The SNSF’s ChronosHub Pilot Project
A new way to manage your publications from submission to open access and reporting

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> Some general information:

— Chronos Hub
  
  - Danish company - https://chronoshub.io/
  
  - Aim: effective management of publishing fees, OA agreements, funder policy compliance, repository deposits, and reporting
  
  - And: supporting authors in selecting suitable journals for their manuscript submissions by making funding policies and publisher agreements transparent

— Pilot project duration: 6 months

— Application for APCs or BPCs via MySNF remains open
The Problem
Open Access leading to many complexities

- Stakeholders acting in silos
- Manual and duplicated work
- Fragmented data, no reliable analytics
- Time-consuming and high costs for all parties
- High risk of not complying with policies

Slides 3-12 feature screenshots from the webinar held by the SNSF/ChronosHub on June 24th, 2021, which can be found as a recording on the SNSF webpage.
The ChronosHub Solution

Optimised communication between authors, universities, publishers and funders.

- License Management
- APC Billing & Collection
- OA Agreement Management

Funders

Article approvals across all publishers
Compliance Management & reducing publishing costs
Automation of payments

University

Automated Repository Deposits
Reporting & OA Agreement monitoring

Authors

One environment for article submissions to all the publisher’s journals, independently of underlying journal submission system.

Find funder compliant journals
Transparent presentation of publisher agreements
Seamless manuscript submissions for integrated journals

Main publishers will be informed to send any APC invoices directly to ChronosHub.

Any APC invoices the grantees receive, if associated with SNSF grants, should be sent to snsf@chronoshub.io.

We recommend that you use ChronosHub’s Journal Finder when you make manuscript submissions. That helps everyone to automate the rest of the processes. You do then no longer need to:

- Worry about any of your articles getting non-compliant with SNSF’s policy
- Take care of paying any publishing fees

The intention is also to automate the report back to SNSF on your published articles in the future.

Please send any comments of what you like, dislike, miss or wish to add to snsf@chronoshub.io, e.g. additional journals.
SNSF & ChronosHub

Overview of workflow

1. Authors
   - Journal compliance checked with SNSF + publisher agreements

2. Submission of manuscript & meta-data to publisher

3. Article meta-data upon acceptance + Invoice + AAM of manuscript

4. Collect approval from SNSF on ChronosHub’s dashboard when needed

5. Withdrawal from SNSF deposit account to pay publisher

6. Manage article compliance & minimize cost
   - Check funder compliance
   - Check funding eligibility & publisher agreements
   - Recommend cost-efficient alternatives
   - If all eligible, proceed to payment.
   - If non-compliant, provide guidance to author.

Publisher account

Data to populate internal systems (IR, CRIS, Finance, ...)

Institution

SNSF

Interactions with institutions / funders
Interactions with authors
Interactions with systems or by ChronosHub's support team
Journal Selection & Manuscript Submission

How does it work for an author?

1. The author logs in to ChronosHub with the intention to submit a new article manuscript to a journal.

2. The author goes to the list of journals. Each journal is per default flagged as compliant or non-compliant with the SNSF’s policy. The author can also select any of about 40 other funders. Where applicable, national publisher agreement information is also displayed per journal.

3. Once the author has found a suitable journal, the author gets presented with a submission form where the information can be entered and the manuscript uploaded.

4. If the journal’s submission system is integrated with ChronosHub, the author makes the submission directly. Otherwise, ChronosHub captures minimal information and takes the author to the journal’s submission page where the author needs to register and make the submission. Upon submission you get a confirmation message from the publisher.
Upon acceptance

What do I as author need to do?

If you submitted through ChronosHub, you typically do **not need to do anything**.

If you submitted directly to the publisher, ChronosHub should still get the invoice, and you do **not need to do anything**.

If you still have received an invoice to publish your article Open Access, you can:

a) **Forward the invoice to snsf@chronoshub.io**, or

b) Upload the invoice in ChronosHub and enter some details on your accepted article.

In case your article is not eligible for being paid, or there is a non-compliance issue, you will be contacted by the ChronosHub support, and they will guide you to address any issue, e.g., correcting the funding acknowledgement, etc.

You do not need to worry about non-compliance issues, paying APCs, and some of the reporting.
The webpage after logon: upper part

User-area; Search function
The webpage after logon: lower part

Easy menu; Article records
Using „Journal Finder“: Search result display

Search options

Search result
Using „Journal Finder“: Search result display (ctd.)

Open Access Options

Journal: 2D Materials (ISSN: 2053 1583), Publisher: IOP Publishing

Subscription
Publishing Policy compliance:
× Fail - The option is NOT compliant with your funder's Open Access policy

Green Open Access
Publishing Policy compliance:
✓ Pass - The option is compliant with your funder's publishing policy

Embargo period:
× Fail - The embargo period for this journal is 12 Month(s), which is longer than the allowed 6 Month(s)

Hybrid Open Access - CC-BY 4.0
Publishing Policy compliance:
✓ Pass - The option is compliant with your funder's publishing policy

License type compliance:
✓ Pass - The license is allowed to publish under, for your funder

Information on hybrid and R&P

AICHE Journal

The AICHE journal is the premier research monthly in chemical engineering and related fields. This peer-reviewed and broad-based journal reports on the most important and latest technological advances in core areas of chemical engineering as well as in other relevant engineering disciplines. Tending abstract with the progressive outlook of the profession, the journal has been expanding the scope of its editorial contents to include such fast developing areas as biotechnology, environmental engineering, and environmental engineering. The AICHE journal is indeed the global communications vehicle for the worldwide research on hybrid and R&P.

Article Processing Charges for publishing an open access article in this journal by a corresponding author from University of Zurich are covered by an agreement between the publisher and the institution.

This is a Hybrid Journal; the SNSF does not cover the fees.
The collaboration

> Aim: to ease admin burden for researchers

> Timeframe and roll-out:
  — Launch June 15th, 2021
  — Communication with SNF-researchers via e-mail, blog, webpage, webinars
  — Assessment in 2022 after pilot-project to decide feasibility

> Plan: Simple & clear processing of APCs
  — If journal is pure OA: direct pay via Chronos Hub, no application via mySNF needed
  — If journal is hybrid: "JournalFinder" feature will tell researcher if a R&P agreement is in place at their institution to cover the cost.
Concerns:

> Timeframe: trial-run until 2022– what if it does not work out?
  — ChronosHub ensures that SNSF has access to the data and the SNSF takes back administration. Details still need to be discussed

> Limited functionality: no support for Open Access green in the pilot project

> Focus on journal articles