

Switzerland is a decentralised state. The division of tasks between the private and public sectors in the field of research and innovation has established itself over time and is based on two pillars of Swiss politics, namely subsidiarity and a liberal economy. The state is active in the areas where it has an explicit constitutional mandate. Education, research and innovation exist in a complex complementary system, in which different responsibilities and subject matters interlace. For further information about the Swiss R&I System and the roles of state, cantons and private sector, please check:

<https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home/research-and-innovation/research-and-innovation-in-switzerland.html>).

Switzerland combines robust public funding, active corporate venture capital, and international collaboration. Innosuisse, the Swiss Innovation Agency, funds applied R&D, startup coaching, and international collaborations. The Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) supports fundamental research and co-leads BRIDGE, a program fostering the transition from lab to market. ESA BIC Switzerland and Trust Valley add sector-specific instruments. Swiss-based entities also participate in Horizon Europe, granting access to a €95.5 billion EU research program. Global biotech leaders Novartis and Roche operate major venture arms from Switzerland. This multi-layered funding environment enables teams to grow and collaborate. Check Startupticker and the official SME Portal of the Federal Government for overviews about Startup, VC and Private Equity investors in Switzerland. (from [Switzerland Innovation Park – Cutting-edge Technology and R&D Eco-system: Switzerland Innovation](#))

Switzerland has a Federal Act on Controlling Communicable Human Diseases (EpidA) see

<https://www.fedlex.admin.ch/eli/cc/2015/297/en>

In July 2025 the revised National Pandemic Plan was published see <https://www.bag.admin.ch/en/national-pandemic-plan-switzerland>

Switzerland has different disease surveillance initiatives in place, and has different dashboards & visualization platforms, infrastructures and data sources related to pandemic preparedness see <https://www.infectious-diseases-toolkit.org/national-resources/switzerland>

In January 2025 the Centre for Pathogen Bioinformatics (CPB) was launched in Bern. <https://www.sib.swiss/centre-for-pathogen-bioinformatics>

Other research actors for clinical/epidemiological metadata are Clinical Bioinformatics group, SIB; Bacteriology and Virology Laboratories, University Hospitals of Geneva (Centre National de Référence des Infections Virales Emergentes - CRIVE & Centre des Maladies Virales Emergentes - CMVE); Microbiology Institute and Hospital Hygiene Unit, University Hospital of Lausanne; Clinical Microbiology and Clinical Virology, University Hospital of Basel; Infectious Diseases Institute and VetSuisse, University of Bern; Institute of Medical Microbiology, Institute of Medical Virology and VetSuisse, University of Zurich

R&I Policies and Strategies

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.

Country has a dedicated strategy for research and innovation related to pandemic threat?

Yes

R&I strategy URL <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/ausbrueche-epidemien-pandemien.html>

For the research financed by the SNSF: <https://data.snf.ch/grants/documentation>

Country has an open science portal with information on publicly financed scientific research?

Yes

<https://www.aramis.admin.ch/>

R&I portal for the research financed by the SNSF <https://data.snf.ch/key-figures>

Country has R&I webpage on COVID-19; Antimicrobial resistance (AMR); Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) threats ; Other : <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/das-bag/ressortforschung-evaluation.html>

Website open science/ open data initiative with respect to pandemic threats, such as COVID-19 open

Name	URL	Short Description
COVID-19 Switzerland	https://www.covid19.admin.ch/en/overview	
GenSpectrum - Inspect pathogen genomic data	https://genspectrum.org/	An interactive platform to help scientists and public health professionals query and analyze pathogen sequences.
Infectious diseases toolkit Switzerland	https://www.infectious-diseases-toolkit.org/national-resources/switzerland	
Nextstrain Real-time tracking of pathogen evolution	https://nextstrain.org/	Nextstrain is a project to harness the scientific and public health potential of pathogen genome data. Our goal is to aid epidemiological understanding of pathogen spread and evolution and improve outbreak response.
Swiss Mosquito Network	https://www.zanzare-svizzera.ch/en/about/	

Country has coordinating structures to link public health needs and research needs? **Yes**

Coordinating structures URL <https://www.news.admin.ch/news/message/attachments/82996.pdf>

Please note: Document in German, French and Italian only

R&I Infrastructures

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.

Country has the following research infrastructure for infectious diseases and outbreaks available, or under construction

BSL 3; BSL 4; Emergency intervention units; Clinical trial units; High level isolation units; High level isolation transport; Open genome deposits for viruses; Open genome deposits for bacteria; Open genome deposits for AMR; Reference centres of excellence; Other (Swiss Biobanking Platform, Swiss personalized Health Network, Swiss Hiv Cohort Study, Swiss Hepatitis C Cohort Study, Pandemic preparedness population-based household cohort including adults, children and household pets) - not exhaustive

Name Infrastructure	Type Infrastructure	URL	Max Capacity	Available for	Open to
15 Reference centres List only available in DE,FR,IT	Reference centres of excellences	https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/krankheiten/infektionskrankheiten-bekaempfen/meldesysteme-infektionskrankheiten/meldepflichtige-ik.html			
BEready Cohort	Population-based cohort which collects questionnaire data and biological samples	https://www.beready.unibe.ch/		Academia	Yes
Centre for Pathogen Bioinformatics (CPB)		https://www.sib.swiss/centre-for-pathogen-bioinformatics			
DKF Basel, CTU Bern, CRC Geneva, CRC Lausanne, CTU-EOC Lugano, CTU St. Gallen, CTC Zürich	Clinical trial units	https://www.scto.ch/de/clinic-al-trial-units.html			
Genome 2030	open genome deposit for viruses and bacteria	https://www.health2030genome.ch/	Academia	Yes	
HUG	High level isolation units	https://www.hug.ch			
Spiez Laboratory	BSL4	https://www.spiezlab.admin.ch/en/home.html			
Swiss Biobanking platform		https://swissbiobanking.ch/		Independent organisation	Yes
Swiss Center for Antibiotic Resistance (anresis)		https://www.anresis.ch/		Academia	Yes

Swiss Clinical Trial Organisation (SCTO)		https://www.sctoplatforms.ch/	Independent organisation	Yes
Swiss Hepatitis C Cohort Study (SCCS)		https://www.swisshcv.org/		
Swiss Hiv Cohort Study (SHCS)		https://www.shcs.ch/		
Swiss Pathogen Surveillance Platform (SPSP)	Open genome deposits for viruses, bacteria and for AMR	https://www.spsp.ch/	Academia	Yes
Swiss Personalized Health Network (SPHN)		https://sphn.ch/		
USZ	High level isolation units	https://www.usz.ch/		

Country supporting the participation to the following ESFRI initiatives relevant for infectious diseases BBMRI; EATRIS; ECRIN

Website network of clinical trials (e.g. to facilitate the access to clinical trials) the country is involved in

<https://eu-response.eu/>
<https://ecrin.org/>
<https://www.ecraid.eu/>
<https://vaccelerate.eu>
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/global-research-on-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov/solidarity-clinical-trial-for-covid-19-treatments>
<https://www.sctoplatforms.ch/>
<https://www.scto.ch/>
<https://www.combacte.com/>

Budget mobilisation mechanisms and funding sources *The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.*

Basic Research

url <https://www.snf.ch/en/WAvYcY7awAUGoIST/funding/projects/projects-in-all-disciplines>
 funding for basic research accessible for industry? No
 source of funding Public (research) agencies

Applied Research

url
 funding for applied research accessible for industry?
 source of funding Public (research) agencies

Translational Research

url
 funding accessible for industry?
 source of funding

Clinical Research in general & in pandemic phase

url
 funding accessible for industry?
 source of funding
 phase funded?

Innovation Projects

url <https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/de/home.html>

funding for innovation projects accessible industry?

Source of funding

Flexible funding during emergencies possible : Two National Research Programmes were launched to answer the challenges related to COVID19 <https://www.snf.ch/en/ROoig00P3wqY8Sws/page/nrp/nrp78>

see also <https://data.snf.ch/stories/fast-tracking-solutions-to-the-coronavirus-pandemic-en.html>

R&I actors, authorities and activated processes that are activated in case of a health threat

The information is not exhaustive and should be updated regularly.

R&I actors, authorities and

ministries involved in case of an outbreak; mobilisation processes of research forces; mechanisms to identify promising therapies or medical products for pandemic preparedness that are in the pipeline

Name	Description	url
Foundation for Innovative and New Diagnostics	The Foundation for Innovative and New Diagnostics is WHO Collaborating Centre for Laboratory Strengthening and Diagnostic Technology Evaluation	https://www.finddx.org/
Hôpitaux Universitaires de Genève (HUG)	HUG is WHO Collaborating Centre for epidemic and pandemic diseases and WHO Collaborating Centre on infection prevention and control and antimicrobial resistance	https://www.hug.ch/en/centre-emerging-viral-diseases/who-collaborating-centre
Institute of Virology and Immunology (IVI)	IVI, with sites in Middelhäusern and Bern, is a research institute under the aegis of the Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office (FSVO). It is the only high-security laboratory in Switzerland with the capacity to diagnose and research highly contagious animal diseases (such as foot-and-mouth disease or swine fever). The Swiss Rabies Centre in Bern is affiliated to the IVI. The mission of the IVI is to perform basic and applied research as an important basis for the control of animal diseases and zoonoses and for	www.edi.admin.ch
Spiez Laboratory	Spiez Laboratory, the Swiss Federal Institute for NBC-Protection, is a division of the Federal Office for Civil Protection. We provide services relating to arms control, protection measures, health and incident management for international organisations, authorities and the general population. The biocontainment lab in Spiez enables the handling of human pathogens of the hazard categories 3 and 4 and provides services in four core areas	https://www.spiezlab.admin.ch/en
State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI)	The SERI is the federal government's competence center for national and international issues of education, research and innovation policy. Together with our partners, we are committed to ensuring that Switzerland continues to have an efficient ERI sector in the future.	https://www.sbf.admin.ch/sbf/en/home.html
Swiss Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH)	As part of the Federal Department of Home Affairs, FOPH is responsible for public health in Switzerland; it develops Switzerland's health policy	https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home.html

Swiss Innovation Agency (Innosuisse)	Innosuisse promotes science-based innovation in the interest of the economy and society in Switzerland.	https://www.innosuisse.ch/inno/en/home.html
Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF)	The core mission of SNSF is to promote basic research. The SNSF does not grant funding for applied research with an immediate commercial potential. However, it does support research that is linked to practical issues and that also increases scientific knowledge. The majority of its funding goes towards bottom-up basic research	https://www.snf.ch/en/FKhU9kAtfXx7w9Al/page/home
Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH)	Swiss TPH is a world-leading institute in global health	https://www.swisstph.ch/en/
University of Bern	Biosafety Centre, Institute for Infectious Diseases (IfIK) of Universität Bern is WHO Collaborating Centre for Biosafety and Biosecurity	https://www.ifik.unibe.ch/

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BE READY PLUS is responding to the call: HORIZON-HLTH-2024-DISEASE-17 “Pandemic preparedness and response: Maintaining and enhancing the preparatory work for a co-funded European partnership for pandemic” under grant agreement 101195079. Starting date: 01.01.2025. | End Date 31.12.2025

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