

SLN

Swiss Laser and photonic Network

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SLN Association

- Goal of SLN:
 - Increase innovation funding and revenue of its members
 - Support Photonics community (from lasers to photovoltaics)
- SLN: Swiss Technology Platform for Photonics:
 - SLN supports innovation from basic science to industrial research
 - Swiss National Science Foundation: National Research Programs
 - CTI: R&D Consortia
 - **EU: Program funding**

1. «Directed» Basic Research: NCCR

- NCCR: National Centres of Competence in Research
 - 27 NCCRs with roughly 60Mio/year funding in 2011
 - NCCR: Better structure of Swiss research environment
 - requests started by groups of Professors
 - controlled by
 - director and international experts (world class, but no knowledge of Swiss industry)
 - NCCR: Knowledge and technology transfer
 - Encouraged to involve partner from beginning
 - Big gap to industry
- **NCCR-KTT: Directed research, but challenge to close gap to Swiss industry due to guidance by international experts for scientific excellence**
- **NCCR QP (S. Pochon is on SLN board) and NCCR MUST (Ch. Harder is TT delegate) work closely with SLN to close gap to industry**

2. «Bottom Up» Innovation: CTI

- CTI: Commission for Technology and Innovation
 - 100Mio/year with roughly 300 concurrent projects running
- CTI: Promotion of «bottom up» Innovation
 - projects are submitted by Professor/CTO team on any topic
 - CTI projects are selected and controlled by Swiss experts
 - Matching funds go to research institute (universities of applied science), industry usually has to pay some cash
- CTI has three instruments to improve «bottom-up» project submissions
 1. CTI Start-up: Business development
 2. WTT: Local support, technology driven
 3. **R&D consortia: Swiss technology platforms, market (technology) driven**
- **CTI-KTT: Bottom up funding of university research:**
 - **SLN organizes workshops to match the best university/industry partnerships and to improve the quality of CTI projects**

3. Program Research

- Switzerland spends 300Mio/year in «top down» program research
 - 200Mio/year go to research institutes
 - 100Mio/year goes directly to fund companies! (as big as the CTI budget!)
- Funds are paid through Brüssel
 - Makes it more complicated (FP-7, CSF, COST,)
 - Acceptance rate is very low (15%) and sometimes random
 - Programs are determined by European agenda and international experts and often serve German, French or Great Britain needs
- **Makes it difficult for Switzerland to reach technology leadership**
 - **SLN works together with mirror group (S. Oberholzer) representative**
 - **SLN starts to support its members in workshops to access these funds**