

Program Information

February 2024

IIII sus.lab ETH zürich **rem**: ve





Fachhochschule \mathbf{n} Nordwestschweiz

HUB Zürich

Innovation Booster

powered b Innosuisse

Background | What is the Carbon Removal Booster?



The Carbon Removal Booster is the first **open innovation program** in Switzerland created to bring together key stakeholders to jointly **develop and test ideas** for new solutions needed to address important challenges in the **carbon removal (CDR) space**.

We create an inspiring open innovation environment to spark and develop ideas by:

- Funding twelve innovation teams annually with up to CHF 24'000 each
- Providing support to further develop the desirability, viability, and feasibility of the ideas
- Connecting key stakeholders of the carbon removal domain and facilitating collaboration



Management | The core team combines CDR and innovation experience from academia and business





Dr. Samuel Eberenz **Project Manager**



Nicolas Solenthaler **Project Manager**

Support on challenge identification



Dr. Pavlina Pavlova **Research Associate**



Open innovation workshops



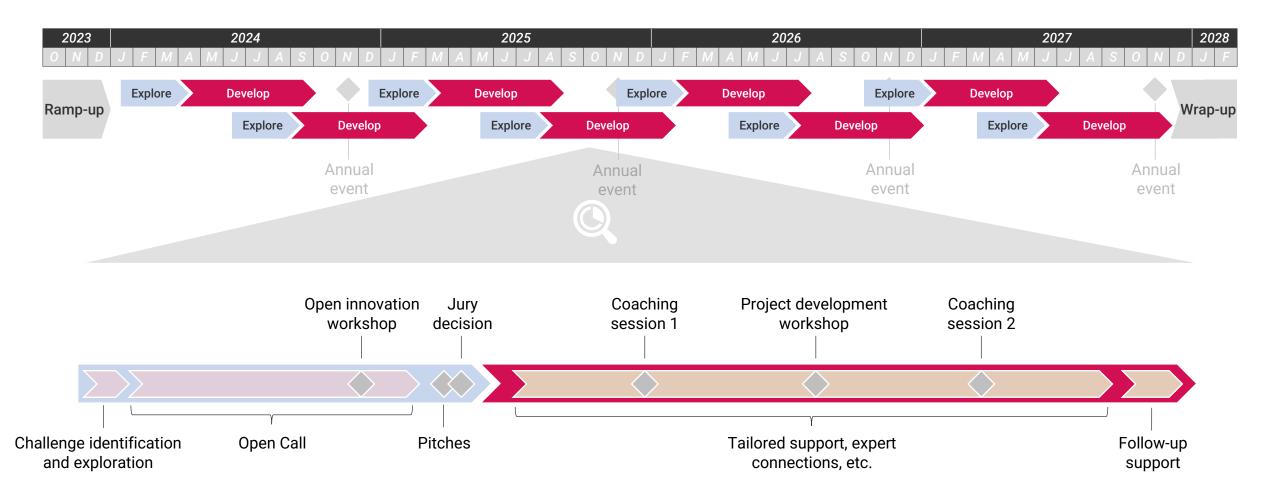
Dr. Björn Niesen Managing Director Overall program support



Eliane Albrecht **Program Manager** Annual event

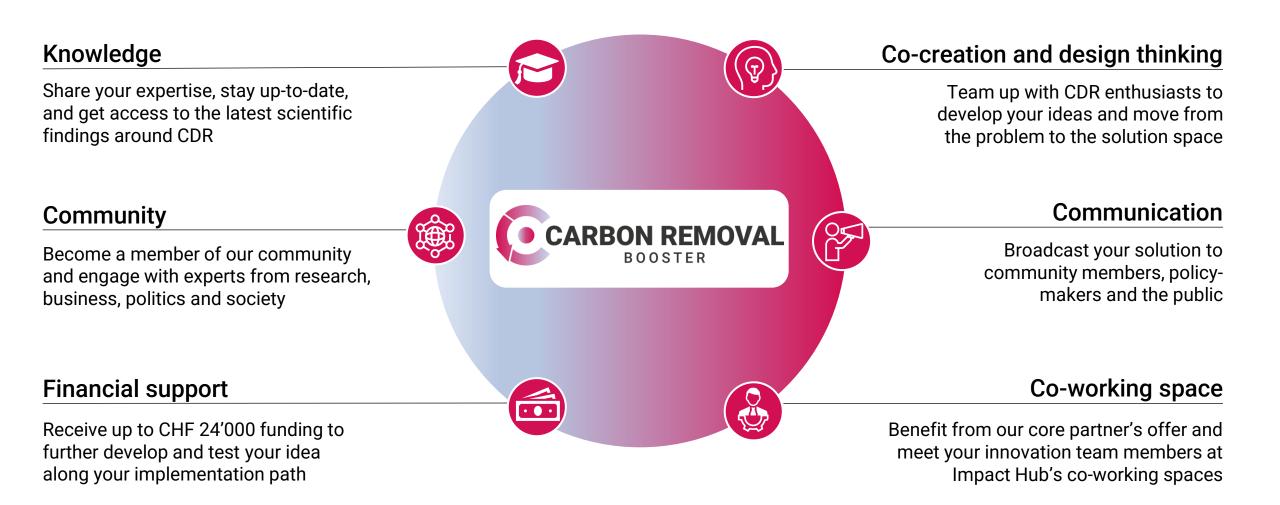


Overview | Over four years, the Carbon Removal Booster will fund and support 48 innovative projects in eight cohorts





Benefits | Why should you apply to the Carbon Removal Booster



Process | Understand the Carbon Removal Booster from start to end

Application Idea development Innovation teams submit their **Open call** ideas through the project Innovation teams work on their An open call for project application form. Ideas must ideas during the six-month applications is published meet the minimum requirements development phase, supported on the Carbon Removal to be pre-selected for the pitch by the program's core team. Booster website. event. 3

Open innovation workshop

2

Participants sharpen their understanding of CDR knowledge gaps and ecosystem challenges in a one-day workshop on-site. Check out current challenges and add your own to the <u>board</u>.

Jury pitch

Innovation teams pitch their ideas online to a jury that decides based on the published assessment criteria which teams receive funding and development support.

Innovation teams present their progress at the end of the sixmonth development phase and are invited to the annual event.

6

Recap



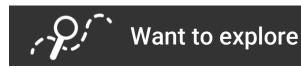
Challenges | Get inspired by posted challenges, add your own challenge to the board or have a team develop a solution to your challenge Click here to acces

> How you can use the Carbon Removal Booster challenge Miro board: miro



Help with applying

You want to apply but do not have a concrete idea on what you want to work on:



You want to explore the vast number of challenges and propose new ones:



Get inspired by the challenges that are already collected on the board and come up with an idea that addresses one of the challenges!

You do not need to address one of the specific challenges in order to apply!

Access the Miro board and explore the challenges that have already been identified and add new ones that you think have not been mentioned to provide food for thought!



Specific challenges

You have a specific challenge that you would like a team to work on:

M

Contact us and we can discuss the best way to encourage participants to apply with ideas addressing your specific challenge!



Pre-Requisites | Who can apply to the Innosuisse Booster program?

- ✓ If you are a student, researcher, entrepreneur, startup, SME, large company, non-for profit, city, canton, or just anybody who...
- ✓ Is open for co-creation, diversity and outside-of-the-box-thinking,
- With an idea for a new product, service, process or business model, that
- Has an impact on enabling, supporting or pushing forward the development of carbon removal technologies and its ecosystem in Switzerland and possibly beyond, and
- Has the potential for disruption and the capability to be developed into a project.
- ✓ If you have the intention of implementing your solution possibly beyond the booster program,
- With a team possessing the necessary competences and consisting of:
 - □ at least one academic research partner and
 - one implementation partner (legal entity based in CH)
 - one member of the team that has participated in the open innovation workshop

Pre-Selection

The Booster leading house will:

- Check the applications with regards to the pre-requisites and possibly get back to you if anything is missing.
- Pre-select teams for the pitch event based on the pre-requisites stated here and along the jury <u>evaluation criteria</u>.
- Notify teams no later than 26 March 2024 whether they have been selected for the pitch event.

Spring 2024 call | Evaluation criteria for the jury to decide which of the pre-selected teams receive funding and development support

Evaluation criteria	Description	Score
Level of innovation ✓ Is it new?	 To what degree does the idea present a potential pathway to a novel technological, economic and/or social CDR solution? Does the idea have a transformative character that can initiate change? 	1-5
Desirability ✓ Is it needed?	 Is it reasonable to think that the final users will need or want to use the CDR solution? Does the idea have the potential to create sustainable added value for the implementation partner and the CDR ecosystem in Switzerland? 	1-5
Viability ✓ Can it be commercialized?	 Does the idea seem worth pursuing, and is the commercialization of a business model sustainable? Can this business model be scaled effectively, and/or can findings be transferred to other cases? 	1-5
Feasibility ✓ Can it work?	 Is it reasonable to assume that the solution can (technically) be implemented or realized? Are the necessary resources (e.g., technology, team, capital) available to develop the idea? 	1-5
Methodological approach ✓ What's the plan?	 Will the funds be used to test the idea efficiently and with methodological rigor? Does the innovation team have a plan to further explore and verify all necessary aspects (desirability, viability, feasibility) to reach a solid innovation implementation plan? 	1-5
Team ✓ Who's in?	 Does the team have the skills and experience required and are they committed to the venture? Does the innovation team demonstrate diversity and inclusiveness? 	1-5



Please make yourself familiar with the scoring criteria before the pitch event if you've been pre-selected

The pitch event will be online and open to all pitching teams and the public



Contact us!

www.cdr-booster.ch

Aliénor von Roten Program Lead <u>contact@cdr-booster.ch</u>

IIII sus.lab

ETH zürich

rem⊡ve







