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Press Release

SAIROP – the Swiss Artificial Intelligence Research Overview Platform – officially launched

Zurich 27 June 2022 A little over a year ago, the SAIROP partners announced their intention to jointly develop a Swiss research overview in the field of Artificial Intelligence. Now the time has finally come: On 23 June, SAIROP – the Swiss Artificial Intelligence Research Overview Platform – was presented to the public for the first time at the Swiss Conference on Data Science at the KKL in Lucerne.

Switzerland has several internationally leading research institutions in the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI) spread all over the country. In addition to this, the importance and use of AI as a basic technology is steadily increasing in multiple research fields and application areas. For the first time, SAIROP now presents a detailed overview of the AI competencies in Switzerland all across the entire research landscape.

The ten partner organisations involved in the making of SAIROP surveyed the various research institutions in Switzerland and compiled information on current research projects from various publicly accessible data sources. The ongoing data preparation and curation process is complex due to the great diversity. However, thanks to the new platform, the information is becoming more accessible, and the level of detail is probably unique in Europe.

The platform is publicly accessible via <u>sairop.swiss</u> and was presented to an audience of industry representatives and researchers on 23 June at the Swiss Conference on Data Science (SDS2022) in the KKL Luzern. At the moment it contains data on research institutions, current AI projects started in 2021 and experts conducting research on and with AI in Switzerland. The data will be continuously complemented and updated. In addition, the platform will be enriched with further relevant information in the future to provide an even better overview of the research field and its impact on society.





















SAIROP's long-term goal is to further connect the AI research community, improve the national and international visibility of Swiss AI research organisations and provide new opportunities for domestic as well as foreign companies and research institutions to initiate joint innovation projects. For this purpose, dedicated events and further communication measures are planned.

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The SAIROP partners:

SATW

The Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences SATW is the most important network of experts for engineering sciences in Switzerland and is in contact with the highest Swiss bodies for science, politics and industry. The network is comprised of selected individual members, member organisations and experts.

On behalf of the federation, SATW identifies industrially relevant technological developments and informs politics and society about their importance and consequences. As a unique expert organisation with high credibility, it conveys independent and objective information on technology – as the basis for establishing well-founded opinions. SATW also promotes the interests and understanding of technology in the population, particularly young people. It is politically independent and non-commercial.

Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe CLAIRE

The Confederation of Laboratories for Artificial Intelligence Research in Europe (CLAIRE) is an organisation created by the European AI community that seeks to strengthen European excellence in AI research and innovation, with a strong focus on human-centred AI. CLAIRE, founded in 2018, has garnered the support of more than 3500 AI experts and stakeholders, who jointly represent the vast majority of Europe's AI community, spanning academia and industry, research and innovation. Among them are more than 140 fellows from various key scientific associations. CLAIRE's membership network consists of over 380 research groups and institutions. CLAIRE is established as a nonfor-profit international association and has administrative offices in The Hague (HQ), Brussels, Oslo, Paris, Prague, Rome, Saarbrücken and Zürich.

Swiss Group for Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science SGAICO

SGAICO is the Special Interest Group for Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science within the Swiss Informatics Society. Its aim is to provide a platform for AI experts. As such SGAICO wants to participate in the project to enable a better visibility of Swiss AI researchers and AI Initiatives.

As SGAICO is a platform for AI experts, it can provide its expertise in the area of AI during the curation process of the Swiss AI Research platform.

Additionally, SGAICO will promote the platform among its members as well as will use data from the platform in its Swiss AI cartograph project.

Snowflake Productions GmbH

As a digital agency, we design, visualise and implement web applications - and we have been doing so since 1999. Experience has shown us: every industry, every company and its target group is individual. Successful solutions therefore require more than competence, a user-centred and customer-oriented approach or a passion for digital. It is equally important to be open to new things. This way, we have the right ideas and technologies ready and can rethink digital solutions.

SWITCH

SWITCH is the competent and trusted partner for digitalisation issues that jointly concern the education, research and innovation community in Switzerland. By providing a forward-looking and secure basic infrastructure, innovative solutions and targeted advice, and connecting relevant specialist communities, SWITCH helps universities and other partners within and outside the academic world to make effective and efficient use of the opportunities presented by digitalisation.

As one of the strategic directions, SWITCH engages in the incubation, enablement and coordination of the Research Data Connectome. The Connectome represents a partnership of eight Swiss institutions with the aim to leverage Linked Open Data for trusted reuse by research communities and data users.

Innovista Management (innovista.ch)

Innovista Management enables companies and individuals to transform ideas and inventions into successful innovation projects by providing cutting-edge innovation management data and knowhow to the industry. Its vision is to bridge the gap between science and practice and to promote cross-disciplinary synergies between its people. Innovista Management has developed its own Innodata system which solves multiple data engineering challenges and together with human expertise, provides a 360-degree view on the Swiss & EU innovation landscape by identifying key trends. Currently, this platform is being enhanced to include modern machine learning models to increase automation and accuracy.

Innovista is a Zurich based company, founded in 2012 and has since guided and accompanied over 100 organizations mainly in machinery and plant engineering where many projects include artificial intelligence applications.

Switzerland Global Enterprise S-GE

Switzerland Global Enterprise (S-GE) is mandated by the Swiss government for export and invest promotion. We support Swiss SMEs in their international business and help innovative foreign companies to establish an operation in Switzerland. We focus on new technologies such as robotics, artificial intelligence, blockchain, personalized health and advanced manufacturing in attracting foreign investment for research and development projects. The Swiss AI Research Overview Platform helps us in identifying and matching Swiss capabilities with foreign investors, and we support this platform as a promotional partner.

Fondation impactIA

The impactIA Foundation's mission is to accelerate the adoption of ethical, robust and legal artificial intelligence in the world of work. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, it has a national and international vocation.

By facilitating the sharing of information on research conducted in Switzerland, by contributing to its dissemination and communication, the foundation makes it easier for SMEs to access. It also contributes to making Switzerland a reference point on the world map, mainly in the field of ethical, robust and legal AI. By relaying research specifically impacting work, it accelerates the knowledge and dissemination of a transition in the world of work.

SwissCognitive

SwissCognitive – The Global AI Hub – is a trusted network of industries, organizations, enterprises and start-ups to openly & transparently discuss the opportunities, impacts & development of Artificial Intelligence (AI). It is an on- and offline community that puts the spotlight onto practical usecases & hands-on experiences and transfers the hype around AI into real possibilities.

We are highly motivated to ensure that the global and local AI community knows more about Swiss activities around AI. With over half a million followers, over 1000 global ambassadors and dozens of AI events, we are an excellent partner to promote this project.

Verein Euresearch

Euresearch is a non-profit association facilitating the Swiss participation in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, funded by the Swiss Government.

Al is prominent in the EU policies and a key element in the programmes Horizon Europe and Digital Europe. Euresearch supports Swiss stakeholders in the field by advertising upcoming calls and connecting Swiss competences with participants in the EU programmes.

Our participation in the initiative will facilitate and accelerate the identification of Swiss competences and their connection at the European level.