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Information from the State Secretariat for Education and Research SER

Assessing implementation of quality assurance guidelines and the use of policy sector re-search findings

The Swiss Science and Technology Council (SSTC) has commissioned an international committee of experts to assess federal policy sector research. Most of the recommendations should be implemented during the 2013-2016 planning period.

Networking Swiss nanotechnology research

It seems that creating and maintaining a Swiss branch of an international research network pays dividends. The benefits range from new national cooperation initiatives on “brain gain” to the formation of consortia for the submission of joint applications for research programme funding.

New generation of EU research and education programmes

Starting on 1 January 2014, current EU research and education programmes that Switzerland has been involved in will be replaced by a new generation of programmes for the years 2014-2020. The European Commission, which is responsible for new programmes, proposed two new ones in November 2011. The first, entitled “Horizon 2020” is a framework programme for research and innovation; the second, entitled “Erasmus for All”, relates to education, training, youth and sport.

Investing in the Swiss higher education sector

The State Secretariat for Education and Research (SER) is responsible for implementing the University Funding Act (SR 414.20). In 2011, the SER allocated a total of CHF 49 million, in just under 90 instalments, to construction projects relating to Swiss higher education institutions.