts required by the NCU, the Paying Authority or laid down by the applicable law and the costs of financial services required under the Support Measure Agreement;
- c) provisions for losses or potential future liabilities;
- d) exchange rate losses other than those due to the involvement of Swiss partners;
- e) expenditure for the acquisition of land;
- f) value added tax, which is abstractly recoverable, by whatever means, even if, de facto, the beneficiary does not itself recover the value added tax;
- g) costs that are covered by other sources;
- h) fines, penalties, indemnities or other related compensation, including lost profit and costs of litigation, except where litigation is an integral and necessary component for achieving the outcomes of the programme; and
- i) excessive or reckless expenditure.

The **eligible costs**, to be claimed by **the Swiss partner/s** in the project consortia, should be similar to the Czech partners, whereby the Swiss partner shall comply with its national laws, accounting standards, internal regulations and common Swiss practice. Where appropriate, simplified rules for the verification of eligible expenditure of Swiss partner/s may be agreed in the programme.

There is a **cap of 50%** of total project eligible costs on funding **for Swiss partners** for the implementation of the joint activities.

Swiss entities that fulfil the basic eligibility requirements (as stated above in the document) shall be project partners.

A **Partnership Agreement** shall be concluded between the applicant and the Swiss partner – specifying the partner's role in the project, outputs, budget allocation/costs and other details in accordance with the Regulations and as agreed by the partners.

9. SELECTION/REVIEW PROCESS

Formal Assessment:

The Ministry shall conduct a thorough administrative check to ensure that all submitted project applications meet the formal requirements. This includes verifying submission deadlines, completeness of the application and its annexes, signatures by authorized representatives, requested grant amounts adhering to the limits stated in the call, and that the project is planned for completion within the deadline specified in the call. If Ministry staff identify **correctable deficiencies** in the submitted application regarding the fulfilment of formal requirements, the applicant will be requested to correct them within a specified reasonable period according to the § 14k, paragraph 1 of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll.

Furthermore, the Ministry shall check eligibility of the applications, i.e. compliance with the substantive focus of the Call (Section 2), the range of eligible

applicants (Section 4), and the deadline for submission of applications set out in Call 8K2502 (Section 5).

In case of any contradiction, a further process shall be suggested according to the § 14j, paragraph 4, letters a), b), d) and e) of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll (**Provider's resolution to discontinue proceedings**). Affected applicants will be informed of this step by a letter sent via the data box. Formally complete applications shall be forwarded for an eligibility check.

Selection Committee / Review Panel:

The Selection Committee is responsible for the overall evaluation of the proposals based on call's objectives, the feasibility of the proposals and their overall soundness. It shall consist of MEYS representatives (Chair and Secretary); independent external evaluators with proven experience in the operation and strategic development of research infrastructures and the relevant scientific fields (up to 2 experts per one field, up to 6 in total), these experts shall include individuals nominated from the pool of evaluators participating in the International Peer-review Assessment of the Czech Large Research Infrastructures: from relevant observers bodies. including representatives from Switzerland such as the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swiss Contribution Office (SCO) as well as representatives of National Coordination Unit (NCU; i.e. Ministry of Finance).

A review panel shall check that applications are coherent and proposals include justified eligible activities and costs within the project's budget.

Given the expected number of submitted proposals and the available budget of the call, it is anticipated that the total amount of requested funding will exceed the call's financial allocation. The objective of the Selection Committee is to recommend support for a broad and balanced portfolio of projects while maintaining fairness, transparency, and alignment with the programme objectives. The call is designed under the assumption that all submitted proposals will meet a baseline level of high scientific quality and relevance. It will be the responsibility of the expert panel to assess, compare, and differentiate proposals based on the evaluation criteria, with added value derived from the evaluators' international expertise, experience with RI management, and their ability to assess broader scientific and strategic impact.

The Selection Committee will have the authority to:

- propose the exclusion of any ineligible or unjustified costs;
- suggest specific conditions to be met prior to the final funding decision;

- adjust the final budget allocations according to the proposed structure of project activities;
- recommend the reduction of the project scope and budget where justified;
- not recommend a project for funding at all.

Steering Committee:

The Steering Committee is established to oversee the proper implementation of the Programme in compliance with the Support Measure Set-Up dated 19.2.2025 as amended. Thus, it is established as a temporary working body for the duration of the Programme's implementation. The Steering Committee shall conduct an ex-post validation of the selection process, ensuring that it has been carried out fairly and transparently. Besides MEYS the voting members of the committee consist of representatives from the donor state as well as NCU. The committee shall have the final authority to approve or reject projects or impose additional conditions for funding, including decision not to allocate the full amount of funding required for the project by the applicant.

All funding decisions shall reflect both the ranking based on merit and the strategic ambition to support a diverse representation of Czech-Swiss research infrastructure partnerships under the limited funding envelope, whilst aiming at the highest efficiency level.

Applicants will be informed in writing of the results of the evaluation by a letter from the Director of the Department (a Decision Letter), stating whether the project application under the call has been approved or rejected. This notification will be sent via the data mailbox.

Decisions on Funding

After the applicant **accepts** the results of the evaluation stated in a letter from the director of the department and submits the signed **Partnership Agreement(s)**, the Ministry shall issue Decisions on Funding (or similar legal act) to the successful applicants. The document shall outline the terms of the grant, including funding amounts and any conditions imposed during the selection process.

Note for applicants: The Partnership Agreement between the Czech applicant and the respective Swiss partner has to be signed prior to this step.

Results of the Call will be published on the MEYS website.

10. EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Scientific and Technical Merit (30%)

Proposals must demonstrate potential for excellent research.

- Research quality, originality, and potential for scientific breakthroughs. (It should contribute to new knowledge, methodologies, or technological advancements in the field.)
- Contribution to strengthening bilateral collaboration between Czech and Swiss research institutions.

2. Relevance to the Call's Objectives (25%)

- Proposals must align with the strategic focus areas outlined in the call.
- The project should contribute to the key outputs and outcomes outlined in the Guide for Applicants. This includes increased joint research outputs, capacity building, technology transfer, and innovation dissemination.
- Clear mechanisms for tracking and reporting measurable results (e.g., increase in open-access users, patents, new technologies, etc.).

3. Strategic and Societal Impact (20%)

- The expected impact of the project in terms of scientific cooperation, institutional strengthening, and contribution to European research networks.
- Contribution to the integration of Czech RIs into international collaborations.
- Potential for long-term collaboration beyond the project duration.
- Broader societal and economic benefits arising from the research.

4. Feasibility and Implementation Capacity (10%)

- The proposal must present a clear and realistic plan, including well-defined timelines and milestones.
- Institutional support, work plan coherence, and team expertise. (Demonstration of institutional capacity and expertise to successfully implement the project.)
- Effective risk mitigation strategies to ensure project completion.
- Well-defined roles and responsibilities of participating institutions, ensuring strong bilateral collaboration between Czech and Swiss partners.

5. Financial Efficiency (15%)

- Proposals must ensure proper and efficient use of funds.
- Budget justification, realism of costs, and cost-effectiveness in achieving project goals.
- Alignment of financial planning with the activities described in the project plan.

Evaluation of proposals will be based on a **narrative assessment** by independent experts. No formal scoring system will be used; instead, evaluators will provide qualitative judgments aligned with the published evaluation criteria.

Funding Allocation Approach

Applicants are expected to structure their projects clearly, linking the proposed activities to their financial plans, and indicating which parts of the project are essential and which can be adjusted or removed in case of budget cuts. In particular, applicants **must define the minimum viable scope of the project** (both technically and financially, as these two categories are interlinked) that must remain intact for the project to be feasible and worth implementing. This may include a distinction between core, desirable, and optional activities.

This approach reflects a standard practice in the research funding environment and helps to ensure that projects can still be supported in a meaningful way even under constrained

financial conditions. Further details and guidance (including on budget structure as well) will be provided in the **Guide for Applicants**.

11. EXPECTED RESULTS

The project is expected to deliver high-quality results in the form of knowledge and understanding of fundamental principles of phenomena and observable facts, as well as findings that serve as a foundation for addressing societal challenges or developing new products and processes applicable in practice. At the same time, the project is expected to provide a demonstrable contribution to the objectives of the Call as outlined in Section 1, both in terms of project outputs and its overall implementation.

The minimum number and types of results must be specified in the project proposal along with a description of the intended activities and will be subject to evaluation at all project stages (i.e., during project proposal evaluation under the call, as well as during interim and final evaluation of the supported project). The expected results and benefits of individual projects must be realistically achievable solely through the activities described in the project proposal and under the conditions outlined in the proposal.

Indicators

In order to achieve the relevant outcomes and outputs of the Programme, any project proposal must include this indicator:

 Scientific publication/s, including co-authored publication/s by Czech and Swiss researchers in high-impact journals (result J – peer-reviewed scientific article; coming from joint research activities, technology or service developments and user access).

Additionally, the project proposal must include at least one of the following indicators:

- Number of joint workshops organized (Result Code W)
- Number of people benefiting from training to improve institutional and professional capacity
- Number of **researchers having gained experience abroad** in the framework of scientific research or innovation initiatives for at least 6 months
- Number of innovations in products, processes or services developing the particular RI developed (e.g. pilot plants, verified technologies, utility models, industrial (registered) designs, prototypes, results projected into legislation, norms, national R&D strategy, methodologies, specialized maps with technical/scientific content (Nmap), software)
- Number of open access **users from abroad** in 2025-2028 (increase by %)
- Number of jointly registered applications for Intellectual Property Protection (result P Patent)
- Number of **industrial users** (fee-based access)

Other indicators for the project are optional. For detailed list of KPIs, see **Guide for Applicants.**

Note for applicants: Where applicable, Definitions of Result Types (Annex No. 4 of Methodology M17+) shall be used.

12. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR APPLICATIONS IN THE CALL 8K2502

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

During the Call proceeding, MEYS may require the applicant to submit **additional documents or information** essential for the decision about grant approval. According to § 14k, paragraph 3 of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll., the Ministry shall provide the applicant with a reasonable period of time to submit these additional documents.

APPLICATION ALTERATIONS

According to § 14k, paragraph 4 of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll., the Ministry may recommend application alterations (provided that altered application will be accepted fully). In case the applicant will comply and alter the application, the new altered application will be evaluated. Such instance can occur only if it does not disrupt the evaluation process described in section 9.

PROCESSING OF PERSONAL DATA

The Ministry shall process personal data in the applications exclusively within the call process and grant provision, in accordance with current national and European legislation about personal data protection. During evaluation and monitoring of a project, personal data (such as name and surname of the project researcher) may be shared with Swiss institutions involved in the call.¹

13. APPROVED PROJECTS

DECISION

The applicant, whose call application will be approved (hereinafter 'Beneficiary'), shall receive a **Decision on Funding**. This Decision imposes on the applicant obligations arising from legal regulations and from Call 8K2502. In order to use of the approved funding, these must be adhered to.

DECISION CHANGE

The Funding Decision may be changed only on request under conditions stated in § 14o of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll.

INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING

The grant is provided as an institutional funding according to § 3, paragraph 3 letter b) section 3 of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. and will be paid *ex ante* once a year to the recipient's bank account according to the timeline based in § 10 of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll. (details will be specified in the Decision on Funding). The grant is provided under condition that research

¹ For further information about MEYS personal data processing, see <u>Základní informace o zpracování osobních údajů Ministerstvem školství, mládeže a tělovýchovy, MŠMT ČR</u>.

project information, development and innovation will be posted through Information System of Research, Development and Innovation.

PROHIBITION OF DOUBLE FINANCING

Duplicate payment of the same project costs from different sources is not allowed.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION INSPECTION

Inspection of the project achievements, including funding use and cost-effectiveness of the project, is performed according to § 13 of the Act No. 130/2002 Coll.; public administrative control of the funding use is based on § 39 of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll. and § 8 paragraph 2 of the Act No. 320/2001 Coll. about Financial Control in Public Administration and on Amendments to Certain Laws (Law on Financial Control).

GRANT WITHDRAWAL

After the Decision on Funding, proceedings to withdraw the grant may be initiated if any circumstances stated in § 15 paragraph 1 letter a) to h) of the Act No. 218/2000 Coll. occur.

BUDGETARY DISCIPLINE VIOLATION

If recipient acts as it is stated in the § 44 paragraph 1 of the Act No. 218/2000, it is considered a budgetary discipline violation.

14. FINAL PROVISIONS AND INFORMATION SUPPORT

The following sources of information and information support are available to applicants in the call:

| Programme Operator/ Support Provider | https://msmt.gov.cz/?lang=2 |
|--|--|
| Call 8K2502 | https://msmt.gov.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/cesko-svycarska-spoluprace-v-oblasti-vyzkumnych?lang=1 |
| Czech-Swiss Research Infrastructure Initiative | https://www.swiss-contribution.cz/en/programmes/czech-swiss-research-infrasctructure-ini |
| Swiss-Czech Cooperation Programme | https://www.swiss-contribution.cz/en/ |
| Regulation on the Implementation of the Second Swiss Contribution and additional legal documents | https://www.swiss-contribution.cz/en/general-information/legal-documents |
| Contact Person at MEYS Programme Manager | Ing. Magda Pektorová Department of Research and Development (Research Infrastructures Unit – Unit 311) Tel: 00420 778 760 928 |

| | E-mail: magda.pektorova@msmt.gov.cz |
|--|---|
| Contact Person at MEYS Programme Administrator | Mgr. Klára Typlová Netíková Department of Research and Development (Research Infrastructures Unit – Unit 311) Tel: 00420 771 130 584 E-mail: klara.typlovanetikova@msmt.gov.cz |

MEYS contact person shall respond only *formal* questions. The Ministry will not provide answers to any questions of a factual nature with exception of general focus of the Call 8K2502. The deadline for any formal questions is before the call deadline (21st September 2025 9:00).

We recommend sending submissions related to the ministry via data box: vidaawt.2

Information Workshop for applicants will be organized by PO shortly after the launch of the Call.

² In accordance with the provisions of Section 14q(2) of Act No. 218/2000 Coll., no appeal or objection may be lodged against the decision of the provider. No renewal of proceedings is permitted. No review proceedings are permitted, with the exception of the procedure under Section 153(1)(a) of the Administrative Procedure Code.

CALL 8K2502 RECAPITULATION

| BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT | THE CALL |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| DASIC INFORMATION ADOUT | Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports |
| Programme Operator | Karmelitska 529/5 |
| Programme Operator | 118 12 Prague 1 |
| Programme | Czech-Swiss Research Infrastructure Initiative |
| Programme Code (IS VaVaI) | 8K |
| Programme Name | Call 8K2502 |
| Type | Grant procedure |
| Call Launch | 21st July 2025 |
| Result Announcement | October/November 2025 |
| SUBSTANTIVE FOCUS OF THE | |
| Part of the Application | VaVal project, Principal Investigator |
| | environmental sciences, biological and medical sciences, |
| Project focus | and social sciences and humanities |
| ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS | |
| LEIGIBLE / II F LIG/III I | ACTRIS-CZ (ACTRIS – participation of the Czech Republic) |
| | BBMRI.cz (Network of Czech Biobanks) |
| Eligible Applicants | CzeCOS (Czech Carbon Observation System) |
| | CSDA/ESS-CZ (Czech Social Science Data Archive / ESS – participation of the Czech Republic) |
| | CZECRIN (Czech National Node to the European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network) |
| | ELIXIR CZ (Czech National Infrastructure for Biological Data) |
| | LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ (Digital Research Infrastructure for Language Technologies, Arts and Humanities) |
| | SHARE-CZ (Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe – participation of the Czech Republic) |
| Project Partner | Swiss Research Infrastructure (Annex 2) |
| | SUBMISSION AND FULFILLING THE APPLICATION |
| PURPOSE | |
| Application Submission (Call End) | 21st September 2025 23:59.59 |
| Project Duration | November 2025 – 31st December 2028 |
| LINKS | |
| Programme Operator | https://msmt.gov.cz/?lang=2 |
| | https://www.swiss-contribution.cz/en/programmes/czech- |
| Programme | swiss-research-infrasctructure-ini |
| Programme Announcement | https://msmt.gov.cz/vyzkum-a-vyvoj-2/cesko-svycarska- spoluprace-v-oblasti-vyzkumnych?lang=1 |
| Swiss-Czech Cooperation | |
| Programme Information | https://www.swiss-contribution.cz/en/ |

CZ-Nodes:

- ACTRIS-CZ (ACTRIS participation of the Czech Republic);
- BBMRI.cz (Network of Czech Biobanks);
- CzeCOS (Czech Carbon Observation System);
- <u>CSDA/ESS-CZ</u>³ (Czech Social Science Data Archive / ESS participation of the Czech Republic);
- CZECRIN (Czech National Node to the European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network);
- ELIXIR CZ (Czech National Infrastructure for Biological Data);
- <u>LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ</u> (Digital Research Infrastructure for Language Technologies, Arts and Humanities);
- SHARE-CZ (Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe participation of the Czech Republic).

CH-Nodes:

- ACTRIS ERIC (Aerosol, Clouds, and Trace Gases Research Infrastructure)
 Swiss node: ACTRIS Switzerland
- BBMRI ERIC (Biobanking and Biomolecular Resources Research Infrastructure)
 Swiss node: Swiss Biobanking Platform SBP
- CESSDA ERIC (Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives)
 Swiss node: Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences FORS
- <u>CLARIN ERIC</u> (Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure)
 Swiss node: <u>LiRI</u> @ <u>University of Zurich / CLARIN-CH</u>
- <u>DARIAH ERIC</u> (Digital Research Infrastructure for the Arts and Humanities)
 Swiss node: Swiss National Data and Service Center for the Humanities <u>DaSCH</u>

³ The CSDA/ESS-CZ and LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ large research infrastructure projects facilitate involvement of the Czech Republic in multiple distributed European research infrastructures participated by both the Czech Republic and Switzerland, i.e., both these large research infrastructure projects also operate multiple Czech national nodes to distributed European research infrastructures. While the Czech national nodes to CESSDA and ESS are both operated through CSDA/ESS-CZ, LINDAT/CLARIAH-CZ serves as the Czech national node to CLARIN and DARIAH (and EHRI – European Holocaust Research Infrastructure). The CzeCOS large research infrastructure project also engages with multiple distributed European research infrastructures (AnaEE, DANUBIUS-RI, eLTER RI, EUFAR and ICOS), of which only ICOS is participated by both the Czech Republic and Switzerland.

- <u>ECRIN ERIC</u> (European Clinical Research Infrastructure Network)
 Swiss node: Swiss Clinical Trial Organisation <u>SCTO</u>
- <u>ELIXIR</u> (European Life-Science Infrastructure for Biological Information) Swiss node: <u>ELIXIR Switzerland</u> / Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics <u>SIB</u>
- ESSurvey ERIC (European Social Survey)
 Swiss node: Swiss Centre of Expertise in the Social Sciences FORS
- ICOS ERIC (Integrated Carbon Observation System)
 Swiss node: ETH Zurich / ICOS-CH
- SHARE ERIC (Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe)
 Swiss node: University of Lausanne / FORS