

Onboarding Agreement

Dear co-innovation enthusiast,

We thank you very much for deciding to join the community of the CoBooster, which is a non-profit association based in Switzerland and your contractual partner hereby (“Operator”).

To **formalise your entry** into the program and register your account, please read the following information carefully. We also ask you to **adhere to the Community Manifesto** which expresses the core values of our ecosystem.

Participation in the Programme is in line with the membership and contribution rules of the Association as published on its website <https://cobooster.ch/en/the-association/>. Certain optional services or activities offered during the Programme may require payment or an equivalent contribution. You will have the option to make **some resource or financial commitments during the program if you want to** (e.g. to back an idea proposal by making a CHF 1'000 pledge or buy a patent) and we would like to make sure that you have the full **legal capacity and authorisation to do so**.

The CoBooster is an open innovation, ideas incubation program designed to collaboratively explore and demonstrate commons-based innovation and business models with entrepreneurs, industrialists, academics and enthusiasts. Some workshops and other educational events will take place in which you can acculturate yourself to the program and to the new innovation paradigms it offers.

Each session of Idea-Project Loops runs in two phases. Feel free to join them as well since the program will continue to evolve over time; there will be more innovation and collaboration opportunities.

Phase 1 – Challenge your Ideas (about 6 months)

1. Call for Ideas
 - Access the interactive sharing platform
 - Publish and discuss innovative ideas/challenges/patents
2. Ideas Bidding
 - Community networking
 - Make pledges to back ideas
3. Validation of Projects
 - Subjects received the necessary amount to start, if needed

Phase 2 – Make the project work together (6-12 months)

1. Team Building (1-2 months)
 - Planning and preparation
 - Team agreement
 - Budget allocation

2. Feasibility Study

- Receive pledge money, access online workspace
- verifying applicability of theory or concept, testing
- Decide of the go/no go of the project, and how

3. Launchpad

- Some final outputs could be published under open-source principles (videos,...)

Phase 1 – Challenge your idea

Innovation subjects are published on the Platform to be shared and discussed with other participants. Innovation subjects may comprise all relevant areas of activities for your industry or expertise domain; such as R&D processes, technological inventions, information systems, human resources management, education, communication strategy, sustainability, logistics, etc.

Once the subjects are published, they enter in the **Bidding phase**: participants are invited to make pledges (promise of funding) if necessary (depending on the topic) to back all innovation ideas that they favour the most.

Validation of projects are notified to all participants by the Operator.

Phase 2 – Make the project work as a team

The time has come for **Team Building**: all stakeholders have to do some planning and constitute a working team to achieve a proof-of-concept for their innovation idea.

In doing so, a separate team agreement must, within one or two months, be reached between each other, and possibly ratified by the Operator. The Operator may suggest additional team members, if appropriate, and provide some guidance and assistance, in particular an agreement template as well as an advisory meeting. The team agreement should specify the confidentiality, intellectual property and background/foreground IP usage rights for the project. The CoBooster can provide examples of documents.

Once teams are constituted, each team member will pay his contribution and given access to an online workspace to carry out and document the project during a **Feasibility Study**. The team's purpose is to verify the feasibility and applicability of the innovation idea and achieve a proof-of-concept. Every reasonable effort must be made to find a way to bringing the project to the best possible conclusion. If, nonetheless, the project does not succeed to achieve a proof-of-concept, the team has to document other final outputs (e.g. how and why the idea is not feasible).

Some proof-of-concepts or other final outputs may, if all parties agree, be published online under free and open-source licenses and principles, with all team members being duly credited for their work. At this stage, the program will serve as a Launchpad to attract public attention to our ecosystem and to set off a community-driven, crowdsourcing innovation process on and around your project, beyond the program. We will explain to you the whys and wherefores during the program.

From this point, the Idea-Project Loop session comes to an end: you will be free to write the next chapter (e.g. monetisation) with us or, if you prefer a different road, on your own, with others or not at all. Do not hesitate to join another topic posted on the CoBooster platform, whatever you choose.

Commercialisation of intellectual property

Participants who wish to propose patented inventions for licensing or sale may do so within the platform. In such cases:

- You remain the full owner of your background IP unless otherwise agreed.
- You may use the platform to publish summaries of your invention and applications or business opportunities
- You indicate whether you want to sell or license all or parts of the subject matter of your patent or patent application.
- The Operator may facilitate matchmaking with industrial or institutional partners but does not act as a legal intermediary or broker.
- On request, the Operator may facilitate negotiations and preparation of assignment or license agreements with potential assignees resp. licensees.
- It is your responsibility to ensure proper IP protection before disclosing technical information publicly.
- Confidentiality options and restricted-access posting can be made available on request.

What you can expect from us

Idea-Project Loops are designed to service you in a manifold purpose:

1. To stimulate research and development for practical application in your field of expertise at lower costs and mitigated risks (applied R&D, know-how acquisition, competitiveness);
2. To instil an uplifting spirit of open collaboration and constructive emulation between Swiss professionals, academics and enthusiasts of your field of expertise (enhanced networking and collaboration opportunities, sharing of experience and know-how);
3. To explore and demonstrate commons-based, community-driven innovation and business models to give you new options to sustain, diversify and expand your activities or clientele (extended innovation culture, value creation);
4. To showcase the impetus and talent pool stemming from the Swiss ecosystem in your field of expertise (economic and know-how promotion, credentialisation);
5. To nurture trustful and mutual understanding among stakeholders of the CoBooster ecosystem to open new ways for collaboration and more opportunities to strengthen local and regional socio-economic fabrics (growing stronger together).
6. To explore licensing or sale opportunities for patents and patent applications, in a collaborative innovation context.

While CoBooster's primary mission is to foster meaningful collaborations between innovation stakeholders, the platform offers far more than just partner matchmaking.

Once a project is initiated, CoBooster can provide structured support to ensure a smooth and secure collaboration. This includes:

1. **Legal Frameworks:** Access to clear, ready-to-use legal templates (e.g. NDAs, collaboration agreements), enabling teams to establish transparent and fair rules from the outset.
2. **IP Support:** Assistance in defining intellectual property ownership and usage rights among partners, and support during negotiations for patent licensing or transfer, when applicable.
3. **Project Coordination:** Light-touch coordination and facilitation services, helping teams stay aligned throughout the PoC phase.



4. Neutral Mediation: In case of disagreement between project partners, CoBooster can intervene as an independent third party to help mediate and find fair solutions.
5. Centralized and secure management of project funds if you wish

This value-added support is part of CoBooster's commitment to enabling secure, transparent, and successful collaborative innovation.

What we expect from you

While you partake in Idea-Project Loops, we count on you:

1. To bring your own innovative ideas to the table, if you have any, that solve identified issues or generate specific opportunities for improvement;
2. To support others' innovation ideas, if you believe in them, by backing them with your pledge;
3. To be eager to learn and adopt an open, constructive and audacious mindset capable of thinking outside the box and accepting new ideas in the spirit of the Community Manifesto;
4. To be willing to contribute and engage with your own experience, expertise and know-how to positively impact the value chain of innovation;
5. To be, if given the chance, a supportive team player in doing the work and representing the community-driven innovation ecosystem inside the program and beyond.
6. Participants shall not appropriate, copy, exploit, or develop any Topic or Contribution Data discovered on the Platform outside the CoBooster framework (including with third parties) without the express prior written consent of the Topic/Contribution Topic owner and the Operator.

Are you ready? Once you made sure you meet the eligibility criteria, you may accept this document to proceed to your onboarding.

We look forward to contributing with you to stimulate innovation in our CoBooster community!

Eligibility criteria. For you to partake in Idea-Project Loops, you must represent and warrant that:

1. as a natural person, you are of legal age to form a binding contract under applicable laws;
2. you have full legal capacity and sufficient authorisations to enter into an agreement with us, either as natural person or as a legal entity, institution or another form of collective organisation;
3. as a natural person, you are a Swiss citizen or have a valid permit to work or to reside in Switzerland; as a legal entity, institution or another form of collective organisation, your head office is located in Switzerland or you have a branch office duly registered in Switzerland. NB: this criteria can be waived if you can prove that your project creates value for Switzerland.
4. you have not been previously suspended or removed from using our Service;
5. your use of our Platform and Service do not and will not violate any and all laws and regulations applicable to you, including but not limited to regulations on money laundering, unfair competition or intellectual property law;



6. you are abiding in good faith by the values and principles of the Community Manifesto.

Important notice. Do you still have questions? Here is some useful information:

- Innovation ideas are not limited to technological inventions and may cover all other relevant areas of activities for your industry or expertise domain. Whichever one you decide, be sure to bring forward appealing ideas, likely to prove desirable, feasible and viable.
- As long as innovation ideas remain disclosed on the Platform, these shall not be developed outside of Idea-Project Loops, neither by the participants nor together with any third party.
- When you make a pledge to back an innovation idea, you are committed to pay this amount if the innovation idea wins the bidding contest;
- If an innovation idea you have submitted or backed wins the bidding contest, you must engage all necessary resources (staff) to contribute to the team effort during the feasibility study.
- No (background) intellectual property is transferred to us, other participants or any third parties as a mere result of you partaking in the program at any stage, including the feasibility study.
- Once the feasibility study is finished, proofs-of-concept or other final outputs are in principle to be published and placed under free and open-source licenses; there are several options to do so. However, if your project is based on established background IP, you may decide that only the project documentation be publicly published.
- You will always have the option to keep some information confidential (i.e. non-publishable) between your team members during Phase II.

Adhesion form to the Onboarding Agreement

Ready to onboard ?

Kindly make sure that only authorized persons proceed to the acceptance of this document. By accepting this onboarding agreement, you also confirm that you have read, understood and agreed to all terms and conditions that govern the CoBooster Program and its Platform: Terms of Service, Terms of Use, Privacy Policy, Definition List and Code of Conduct (<https://cobooster.ch/legal/>).

Once you accept the Onboarding Agreement and the Community Manifesto, you should receive an email to verify your account. Once verified, an administrator will validate your account. Finally, you will access your account and join the game.

I confirm that I meet the eligibility requirements and have the full authority to participate in the PROGRAM.

I accept the Onboarding Agreement and other rules governing the program (<https://cobooster.ch/legal/>)