



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA
Federal Office of Meteorology and Climatology MeteoSwiss

MeteoSwiss

December 2017 (Update April 2019)

Modalities for MeteoSwiss agreements in the framework of GCOS Switzerland



Swiss GCOS Office



1 Background

This document serves to define the modalities for MeteoSwiss agreements in the framework of GCOS Switzerland. In accordance with the Federal Ordinance on Meteorology and Climatology (MetV, Article 4) MeteoSwiss supports important, quality assured time series of Essential Climate Variables (ECVs) and international data centers (IDCs) at risk of discontinuation (Chapter 2), and projects that contribute to the GCOS Implementation Plan (Chapter 3). The total financial envelope available for activities in the framework of GCOS Switzerland amounts to 1.6 MCHF per year according to the Federal Council's Decision in 2008. It is subject to the approval of the annual Federal budget by the Swiss Parliament.

2 Agreements concerning the core tasks

The GCOS Switzerland inventory¹ identifies time series of ECVs in Switzerland and international centers hosted at Swiss institutions, that lack the legal basis and/or the resources needed to guarantee a long-term continuation. The core task of MeteoSwiss in the framework of GCOS Switzerland is, by definition, to ensure the continuation of such quality assured time series and operation of international centers, respectively. These core tasks are given highest priority by MeteoSwiss in the framework of GCOS Switzerland.

Application process	Financial support requires an official application for funding to the attention of the GCOS Switzerland Steering Committee (hereinafter called "StC"). The StC decides whether or not to request MeteoSwiss, via the Swiss GCOS Office, to enter into a contractual agreement with the partner institution.
Eligibility	The responsible institution for any ECV time series or international center at risk, as identified in the GCOS Switzerland inventory. GCOS Switzerland funding comes into consideration only if no other source of funding is available, or if existing sources of funding (including but not limited to in-kind contributions) are inadequate.
Agreement duration	Agreements between MeteoSwiss and the partner institution are concluded for a four-year term and enter into force on 1 January of a given year.
Reporting and monitoring	The partner institution submits yearly reportings to the attention of the StC.
Evaluation	Extensions of contracts are possible following a review of the achievements commissioned by the StC and submission of a follow-up proposal to the StC. The StC decides whether or not to request MeteoSwiss to extend the contractual agreement with the partner institution for another period of four years.

¹ GCOS Switzerland inventory report 2017 and future updates

3 Agreements concerning projects in accordance with the GCOS Switzerland Strategy

In addition to the core tasks, MeteoSwiss supports projects based on an open tendering procedure (call for proposals). The scope of each call must be fully in line with the GCOS Implementation Plan² and contribute to the implementation of the GCOS Switzerland Strategy 2017-2026³.

Application process	Project proposals can be submitted following a call for proposals issued by the Swiss GCOS Office. The call will be published on the GCOS Switzerland website ⁴ and directly shared via the GCOS Newsletter with the GCOS Switzerland community. The scope of each call (thematic focus, budget, anticipated project duration) is defined by the StC.
Evaluation procedure	The Swiss GCOS Office conducts the formal evaluation of the proposals. Given that all formal criteria are met, the StC evaluates the proposals as regards their substance according to predefined evaluation criteria. The StC then requests MeteoSwiss, via the Swiss GCOS Office, to enter into a contractual agreement with an awarded partner institution.
Eligibility	The call for proposals is open to individuals affiliated to a Swiss institution in Switzerland. It primarily addresses individuals that can demonstrate extensive experience in climate system monitoring and research in Switzerland.
Agreement duration	The duration depends on the scope of the project, as defined by the StC, but shall not exceed a maximum of four years.
Reporting and monitoring	The partner institution has to submit a final report at the end of each project. In addition the partner institution is requested to submit a short progress report on a yearly basis to the attention of the StC.

² WMO, 2016: The Global Observing System for Climate: Implementation Needs. Available at https://library.wmo.int/opac/doc_num.php?explnum_id=3417.

³ GCOS Switzerland Strategy 2017-2026 and future updates.

⁴ See: www.gcos.ch

Swiss GCOS Office
gcos@meteoswiss.ch

MeteoSchweiz
Operation Center 1
CH-8044 Zürich-Flughafen
T +41 58 460 99 99
www.meteoschweiz.ch

MeteoSvizzera
Via ai Monti 146
CH-6605 Locarno Monti
T +41 58 460 97 77
www.meteosvizzera.ch

MétéoSuisse
7bis, av. de la Paix
CH-1211 Genève 2
T +41 58 460 98 88
www.meteosuisse.ch

MétéoSuisse
Chemin de l'Aérogologie
CH-1530 Payerne
T +41 58 460 94 44
www.meteosuisse.ch

