Peter Bopp Stiftung für Forschung und Technik



Call for Proposals

2027

Implementation Grants 2027 «Future Technologies»

New sustainable materials and processes to tackle societal challenges

Founded in 2023, the Peter Bopp Stiftung aims to strengthen Switzerland's ability to meet future challenges by supporting innovation in research and technology at Swiss universities. The foundation provides funding in high-impact fields with a leverage effect for economy and society.

With its third call for proposals «Future Technologies», the Peter Bopp Stiftung wants to generate a significant impact by exploiting the potential that new technologies (materials and processes) offer to find sustainable solutions for societal and/or environmental challenges, e.g. related to climate, water, food or energy.

The call with an annual budget of CHF 1.5 million is targeted at innovative and applied research projects.

Duration of the projects
1 to 2 years

Scale of funding
CHF 100,000 to CHF 300,000
(budget must be plausible and substantiated)

Deadline
Mach 1, 2027

Final decision
End of June 2027

Objectives

New sustainable materials and processes

New sustainable materials and processes can make a significant contribution to addressing environmental, technological and societal challenges – through both the creation of new technologies and the intelligent reuse of existing resources.

The call of the Peter Bopp Stiftung focuses on finding innovative and sustainable solutions for relevant and concrete challenges without defining a specific field of application. To that end, the foundation supports new technologies that are likely to achieve a meaningful breakthrough.

Innovative ideas implemented in an entrepreneurial spirit that help protect our natural resources are critical for ensuring quality of life for future generations.

Examples of possible application areas:



- Replacement of PFAS
- New molecular energy storage
- Defossilized raw materials
- Upcycling of materials
- Capture of local CO_2 in SMEs
- Production of reduced carbon from non-fossil resources
- Fractionation of waste
- Innovation in nutrition and food production

Criteria

Implementation Grants 2027

Implementation Grants support innovative and applied research projects involving new materials and processes in high-impact fields. Projects must originate from and be carried out at Swiss universities.

The funded projects must be between research and market development seeking initial funding for the pilot and demonstrator phase (TRL 4–6). The main criteria besides scientific excellence, innovation and a sustainable approach are market opportunities and marketability of the project.

Preference will be given to projects conducted by entrepreneurial young scientist with a duration of 1 to max. 2 years and a budget of between CHF 100,000 and CHF 300,000 each.

Key Criteria:



- Applied research projects developed and rooted at a Swiss university
- Convincing, innovative project ideas for new materials and processes that contribute to solving a relevant societal or environmental challenge
- Plausible reference to practical and economic application with evidence of corresponding market opportunities
- Principle of sustainability
- Scientific and technical excellence, validated by a letter of endorsement from a mentor, expert, or recognized support program
- Market potential and innovation, validated by a letter of endorsement from an industry expert or potential investor
- Plausible and substantiated budget including salaries and project-related costs
- High level of commitment on the part of the project participants

Technology Readiness Levels TRLs

Funding will be given to innovative and applied research projects (see TRLs below) with a specific focus on the pilot and demonstrator phase:

TRL 4
Partial Scale and Prototype Modeling

TRL 5
Partial Scale Prototype Validation

TRL 6
Full Scale Prototype Field Demonstration

Funding Process

Project Submission Stages

Eligibility Test (online)
Involves a quick initial assessment to see if the project idea is in line with the strategic areas of activity and the grant-making criteria of the Peter Bopp Stiftung.

Pre-Assessment
Submitting an outline of the project idea including purpose and scope is recommended. The abstract of max. two pages may be submitted via o gital platform at any time for initial assessment and consultation. ~~Note that this step already needs a registration on the platform.~~

Project Proposal
Following a positive feedback, project proposals may be submitted observing the deadlines of the call of proposals.

Further Information

Further information is provided in the Application Guidelines. ~~Abstracts for pre-assessment and~~ applications including the required documents must be uploaded online.

Project proposals will be pre-evaluated by funding experts involving a Scientific Committee. In the last round, applicants will be invited to pitch their projects to the foundation's Board of Trustees.

The funding decision is made by the Board of Trustees of the Peter Bopp Stiftung.

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