

## **SWISS DATA SCIENCE CENTER – CANTON OF VAUD CALL FOR PROJECTS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **How is the maximum contribution of CHF 125,000 allocated to project stakeholders?**

The SDSC will pay the funds directly to the Project Leader who will be responsible for the redistribution to any Project Partners, according to the budget and distribution submitted and approved by all parties before the project begins.

- Example 1: CHF 75,000 for co-candidate from the private sector and CHF 50,000 for the co-candidate from the research team at a cantonal university, forming a consortium of two candidates;
- Example 2: CHF 125,000 for the company acting as the sole lead candidate.

### **What does SDSC do with intellectual property (IP) from projects funded by this call?**

The spirit of this call is to ensure that funding recipients can commercially exploit the results and methods of the project. IP will therefore be flexible and similar to that of the SDSC's Project Agreements with private companies.

### **How does IP work in the case of a consortium?**

Each party is required to reach an IP agreement and formalise it within three months of the project start date.

### **How does the 20% contributed by the company/consortium work, FTEs or cash?**

Each stakeholder needs to contribute according to their nature. For private companies, a cash contribution proportional to the funding they receive is expected. For other stakeholders (e.g. hospital, research team), an in-kind (FTE) contribution is expected.

### **Can the pre-project and full project be submitted in English?**

Yes, we can accept both in French or in English.

### **Can we use the allocated funding to purchase research equipment?**

The main usage of the budget is intended to be for human resources involved in the project. Depending on specific cases, an exception could be made. In the pre-projects, you can include in the budget an estimate of the material costs (like access to computing infrastructures and similar) but no more than 5K. We will evaluate each request case by case.

### **Can the main applicant not declare any costs? In that case, would they not have to contribute in cash?**

Yes, this is technically possible, although somewhat unusual.

### **Can or should academic partners include overheads in the budget?**

The SDSC will not impose overhead rates on participating academic partners. However, academic institutions may apply their own overhead policy for their members' contribution to the project, as a form of "insurance". Applicants are therefore encouraged to check with their own institution.

**How many pre-proposals will be selected for the full project submission phase?**

Any pre-proposal submission fitting the scope of the call, meeting the formal criteria and containing sufficient level of detail will be considered for the second and last selection phase.

**What are the rules when a Vaud-based company collaborates with an institute or laboratory outside of Vaud?**

The same rules apply regarding allocated funding, required corporate and/or institutional contributions, and intellectual property. However, the lead applicant in a consortium must be registered in the canton of Vaud.

**Can an entity submit multiple projects as the lead partner?**

Yes, but a maximum of two projects per entity.