

m2act Call for Projects 2026: Sharing is Caring

Sharing and applying good practices for fair practices and sustainable structures in cultural work

Migros Culture Percentage m2act is looking for projects that **apply, develop, test and share existing knowledge, established practices** and **new tools** for **fair practice and sustainable structures** in Swiss art and culture.

Since 2020, m2act has funded fair practice and sustainable structures in Switzerland's performing arts scene. This has yielded many helpful tools, working methods and processes as well as initiatives and organisations that are committed to a sustainable cultural landscape. Starting in 2026, m2act's funding schemes will be extended to further disciplines: performing arts, music, visual/fine arts, film, games, digital culture, literature & comics, spoken word and interdisciplinary arts.

Good practices should not remain hidden. They need to be disseminated across artistic scenes to create a closely networked and strengthened cultural landscape.

The m2act call for projects 2026 is aimed at professional cultural institutions, festivals, initiatives, production offices, companies, bands, collectives and other permanent structures in Switzerland that implement fair and sustainable collaborative practices and wish to pass their approach on.

Competition is fierce across the Swiss cultural landscape, and fair working practices are not a matter of course across the board. With its call for projects, m2act seeks to shine a light on **existing good practices for sustainable and fair processes in cultural creation**, encouraging cultural professionals to apply and share knowledge – regardless of the art form involved.

What is a «good practice» in the context of this call for projects?

Good practices are tried and tested approaches, processes, methods or tools that contribute to a fair and sustainable cultural landscape. They can relate to various aspects of cultural work, such as:

- Fair working conditions: transparent and fair pay, flexible working hours, work-life balance, mental health support for the team, co-determination and democratic working structures, a culture of feedback and communication, diversity in the team, guidelines for anti-discriminatory or inclusive collaboration
- Socially and ecologically sustainable structures: climate-friendly events and tours, reuse of materials, mentoring or tandems, knowledge databases, promoting resilience within the team and organisation

These approaches, processes, methods and tools can take various forms, for example: databases, digital platforms, digital software, pay calculators, checklists, guidelines, mission statements, codes, workshops, rituals, discussion formats, moderation formats, meeting models, templates, training modules, training documents, process support with specialists, role plays, agreements.

What does m2act fund?

m2act does not fund artistic production but **tools and processes**. Its aim is to enable teams to work together in a fair, diverse, inclusive and sustainable way. Ideally, the working conditions and structures behind the scenes work so well that art production also becomes more successful.

The funded projects seek to encourage new ways of thinking and acting. You can find more information on how to create an impactful project idea in this [guide](#).

The programme supports professional cultural practitioners who are **developing or have already developed promising approaches and processes for specific tools or methods**. The **good practices** must be applied within the project. They must be shared and jointly tested and improved with at least one other group, organisation or institution.

Why take part?

The funding scheme by m2act offers an opportunity to share knowledge, try it out in practice, and develop it further together. Through the exchange of ideas with other cultural professionals and the practical application of proven methods, new ideas can emerge that enrich your own work and strengthen networks. Together, we are shaping a fair and sustainable cultural landscape.

There's no need to reinvent the wheel: existing tools and methods can be adopted and adapted. m2act also provides funding for refining and advancing existing approaches. Inspiration and support are available, for example, in the [m2act toolbox](#), the Vert le Futur [tatenbank](#) and in dialogue with other users and developers, like those listed in [Funded projects](#).

The application and funding process

1. Who can submit a proposal to the m2act 2026 call for projects?

Applications are open to: professional cultural institutions, festivals, initiatives, production offices, companies, bands, collectives and other established structures in the Swiss cultural landscape.

2. What does the funding include?

Five to eight selected projects receive:

- **A fixed grant of CHF 1500** to cover the workload between the first and second consultation. In this phase, the project description, schedule and budget will be further developed (see below).

- **A financial contribution to the project phase beginning in summer 2026.**

The exact sum will be discussed and determined in the second meeting. It will be based on the budget developed up to that point. The total funding volume of this call for projects amounts to a maximum of **CHF 150 000** and will be distributed among the five to eight selected projects according to need.

3. What does an application need to contain?

Applications must be submitted using the online form on the [Migros Engagement website](#). The following information is required:

Project description (application form):

Describe your project and address the following points:

- Who are you and what is your position in the Swiss cultural landscape?
- What good practice do you use in your collaboration?
- How does your good practice contribute to fair practice and sustainable structures in your day-to-day work?
- How do you intend to prepare your good practice in order to share it with others?
- Who are the other cultural players with whom you share your good practice? Why?
- How do you collaborate with these other cultural players?
- What opportunities and challenges do you see in collaborating with other cultural players?
- For which other target groups could your good practice also be important and accessible?
- What long-term effect do you hope to achieve by applying the good practice?
- How would you share your good practice publicly in the m2act toolbox?

Timetable/roadmap (document):

outlines how the process should be structured. Indicate the most important steps, milestones, locations and people involved.

Budget (document):

Compile an estimate of the costs and draw up a budget. Please include:

- Care costs (e.g. [childcare calculator from Female Act](#))
- Access costs (e.g. accessibility of the tools)
- Guide wages for your field of work ([Overview of artists' fees at Suisse culture](#))
- If you are working with external experts, please enclose a quote

Biographies (document)

Introduce the central persons and organisations involved through short biographies (max. 2 A4 pages).

Get support! Do you need help filling out the application form? Or do you need financial support for personal or technical assistance with your application? Contact the [Advice on funding programmes in the Culture Unit](#).

4. What conditions must a project fulfil to be considered?

- The project
 - is developed and realised co-creatively,
 - is fair and sustainable in practice,
 - is impact-orientated,
 - is implemented professionally,
 - is developed and realised in Switzerland.
- The persons primarily responsible live in Switzerland.
- The project has recognisable added value for many players in the cultural landscape.
- The project is planned and implemented by a team. If there is a management function, it supports the project.
- The planning and production costs are included in the budget.
- The persons responsible take part in all important stages of the selection process (at least two to three individuals per project).
- All required documents are submitted on time.
- The project team is prepared to share selected findings and experiences with others on the [Migros Culture Percentage m2act](#) website in the spirit of an [open knowledge transfer](#).

5. What is the timetable for the selection process?

15 Jan 2026	Launch of the call for projects
27 Jan 2026 and 24 Feb 2026	Open Q&A (4–5 p.m., online) The m2act team answers questions about the call for projects. Languages: German, English, French and Italian Meeting links: 27 January 2026 / 24 February 2026
02 Mar 2026	Submission deadline (11.59 p.m.)
02 Apr 2026	Interview invitation or rejection letter
15 Apr 2026 and 16 Apr 2026	Discussions of the project (online) Preparation and participation are compensated at a flat rate of CHF 200 per project
17 Apr 2026	Acceptance and rejection notifications
12 May 2026 until 19 May 2026	First meetings
Between the first and second meeting	Finalisation of budget, project description, schedule
Mid-June	Second meetings
Summer 2026	Start of implementation phase
October 2026	Network meeting Double x m2act for funding recipients
Summer 2027	Completion of the project and final meeting

It is very important that the specified dates within the selection process are kept free. An overview of all dates and details of the selection process can be found in the document «Dates for the 2026 Call for Projects».

During the funding process, further meetings (e.g. for discussions or exchange) can be arranged as required.

6. Who selects the projects?

After the closing date, the m2act team, together with an external advisory committee, will select ten to twelve projects. The project teams are then invited to an online meeting on Microsoft Teams.

Following the discussions, the committee will decide which projects will be supported as part of the m2act Call for Projects 2026. The names of the committee members will be announced along with the invitation to the presentation.

7. What cannot be submitted?

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Applications from individuals
- Applications for contributions to artistic productions
- Fundraising requests
- Already completed projects
- Services that must be provided under subsidy agreements
- Infrastructure or operating costs
- Projects from schools, universities of applied sciences and arts or universities
- Projects that do not fit within the disciplines listed above
- Commercial projects
- Non-professional projects
- Private and charity events

If you are unsure, m2act recommends that you join one of the two digital Q&A calls on 27 January ([link to call](#)) or 24 February 2026 ([link to call](#)) at 4–5 p.m. All questions and answers will be documented and published on the [website](#).

8. What is m2act?

m2act is a funding and networking project by Migros Culture Percentage. It supports projects that contribute to fair and sustainable practices in the cultural landscape. Specifically, it focuses on projects that are relevant to many cultural professionals and are realised co-creatively. Through networking events, m2act offers a platform for the exchange, joint development and testing of new ideas and approaches for the cultural landscape.

Findings, insights and practical tips from the funded projects and the networking events are summarised in the [digital toolbox](#) and are open to all interested parties.

Where can I find more information?

More about m2act: www.m2act.ch/en

[Information on other funding formats](#)