

Social security (lead: FSIO)

Priority research topics

The FSIO's research activities focused, among other things, on the pension situation of self-employed persons, the various forms of violence and their prevention, and the greater involvement of people at risk of poverty in the decision-making, planning, implementation and evaluation processes of poverty prevention and poverty reduction measures.

Contribution of FSIO sector-specific research to social security

In accordance with the Federal Dispatch on the promotion of Education, Research and Innovation, the FSIO is responsible for «social security». This area also includes research activities of other federal offices (FOPH, SECO, FSO, FOAG, FOH, SEM). Sector-specific research at the FSIO and all the offices involved covers a broad spectrum of topics.

Success story

The purpose of disability insurance (IV) is to support and accompany people whose health prevents them from working either partially or entirely, and to help them (re)integrate into the workforce. For this purpose a number of measures are available (e.g. vocational counselling, internship, coaching).

The insured persons concerned were asked about individual topics such as assistance allowances or the quality of hearing aid provision, but never comprehensively about the integration measures. The study «Occupational social integration from the perspective of IV insureds. Success factors, progress and satisfaction» closes this gap. In the study, 916 persons with musculoskeletal and psychiatric disorders who received integration measures participated in a nationwide written survey throughout Switzerland. The survey focused on their life and work situations, the integration process and the subjectively perceived effects of the measures on social and occupational integration. In addition, open interviews were conducted with 20 respondents.

Targeted measures geared to a specific impairment strongly influence self-confidence, work behaviour and thus integration success. The contact persons at the IV offices make a decisive contribution to success. It is important for them to understand and assess all aspects of the life situation of those affected, to take into account their previous work biography, to take their functional impairments and personalities seriously and to support them actively and unbureaucratically. They should also know which specific adaptations and interventions help to compensate for functional limitations in mentally ill patients.

A majority of the respondents who received integration measures found it difficult to register with the IV office. The IV registration was associated with hopes but also with fears. This is why a continuous personal relationship with the IV counsellor is so important. Verbal contact as early as possible, personal exchange and enough time create a relationship of trust and have a positive effect on the integration process.

It is not only the counsellors of the IV office who are called upon to act, but also the close, coordinated and, as far as possible, consensual cooperation between all treating and other actors – from the anamnesis to the integration measures to the job placement – are identified in the report as a success factor for integration.

Statistics (in CHF thousands)

2018	Research activities	Contributions to research institutes	Intramuros – Research within the office	Total	2019 budget	2020 estimate
FSIO expenses (R&D budget)	348	–	–	348	459	506

Tendering procedure

Mandates are usually published on the FSIO website and awarded in accordance with the public procurement provisions (VöB/BöB).

Further information

The statistics above cover only the R&D budget. In addition, FSIO sector-specific research in 2018 was financed on the basis of special statutory regulations (e.g. Federal Law on Disability Insurance Art. 68 [SR 831.2]) or on the basis of Federal Council decisions (e.g. National Programme for Preventing and Combating Poverty).

Overview of FSIO sector-specific research:

<https://www.bsv.admin.ch/bsv/en/home/publications-and-services/forschung.html>