



MAPS COMPONENT Q&A

Q: Which countries are eligible for participation under the MAPS component?

A: Eligible countries are Switzerland, Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

Q: Is it permissible for more than one applicant from one country to participate in a project?

A: No, it is not permissible.

Q: Can a HEI or a RO be applicant?

A: According to the terminology of the SNSF applicants are designated as researchers when they submit their applications for funding. If a project is funded, applicants become Principal Investigators (PIs).

Q: What is the minimum number of applicants per project proposal?

A: The minimum number of applicants is 3 and it is obligatory one of them to be based in Switzerland. For example, for a project in which Bulgarian applicant participating applicants could be: a Swiss applicant, a Bulgarian applicant and an applicant from one of the other 4 countries: Croatia, Hungary, Poland and Romania).

Q: What is the maximum number of applicants per project proposal?

A: The maximum number of applicants per a project is 6: an applicant based in Switzerland, one based in Bulgaria, one based in Croatia, one based in Hungary, one based in Poland and one based in Romania.

Q: What is the duration of the project?

A: The Project duration is between 36 and 48 months. All projects will have to be finalized before the 30 June 2029.

Q: Is this call for proposals open to all research areas?

A: Yes, this call for proposals is open to all research areas, allowing for both basic research and use-inspired basic research.

Q: Can one applicant submit more than one project proposal?

A: No, each applicant can submit only one proposal for the present call.

Q: Can Bulgarian Principal Investigator be corresponding PI with SNSF?

A: No, as the SNSF communicates with the Swiss Principal Investigator (PI) only, they are also the corresponding PI.

Q: Can Bulgarian PI include project partners?

A: No, he/she cannot. **Project partners** as described in Article 12 paragraph 4 of the SNSF [Regulations on Project Funding](#) and Article 11 paragraph 2 of the [SNSF Funding Regulations](#) **can be included in the budget of the Swiss PI only**. The PIs from the partner countries are not entitled to include project partners (nor to spend any funds on project partners), see also Annex 2 for further information).

Q: Can Swiss PI's partner from Bulgaria receive funds?

A: Project partners are not entitled to receive funds from the SNSF if their affiliated institution is in one of the participating countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland and Romania.

Q: Which organization is responsible for the implementation of MAPS?

A: In each participating country, a Support Measure Partner (SMP) is responsible for the implementation of MAPS. For Bulgaria SMP is Ministry of Education and Science.

Q: Will SNSF consider a proposal that have been rejected by one of SMPs?

A: The SNSF will not consider proposals that have been rejected by one of the Support Measure Partners for non-fulfilment of formal requirements, including of the eligibility criteria.

Q: What is the maximum amount of funding per team and per country per project?

A: The maximum amount of funding per team and per country is CHF 350'000 for four years (for example, in a project consisting of three PIs from Bulgaria, Croatia, and Switzerland, the Bulgarian team could ask for CHF 350'000, the Croatian team for CHF 350'000, and the Swiss team for CHF 350'000 as well). The grants are co-funded: 85% of the grant is covered by funds of the second Swiss Contribution, while each SMP contributes 15% to the budget (Poland being an exception, see Annex 2). This has further implications for the financial reporting (see [Call Document](#), chapter 9, reporting).

Q: What is the funding amount for Bulgaria to MAPS?

A: Funding amount to MAPS for Bulgaria is CHF 6'176'471 and it is fixed (see [Call Document](#), table 1). The best projects can be funded if the financial resources of the respective countries involved are sufficient. If the funds for a country are exhausted, the entire proposal must be rejected.

Q: Which costs are eligible?

A: The full list of eligible costs for JRP grants are described in [Call Document](#), 6. Funding, some of them are: personnel/staff costs of researchers, technicians, and other supporting staff directly involved in the project; the salaries of the Swiss staff (e.g. PhD students, postdoctoral fellows etc.) must follow the usual SNSF guidelines (the salary of the Swiss PI cannot be claimed from the JRP budget); the salaries of the PIs from certain of the participating EU-13 countries; overhead: PIs from the participating EU-13 countries are eligible to request a flat

rate of 5% of their budget for overhead costs to be transferred to the host institution (the Swiss PI is not eligible to claim overhead costs) and etc. (see [Call Document](#), 6. Funding).

Q: Which costs are not eligible?

A: The following costs are not eligible within JRPs (non-exhaustive list): salary of the Croatian PI and the Swiss PI; expenditure incurred before the start and after the completion of the project; interest of debt, purchase of land / real estate; fines, financial penalties, and expenses of litigation; activities supported from other sources; losses connected with currency exchange that could not be covered by the reserve; costs which exceed the usual market prices; VAT, if it could be recoverable by the beneficiary under national regulation; costs for open access publications, except if they are requested separately via the OA platform of the SNSF.

Q: Can we claim recovery of the VAT as the research in our country is not excluded from VAT?

A: The JRP grants are not subject to VAT or other taxes and charges in Switzerland. In some of the participating countries, research is not excluded from VAT (See [Call Document](#), Annex 2 for further information). Therefore, all costs budgeted in a JRP (e.g., equipment, consumables, etc.) will be charged to the programme, VAT included. However, VAT will not be considered as an eligible expenditure if the research institution (e.g., universities, public research organizations, etc.) is able to recover the VAT. According to Bulgarian legislation, VAT is an acceptable expense.

Q: Who is responsible for the proposal submission?

A: The Swiss applicant has the responsibility to submit the proposal via the SNSF's electronic submission system mySNF (www.mysnf.ch). All applicants can have access to the electronic submission system mySNF through their Swiss partner. After login, the correct funding instrument must be chosen (Programmes > Enlargement contribution > MAPS). To open an account, the Swiss applicant must register with the SNSF as a user. Please note that opening a new account can take two to five days. Applicants with existing user accounts need not apply for new ones.

Q: What information must be submitted on mySNF?

A: The application consists of two parts: 1) the administrative part which must be completed online on mySNF (personal data of the Swiss applicant; personal data of the consortium applicants; basic data on the project (e.g., title, field of research, starting date, duration, summary); requested funding (incl. requested positions); information on required authorisations (if applicable) and other indications (e.g. whether the project is related to other SNSF projects, the name of the Swiss university/research institution at which the planned project will be implemented, statement concerning already available funds or funds requested elsewhere) and 2) PDF documents that are to be uploaded onto mySNF (the research plan (must have the structure given in the guidelines, see Annex 1); CVs of the all the applicants; for the PIs from the partner countries, a letter signed by the Heads of the research institutions involved, confirming the support to the project according to the rules and procedure as described in this call must be submitted. If further researchers are employed by a third institution, an additional confirmation from all heads of institutions involved in the project is required and other document/s if necessary).

Q: Should we provide Data Management Plan (DMP) during the proposal submission?

A: A Data Management Plan (DMP) is only requested for approved grants according to the requirements issued by the SNSF. At the time the proposal is submitted, no DMP needs to be included. Funds can only be released once the DMP has been submitted. Missing or inaccurate statements in the DMP need to be added/revised at the latest before the release of the payment of the second instalment. A definitive and updated version of the DMP must be provided by the end of the project grant. For more details on the DMP format requirements and procedure see: [Data Management Plan \(DMP\) - Guidelines for researchers](#)

Q: Are Open Research Data costs eligible?

A: Yes, they are. Costs for Open Research Data (ORD) must be considered at the time of submission of the application. They cannot be covered by a supplementary grant.

Q: Should we use a specific CV template, or any is acceptable?

A: Please note that the SNSF uses a new CV format. Filling in the information might take some additional time. It is advised that CVs for all applicants are submitted in the new format on mySNF, even though it is only mandatory for Swiss applicants.

Q: Is pre-registration mandatory?

A: No, pre-registration is not mandatory. To facilitate the evaluation procedure, the Swiss applicant is requested to open their JRP proposals in mySNF by 01.05.2024. They are requested to name the applicants to be involved as well as their countries, the relevant discipline, and, if possible, the title of the application.

Q: Who will perform formal eligibility check of the submitted applications?

A: The formal check of submitted applications is performed by the SNSF, involving all SMPs. The check will consist of an appraisal of the completeness of the data as requested by the call. Additionally, the requested funding amount will be appraised internally by the SNSF's financial specialists. The eligibility of the applicants and their institutions will be verified by the SNSF and the SMPs.

Q: Would it be possible to update the research plan after the submission deadline?

A: No, it would not be possible. After the submission deadline, neither new applications nor changes to the research plans will be accepted.

Q: What happen with the application when one or more of the applicants is/are considered not eligible under the call after the formal eligibility check?

A: The Swiss applicant will receive an acknowledgement of receipt. If any of the consortium applicants fails to meet the formal criteria, the application will be returned to the Swiss applicant with a ruling, explaining the reasons for the non-consideration of the whole application. If the Swiss applicant does not agree, they have the right to request a reconsideration (SNSF internal procedure) or to initiate an appeal procedure before an independent Court (regulated in the Funding Regulations of the SNSF, in the Federal Law on the Promotion of Research and in the Federal Law on Administrative Procedure).

Q: What are the evaluation criteria used to determine the scientific quality of the proposals?

A: The evaluation criteria used to determine the scientific quality of the proposals include (not listed in the order of priority): scientific relevance; originality of the aims and objectives; appropriateness of the methodology and feasibility; track record and expertise of the researchers; complementarity of the research partners.

Q: How the peer review will be performed?

A: Proposals will be reviewed according to international peer review standard procedures. For each eligible proposal, the SNSF will obtain a minimum of two reviews. The external experts peer-review the applications using a score system to determine their scientific quality.

Q: How will be selected experts who will evaluate applications?

A: Depending on the number of proposals submitted, one or several evaluation panels will be set up; the panel(s) will be composed of international experts proposed by the SNSF and SMPs. Panel members will be approved by the SNSF and SMPs. Based on the peer reviews, the evaluation panel(s) will discuss, rate, and rank the proposals. The panel members' recommendation will include a rationale for the rating.

Q: Which proposals will be funded?

A: Based on the results of the panel meeting(s) and considering the financial resources available in each country (if the budget of a country is exhausted, no further consortium with partners from this country can be funded), staff members of the SMPs and the SNSF will prepare a list of fundable projects. In case two or more applications are rated equally from a scientific point of view (primary criteria), gender balance decides on funding (secondary criteria), with preference given to applications with more female applicants. The list of projects to be funded will be submitted to the Steering Committee of MAPS for approval (see also Call Document, 8.6 Decision).

Q: How will be approved the list of projects to be funded?

A: The Steering Committee (SC) of MAPS is responsible to confirm the list of projects to be funded. This list is based on the results of the evaluation panel(s) and considers the available budget in the respective countries. No further discussion on scientific merit will take place in the SC. In addition, the JRPs proposed for funding must be formally approved by the Specialised Committee for International Co-operation and the Presiding Board of the SNSF and get the approval of the co-funding SMPs. Both the SNSF and the SMPs will inform their respective applicants about the final decision in the form of a ruling (applicants from Poland will be informed via the Swiss PI). The rulings on applications that are not funded include a relative ranking of the application as well as the main arguments for the rejection.

Q: When will the evaluation results be announced?

A: The evaluation results will be communicated to the Swiss and consortium PIs by the end of March 2025.

Q: When would be possible to start implementation of the projects?

A: Earliest possible starting date for the projects: 1 April 2025. It is mandatory to start the projects until 1 July 2025 (at the latest) since all projects need to be completed by 30 June 2029.

Q: Would it be possible to appeal the results of the evaluation procedure?

A: Along with the ruling, the Swiss corresponding applicant will be informed that they have the right to appeal to the competent authority in Switzerland in accordance with national legislation. They also have the right to request a reconsideration of the proposal in accordance with SNSF internal regulations.

Q: How will contractual relationships between PIs be governed?

A: For funded projects, the Swiss PI and the consortium PIs need to sign a Grant Agreement (see example in Annex 3) before starting the project. Some SMPs from the respective countries may request to sign an additional Agreement with the consortium PIs. Please consult Annex 2 for further information.

Q: What reports must be prepared during the implementation of the projects?

A: During the implementation of the project all PIs involved in a single JRP are responsible for preparation of annual and final scientific reports. The Swiss PIs will provide an annual and a final financial report to the SNSF, reporting on all the expenses and revenues of the JRP.

Q: What is the procedure for submission of the Scientific Reports?

A: The preparation of the annual and final scientific reports is under the responsibility of all PIs involved in a single JRP. The reports will be submitted to the SNSF by the Swiss PI. The scientific reports shall inform on the advancement of their project, providing information about timeliness and progress made in implementing the research project. The PIs will be requested to use a template provided by the SNSF. These reports are shared with all SMPs. The scientific reports need to be submitted no later than 3 months after the completion of each implementation year.

Q: What is the procedure for submission of the Financial Reports?

A: The Swiss PIs will provide an annual and a final financial report to the SNSF, reporting on all the expenses and revenues of the JRP from the second Swiss contribution (including the funds dedicated to the Swiss PI and the funds shared with the PIs in the respective partner countries). The reports are shared with the SMPs. Financial reports will compare expenditures with the approved budgets and will also be checked against the guidelines established at the start of the programme. A template will be provided as part of the Grant Agreement. In addition, each consortium PI, or the host institution of the PI from the participating countries (Poland being an exception) will have to submit a separate financial report to the SMP (or other entity with which it has the specific contract for the use of the country contribution) reporting on the country's contribution (see annex 2 for further information).

Q: Who will control whether the funds are properly spent on the implementation of the project?

A: The responsibility for overseeing the correct management of the Swiss contribution lies first with the Swiss PI. The Swiss PI, together with their institution, must ensure that

expenditure reflects the realities and is consistent with the work done, also for the part claimed by the PIs from the partner countries. Then, the SNSF controls the financial reports of the Swiss contribution in connection with the project progress and on the basis of the supporting documents (receipts, reports, etc.) attached to the reports. The SMPs must verify the financial reports for the national contribution according to their own defined processes/rules. The financial reports submitted by the Swiss PI will be shared with the SMPs. Templates for both types of report will be provided as part of the Grant Agreement. The reports shall be written in English.

Q: Are PIs obliged to publish research results achieved through the JRPs?

A: The PIs are obliged to publish research results achieved through the JRPs in appropriate form and according to the SNSF's standards (requirements will be set out in the Grant Agreements). The publication will mention the support received from the second Swiss Contribution. The following rules also apply:

- Publications must be accessible and must comply with Open Access regulations.
- The data collected within a JRP must be accessible to other researchers for secondary research. The SNSF expects that researchers share at least the data underlying their publications, but only to the extent to make the published results reproducible. This data should be shared as soon as possible, but at the latest together with the relevant scientific publication.
- The SNSF and the SMPs may request that publications containing data gained in the framework of JRPs be submitted to them.
- All results of research activities undertaken within the scope of the JRPs are subject to the regulations of the respective institutions. Applicants must consult all host institutions concerning their internal intellectual property regulations. It is important that an agreement be reached in advance. It is the responsibility of all PIs to make sure such an agreement is signed before the project starts.
- For publications and conferences, PIs indicate the financial source as follows: Project co-financed by a grant in the framework of the second Swiss Contribution to selected EU member states.

Q: Are PIs obliged to inform SNSF and/or SMPs about patents resulting from the JRPs?

A: Yes, SNSF and the SMPs are to be informed – during and after the JRP – about any patents resulting from the JRP.

Q: If we have specific questions concerning component MAPS and the call to whom to address them?

A: In [Call Document](#), 12 Contact is given the information of all national contacts for MAPS. If you have any specific questions address them to the respective contact person first and if you do not get an answer then address your question to SNSF.

Q: Are there any specific requirements for writing the project proposal?

A: Yes, there are guidelines how to write the project proposals, which are given in Annex 1 of the [Call Document](#).

Q: Must all members of the Bulgarian team (PhD students, postdoc researchers, etc.) possess Bulgarian citizenship?

A: There are no limitations on citizenship. It is important for the members of the team to be contracted with PI's organization for the period they are performing specific tasks during the period of the project execution/implementation. Main aim is internationalization.

Q: If one of the Swiss partners comes to Bulgaria, who is paying for their expenses?

A: Up to debate between the partners.

Q: What is the success rate for the first call and what is the expected success rate of this call?

A: This call is way more complicated than the one which was announced under the First Swiss Contribution as it involves more moving parts, so we cannot predict. During the first Swiss contribution to Bulgaria 64 project proposals, we submitted and 12 of them were funded.

Q: Are NGOs eligible for MAPS?

A: NGOs are not eligible applicants (PIs). If the NGO offers a unique expertise and can bring a benefit to the project than there are two options: the Swiss PI to invite the NGO as a partner or Bulgarian PI to subcontract the NGO.

Q: Can the funding go to a private account, or does it go to the institution's bank account?

A: The SNSF funding goes to the institution.

Q: Can one applicant represent 2 institutions?

A: No, one applicant can represent only one institution. If he or she works in two institutions, they need to choose which one to represent.

Q: Does the applicant have to be accredited to supervise PhD candidates?

A: The applicant should have the right to supervise the PhD students under Art. 46, Para 4 of the Higher Education Act. And more specifically: A supervisor of a PhD candidate shall be possible to be a person with an academic rank or a Doctor of Sciences. The PhD student supervisor may also be a researcher who meets the requirements of Art. 2b, Para. 1 and 5 of the Act on the Development of the Academic Staff in the Republic of Bulgaria to occupy the academic position "Professor" or "Associate Professor" in the respective professional field.

Q: Is the 4-year PhD rule valid until the application deadline or the beginning of the project?

A: The application deadline.

Q: Should the team be preliminary announced by name at application?

A: Only the name of the PI is preliminary announced. For the other team members (PhD students and postdocs) this is not necessary.

Q: When the budget is planned, what daily middle exchange rate do we put?

A: You put one taken close to when you are applying, and it can be updated as the financing structure will send the money in yearly installments or if a vital change occurs.

Q: Is there any regulation whether we choose VIHREN salaries or regular salaries?

A: No, there is not any. You may choose whichever is more beneficial for your team.

Q: Can I apply as a PI with a professorship from another country with an ongoing process for associate professorship in a Bulgarian institution?

A: No, not according to the accepted rules.

Q: What sort of affiliation must the PI applicants have?

A: They are supposed to be on permanent tenure at their respective institutions.

Q: One person can be a PI of only one project, but can a team member be a member of multiple projects?

A: Yes, a team member can participate in multiple projects.

Q: How can we find partners if the research domains on the Romanian matching platform are so little?

A: The platform is simply an additional service, not in any way mandatory. You may use other channels to find the right partners, for example go through Swiss universities' websites, the matching platform domains, find partners' CVs online, at conferences and so on.

Q: What is preferred – new or already established partnerships?

A: Nothing is preferred. If you have already collaborated successfully, yes, that might show the deliberation panel that the collab is feasible, but if the idea's worth it – it really doesn't matter.

Q: Can you drop or exchange a partner after project evaluation?

A: No, you cannot as the project will be evaluated in that configuration.

Q: How many researchers from each team must submit CV-s?

A: Only the PIs must submit their CVs.

Q: Is it acceptable for some team members (not the PIs) to be part of the team and to not be engaged for the full period?

A: Yes, it is possible for a team member to not be engaged for the full duration of the project, but the leading researchers must all be engaged for the full duration of the project.

Q: Is there a CV template?

A: Yes. Please, check here:
<https://www.snf.ch/en/gKcnwW6aEft4bMPF/page/your-curriculum-vitae-all-about-the-cv-format>

Q: Is it acceptable to plan several researchers (for instance 3, and assign them their respective functions) and not to include names at this stage in the budget subheadings?

A: Yes, it is acceptable.

Q: Is it allowed to include students in the project work itself? What are the legal requirements for their appointment; how are they appointed – via a labour contract or a civil contract? Is it appropriate to have them appointed on a civil contract if the task is to be repeated throughout the 3-year project period?

A: Yes, it is allowed for students to be included in the project and for them to be appointed via civil contracts, just need to follow the national legislation.

Q: In case a researcher from a partner University in the same country is invited as a member, how do we proceed with their appointment? Who signs the civil contract?

A: The HEI/RI where the PI is contracted must sign the civil contract.

Q: Is it required to present contracts or other relevant documents to prove that a researcher works at the respective University? Is a certificate from the Rector of the HEI/Director of the RI enough? At what stage to present these documents?

A: Relevant documents for work affiliation must be presented solely for the PI when the consortium is being established.

Q: What is the maximum amount of funding awarded per team per country?

A: The maximum amount of funding awarded per team per country is CHF 350 000 for a 4-year duration (for more information see [Call Document](#), 6 Funding).

Q: Can Bulgarian teams buy equipment with the grant?

A: Yes, but cost of equipment must be up to 30% of the total project costs (for more information see [Call Document](#), 6 Funding).

Q: Preliminary registration is not necessary, but if we decide on doing it what are the documents we must prepare?

A: The pre-liminary registration is a responsibility of the Swiss applicant and they are requested to name the applicants to be involved as well as their countries, the relevant discipline, and, if possible, the title of the application.

Q: Is it correct that all countries besides Poland co-fund 15% of the project?

A: Yes, national co-funding for every country except Poland is 15% as the SNSF funds 85%.

Q: Who provides the national co-funding for Bulgaria – the Ministry of Education and Science of the PI's institution?

A: The Ministry of Education and Science.

Q: Who provides national co-funding for the other countries – the institution the PI is representing or another government structure?

A: This is a subject of decision which each country is taken.

Q: Can co-funding be in-kind and not a monetary contribution?

A: No, it cannot be in-kind.

Q: Are there any restrictions for researchers that also hold administrative positions in their respective HEIs/RIs (Dean, Vice-dean, Rector, Vice-rector, Director, Vice-director)?

A: No, there are no such restrictions. If they are the PI of a team, they must cover eligibility criteria for PI for the respective country and to follow all legislative requirements of the country (for Bulgaria see [Call Document](#), Annex 2, Eligibility Bulgaria, Science Directorate, Ministry of Education and Science).

Q: Is there any restriction regarding the number of participants in the team or is it up to the teams themselves?

A: It is up to the applicant to decide.

Q: Upon project submission, are we obliged to apply with a full budget breakdown or are we to present said financial plan upon acceptance?

A: You must generally describe your expenses in the mySNF platform (the Swiss PI will provide you with account access).

Q: Is it necessary for all team members to be accredited to supervise PhD candidates?

A: No, only the PI must be accredited to supervise PhD candidates.

Q: Can we apply if a member of the team is awaiting habilitation (the process has already begun) at the time of application?

A: If the person is not in the role of an applicant it is acceptable. In case he/she is an applicant it is not an acceptable, unless they meet the requirements for habilitation in their respective institution during the time of application and fulfilling eligibility criteria listed in [Call Document](#), Annex 2.

Q: Are timesheets an appropriate way of reporting working hours for team members?

A: Time sheets are an appropriate way to report hours worked, if applicable in the respective legislation.

Q: Must team members from Bulgaria be on unpaid leave during the project, if financed, at the HEI/RI they are employed at?

A: No, this is not obligatory. During the implementation of the project team members must consider clauses at their contract with the organization and the Bulgarian legislation, which determines the employment of people during the day, week and month. Pay is calculated according to time worked.

Q: What definition of a postdoctoral student does the program perceive and what are the requirements for someone to be accepted as a postdoctoral student under the MAPS call?

A: In regards to the Bulgarian applicants and the members of their teams, the current Bulgarian legislation at the time of submission of the project proposal is applied, and in this regard a specific definition of "post-doctoral student" is specified in art. 5, para 1, Additional provisions of the Promotion of Scientific Research and Innovation Act: *"A postdoctoral student is a person who has obtained the first educational and scientific degree "doctor", but not more than 8 years after its acquisition. This period does not include the time during which the person uses leave due to pregnancy and childbirth, raising a child or due to temporary incapacity for work, which lasted more than 6 months without interruption, and is objectively unable to carry out research and scientific-educational activities"*.

Q: Since the main participants under the MAPS call are scientific organizations, is there an opportunity for large companies to participate in such projects, and if you have experience with similar ones?

A: The rules of the program allow the participation of non-scientific participants in each project in two possible ways: 1) the Swiss PI invites a partner with expertise not available to

any of the other PIs, and for this purpose no more than 20% of its budget can be used. This partner can be a representative of any country, but not from the countries participating in the MAPS component and 2) as a subcontractor of the Bulgarian PI, again the authorized budget is up to 20% of the total budget of the Bulgarian PI. In this case, the non-scientific organization must not use the results of the project to generate profit. In addition to the point 1: Project partners are not entitled to receive funds from the SNSF if their affiliated institution is in one of the participating countries: Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, and Romania.

Q: Regarding the topic of the project, if we are an invited party should we contribute on the same topic and only supplement the scope as actions or maybe add other research on a related topic (e.g. they will study a cancer, and can we apply the methods for another cancer or should we stick to the main one)?

A: The development of the project proposal and its scope are entirely up to the authors of the proposal. We recommend you to actively communicate with the applicant of the project for whom you have an invitation and to promptly specify the topic, the scope of the project and what activities you will perform on it.