The International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) is an annual international competition for talented young students in secondary schools and colleges. The first IChO took place in Prague in 1968. Since 1987, Switzerland has sent delegations to more than 30 IChOs but has never been a host country itself. The time has come in 2023! The Swiss Chemistry Olympiad Association (SwissChO) and ETH Zurich have been awarded the contract to host the event in Switzerland. Around 900 participants, mentors and volunteers are expected to take part in the IChO 2023 from 16–25 July 2023.

Background

The National Steering Committee consists of one representative each from:
• ETH Zurich Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
• D-CHAB Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences of ETH Zurich
• SwissChO Swiss Chemistry Olympiad Association
• SO Association of Swiss Science Olympiads
• SCS Swiss Chemical Society
The Rector of ETH Zurich Professor Günther Dissertori is the President of the IChO 2023. Marco Gerber is responsible for the operational implementation and heads the Organising Committee. The Scientific Committee is headed by ETH Zurich Professor Wendelin J. Stark and is responsible for the chemistry competition.

Goals

• Promoting young talents in STEM subjects - especially chemistry - with an attractive extracurricular educational programme
• Motivating young people from all over the world to study chemistry in Switzerland
• Media presence both nationally and internationally
• Public relations work on the topic of chemistry using an image campaign
• Positioning Switzerland as a leading location for education, industry and research

Project overview

• Up to 91 delegations, each with a maximum of four competitors, two mentors and some observers
• Two days of chemistry exams
• An inspiring and unforgettable programme with excursions throughout Switzerland
• Around 900 participants with over 200 volunteers on duty
• Opening and closing ceremonies to frame an unforgettable Swiss experience
• Promoting international exchange and diplomatic relations

Management IChO 2023

For the first time in Switzerland

A SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT IN CHEMISTRY, PHARMA, LIFE SCIENCE AND FUTURE RESEARCHERS

Possible partnerships

Your investment in the future

The organiser ETH Zurich is contributing to the success of IChO 2023 with its own efforts in the form of technical expertise, support staff, infrastructure and administration. The project will mainly be financed by fundraising income. To be able to organise an outstanding competition and offer an attractive and unforgettable Swiss experience, the IChO 2023 is looking for partners from the private sector, foundations, private individuals and other interested donors who would like to support this unique event and invest in the researchers of the future.