

## **Foster Inter-university Initiatives and Collaborations: Call for Academic Activities 2021**

Inter-university initiatives and collaborations build the pillar of the SSPH+ inter-university faculty of public health sciences. Thus, SSPH+ supports transnational activities launched and led by the SSPH+ community. The 2020 call for proposals remains open for continued submissions (no deadlines) until 31 May 2021. Decisions will be taken by the Directorate on a first-come-first-served basis. The Directorate reserves up to CHF 75'000 in the 2021 budget for such inter-university activities. The maximum amount per project is **CHF 25'000**.

### **Details of the Call**

The objective of the call is to support inter-university exchange and activities that are in line with the SSPH+ strategy and mission<sup>1</sup> and initiated by an SSPH+ Faculty member<sup>2</sup> or a scientist belonging to the group or unit of an SSPH+ Faculty member at one of the 12 SSPH+ partner universities. We also encourage proposals led by junior members of our SSPH+ Faculty members, including their postdocs. Interdisciplinary initiatives and proposals that may lay the grounds for further inter-university collaborations are also highly welcomed (such as method developments, development of a new SSPH+ course for PhD students or guidelines, etc.)

**HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE:** This call does not provide (co-)funding for research and conferences nor support on-going insufficiently funded projects, PhD theses, publications or research projects. Please refer to other funding sources (e.g. SNSF).

Eligible proposals fulfill the following criteria:

1. **Submission:** to SSPH+ ([info@ssphplus.ch](mailto:info@ssphplus.ch)) any time but no later than **31 May 2021**. Activities can start any time but must start no later than October 2021.
2. **Proposals:** apart from filling in the provided template (admin info and budget) a proposal of up to 2 pages (max) should be submitted, including title, background, objectives, methods/approaches/program, expected results (outcome), and a statement about how it fits into the SSPH+ strategy and mission. Please do not add additional annexes / material beyond 2 pages. The topic and objectives need to be of interest and relevance for the SSPH+ community, outcome-oriented, and not in conflict with activities already planned by SSPH+ (in case of uncertainty contact Sandra Nocera, [snocera@ssphplus.ch](mailto:snocera@ssphplus.ch)). Please check in particular the timing of workshops/events with SSPH+ in advance. The proposal must be realistic and feasible within the budget and time.
3. **Co-lead:** Proposals must have **two co-chairs** (or co-leaders) who are SSPH+ Faculty members or scientists from groups or units of an SSPH+ Faculty member. The two must be **from different linguistic regions** (i.e. activities led only by Swiss German partners, only Suisse Romande partners, or the Ticino alone do not qualify for funding). Also note: the partnership should be driven by the content and the needs of the proposed work – not just a “pro forma” joint application to fulfill this funding criterion! The co-chairs are in charge of leading the project. For administrative reasons, only one of the two co-chairs will take the role of the administrative leader as his/her institution will sign as “leading institution”; SSPH+ will do the administration (funding) with the leading institution only which is responsible for the management of the funds. Though other collaborators or participants of a proposal may be accepted from any institution (also international), please note that salary costs can go only to SSPH+ partner universities (i.e. collaborators not affiliated with one of the 12 SSPH+ partner universities cannot be funded from this budget).
4. **Workshops:** proposals should foresee participation of at least 8 people, with the majority being members from the SSPH+ partner universities (the rest can be from any other national or international institution). It is encouraged to consult also the list of the Members of the Foundation Board<sup>3</sup> to evaluate whether any should participate. Members of the Directorate may opt in as participants of workshops.

The Directorate will take decisions (reject, partial or full funding). Decisions are final. Assigned funds will be transferred to the contracting institution once the contract is signed (50%) and once the short final report has been received (50%). Please note that the SSPH+ office does not take any responsibility for the organization, planning and implementation of any of the proposed activities.

<sup>1</sup> See <http://ssphplus.ch/en/about/vision-und-mission/>

<sup>2</sup> See <https://ssphplus.ch/en/about/faculty-members-and-fellows/>

<sup>3</sup> See <http://ssphplus.ch/en/about/organization/>