



Country Report Switzerland

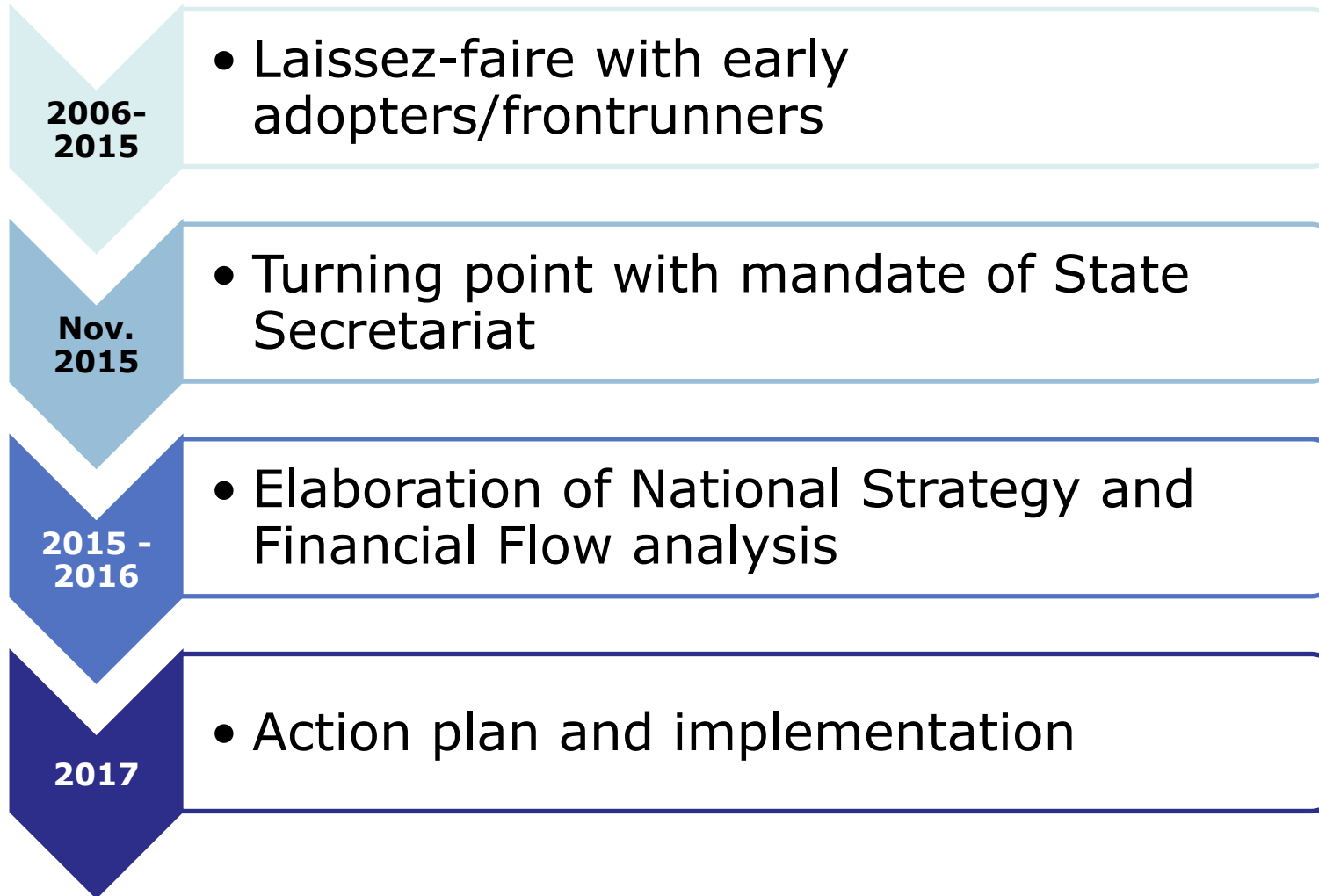
The Swiss Way: slow, consolidated and steady

Dr. Ingrid Kissling-Näf



SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

Open Access: Policy Phases



Swiss political system and actors



Federal and cantonal competencies for higher education institutes:

- Limited authority of State Secretariat to give directives
- Limited implementation power of swissuniversities as an umbrella organisation of HEIs
- Leverage effect of SNSF as a funding organisation



Involvement of all federal and cantonal stakeholders necessary to reach consensus and enduring solutions!

Initial Situation in Switzerland

The SNSF has an OA Policy since 2008/2014

- 2006: Berlin Declaration
- 2008: Obligation to self-archive publications
- 2013: Direct funding of gold OA articles
- 2014: Revision of funding scheme for book publication
- 2015: Start of Project OAPEN



Big differences between OA-Policies of HEIs



No concerted actions to foster transition to OA

Turning point

Mandate from the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI) for swissuniversities and the SNSF to elaborate:

National Open Access Strategy

- Promote OA as overriding **goal**
- Foster stakeholder **coordination**
- Create a **vision**

Financial Flow Analysis

- Study Swiss scientific publishing
- Create **transparency**
- Analyse which **OA economic model** would best support a full OA transition in Switzerland

Financial Flow Analysis

Method



Data collection among all Swiss HEIs, the academies and the SNSF



Cross-checks according Swiss public statistics and bibliographic analyses

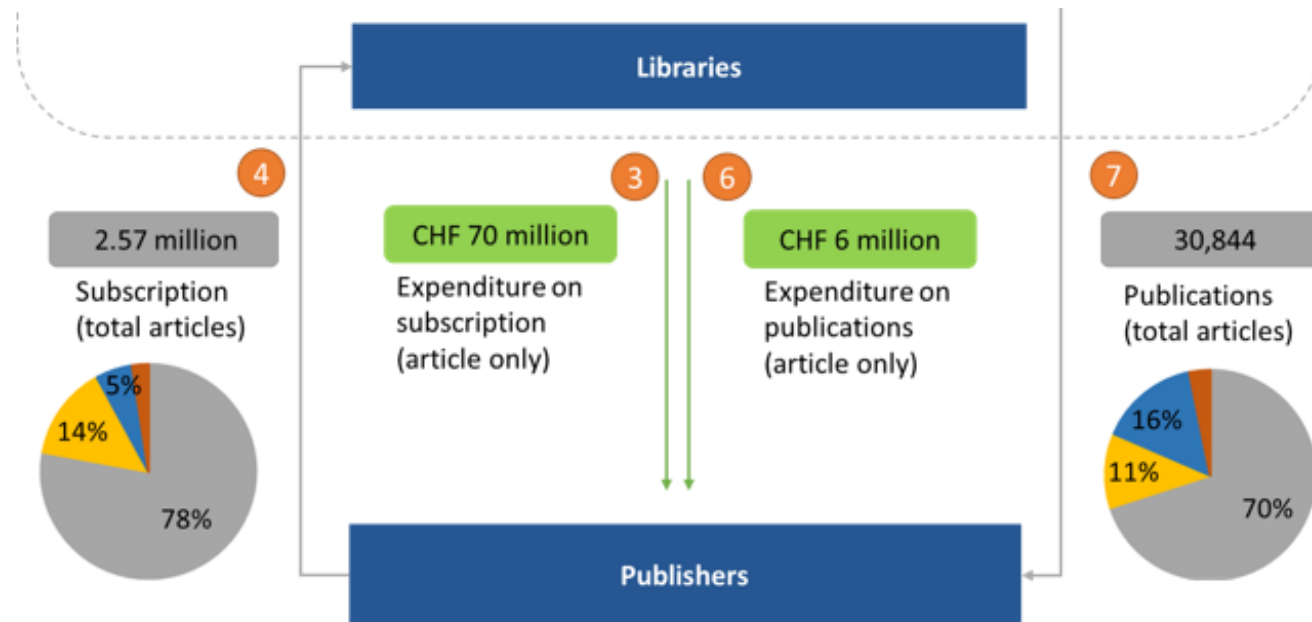


Economic modelling of diverse OA models in the perspective of a full OA transition by 2024 (10 years)



What have we learned?

Financial Flow Analysis



⚡ In 2015, Swiss HEIs spent CHF 76 mio on publications:

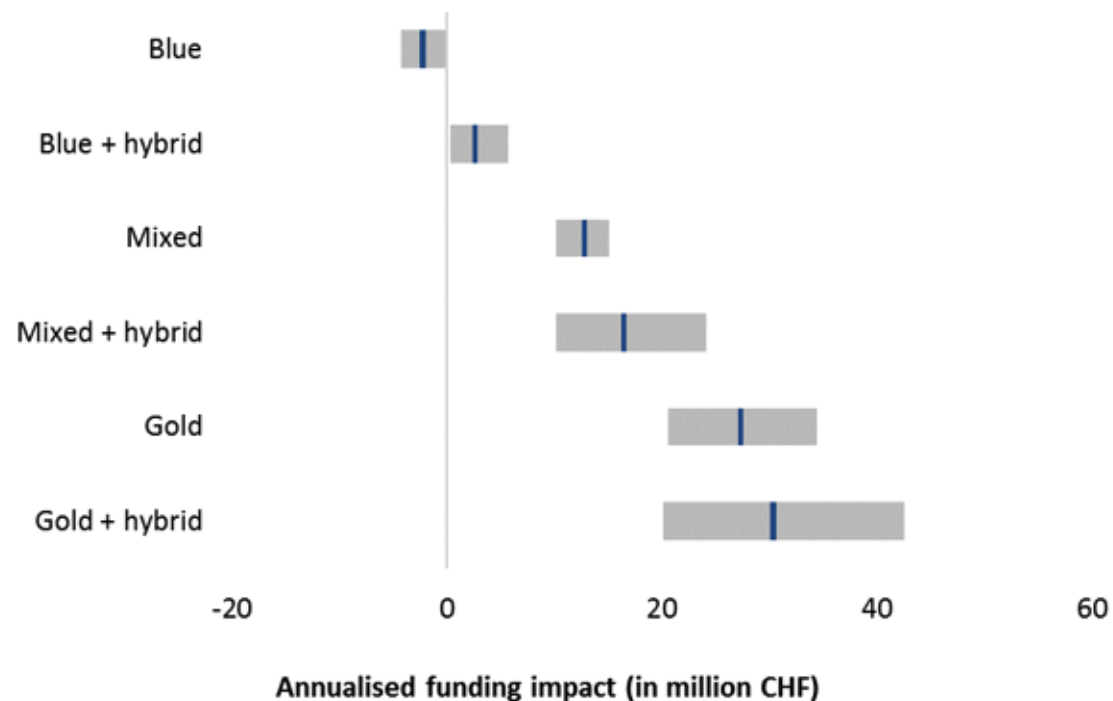
- **70 mio CHF** in **subscription** fees
- **6 Mio CHF** in **publication** costs
- + **2 mio** were spent on **infrastructure** supporting OA

Financial Flow Analysis



Switzerland is a big research consumer

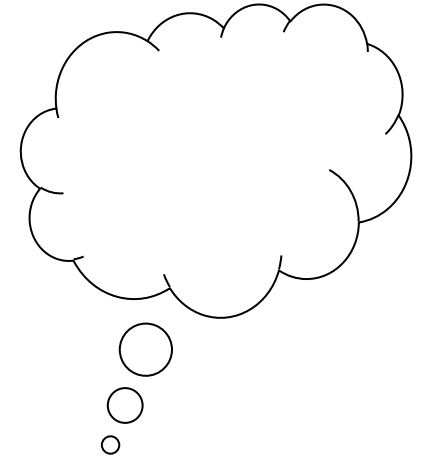
Transition costs mainly depend on the evolution of other countries



Costs for a full OA transition: from savings of 2 mio CHF up to 42 mio CHF extra costs per year

Recommendations

- Model: **Mixed Gold and Blue OA**
- Improve **quality of data**
- **National strategy and action plan required**
- Continue to be active in international discussions on OA
- **Demonstrate leadership**
- Costs: impact as function of **bargaining power** of Swiss institutions
- Costs: Acting in a **concerted fashion** may reduce costs
- **Infrastructure** to facilitate OA needs to be developed

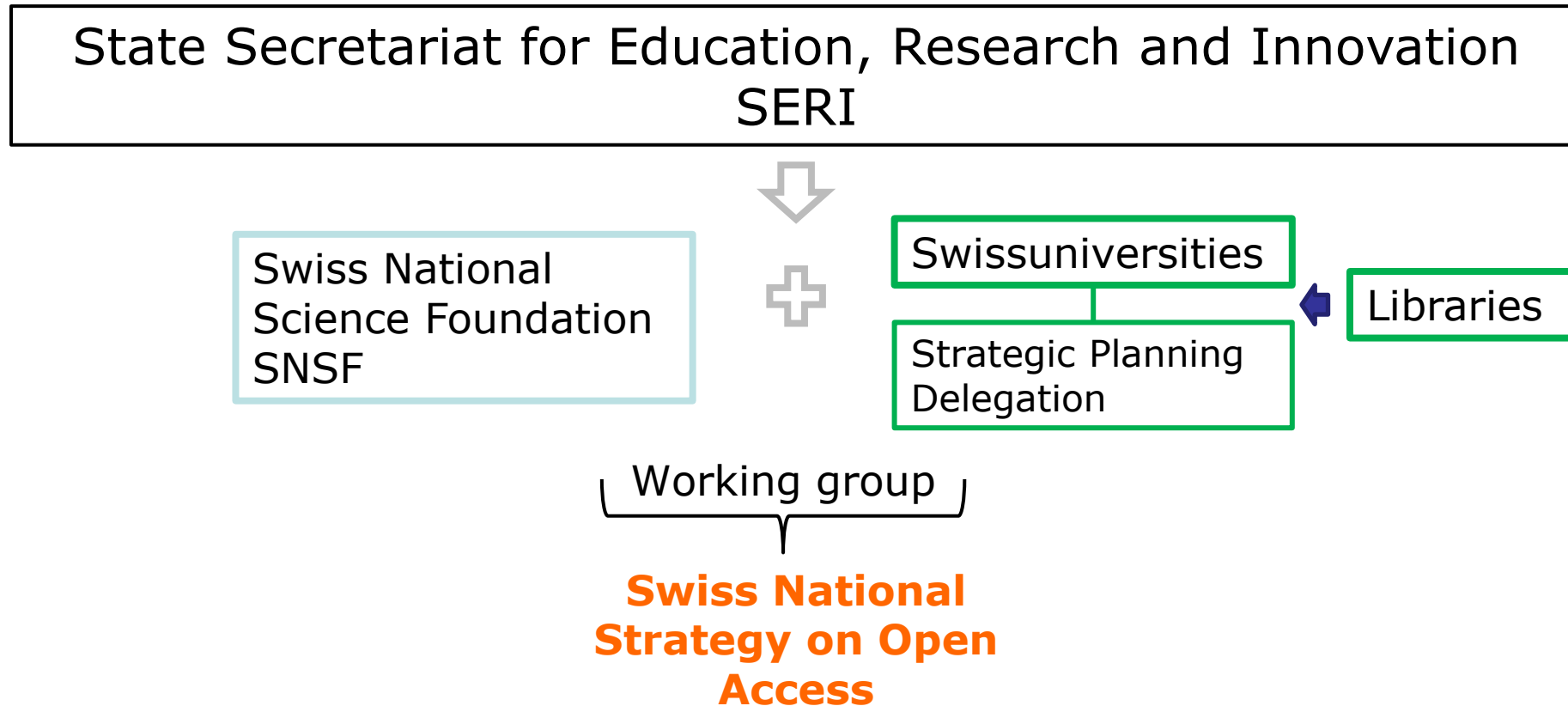


Further Appreciation of the Results



- The scenarios include a continuation of the present subscription costs. **It is up to debate whether Swiss researchers really need all this content.**
- The financial impact of a transition to OA is in relation to the costs for the present subscriptions relatively small. Hence, **a transition to OA could also be cost-neutral if subscription costs are reduced.**
- **30% of articles produced annually in Switzerland originate (at least partially) from SNSF funding.** Therefore, the SNSF OA-Policy is considered to have a large impact in Switzerland.

National Strategy: Set Up



Approval by **swissuniversities Board** on December 14th 2016

Approval by the **Swiss Conference of HEIs** in February 2017

National Strategy: Process

- Nomination of working group with most important stakeholders
- Elaboration of national strategy
- Pre-consultation of strategic partners: SNSF, SWIR, SERI, EDK, Academies, Libraries
- Adaptation of national strategy by working group
- Recommendation by SNSF
- Formal consultation of rectorats
- Adaptation of national strategy by the board of swissuniversities
- Ratification of national strategy in the plenary assembly of swissuniversities
- Transfer of national strategy to SERI and Swiss Conference of HEIs.

National Strategy: Guiding Principles

- ✓ Powerful and unified approach
- ✓ Support and commitment from research communities
- ✓ Cost transparency and cost neutrality
- ✓ Ascertaining control and diversity of the scientific production process
- ✓ Revision of quality assessment system



National Strategy: Vision

EU objectives as a benchmark

- 100% of scholarly publications OA by 2020

Objectives for Switzerland

- 100% of all scholarly publication activity in Switzerland **should** be OA by 2024
- 100% scholarly publications **funded by public money must** be freely accessible on the internet.
- Landscape with a mix of OA models



Concrete action items

1. **Adopting** and **aligning** OA policies
2. **Negotiations** with publishers
3. **Coordinating** and pooling resources
4. Alternative **forms of publishing**
5. **Communicating** and raising awareness
6. Supportive **regulatory framework**
 - Creation of an unconditional right of second publication (Copyright Act)
 - Ensure that text and data mining (TDM) is secured at no extra charge
7. **National Monitoring** of OA activities

Implementation



- Feb'-June 2017: **Elaboration of action plan**
 - Coordination by swissuniversities with the support of the program «scientific information»
 - Workshop with the different stakeholders (HEIs, libraries, funding agencies) in spring 2017
 - Consultation of the rectorates in June 2017
- November 2017: **Approval of action plan** at Swiss Conference of Higher Education Institutions (university council)
- Jan' 2017: **National Conference on Open Access**

The Swiss Way



Inclusion of all major and strategic partners

- Difficult to maintain ambitious goals
- Complicated and lengthy process

Once a consensus is reached

- Commitment of all stakeholders is assured
- Action items can be quickly developed and jointly implemented

... slow, consolidated and steady