



# ICAIN

## Wie gelingt uns eine nachhaltige KI-Transformation?

Dialog 2030

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# AI is not only technology, it's power

The following challenges have emerged  
at an international level:

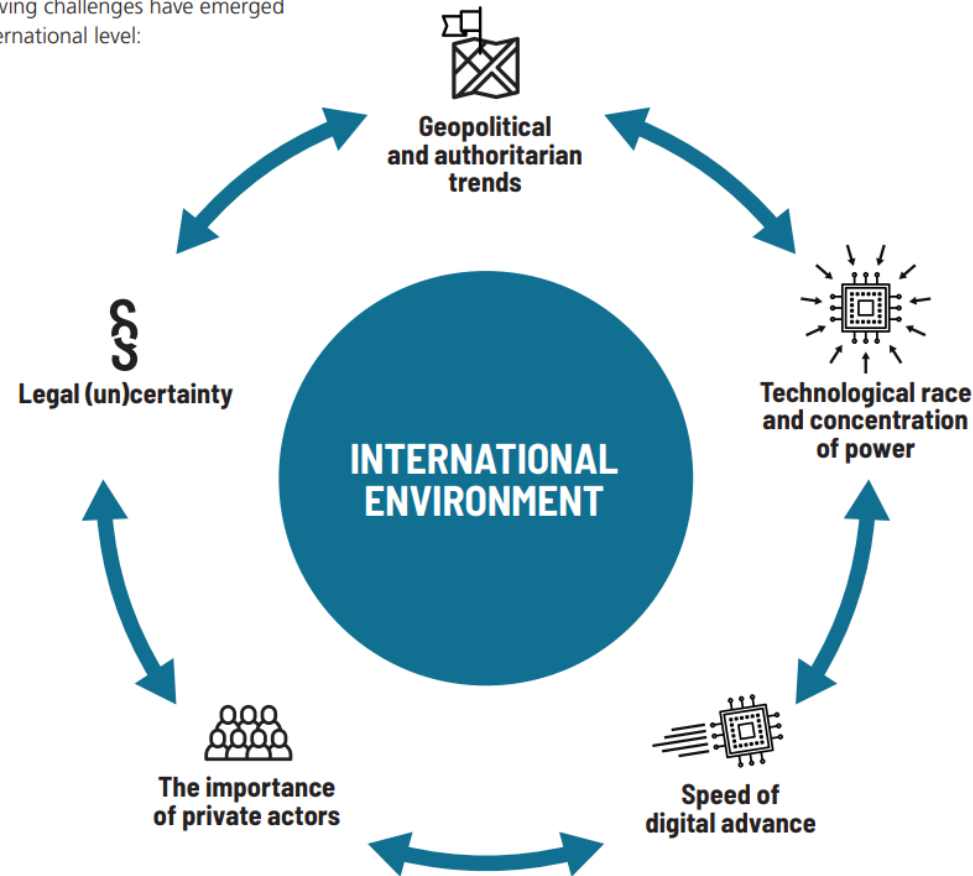


Figure 3: The international environment (Source: FDFA).

1. Digital technologies are changing markets, power relations, and diplomacy.
2. Competition between locations for talent, data, and capital is becoming tougher.
3. Switzerland is in a strong position—but must communicate and act strategically














# AI Sovereignty & Geopolitics

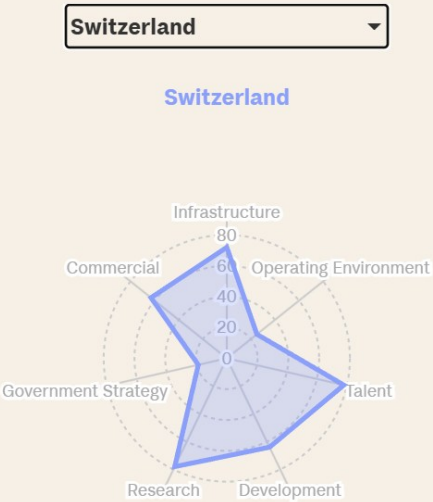


1. US and China are shaping AI geopolitics
2. AI / Digital Sovereignty tied to infrastructure, data, and rules

Source: [The Global AI Index](#), Tourtoise Media, Sept. 2025

# And Switzerland?

		Overall	Talent	Infrastructure	Operating Environment	Research	Development	Government Strategy	Commercial	Scale	Intensity
	United States	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	3
	China	2	9	2	21	2	2	5	2	2	21
	Singapore	3	6	3	48	3	5	10	4	11	1
	United Kingdom	4	4	17	4	4	16	7	5	3	9
	France	5	10	14	19	6	4	9	8	6	10
	South Korea	6	13	6	35	13	3	4	12	7	11
	Germany	7	3	13	8	8	11	8	9	5	15
	Canada	8	8	18	16	9	10	3	6	8	8
	Israel	9	7	26	65	7	6	32	3	14	2
	India	10	2	68	3	14	13	11	13	4	36
	Japan	11	23	5	53	20	14	12	14	9	31
	Switzerland	12	5	11	58	5	19	64	20	29	4
	The Netherlands	13	11	7	22	15	17	10	22	10	12



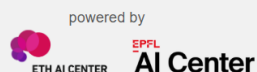
Source: [The Global AI Index](#), Tourtoise Media, Sept. 2025

# Switzerland's Triple Advantage: *Scientific Excellence*

## ETH Zurich and EPFL founded the **Swiss National AI Institute (SNAI)**

### In brief

- ETH Zurich and EPFL are launching the Swiss National AI Institute (SNAI) to provide a national perspective on AI-based research, education and innovation.
- SNAI will accelerate the momentum of the Swiss AI Initiative and spearhead research on large-scale AI enabled by the "Alps" supercomputer, with more than 10,000 of the newest-generation AI superchips (Graphics Processing Units, or GPUs, in short).
- SNAI will develop Switzerland's first national AI foundation model for languages, focusing on open and trustworthy AI through the Swiss AI initiative.



1. World-class AI research
2. One of the world's strongest HPC centers
3. Apertus = Switzerland's first large-scale open (weights and datasets) multilingual language model — a milestone in generative AI for transparency and diversity.

**ETH** zürich **EPFL**

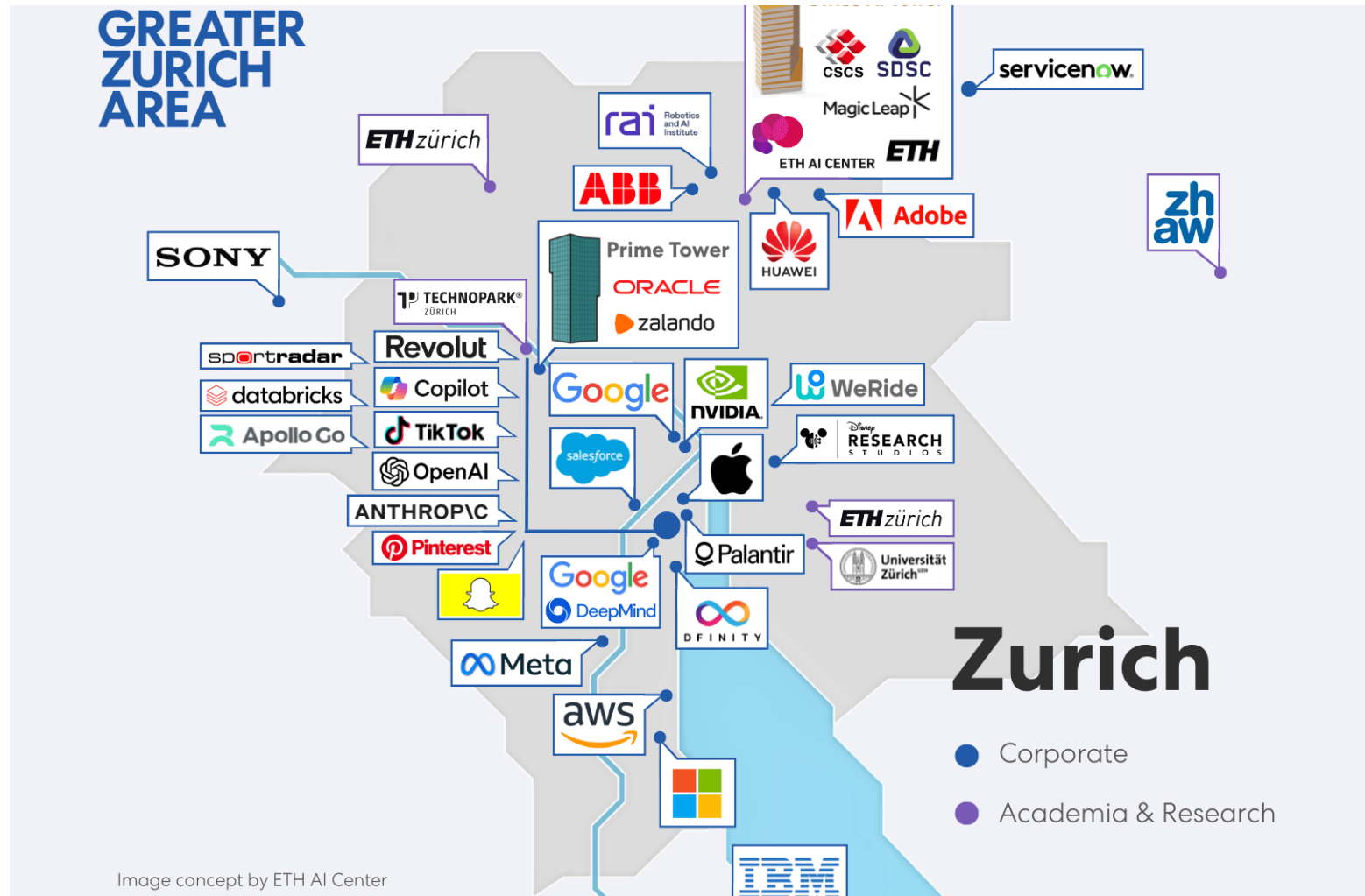


**#7**

In Top500

Source: <https://top500.org/lists/top500/2024/11/>

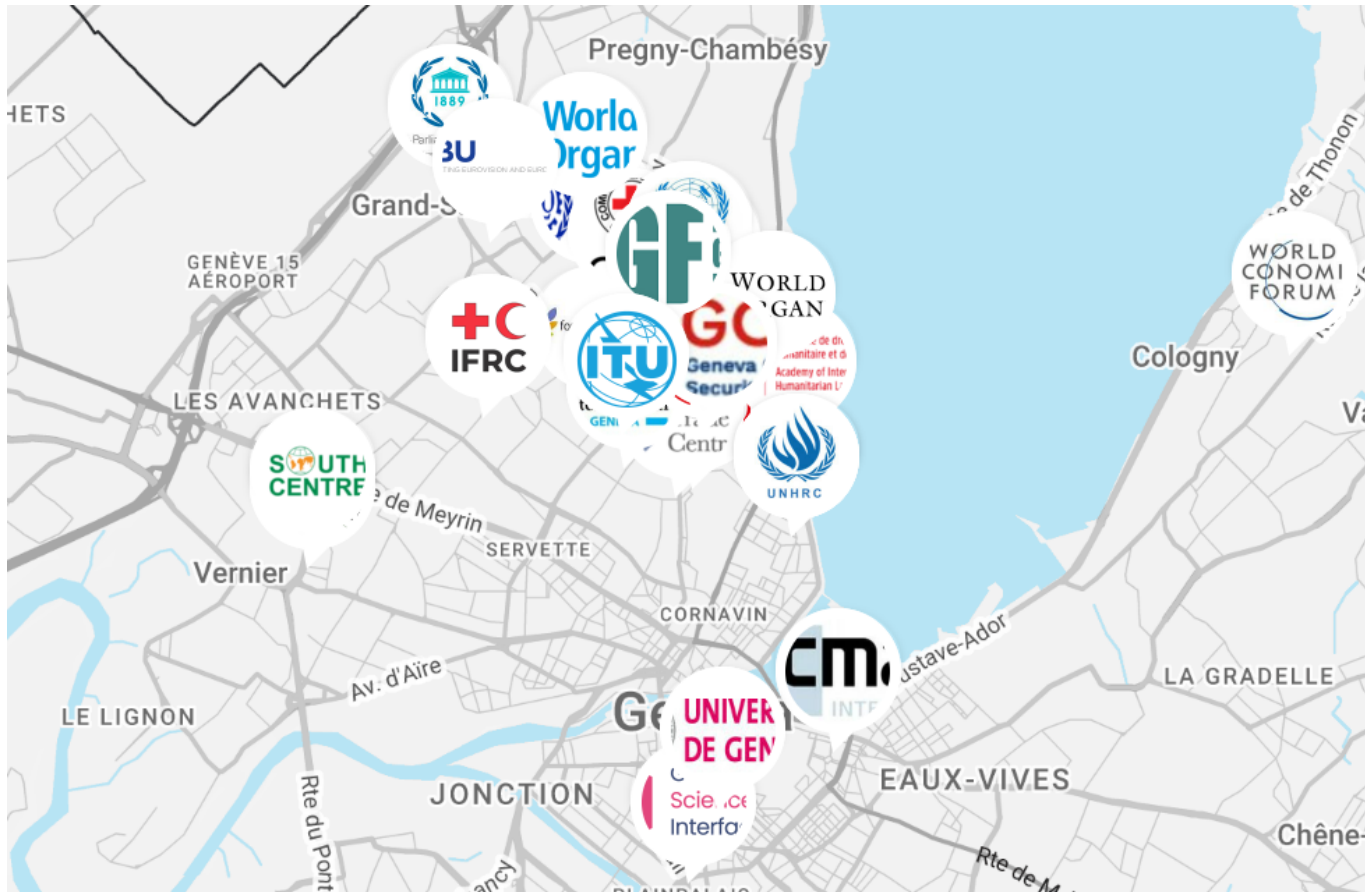
# Switzerland's Triple Advantage: *Vibrant innovation hubs and startups*



Quelle: Greater Zurich Area, Artificial intelligence in the Greater Zurich Area [Artificial intelligence in the Greater Zurich Area](#) | [Greater Zurich](#)



# Switzerland's Triple Advantage: *International Geneva – governance & diplomacy*



1. 50% of global digital policy negotiated in Geneva
2. Hosts ITU, ISO, IEC, WMO, UN Computing Center, and many more
3. AI for Good, ICAIN, Swiss AI Initiative
4. Switzerland as a bridge builder in global AI governance

Quelle: <https://www.giplatform.org/>

# The Challenge: Bridging the AI Gap for Sustainable Development



## Power Imbalance

The concentration of AI resources (compute, data and expertise) within tech giants and well-funded companies has created significant disparity in access to this transformative tech and its applications.



## Limiting Positive Impact

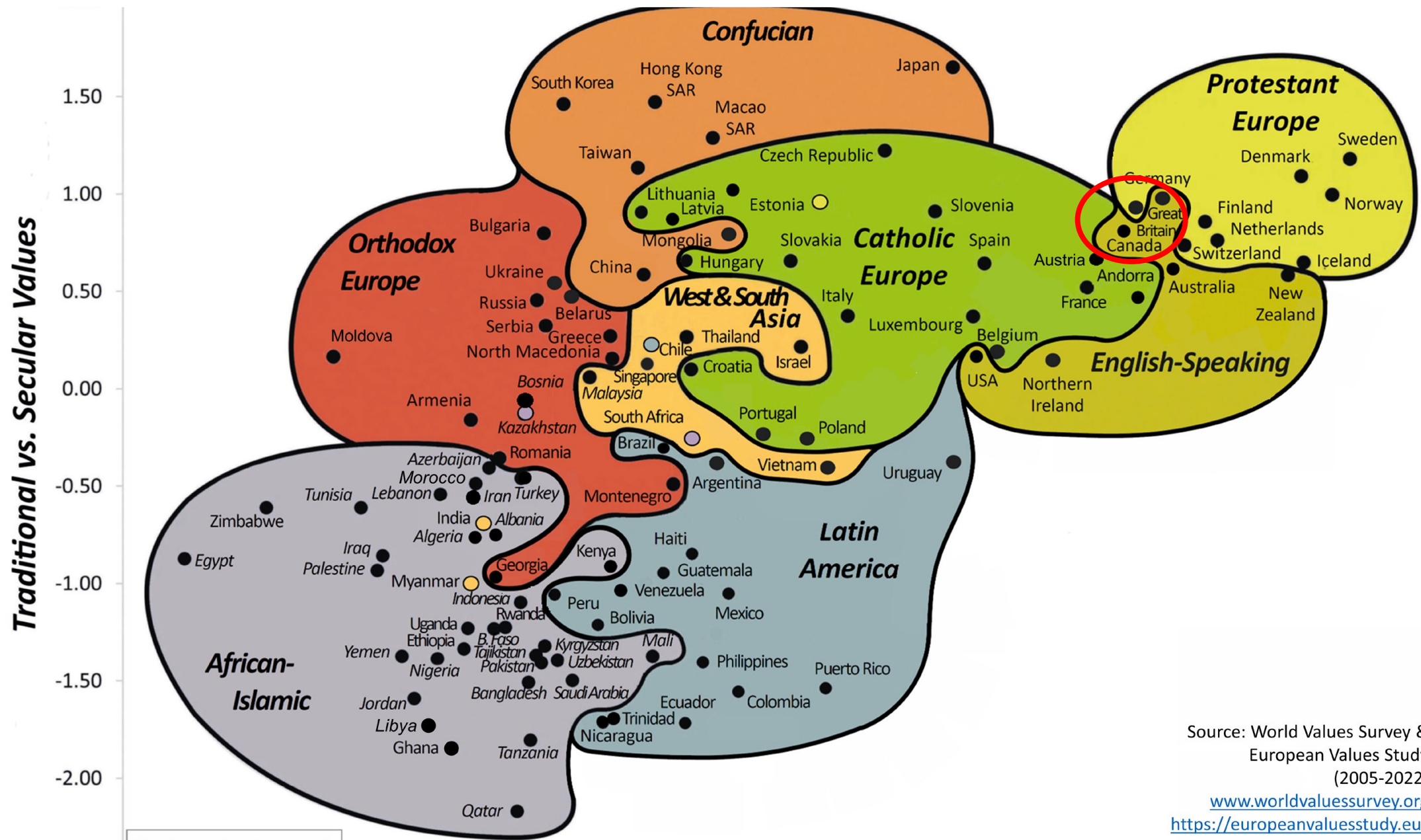
This imbalance restricts the application of AI in academic research aimed at advancing crucial Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



## Risks due to Misalignment

The current AI research landscape is strongly shaped by private sector interests, potentially overlooking critical areas of sustainable development as well as creating ethical and governance concerns.





# Switzerland's contribution to broadening access to AI

## *International Computation and AI Network, ICAIN*



# ICAIN

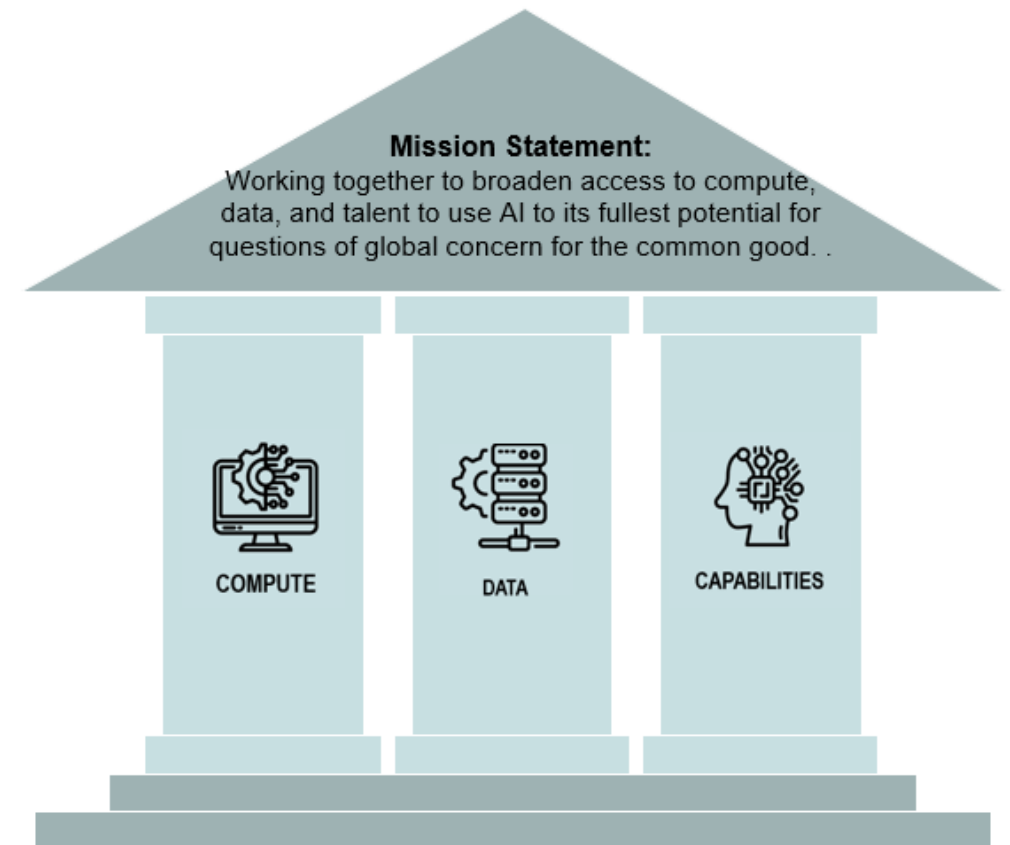
### The Vision of ICAIN

We envision a world where cutting-edge AI capabilities are used to their full potential by many more actors in pursuit of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, such as:

- Eradicating poverty in all its forms
- Achieving global food security and sustainable agriculture
- Combating climate change and its far-reaching impacts

### The Values of ICAIN

- **Equity:** Democratizing global AI technology access
- **Sustainability:** Harnessing global supercomputing for sustainability
- **Safety:** Anticipating and mitigating potential risks



# ICAIN Founding Partners and thematic focus areas



**Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA)**  
Government organization providing patronage for the ICAIN initiative, ensuring the political support and linking policy-makers and potential projects to the network, in particular through the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.



**Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL)**  
Public research university conducting cutting-edge research in both the foundations and applications of AI, with more than 60 professors performing research related to AI.



**European Laboratory for Learning and Intelligent Systems (ELLIS)**  
Pan-European AI network of excellence which focuses on fundamental science, technical innovation and societal impact



**Finnish IT Center for Science (CSC)**  
Public organization providing IT support and modelling, computing and information services to universities, research institutes and companies. It is the hosting member of the LUMI consortium with its LUMI supercomputer.



**Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich (ETH)**  
Public research university that fosters research excellence, industry innovation, and AI entrepreneurship to promote trustworthy, accessible, and inclusive AI systems.



**Swiss National Computing Center (CSCS)**  
The national high-performance computing center of Switzerland that enables world-class scientific research by pioneering and supporting supercomputing technologies.



**Data Science Africa**  
Pan-African organization that networks data scientists across the entire continent, offers training programs and supports non-profit research projects in the area of machine learning and data science.



The ICAIN is open to new network partners from the public and private sectors, academia and civil society.

## Climate and Agriculture

- Improved **Weather Prediction** for Sustainable Agriculture
- Early Diagnosis of **Plant Diseases** through



## Health and Humanitarian

- Meditron: **Medical LLM**
- Ethical AI for **Humanitarian Action**

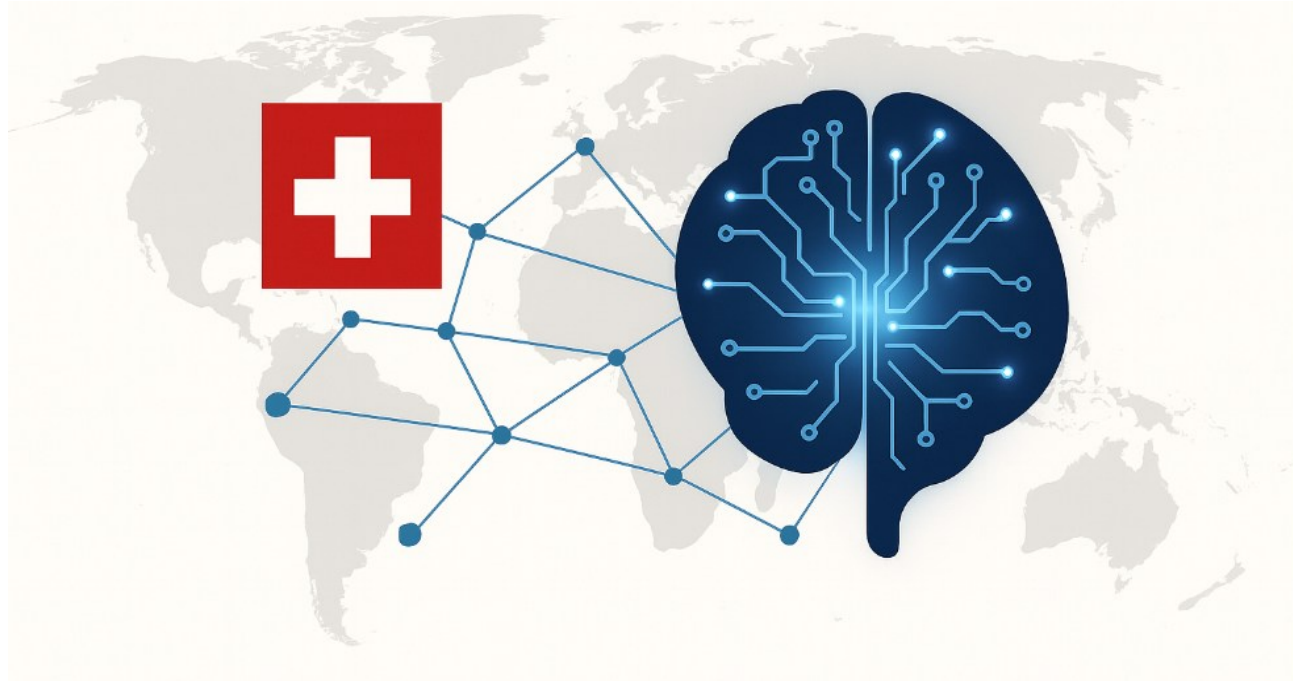


## Education

- AI Driver's License
- AI Skills for **Farmers**



# Looking Ahead: Switzerland has the assets, values, and credibility to contribute to global AI governance



Source: created by ImagegeneratorChatGPT

1. Switzerland can help connect innovation with global responsibility.
2. Trust is a competitive advantage
3. Opportunities and collaboration