



Press release

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CTI adapting training modules for young entrepreneurs

The Commission for Technology and Innovation CTI, soon to be known as Innosuisse – the Swiss Agency for Innovation Promotion – will be adapting modules 3 and 4 of its training programme for young entrepreneurs with effect from the beginning of 2018. The programme will offer sector-specific courses tailored to the following clusters: ICT, Advanced Engineering, Biotechnology/Pharmaceuticals, Medical Technology and Social Entrepreneurship. The tenders for the next five years were awarded to *IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG* and *ZHAW School of Management and Law*.

Modules 3 and 4 of the training programme for young entrepreneurs consist of five-day courses on the topics of 'Business Creation' and 'Business Development'. In these courses young entrepreneurs receive specific answers to their project and business-related questions and consolidate their knowledge. In addition, they analyse the barriers, opportunities and markets for their sector and develop growth strategies.

Up until now the courses have been run jointly across all science-based fields. In order to better meet the needs of participants to be able to speak with company founders from the same sector, the CTI decided to offer the courses in four clusters from 2018. The courses will now also include a three-hour coaching session for each start-up. The courses will be offered throughout the country. Around 450 entrepreneurs take part in modules 3 and 4 each year.

The courses on the topics of ICT, Advanced Engineering, Biotechnology / Pharmaceuticals with Medical Technology will be provided by *IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG* and the courses on Social Entrepreneurship by *ZHAW School of Management and Law*. The tenders were awarded to these institutions following a public invitation for bids.

Modules 1 and 2 of the training programme will be advertised for tender in 2019.

Overview

Sector	Provider from 2018
ICT (internet applications, software etc.)	IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG
Advanced Engineering (Micro, Nano, Material Science, Robotics, Climate/Energy)	IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG
Biotechnology / Pharmaceuticals with Medical Technology (Medtech, Devices, Mobile Health)	IFJ Institut für Jungunternehmen AG
Social Entrepreneurship	ZHAW School of Management and Law

High level of satisfaction with training programme

The training modules for young entrepreneurs offer participants significant added value. A study commissioned by the CTI shows that satisfaction with the courses available is generally very high. Participants stated that they acquired many useful skills and were able to make valuable contacts with potential business partners in the courses. Around half of those surveyed expressed a desire to see more direct coaching. This wish will be taken into account in the newly adapted courses.

Full details of the study can be found at www.kti.admin.ch/wirkungsanalyse

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