

Information sheet on the Changemaker Grants from “ici. here together.” 2025–2027

(21st January 2025)

Preliminary remarks

The Foundation for Language and Training Promotion (SSuB) launched the “ici. here together.” funding programme in the autumn of 2021. The Migros Cooperative Federation is the founder of the SSuB.

The “ici. here together.” funding programme supports initiatives and projects in the field of migration and integration. It offers funding to local and regional projects that bring together people from different cultural backgrounds with the aim of enhancing cohesion.

Contact

The SSuB has appointed the Swiss Academy for Development (SA4D) as the main contact and coordinator for project funding applicants (project sponsorship).

Enquiries

All enquiries (financial enquiries, requests for advice, etc.) should be addressed to the SA4D, at info@ici-gemeinsam-hier.ch.

1. Funding details

As an extension of the existing “ici. here together.” the Changemaker Grants will be launched over the period from 2025 to 2027. The call for applications will run from 27 January to 21 March 2025.

The Changemaker Grants from “ici. here together.” are aimed at non-profit organisations that are active in the field of integration and living-together, specifically, in the areas of “Here together in everyday life” and “Growing up multilingual here together”.

We are looking for organisations that are prepared to tackle two relevant aspects in their integration work by developing and implementing creative ideas and measures together with the target groups:

- **Recognising and strengthening voluntary work**
The organisation encourages and supports committed volunteers in a needs-orientated way. Volunteering responsibilities are transparent. Volunteers’ skills are strengthened and their commitment is valued.
- **Promoting equal collaboration within your own organisation**
The members of the organisation take a critical look at their organisational structures. Information and knowledge are accessible to all interested parties. Diversity in decision-making bodies is evaluated and further developed. Decision-making processes within the organisation are revised so that the target groups want to and can have a greater say.

The Changemaker Grants can include the following:

- Financial support totalling between CHF 60,000 and CHF 150,000, which will be paid out over a period of three years (2025–2027).
- Kickoff event on 22 May 2025

- Professional support through organised exchange opportunities and workshops; provision of advice aimed at supporting the projects “Recognising and strengthening voluntary commitment” and “Promoting equal cooperation within the organisation”.
- The programme management is invited to visit the project sponsors on site once a year.

A prerequisite for the award of a Changemaker Grant is the conclusion of a separate contract between the SSuB and the project sponsor, which specifies the parties’ obligations and deliverables.

2. Eligibility criteria

2.1 Formal criteria

Objectives and structure of the project management organisation:

- The project organisers contribute to migration and integration with their services.
- The project sponsor has a non-profit legal form (e.g. association, foundation, co-operative). Individuals and profit-oriented organisations are ineligible.
- The organisation is based in Switzerland and its activities are aimed at the population of Switzerland.
- The project organiser has been demonstrably active for at least 2 years.
- Relevant documents for information on the organisational structure are available (articles of association, annual financial statements, annual report, organisational chart)
- The responsibilities of the Management Board and the operational tasks are separate.

Grants and financing plan:

- The requested amount is within the communicated contribution amount.
- The budget is realistically calculated and shows what the funding will be used for over three years.
- The project sponsors have a broad financial base. Requests for additional funding or partner services are listed in the application.

2.2 Content criteria

Criteria for the project sponsorship offer:

- **Social relevance**
The organisation provides proven added value in the field of migration and integration, in one of the following areas:
 - “Here together in everyday life”: clubs, meeting places, groups, tandem schemes and networks bring people from different backgrounds and cultures together, thereby strengthening cohesion.
 - “Growing up multilingual together here”: programmes that support children up to the age of 6 and their families in speaking their family languages outside the home, thereby promoting diversity in society.

The organisation therefore has social relevance in the area of cultural diversity in Switzerland.

Criteria for ideas on the topics of “Recognising and strengthening voluntary work” and “Promoting equal collaboration within your own organisation”:

- **Goal-orientated**
The organisations show which specific ideas and measures they are developing to achieve the main objectives.
- **Ambitious and meticulous**
The projects are ambitious in terms of the desired change and carefully designed.
- **Realisable**
The projects are realistically planned and can be realised within the planned timeframe.
- **Participation**
The members of the organisation involved in the further development are also involved in the planning and implementation.

2.3 Exclusion criteria

The following are excluded from the Changemaker Grants programme:

- Individuals and/or for-profit organisations
- State organisations, unless they apply for funding jointly with a non-profit organisation
- Public and public schools
- Organisations and projects based abroad
- Contributions for rental and material costs
- Ongoing project activities that are not attributed to the object of funding
(> Applications for the implementation of project activities can be submitted via the Social Affairs grants (projects and initiatives) or Mini-Grants)
- Communication measures that are not included in the funding details
- Projects that only pursue internal institutional goals of no social relevance
- Themes or organisations with the following focus are not eligible for funding: physical health, medical services, research or congresses, formal education (including school camps)

3. Multiple funding

We will consider no more than two grants per organisation for two different projects per year.