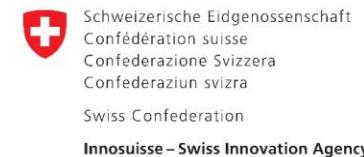


BRIDGE

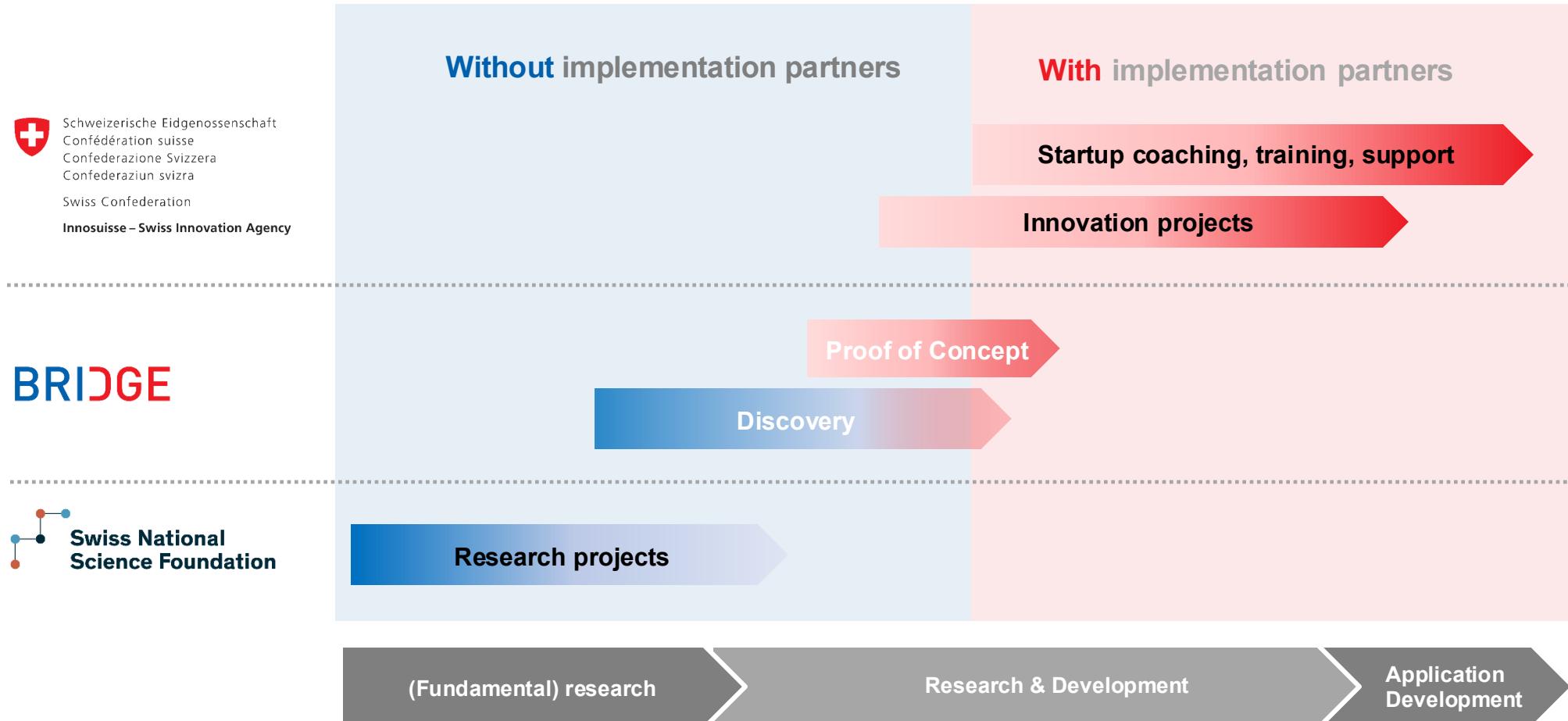


Building Bridges

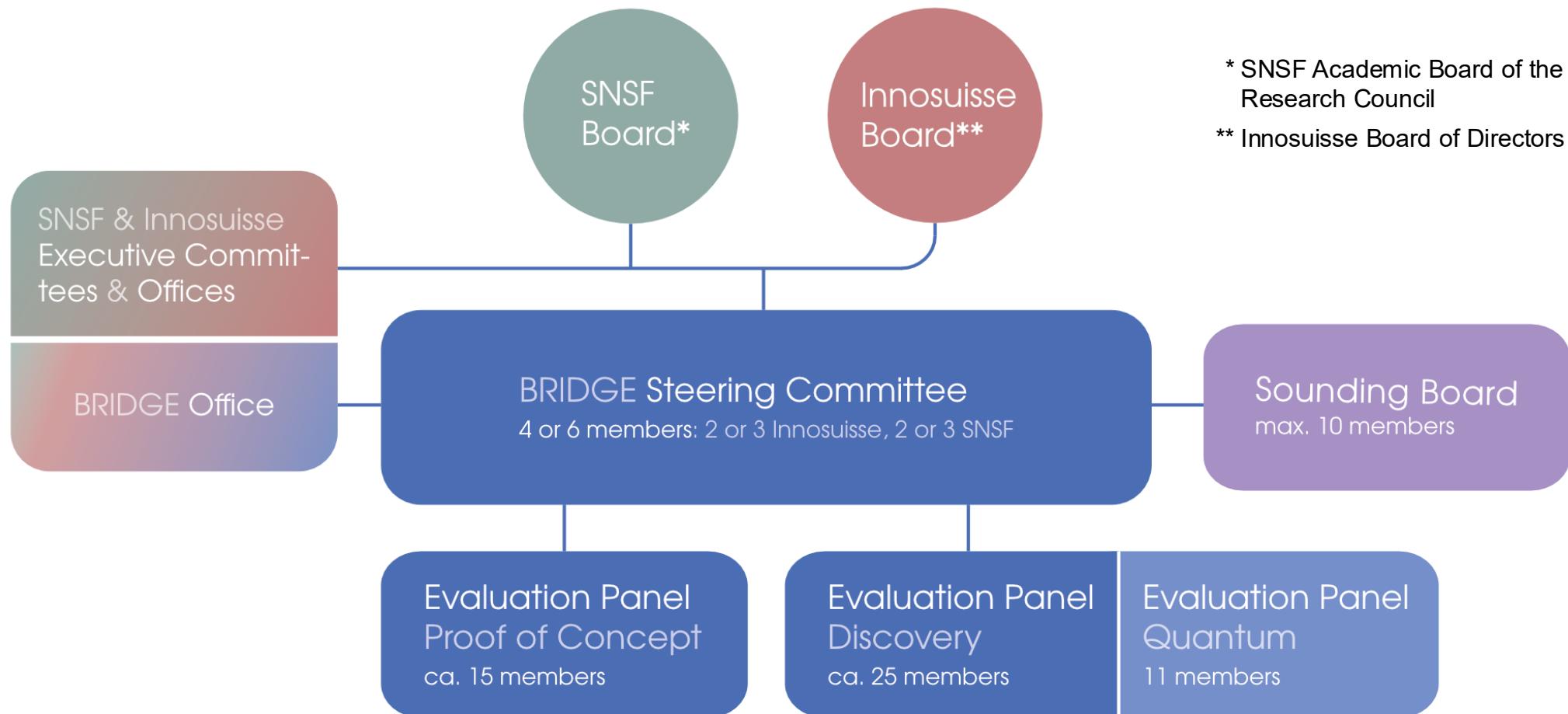
https://www.snf.ch/media/de/MidiFiP2DarHMDIS/BRIDGE_presentation_general.pdf



Complete the funding portfolio



BRIDGE governance



Goal of the program

« Turn scientific results into economic or societal innovation »

BRIDGE...

- ... fosters the economic and societal potential of scientific research
- ... supports projects in the critical precompetitive phase that have a clear vision of potential application
- ... facilitates cooperation between Universities, ETHs, research institutes, and Universities of Applied Sciences, Universities of teacher education

Two lines of funding

Proof of Concept

- Scientific results developed into a product or an application
- Young researchers on their way to entrepreneurship or willing to implement their research findings
- Open to all types of innovation

Discovery

- Interaction between basic and applied research to realise the innovation potential of scientific results
- Importance of the societal and economic impact
- Projects may cover any type of innovation or research field



Discovery

Nicole Wenderoth | Daniel Birrer

“Advanced mental training for arousal-regulation using pupil-based neurofeedback and virtual reality”

ETHZ and the Swiss Federal Institute of Sport Magglingen developed a radically new pupil-based neurofeedback method, which empowers users to self-regulate their brain's arousal level: www.mindmetrix.ch | www.myflow.ch

Discovery

Details of the funding scheme

Eligibility criteria for the applicants

- Experienced researchers at a Swiss research institution

Requirements for the project

- Integration of excellent science and high-impact innovation
- Research is at a stage where the risk is too large for implementation partners to co-fund
- Projects may cover any type of innovation or research field
- Up to 3 applicants of independent research groups with a clear vision of innovation

Discovery

Details of the funding scheme

- One call per year
- One project per applicant

Eligible costs

Project budget: max. 850'000 CHF per applicants for 4 years

- Salaries of project personnel, excluding the salary of the applicants (special conditions may apply for UAS and CSEM researchers)
- Project costs directly related to the project

Duration

Up to 4 years

Overhead

max. 15% overhead paid to the host institution

Discovery

Details of the funding scheme

Quality of the project

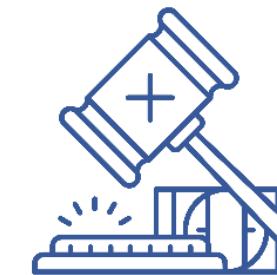
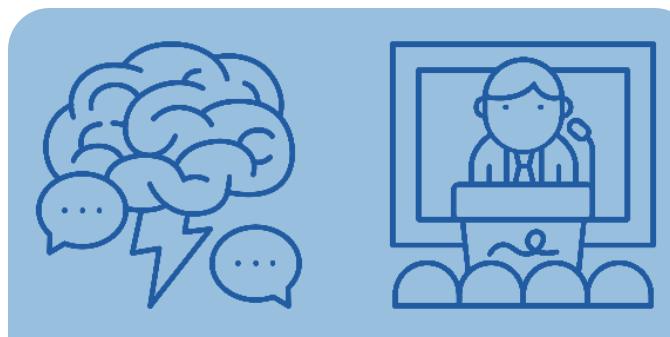
- **High scientific quality** going beyond state of the art
- **Innovative potential:** credible vision of the potential societal, environmental, technological or economical **impact** and its implementation
- **Feasibility**
- Convincing **roadmap towards implementation**

Qualification of applicant(s)

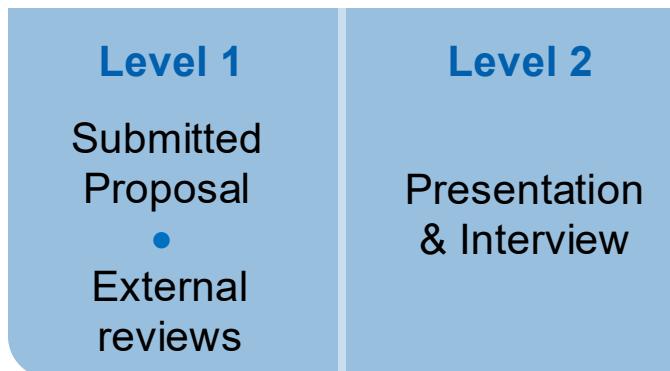
- Scientific and **innovation-oriented, entrepreneurial** as well as management competence of the applicants
- Added value of the **consortium**

Discovery

Evaluation procedure



Submission ➤ Formal Check ➤ **Qualitative Evaluation** ➤ Decision



Duration from submission to funding decision: **6 months**



Discovery Application

Yvonne Fabian | Dominik Füglstaller | Thomas Keller

“Paddy rice cultivation and biodiversity promotion on wet arable land in Switzerland”

Agroscope and BFH investigate and further develop the cultivation of paddy rice as an alternative, environmentally and climate-friendly cropping method on former peat soils and in regularly waterlogged areas in Switzerland

Discovery

Additional support

Assisted patent searches

- An [assisted patent search for research and innovation](#) can be requested while you are running a BRIDGE project.

Support for women

- BRIDGE supports career development and network building for the next generation of female researchers through the SNSF's [Gender Equality Grants](#)

Support for PhDs and postdocs working on the project

- BRIDGE provides SNSF's [Flexibility Grants](#) to help researchers better balance their childcare responsibilities with their scientific work and academic careers

BRIDGE Application

Dos and Don'ts

Dos

- Clearly define your innovation
- Provide answer to the problem (start from the end)
- Follow the structure of the template (do not leave blank)
- Know and follow the evaluation criteria (self-evaluation)
- Start early (necessary documents and signatures, proofreading)

Don'ts

- Focus only on the scientific part
- Neglect “impact” and “implementation”
- Hope for exceptions to the rules
- Imply too much

BRIDGE Application

If you are not successful...

... please first:

- Read the decision letter carefully
- If you have questions, ask the BRIDGE Office to clarify
- Possibility of asking for reconsideration or of appealing against the decision

Can you improve your application?

- If rejected, you can apply a second time for the same project, provided you still meet all the formal requirements
- List and explain the changes made to the former version of the project



2 4 0

BRIDGE Status 2017-2025

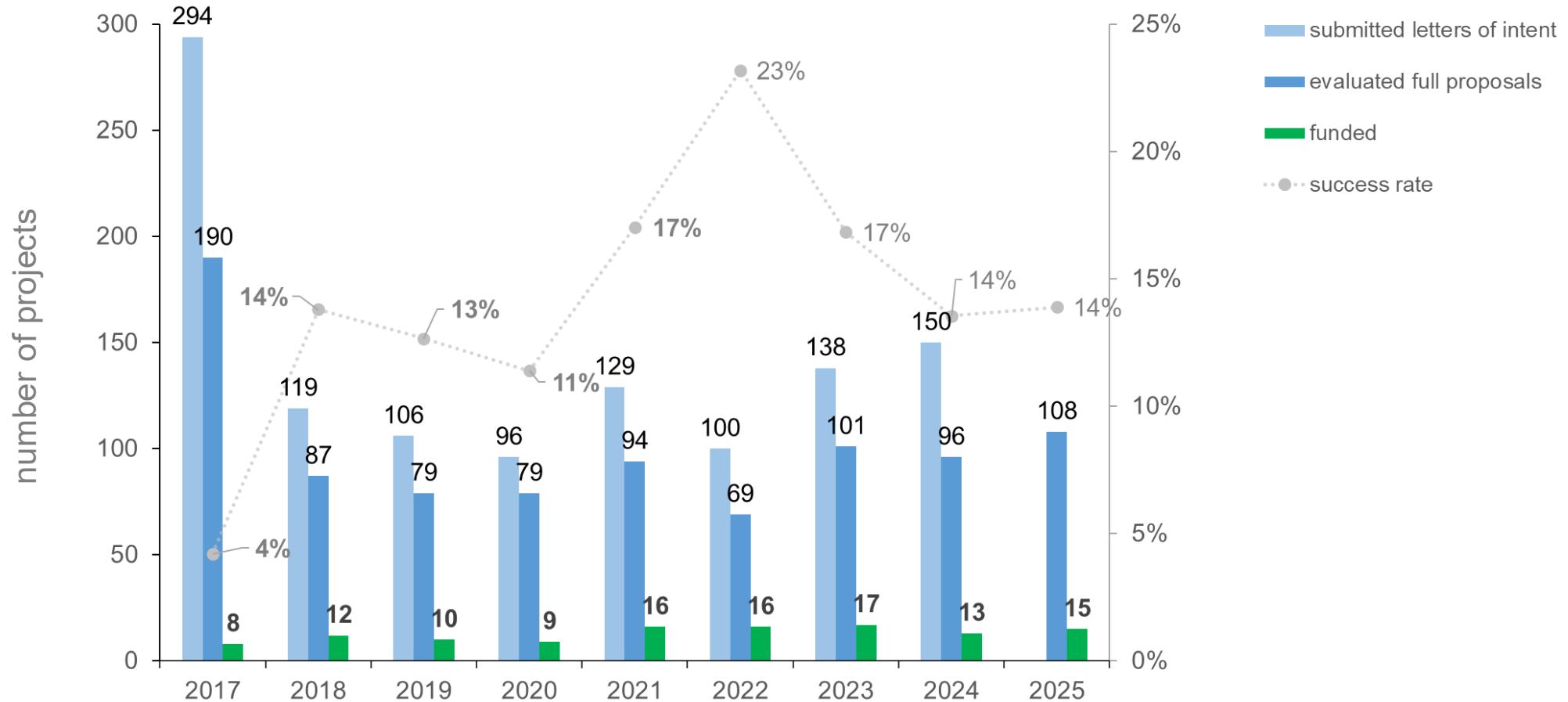
Daniel Kübler | Nenad Stojanovic

“Swiss Citizens' Assembly: A Democratic Innovation Involving Sortition, Deliberation and Participatory Democracy”

Uni Zurich and Geneva explore complementary forms of democracy and their contribution to solving societal challenges

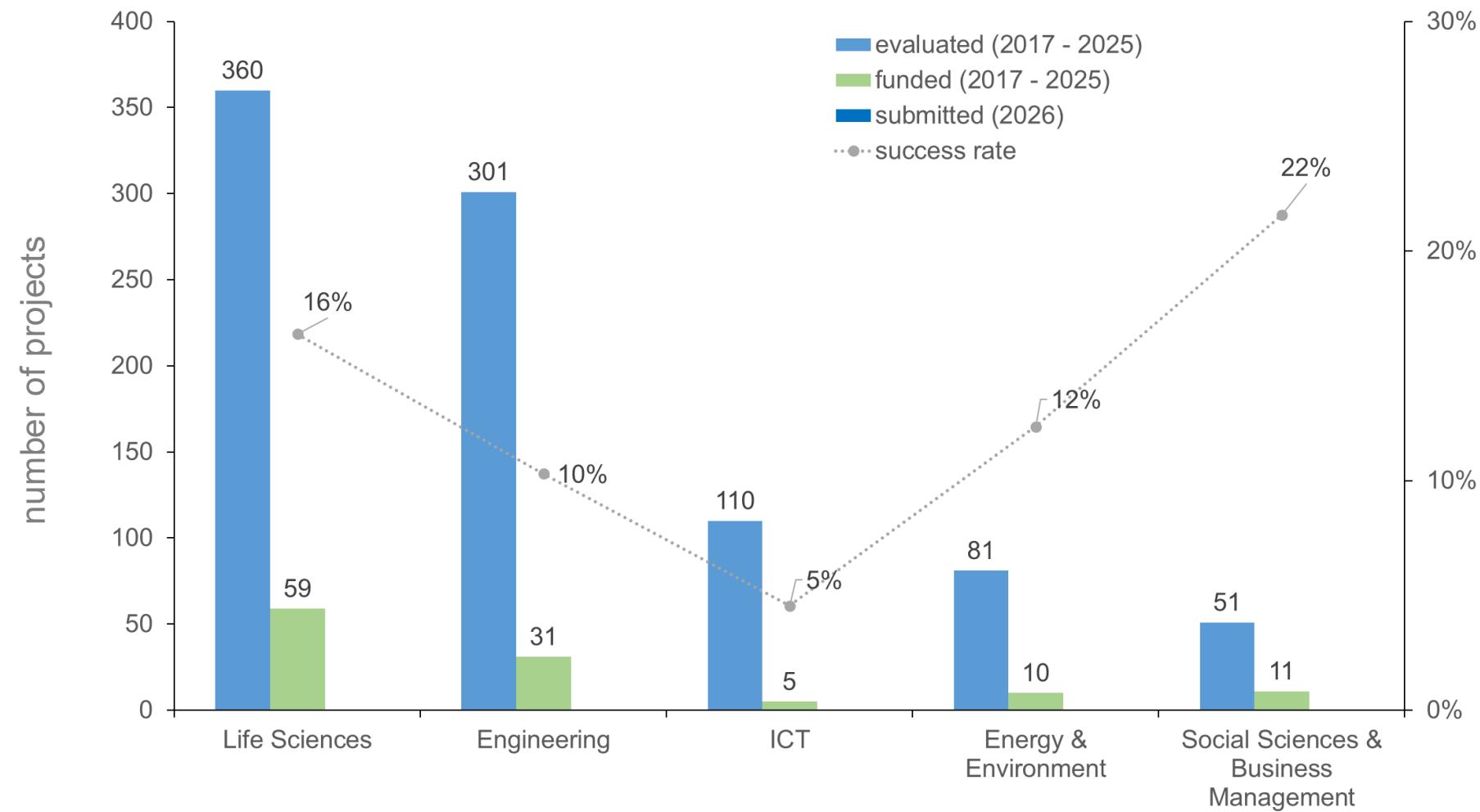
Discovery Statistics

Submitted and accepted projects



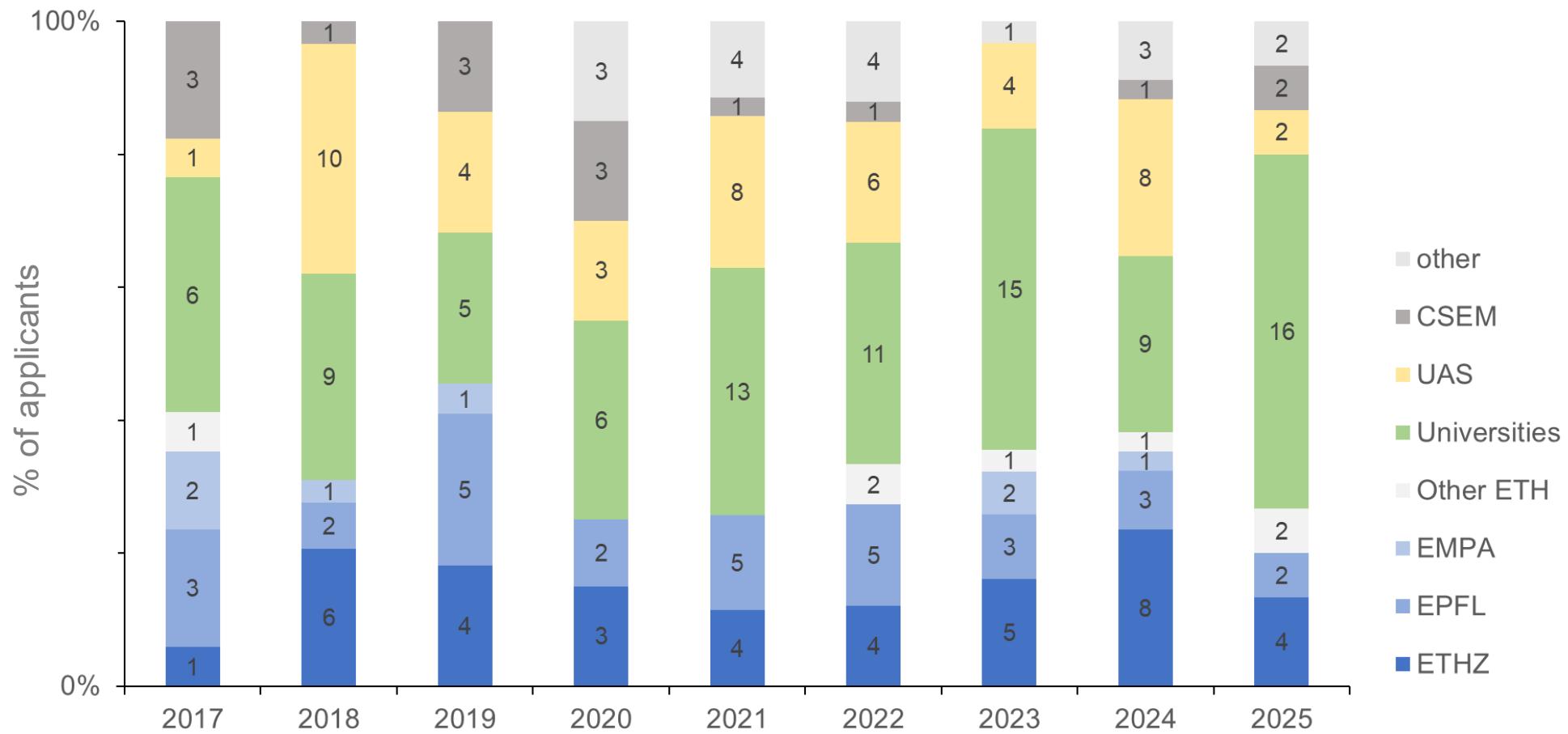
Discovery Statistics

Disciplines (calls 2017-2025)



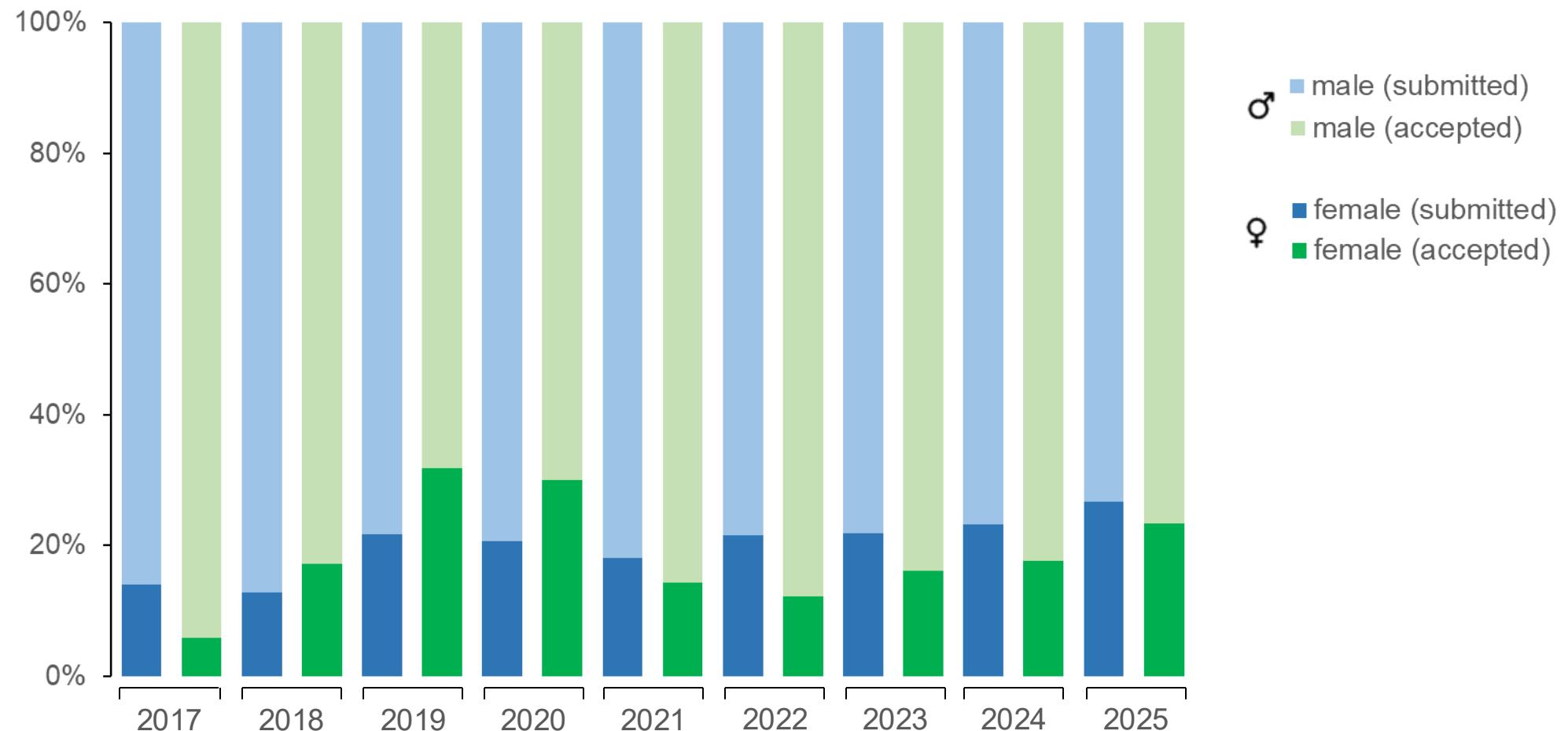
Discovery Statistics

Involved institutions (all applicants)



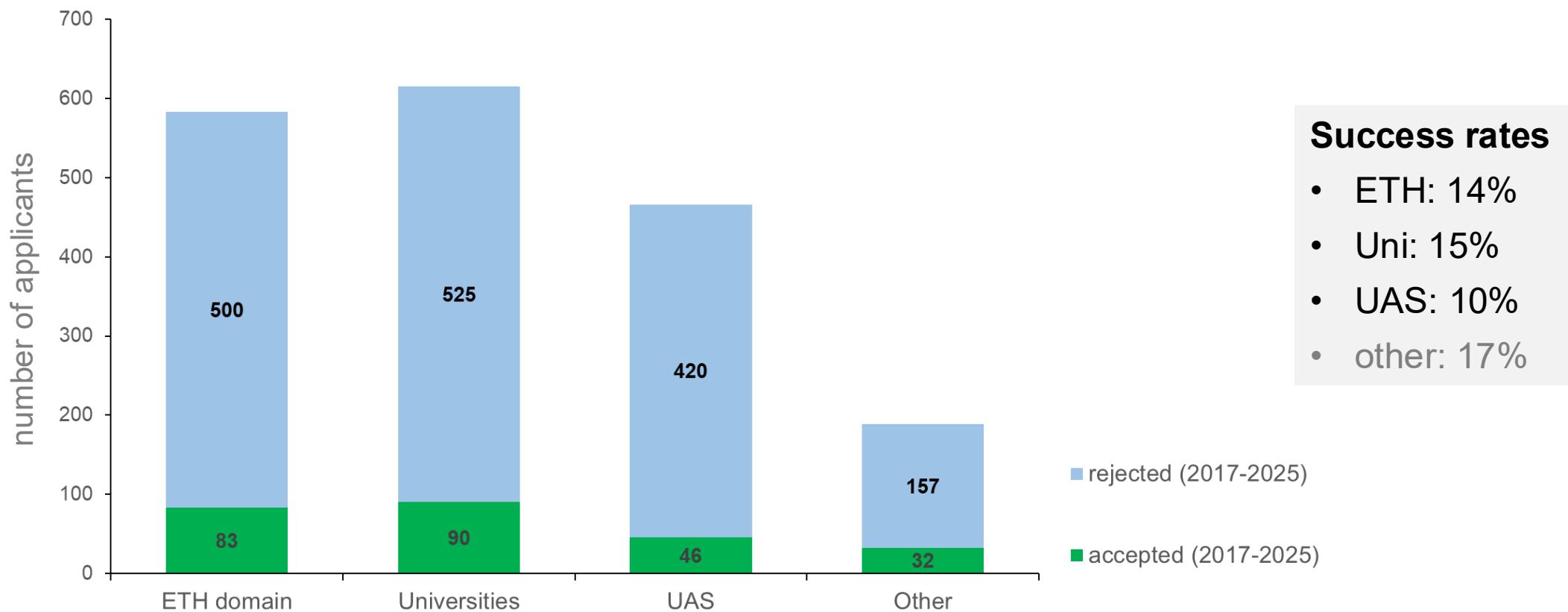
Discovery Statistics

Gender

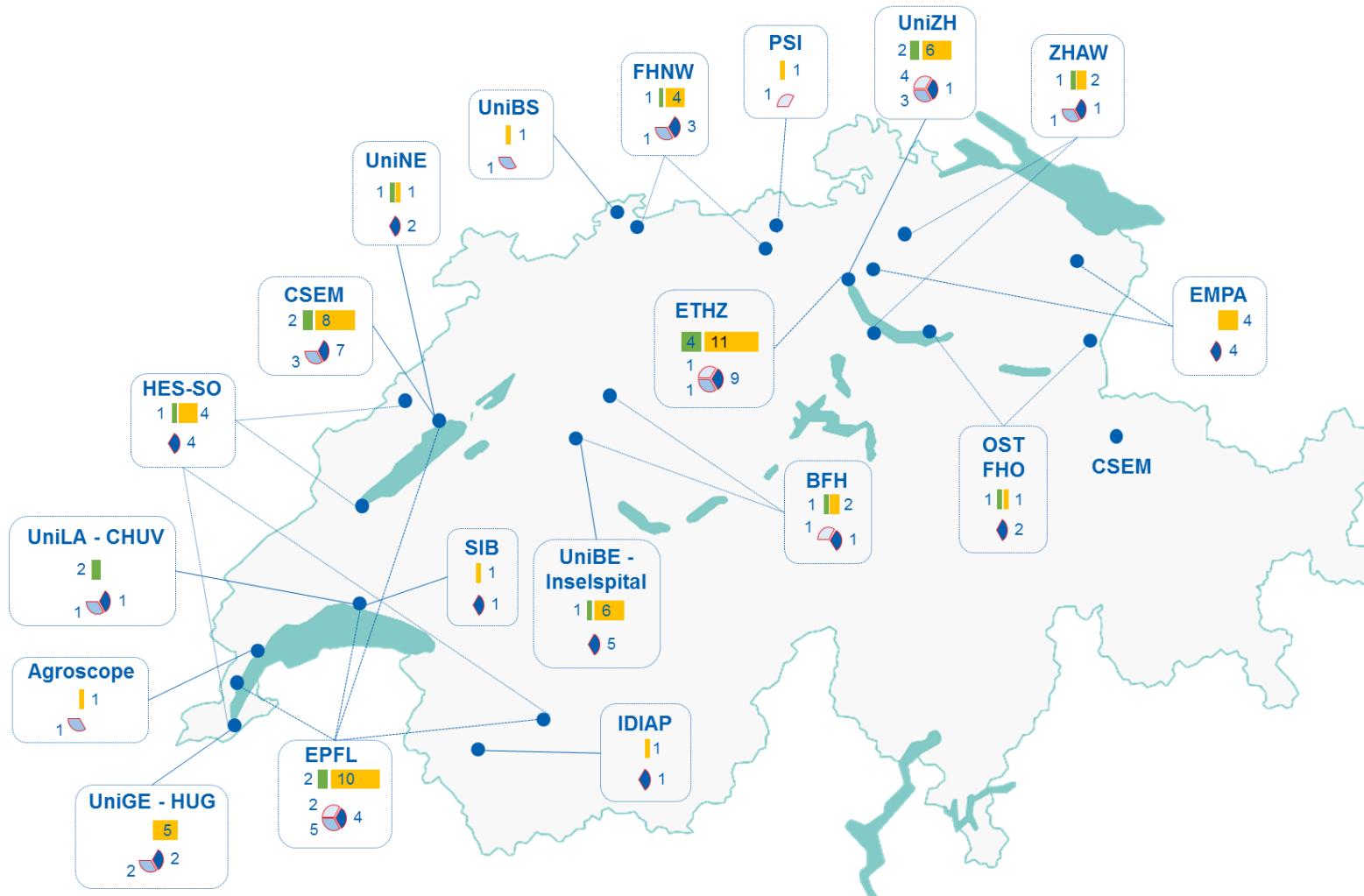


Discovery information

Submitted/funded projects by applicants and their institutions



Discovery financed projects 2017-2020



4 calls

435 applications

39 projects approved

Total budget approved: **46.5 mioCHF**

Average grant/project: **1.2 mioCHF**

Average duration: **43 months**

Host institution

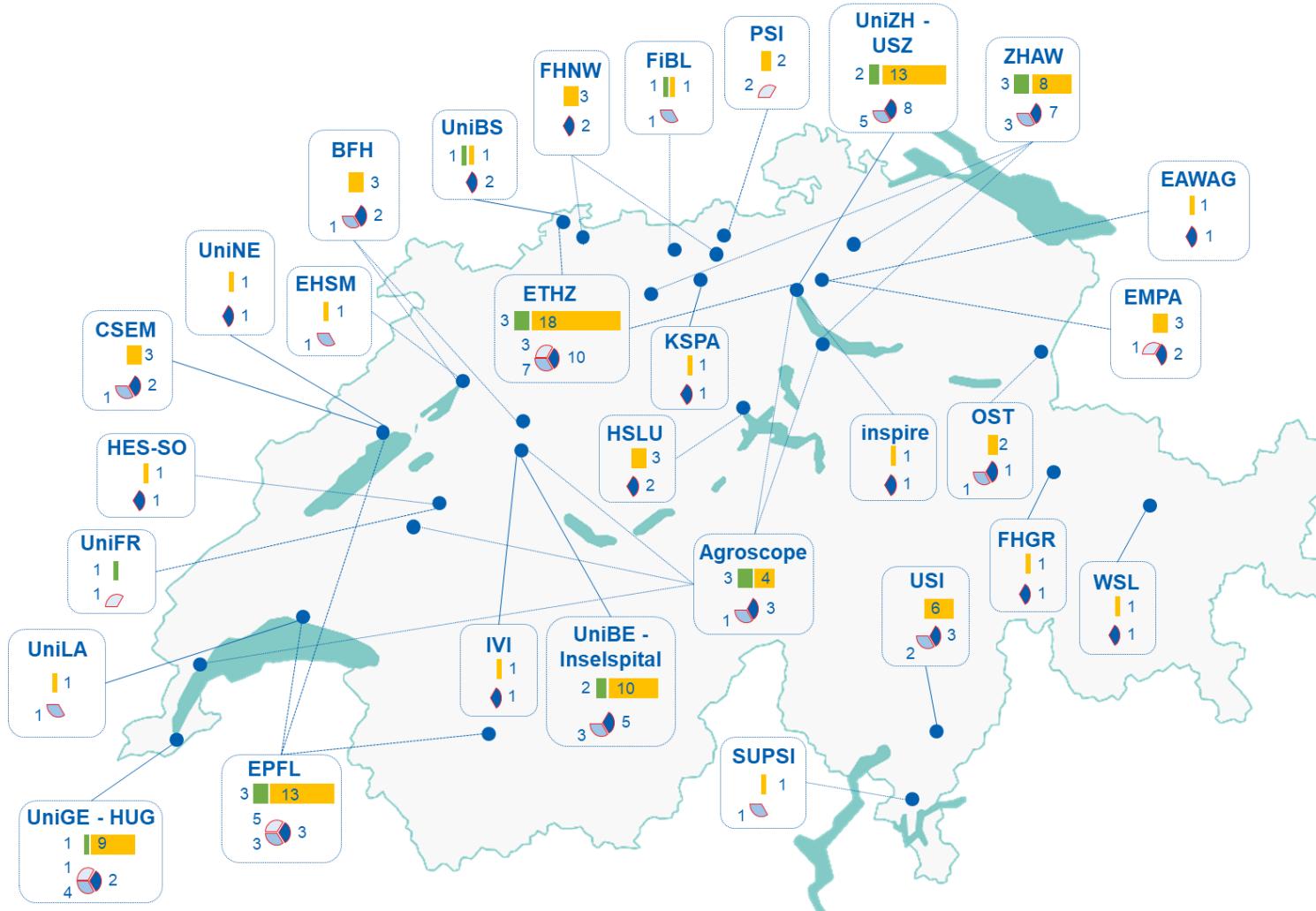
Number of supported ...

... women || ... men

Number of projects with ...

... 1 applicant
... 2 applicants
... 3 applicants

Discovery financed projects 2021-2024

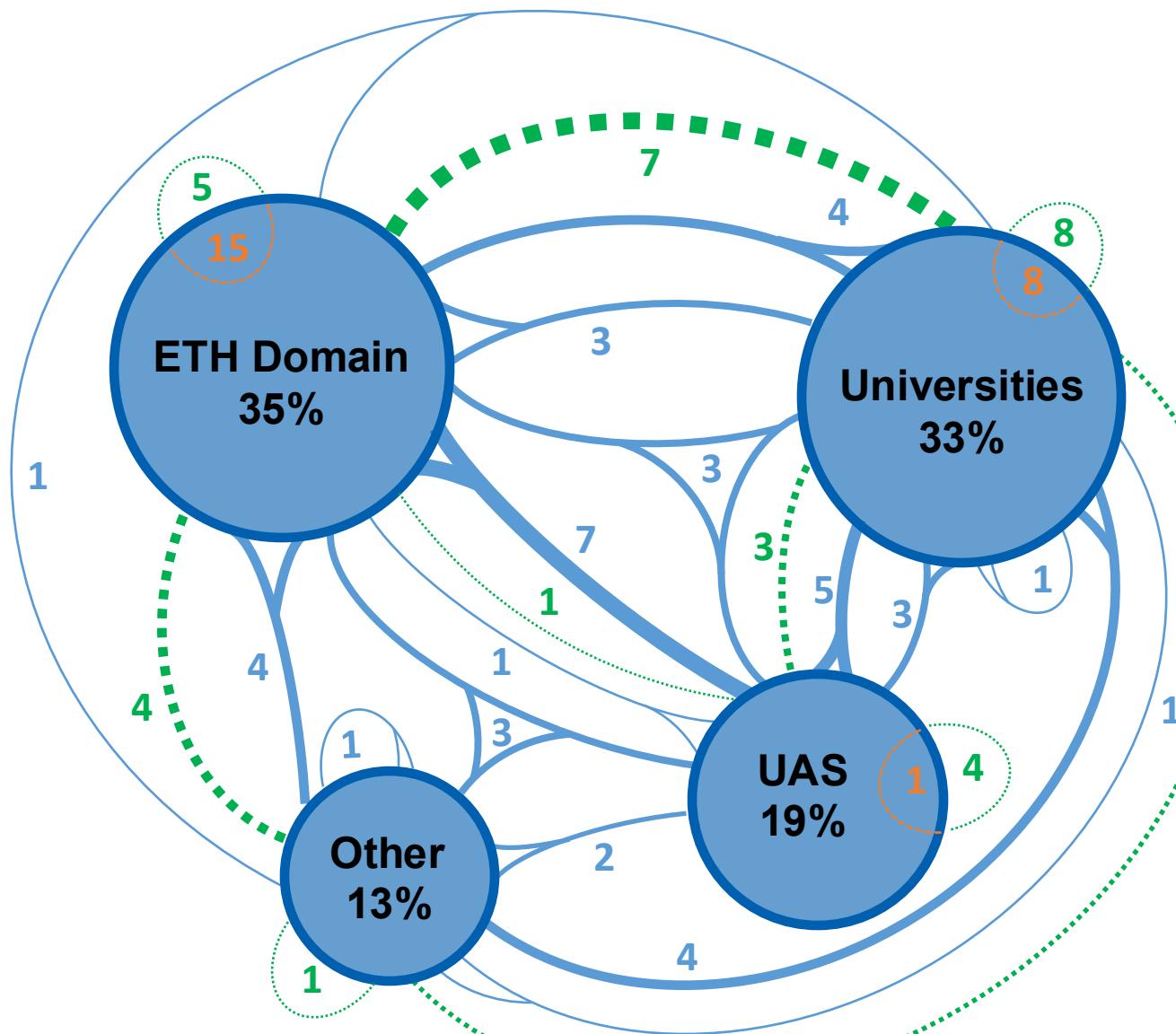


4 calls
360 applications
62 projects approved

Total budget approved: **78.0 mioCHF**
Average grant/project: **1.3 mioCHF**
Average duration: **43 months**

Host institution
Number of supported ...
... women || ... men
Number of projects with ...
... 1 applicant ... 2 applicants ... 3 applicants

Discovery financed projects 2017-2024



101 projects approved
221 research groups involved
Average applicant per project: 2.2

24 projects with 1 applicant
34 projects with 2 applicants
43 projects with 3 applicants

Host institution
Number of projects with ...

- ... 3 applicants
- ... 2 applicants
- ... 1 applicant

Discovery financed projects: outcomes

- **15 start-ups** coming from a Discovery project:



GAIA
MEMBRANES

Alitheia Genomics

DEEP Light

LEM
surgical

nanoflex^{robotics}

NAVGNOSTICS



Mind
Metrix

sens●wear

K2PHOTONICS

Scan2Screen

immunity therapeutics

neurodAgnostics

- **Implementation partners** founded by one of the co-applicant:

EVAX
committed to horses, powered by science

IRsweep



WindShape

LIGENTEC

EDWATEC



- **1 association** founded for the implementation:
- Declared use-inspired outputs: **39 Patents**



BRIDGE Next Calls

Sebastian Gliga

“Play it again - Recovering audio, video and data from degraded tapes using X-ray magnetic dichroism”

PSI aims at preventing the permanent loss of 20th century audio-visual cultural heritage: using synchrotron X-rays, fragile and/or damaged magnetic tapes are read out in a contactless, non-destructive way, which allows the recovery of analogue and digital information.

Submission Deadlines

Deadline always 17:00 Swiss local time

Discovery: 10th call

- **Full proposal: 28 April 2026**
- *Interviews: 15/16 October 2026*

Check our website: www.bridge.ch



**Swiss National
Science Foundation**

BRIDGE



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency

BRIDGE Office Team

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Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)
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PO Box
CH-3001 Bern

BRIDGE Steering Committee 2026



Innosuisse

Toufann Chaudhuri (DLMS User Association | Engineering)

Bettina Ernst (Biotech Entrepreneur and Investor | Life Sciences)



SNSF

chair Anna Lisa Martin-Niedecken (ZHdK | Design)

Matthias Stuber (Uni Lausanne, CHUV | Life Sciences)



Advisory function

Dave Brown (Angel Investor and Mentor | ICT) (**chair EP PoC**)

Emine Cagin (Heidelberg Instruments | Engineering) (**chair EP Discovery**)

Discovery Evaluation Panel 2026 (25 members)

Life Sciences

Giuseppe Perale	USI, IBI SA
Wolfgang Haap	Roche
Kaspar Binz	Binz Biotech Consult.
Diego Ghezzi	Hôpital Jules-Gonin
Roberto Speck	USZ
Irene Schiller	Elionova
Sylvain Dubey	AgroSustain, UniLA
Olivier Coquoz	EBAMed
Wilma Lukas	W Life Sciences

ICT

Anne-Marie Kermarrec	EPFL
Stéphane Marchand-Maillet	UniGE
Helmut Grabner	ZHAW
Marco Zaffalon	USI, Artificialy SA

Engineering

Emine Cagin	Heidelberg Instruments Nano
Stefan Salentinig	UniFR
Roberto Perez	LTA, UniGE
Gontran Pâques	Hitachi Energy
Andreas Hogg	Coat-X
Albert van den Berg	University of Twente (NL)
Stefano Baraldo	SUPSI

Energy

Sarah Barber	OST
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Environment

David Bresch	ETHZ
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Social Sciences

Christine Mohr	UniLA
Naomi Häfner	UniSG
Corinne Moser	FHNW

Discovery Evaluation Panel 2025

Life Sciences

Giuseppe Perale	USI, IBI SA
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André Mercanzini	Aleva Neurotherapeutics
Diego Ghezzi	Hôpital Jules-Gonin
Roberto Speck	USZ
Irene Schiller	Elionova
Sylvain Dubey	AgroSustain, UniLA
Olivier Coquoz	EBAMed

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Sarah Dégallier Rochat	BFH
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Sarah Barber	OST
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