Factsheets of the r4d programme, modules and projects 2020

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**Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC**

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r4d programme

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Main objectives

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) offer a new funding scheme for development-related research on global issues. The main focus of the „Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development" (r4d programme) lies on the generation of new insights and innovative approaches, on solutions as well as on the application of research results into policy and practice through transnational research partnerships. The focus of the programme is the reduction of poverty and global risks as well as the provision of public goods. Inter- and transdisciplinary research with a problem- and solution-orientated approach is funded. The implementation of the research results into policy and practice is of high significance and considered an integral part of the research activities. The r4d programme launched in October 2019 the **Knowledge for Development platform** www.k4d.ch, portraying evidence-based research information tailor-made for an interested public and professionals in the field of sustainable development and cooperation.

Funds

The overall financial volume is CHF 97.6 million for the period 2012-2022. The SDC contributes CHF 72 million and the SNSF CHF 25.6 million. About CHF 14 million are available for each thematic module (including research, synthesis and implementation work). In each theme several research partnership projects are realised. The thematically open research module has three calls with a volume of about CHF 5.9 million each. 10% to 15% of the amount awarded to a project must be used for communication, application and implementation.

Eligibility

• All researchers working at research institutions in Switzerland or in developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America are eligible (according to the OECD-DAC list1).
• The responsible applicant must be employed at a Swiss research institution.

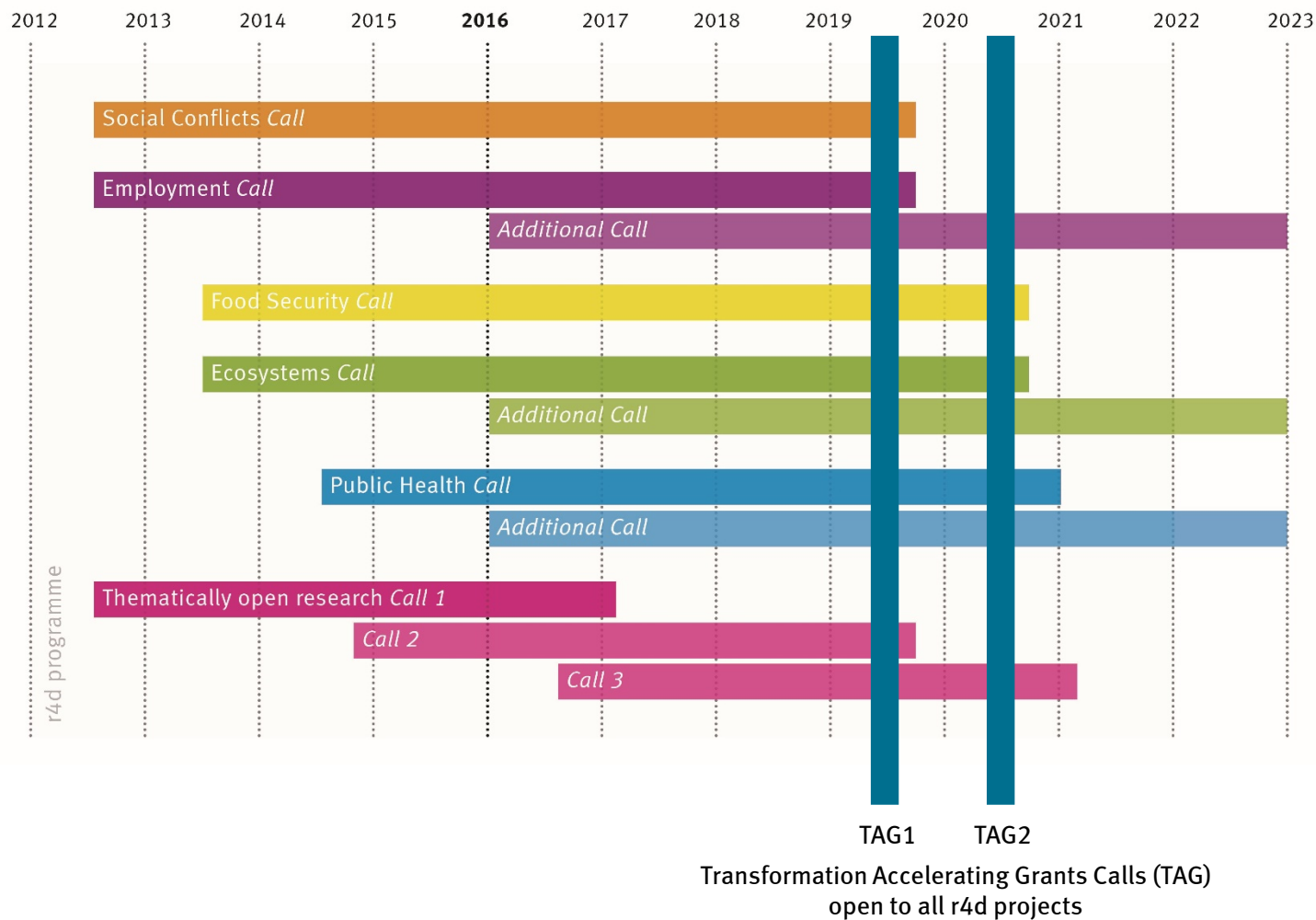| Calls: Module/ Type	Call	Funding decision
Module Social Conflicts	6 June 2012	September 2013
1st Call for thematically open projects	6 June 2012	September 2013
Module Employment	7 September 2012	October 2013
Modules Ecosystems and Food Security	28 May 2013	September 2014
Module Public Health	3 July 2014	September 2015
2nd Call for thematically open projects	8 October 2014	February 2016
Additional Thematic Call with four topics	21 January 2016	January 2017
3rd Call for thematically open projects	27 March 2017	May 2018
1st Call Transformation Accelerating Grants	12 July 2019	November 2019
2nd Call Transformation Accelerating Grants	Spring 2020	November 2020

Contact

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SNSF: Programmes Division: r4d@snf.ch

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Timelines of calls and modules

	2012	2013	2014	2015	**2016**	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023

r4d programme

- Social Conflicts *Call*
- Employment *Call*
- *Additional Call*
- Food Security *Call*
- Ecosystems *Call*
- *Additional Call*
- Public Health *Call*
- *Additional Call*
- Thematically open research *Call 1*
- *Call 2*
- *Call 3*

TAG1   TAG2

Transformation Accelerating Grants Calls (TAG)
open to all r4d projects

Social Conflicts

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Causes of and Solutions to Social Conflicts in Contexts of Weak Public Institutions or State Fragility

Strong, stable and legitimate public institutions whose decision-makers are accountable to their constituencies are widely regarded as a key prerequisite for sustainable development. Scientific research suggests that there is a close relationship between political institutions, technological innovation and socio-economic development. The emphasis of the thematic module is on conflicts that may result from particular types of deficiencies of public institutions, state fragility and differences in governance capabilities, as well as on ways and means for mitigating such deficiencies and reducing or avoiding conflicts. The research module focuses on four areas and interactions between them: a) social conflicts; b) weak public institutions; c) state fragility; and d) management of natural resources. The call encourages research in three topics:

1. Political reconstruction and democratisation processes in fragile and conflict prone states
2. Conflicts over scarce natural resources with a focus on water issues
3. Chronic causes and consequences of state fragility and weakness of public institutions

From the three projects emerged as a synthesis product the research documentary «Inequality and Conflict – Beyond us and them», 68min, 2019, and numerous dialogue events.

Projects (2014-2020)

Responsible grantee	Project title	Partner countries
Cederman Lars-Erik, ETH Zurich	Ethnic Power Relations and Conflict in Fragile States	Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Guatemala, India, Zambia
Elcheroth Guy, University of Lausanne	Fostering Pluralistic Memories and Collective Resilience in Fragile Transitional Justice Processes	Burundi, Palestinian Territory, Sri Lanka
Prügl Elisabeth, Graduate Institute (IHEID)	The Gender Dimensions of Social Conflict, Armed Violence and Peacebuilding	Indonesia, Nigeria

Website
http://www.r4d.ch/modules/social-conflicts

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Update: 28.02.20

Employment

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Employment in the Context of Sustainable Development

Employment is crucial for the transition from subsistence to industrial society. Employment strategies can be defined as a part of development policies focused on finding favourable combinations of economic resources and human capital for higher productivity. There is a triple challenge: First, financial resources are scarce, "modern" market rules only partly established, physical infrastructure and public services of low quality, etc. Second, human resources are largely unprepared for the transition to modern forms of market economy; in many developing countries, 80 percent or more of the population live in a subsistence economy, mainly agriculture. Third, the transition to gainful employment requires changes in the division of labour between the generations and genders. The call encourages research in three topics:

1. The conditions and dynamics of employment in the context of sustainable development
2. The social, economic and environmental effects of employment
3. Risks and opportunities of globalisation for employment

Projects (2014-2020/23)

Responsible grantee	Project title	Partner countries
Carbonnier Gilles, Graduate Institute (IHEID)	Curbing illicit financial flows from resource-rich developing countries: Improving natural resource governance to finance SDGs	Ghana, Lao PDR
Maurer Markus, Zurich University of Teacher Education	The contribution of vocational skills development to inclusive industrial growth and transformation: An analysis of critical factors in six countries	South Africa, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Lao PDR
Francois, Joseph, University of Bern	Employment effects of different development policy instruments (completed)	Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, Madagascar, South Africa, Vietnam
Nicolas Depetris Chauvin, University of Applied Sciences Western Switzerland	Trade and Labor Market Outcomes in Developing Countries	Bolivia, Brazil, Ghana, Kenya
Renold Ursula, ETH Zurich	Linking Education and Labour Markets: Under what conditions can Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) improve the income of the youth?	Benin, Costa Rica, Chile, Nepal
Znoj, Heinzpeter, University of Bern	Feminisation, agricultural transition and rural employment (FATE)	Bolivia, Rwanda, Lao PDR, Nepal

Website

http://www.r4d.ch/modules/employment

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Ecosystems

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Sustainable Management of Ecosystems for the Provision of Ecosystems Services

The success or failure of any scheme of sustainable ecosystem management will not depend on a single factor but rather on a combination of mutually reinforcing policies, investments, and actions. Understanding the key drivers, their interactions and the policies that can drive and promote good practices will derive from a judicious mix of global, regional, national and local actions. An understanding of optimal policies and actions would provide important information for policy makers, donors and activists. The call encourages research in four topics:

1. The drivers of ecosystem change
2. Appropriating the economic, social and environmental value of ecosystems and ecosystems services
3. Ecosystems, ecosystem services and climate change
4. Integrated planning and management of ecosystems

Projects (2015-2021/2023)

Responsible grantee	Project title	Partner countries
Kull Christian, University of Lausanne	Assessing the 'nature' of a 'forest transition' in Vietnam: ecosystem services and social-ecological resilience in locally managed forest landscapes	Vietnam
Ghazoul Jaboury, ETH Zurich	Oil Palm Adaptive Landscapes	Cameroon, Colombia, Indonesia
Messerli Peter, University of Berne	Managing telecoupled landscapes for the sustainable provision of ecosystem services and poverty alleviation	Laos, Madagascar, Myanmar
Schaffner Urs, CABI Bioscience Swiss Centre, Delémont	Woody invasive alien species in East Africa: assessing and mitigating their negative impact on ecosystem services and rural livelihood	Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania

Website
http://www.r4d.ch/modules/ecosystems

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Update: 28.02.20

Food Security

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Innovation in Agricultural and Food Systems for Food Security

Meeting the growing demand for food in a changing global context and in an environmentally and socially sustainable way demands innovative approaches with respect to food production, processes, distribution and access. The emphasis of this thematic module is therefore on the improvement of agricultural production and innovation systems in view of fostering a political, economic and societal framework for global food security. The call encourages research in three topics:

1. Sustainability of agricultural and food systems, natural resources and resilience
2. Agricultural innovation, extension and research into use
3. Governance and policies for the future world food system

Projects (2015-2021)

Responsible grantee	Project title	Partner countries
Fliessbach Andreas, FiBL	Farmer-driven organic resource management to build soil fertility (ORM4Soil)	Ghana, Mali, Kenya, Zambia
Frossard Emmanuel, ETH Zurich	Biophysical and socio-economic drivers of sustainable soil use in yam cropping systems for improved food security in West Africa (YAMSYS)	Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso
Kenis Marc, CABI Bioscience Swiss Centre	Sustainable use of insects to improve livestock production and food security in smallholder farms in West Africa (IFWA)	Benin, Ghana, Burkina Faso
Prügl Elisabeth, IHEID	Land Commercialization, Gendered Agrarian Transformation, and the Right to Food (DEMETER)	Cambodia, Ghana
Rist Stephan, University of Berne	Towards Food Sustainability: Reshaping the Coexistence of Different Food Systems in South America and Africa (FoodSAF)	Kenya, Bolivia

Website
http://www.r4d.ch/modules/food-security

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Public Health

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Provision Systems and Financing Mechanisms in the Public Health Sector

The achievements of the MDGs and their related public health targets are at risk due to rapidly increasing costs for delivering primary health care, weaknesses in health systems, the growing burden of non-communicable diseases, the emergence of new health threats and rising global inequity. The global health architecture has undergone fundamental changes, and the number and types of actors working in development aid and disaster relief have increased. Despite the tremendous influx of resources for attaining the health MDGs, many resource-limited countries continue to struggle to reach the goals set for 2015. More evidence and research is required to further investigate challenges and successes. The call encourages research in three topics:

1. Key steps toward inclusive social health protection (SHP) in developing countries
2. Sustaining health gains while addressing emerging demographic and epidemiological changes
3. Social determinants and equitable access to health

Projects (2016-2022/23)

Responsible grantee	Project title	Partner countries
Beran David Henri, University Hospitals Geneva	Addressing the double burden of disease: improving health systems for Noncommunicable and Neglected Tropical Diseases	Mozambique, Nepal, Peru
Maurer Jürgen, University of Lausanne	Inclusive social protection for chronic health problems	India, Malawi, Philippines, Sri Lanka
Tediosi Fabrizio, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute	Health systems governance for an inclusive and sustainable social health protection in Ghana and Tanzania	Ghana, Tanzania
Winkler Mirko, Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute	Health impact assessment for engaging natural resource extraction projects in sustainable development in producer regions	Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania

Website
http://www.r4d.ch/modules/public-health

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Update: 28.02.20

Open call 1

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Thematically Open Research

The thematically open research module is expected to fund research projects of high quality on new or innovative topics addressing global issues in poor countries. The thematically open projects are inspired by the curiosity of the researchers ("bottom up") and motivated by the expected contribution to problem solving The aim is to gain knowledge and develop new concepts, approaches and methods.

Projects (2014-2018)

Responsible grantee	Project title	Partner countries
Brönnimann Stefan	Data on climate and Extreme weather for the Central AnDEs (DECADE)	Bolivia, Peru
Bucheli Thomas	Establishing a soil monitoring network to assess the environmental exposure to PAHs and PCBs in the province of Mayabeque, Cuba (Soil-Q)	Cuba
Buttler Alexandre	Experimental assessment of innovative slash and burn cultivation practices for sustainable land-use and deforestation prevention in Central Menabe - AGRIFEU	Madagascar
D'Acremont Valérie	Electronic algorithms based on host biomarkers Point of Care Tests to decide on admission and antibiotic prescription in Tanzanian febrile children	Tanzania
Ehrensperger Albrecht	Knowledge support for sustainable renewable energy policies: The prospects of pro-poor biomass energy value chains in rural–urban contexts in East Africa	Kenya, Tanzania
Fliessbach Andreas	Insect-based feed and fertilizer production via waste transformation for small-holders in Ghana	Ghana
Flitsch Mareile	Disability and Technology in Uganda from Local and Global Perspectives	Uganda
Garcia Claude	AlaReLa Madagascar, the Alaotra Resilience Landscape	Madagascar
Pichelin Frédéric	COCOBOARDS: environmentally sound technology for the manufacturing of affordable building materials based on coconut husk and natural bonding agents	Phillipines
Pulgarin César	Treatment of the hospital wastewaters in Côte d'Ivoire and in Colombia by advanced oxidation processes	Ivory Coast Colombia
Vounatsou Penelope	Modelling spatio-temporal dynamics of malaria and mortality to develop optimised interventions and surveillance tools in Africa	Uganda Burkina Faso

Website

http://www.r4d.ch/modules/thematically-open-research

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Update: 13.6.2018

Calls

1st Call: launch June 2012
            decision August 2012
2nd Call: launch October 2014
            decision December 2015
3rd Call: launch March 2017
            decision May 2018

Open call 2

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Projects (2016-2020)

Barnier-Quer, Christophe,	Innovative adjuvanted influenza vaccines: a Swiss-Indonesian collaboration towards better pandemic influenza preparedness	Indonesia
Brugger Fritz	Measuring the development outcomes of resource extraction in producer countries	Burkina Faso Mozambique
Cannata, Massimiliano	4ONSE monitoring system: analysis of Open (software, hardware and standard), Non-conventional, Sustainable and Effective monitoring systems	Indonesia Pakistan Sri Lanka
Goetschel, Laurent	Knowledge for peace. Understanding research, policy and practice synergies	Côte d'Ivoire South Sudan
Gröhbiel, Urs	Social Mobile Media to educate, connect and empower Frontline Health Workers in Nigeria, Zambia and South Africa	Nigeria South Africa Zambia
Keller Beat	Improvement of broad-spectrum disease resistance in rice: how a comprehensive study of natural rice diversity can help to reduce crop losses in developing countries	Philippines
Kernen, Antoine	The Developmental State Strikes Back? The Rise of New Global Powers and African States' Development Strategies	Cameroon Côte d'Ivoire
Labhardt, Niklaus	Improving the HIV care cascade in Lesotho: Towards 90-90-90 – A research collaboration with the Ministry of Health	Lesotho
Low, Nicola Minling	Improving neonatal and infant outcomes using point-of-care tests for sexually transmitted infections in high prevalence settings (neoSTI project)	Papua New Guinea
Odermatt Peter	Towards early detection of severe morbidity associated with Asian liver fluke infection in Lao PDR	Laos
Mäder, Paul	Application of organic bio-fertilizer technology to improve the sustainability of date palm production and cultivation	Morocco Tunisia
Marechal, François	Effective methodology for the assessment of integrated energy strategies	Colombia Cuba
Zinsstag, Jakob	Surveillance and response to zoonotic diseases in Maya communities of Guatemala: A case for One Health	Guatemala

Website
http://www.r4d.ch/modules/thematically-open-research

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Update:20.9.2017

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Open call 3

Projects (2018-2022)

Bohlius, Julia	Advancing Cervical Cancer Screening in HIV-positive women (ACCHIVe) – The Cervical Cancer Prevention and Care Cascade	Zambia
Bucheli, Thomas Daniel	Influence of different pest management systems in potato production on PEsticide REsidues in CUban SOils (PERECUSO)	Cuba
Fischer, Markus	Mountain biodiversity and the Sustainable Development Goals: knowledge for synergistic action	Bolivia, Tanzania, Nepal
Maake, Caroline	Intercultural transdisciplinarity in Guatemala and Peru: A North-South-South learning platform for culturally pertinent public health provision systems for indigenous populations	Guatemala, Peru
Malatesta, Dominique	Kick it like a Girl! Young Women Push Themselves Through Football in the African Public Space	Cameroon, Senegal
Pichelin, Frédéric	PINOY Tannin	Philippines
Rezzonico, Fabio	Preservation of Central Asian fruit tree forest ecosystems, pome fruit varieties and germplasm from the recent epidemics caused by the invasive bacterial pathogen Erwinia amylovora (fire blight)	Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan,
Rossier, Jérôme	Adapting and improving vocational guidance and career counseling interventions to contribute promoting decent work in two West African countries: Burkina Faso and Togo	Burkina Faso, Togo
Samrock, Friedemann	Development of a geoscientific framework for geothermal exploration and energy utilization in Mongolia	Mongolia
Schmidt, Hans-Peter	Re-cycling of biomass nutrients and carbon for advanced organic fertilization in an eco-smart and climate positive agriculture on Cuba (Bio-C)	Cuba
Véron, René	Challenges of municipal solid waste management: Learning from post-crisis governance initiatives in South Asia	Sri Lanka, Nepal, India

Website
http://www.r4d.ch/modules/thematically-open-research

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Update: 20.12.2018

Transformation Accelerating Grants (TAG)

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

In July 2019, the r4d programme launched the first Call for Transformation Accelerating Grants (TAG) that allow teams of r4d researchers and non-academic stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, the private sector, development practitioners) to make use of the knowledge, tools and technologies developed within r4d projects through translation and implementation initiatives.

TAG initiatives shall test, validate, accelerate or facilitate the uptake and utilisation of research findings from an r4d project on a local or national scale in r4d partner countries or on an international scale. Initiatives funded by a TAG are awarded a maximum of CHF 100'000 to be spent in one year.

Transformation Accelerating Initiatives (2020-2021)

Teams	Initiatives emerging from r4d projects	Countries
Justino R. Arboleda, Michail Kyriazopoulos, Frédéric Pichelin	Cocoboards: upscaling of a sustainable low-end innovation to an industrial level	Philippines
Win Myint, Thuya Zaw, Henri Rueff, Flurina Schneider	Collective capabilities and action for sustainable agricultural intensification in Tanintharyi Region, Myanmar	Myanmar
Philippe Hitimana, Eliud Abucheli Birachi, Michèle Amacker	Building up savings and financial skills for economic empowerment and wellbeing of woman and youth in rural Rwanda	Rwanda
Fenohery Rakotondrasoa, Bruno Salomon Ramamonjisoa, Adrienne Grêt-Regamey	Participatory land-use modelling to accelerate sustainable transformation applying a landscape approach, by	Madagascar
Pietro Toigo, Virginie Tallio, João Salavassa, Fritz Brugger	Promoting the use of the Resource Impact Dashboard,	Mozambique, Burkina Faso
Simon Choge, Boniface Kiteme, Staline Kibet, Winnie Nunda, Albrecht Ehrensperger, Urs Schaffner	Supporting the implementation of sustainable woody invasive alien species management across multiple spatial scales in Kenya,	Kenya

Contact

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Synthesis projects

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

Synthesis in the r4d programme is understood as the contextualisation and integration of research findings and procedural learnings beyond individual r4d projects into a larger body of knowledge in the science-society-policy interface. The r4d synthesis initiatives provide opportunities for learning and experimentation to increase research impact.

Synthesis initiatives are being carried out at the r4d programme level, potentially involving the full r4d network, and in the thematic areas Social Conflicts, Public Health, Food Security, Ecosystems and Employment. On our r4d synthesis webpage you find more information on the initiatives and the contact persons.

Synthesis projects (2017-2022)

r4d programme: Digital Storytellers, a tangible experience of contributions of r4d projects to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
r4d programme: Utilisation of research knowledge for sustainability transformations
r4d programme: Dealing with complexity in research for development: Experience capitalisation (CapEx) in the r4d programme
r4d programme: Research partnerships as transformative instrument

Social Conflicts: Research documentary "Inequality and Conflict – Beyond us and them" and dialogue events

Public Health: Evidence for change as emerging from r4d public health
Public Health: Making a difference in one place

Food Security: Food Systems Caravan West Africa
Food Security: Engendering Equity in Food Security Research
Food Security: Food and nutrition security in educational institutions and communities in West Africa

Ecosystems: Achieving SDG 15: co-benefits and trade-offs with other SDGs
Ecosystems: Utilisation of research knowledge produced by r4d projects in the field of ecosystems management
Ecosystems: Dealing with complexity: burden or opportunity for research on ecosystems?
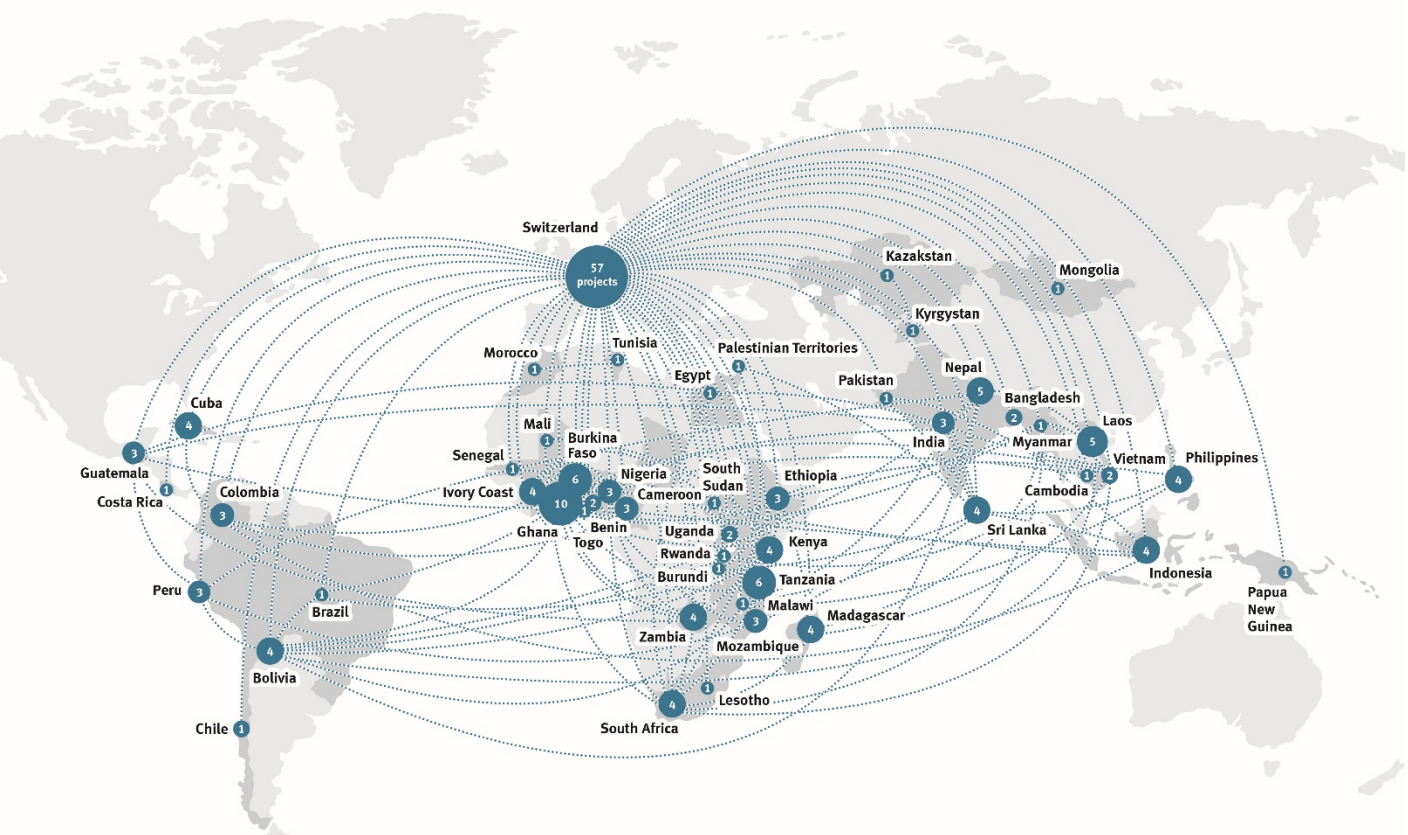
Employment: tbd in 2020

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For information on projects per country please use the interactive network map.

Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development

The «Swiss Programme for Research on Global Issues for Development» (r4d programme) is a joint initiative of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF). The goal of the r4d programme is to contribute to solving global problems and securing public goods in least developed, low- and middle-income countries within the framework of global sustainable development. www.r4d.ch

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