



## Organizational Principles

Version 10.10.2018

### 1. Objectives

SDSN Switzerland mobilizes universities, research centers, civil society organizations, business and other knowledge centers to create and implement transformative solutions to achieve the Agenda 2030 and Paris Agreement in Switzerland and beyond.

SDSN Switzerland delivers value to its members around the following 3 objectives:

- **Shape multi-stakeholder dialogue:** Accelerate the continuous exchange of ideas and experiences, and create thinking spaces for the scientific community, government, business and civil society in order to foster systemic solutions, build commitment and mobilize action.
- **Foster transformative solutions:** Harness scientific and trans-disciplinary knowledge to generate new evidence-based solutions, integrated policies and systemic change, including through joint learning journeys.
- **Advice decision-makers:** Offer evidence-based advice to decision-makers in politics, business and society to fill policy gaps and motivate normative change through innovative processes around the science-policy interface.

### 2. Members

- a. **Members** of SDSN Switzerland are organizations based in Switzerland that are member of SDSN International. Organizations apply for Member status through the global SDSN Secretariat.

*Members can include universities, universities of applied sciences, research centers, civil society organizations and other knowledge centers, such as think tanks and social enterprises that are engaged in sustainable development.*

- b. **Partners** of SDSN Switzerland are organizations that support the work and objectives of SDSN Switzerland, but are not member of the SDSN International. Partners can either apply through the SDSN Switzerland Secretariat, or are invited by the Leadership Council (see point 3b below). A Member that withdraws from SDSN International can participate in SDSN Switzerland as a Partner.

*Partners can include foundations, associations, business organizations, government agencies and international organizations.*

### 3. Organization

- a. The Members and Partners form the [SDSN Switzerland Assembly](#) that convenes at least once per year. The Swiss SDSN Assembly appoints the Leadership Council, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee.
- b. The [Leadership Council](#)<sup>1</sup> is comprised of a maximum of twelve personalities, which stem from member and partner organizations (minimum 50%), including a representative of each host institution of SDSN Switzerland (national SDSN Center[s]), as well as from external actors (appointed *ad personam*).

The Leadership Council approves the annual program of work and the annual budget, including projects (“solution initiatives”) with a budget higher than CHF 10’000.

Moreover the Leadership Council serves to increase the visibility and reach of the network (e.g. invite Members and Partners to join SDSN Switzerland), provide intellectual and political leadership, stimulate dialogue, and support the mobilization of resources.

- c. Two [Co-Chairs](#)<sup>2</sup> preside over the Leadership Council. They are appointed by the Leadership Council. They provide strategic leadership and guidance on activities undertaken by SDSN Switzerland.
- d. The [Executive Committee](#)<sup>3</sup> is comprised of the two Co-Chairs, the representative(s) of the host institution(s) and the Managing Director (*ex officio*). The Executive Committee approves new Members and Partners. It oversees financial, programmatic, and other operational matters.
- e. The [Secretariat](#)<sup>4</sup> coordinates the day-to-day business of SDSN Switzerland, including its program of work. It facilitates thematic initiatives and the mobilization of resources. It liaises with member and partner organizations in Switzerland, as well as with the global SDSN secretariat. It is managed by a Managing Director, and is appropriately staffed to support her/him. It is ideally hosted at (one of) the national SDSN Centre(s) [co-hosts]. The Managing Director is appointed by the Executive Committee.

### 4. Funding

Members and partners in principle pay the expenses for participating in the SDSN. A fair burden-sharing is sought for joint activities as well as coordination and secretariat work. SDSN Switzerland endeavors to find resources for its work through public and private partners in Switzerland and abroad.

### 5. Public relations

Public statements by SDSN Switzerland are made in accordance with a process defined by the Leadership Council. Members of SDSN Switzerland in their own public relations refer to the work of the SDSN Switzerland and the global SDSN. The Secretariat will prepare and manage the web site of SDSN Switzerland.

---

<sup>1</sup> in German: Lenkungsausschuss; in French: Comité de pilotage

<sup>2</sup> in German: Co-Vorsitzende; in French: Co-Présidents

<sup>3</sup> in German: Exekutivausschuss; in French: Comité exécutif

<sup>4</sup> in German: Geschäftsstelle; in French: Secrétariat