

PROJECT FINAL REPORT

Publishable

Grant Agreement number: 221916

Project acronym: SNMC

Project title: Swiss Network of Mobility Centres

Funding Scheme: Coordination and support action FP7

Final report:

Period covered: from 1. June 2008 to 31. May 2010

Name, title and organisation of the scientific representative of the project's coordinator¹:

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1. Final publishable summary report

¹ Usually the contact person of the coordinator as specified in Art. 8.1. of the grant agreement

² The home page of the website should contain the generic European flag and the FP7 logo which are available in electronic format at the Europa website (logo of the European flag: http://europa.eu/abc/symbols/emblem/index_en.htm ; logo of the 7th FP: http://ec.europa.eu/research/fp7/index_en.cfm?pg=logos). The area of activity of the project should also be mentioned.

The project “Swiss Network of Mobility Centres SNMC” was co-financed by the European Commission and the Swiss universities from the 1st of June 2008 until the 31st of May 2010. It aimed at guaranteeing high quality and the attractiveness of Switzerland as a place for researchers by establishing a sustainable network of Euraxess Service Centres. For Switzerland as a non member state of the EU it is important to make a great effort to welcome researchers from abroad and to integrate them by informing them about working conditions, accommodation, social insurances along with child care and cultural aspects.

The main objectives were defined as follows:

1. Adapt initiated activities to recent European objectives
2. Coordinate national structures
3. Design information and communication tools
4. Revamp the Swiss Mobility Portal with respect to contents and quality of information
5. Advertise Euraxess (formerly ERA-MORE and Eraceers.ch) / PR activities
6. Improve the quality of services for mobile researchers.

Swiss Network

In 2008 the Rectors and Presidents of all twelve universities signed the Declaration of Commitment. The State Secretariat for Education and Research SER officially acknowledged the Swiss Euraxess Network on the 30th of October 2008. At the end of the project there have been 10 Euraxess Service Centres established in the Swiss universities (for UniL and EPFL together in Lausanne / for UZH and ETHZ together in Zurich).

European Network

Euraxess succeeds Eracraeers, Era-more and includes activities to implement the Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers. Therefore, it is relative to the mobility of researchers and also to the European Commission’s HR-Strategy and the Partnership for Researchers. The Swiss Network participated in national and international conferences and workshops. These provided a good opportunity for discussion and served as an informal way to get to know one another.

Website

Euraxess.ch was by the end of the project time a well developed and reliable website. It fits into the corporate design of the European websites, while expressing the Swiss Researchers’ commitment by displaying the copyright brand of CRUS (the open white cross a red background) on the right upper bar.



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SWITZERLAND FOR RESEARCHERS

Welcome to **EURAXESS Switzerland** - the Researcher's Mobility Portal Switzerland, which is part of a joint initiative of the European Commission and the countries participating in the European Union's Framework Programmes for Research.

EURAXESS Services Centres provide free and personalised assistance on the challenges faced by researchers and their families when relocating, as stated in the **EURAXESS Services Commitment**. If you are a mobile researcher, EURAXESS Services can assist you and your family in every step of your move, starting in your home country and continuing until you have settled in a new one.

Search for Services

Target Group

Incoming Researcher

Information for Incomings

Information for Outgoings



Services Centres in Switzerland



Jobs in Switzerland

Jobs-RSS-Feed

Latest jobs available

PhD studentship job offer

Post date: 14-07-2010 11:06 -
 Organisation: University of Geneva - Research Field: Computer science

PhD and PostDoc position(s)

Post date: 13-07-2010 05:01 -
 Organisation: University of Neuchatel - Research Field: Computer science

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News:

[EURAXESS e-Newsletter July 2010](#)

[research*eu Issue 63](#)

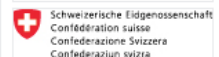
News-RSS-Feed

Quick Links:

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- [Neuchatel](#)
- [St. Gallen](#)
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Partner Institutions:



Euraxess.ch provides information on all the Euraxess Service Centres, explanatory documents regarding mobility issues (main topics: entry conditions, getting started, working, research, families, everyday life) and links to job opportunities in research as well as funding possibilities.



EURAXESS SWITZERLAND

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1. Entry Conditions

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- 1.4 Customs
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1. Entry Conditions

In order to enter Switzerland, you are required to submit a valid identity document that is recognised by our country (passport, an official identity card is sufficient for EU/EFTA nationals). Depending on your country of origin, you will also require a visa (EU/EFTA citizens do not need a visa). The Swiss embassies and consulates and the Federal Office for Migration (FOM) will be glad to provide you with information on general entry conditions.



crus.ch
Abstimmenschaft der Schweizer Universitäten
 Conférence des Recteurs des Universités Suisses
 Conferenza dei Rettori delle Università Svizzere
 Rectory Conference of the Swiss Universities

Quick Links:

- ▶ Federal Office for Migration
- ▶ Swiss embassies and consulates
- ▶ Cantonal authorities (in german)
- ▶ Information for Entry to Switzerland
- ▶ Information brochure "European Nationals in Switzerland" (PDF)
- ▶ Fact sheet EU/EFTA (PDF)

Analysis of the 10 Euraxess Service Centres

In the second period the main emphasis was placed on a report about the structure and activities of the Euraxess Service Centres. The analysis *"The Mapping of Euraxess Service Centres"* was approved by the Rectors' Conference and will be published by the SER. Furthermore, the entire report will be available on www.euraxess.ch and www.crus.ch. The summary of the report gives a useful overview and indicates, where improvements have to be made.

"Researchers face specific problems when relocating: how to find new accommodation? Where do I place my children? How does it work here with taxes and insurances? In 2008 the new brand "Euraxess" with the claim "Researchers in Motion" was introduced into the Swiss academic environment. Euraxess is first of all a network, providing services for researchers on the move. Local service centres at each Swiss university, an intermediate body at the Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities (CRUS) and the European Commission together with other European partners spread the Euraxess network in which researchers find localized assistance when relocating.

The following survey, commissioned by CRUS, focuses on the contact points at almost each Swiss university that help researchers directly. The so-called Euraxess Service Centres (ESCs) provide information and advice about accommodation, immigration, pension rights, health insurance, child care and a lot of other subjects.

CRUS – as the coordinating body of Euraxess in Switzerland – received funding from the Seventh Research Framework Programme (FP7) of the EU to fortify the general information about Euraxess and to promote the idea of decentralized service centres, the ESCs, among the universities. Two years later, at the end of the FP7-project, the current

state of the rather new ESCs is analysed. For this purpose, the responsible persons from seven of ten Swiss ESCs were interviewed and their websites examined.

The findings reveal the difficult start of the ESCs overall. The universities allocated funding, that enables on average one person to work one day of the week for Euraxess Services. This leads to the fact that ESCs are hardly institutionalized as offices, but have to attach to existing offices. However, the ESCs showed good capability to integrate themselves into the existing organisational context and to tap into the know-how of specialised offices. Furthermore, ESCs were able to connect with other organisational entities that further the perspective of human resources, although there is still a considerable potential to coordinate these efforts.

Nevertheless, the cooperation with other offices depends partly on the sort of their relationship. There is a random aspect in it, thus cooperation can vary widely. A clear mandate to the ESCs would help to assign duties which resources should be shared with the partner offices. It could also strengthen the self identity to be an ESC. At the moment, the term is rarely used in self-descriptions, but it appears to be rather a label.

Why actually bother to have effective ESCs? What are their USPs?

It is time-saving and confidence-building for researchers to have a reliable one-entry point for all their concerns outside of the academic sphere in an easily-reachable location. For universities: ESCs allow taking into particular consideration the needs of the growing, high-potential group of international researchers. The ESCs may support and supplement the existing information facilities of institutes and departments if required, while delivering their own expertise directly to the benefit of advice seekers in a systematic manner.

A few universities therefore started with building up welcome centres having the same mission like ESCs. What is their decisive difference? In contrary to a welcome centre of one individual university, ESCs are automatically linked to other ESCs in Switzerland and Europe, also linked to training and promotion activities of the national Euraxess intermediary organisation (CRUS) and of the European Commission.

To bear in mind, there is no trade-off between welcome centres and ESCs: welcome centres can follow the strategy of their university. At the same time, they are able to join as an ESC to take profit of the activities of the Euraxess network.”

Sustainability

After the end of SNMC, Switzerland continues with the further development of the website. In the framework of the so-called T.O.P. Portal Call 38'000 Euros were allocated for Euraxess Switzerland by the European Commission. Within this project, CRUS wants to arrange the website in a more interesting and vivid manner. The project funding may also be used for other activities related to the portal, such as promotion.

On the 1st of July 2010 the Rectors confirmed their commitment to permit and finance the necessary part time activities of their collaborators involved in the Euraxess Service Centres as well as their participation in the national and in the EU Euraxess Network. They also confirmed their support of all contacts and cooperation within their universities' administration, optimizing the pathways for incoming scientific staff. In addition, they agreed to close collaboration between CRUS and the Euraxess Service Centre of Zurich (University and ETH). In the future both institutions will perform complementary functions as Bridgehead Organisation in Switzerland. The exact allocation of tasks will be defined in August 2010, and then submitted for a new mandate of the SER. It is foreseen that one of these tasks will be the application and implementation of the TOP 2 project.

Beneficiaries

- Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities CRUS represented by Dr. Mathias Stauffacher, Sennweg 2, 3012 Bern, Switzerland, 0041 31 306 60 36

Address of the public website of the project (for contact details see second link):

- www.euraxess.ch
- <http://www.crus.ch/die-crus/koordiniert-harmonisiert/euraxess-for-staff/euraxess-staff.html>