



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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**Scientific co-operation between Eastern Europe and Switzerland
(SCOPES 2013-2016)**

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

We would like to inform you of a new phase of the Scientific co-operation programme between Eastern Europe and Switzerland (SCOPES 2013-2016).

The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) has been implementing this programme since 1990, in co-operation with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The programme is part of the federal technical and financial collaboration with Eastern Europe and aims to support research teams and institutions in Eastern Europe and the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union in the transition phase, which also concerns the science and education sector.

The new period for SCOPES will last four years and the budget available is CHF 16 million. With this amount we hope to fund about 100 research partnerships. There will be two main calls for proposals (2013 and 2014).

The first call of the new SCOPES phase has just been launched. It includes the following funding schemes:

- **Conference Grants (CGs)** enable researchers from partner countries to participate in international scientific conferences held in Switzerland by providing funding for the travel and accommodation costs of participants from Eastern European and NIS countries.
- **Joint Research Projects (JRPs)** provide funding for researchers from partner countries to carry out innovative projects with Swiss colleagues on specific problems in all areas of investigator-driven research. Research is carried out at the research facilities involved; however, mutual visits and short stays in the partner's country are possible.
- **Preparatory grants (PGs)** aim to facilitate the elaboration of proposals for Joint Research Projects. For this purpose, scientists from the partner countries and from Switzerland can

receive a financial contribution towards the costs of a meeting in order to prepare and elaborate a proposal.

- **Valorisation Grants** (VGs) are designed to increase the impact and sustainability of research results generated from Joint Research Projects (JRPs).

The current call for proposals will be open for JRPs until 20 September 2013. The first projects would be able to start at the beginning of next year. Applications must be submitted electronically through the mySNF portal (web platform of the SNSF) by the Swiss partners.

Further information on the co-operation programme and the current call for proposals can be found in the call text (see annexe) and on the website of the SNSF

<http://www.snf.ch/E/international/europe/scopes/Pages/default.aspx>

We hope that the SCOPES programme will attract the interest of the scientific community in your country and therefore would like to encourage you to contribute to the further distribution of this information to persons and institutions who are potentially interested in such a co-operation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Evelyne Glaettli
Programme Manager