Eawag, the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, is part of the ETH Domain. This comprises the Swiss Federal Institutes of Technology in Zurich (ETHZ) and Lausanne (EPFL), Eawag and three other independent, application-oriented research institutes – the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI), the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL) and the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology (Empa). Nationally rooted and internationally networked, Eawag is concerned with concepts and technologies for the sustainable management of water resources and aquatic ecosystems. In cooperation with universities, other research centres, public authorities, the private sector and NGOs, Eawag strives to harmonise ecological, economic and social interests in water, providing a link between science and practical applications. Just under 500 staff are employed in research, teaching and consulting at the Dübendorf (Zurich) and Kastanienbaum (Lucerne) sites.

www.eawag.ch/en/teaching/academic-education/epp
The Eawag Partnership Program

Research in developing countries is an important component of Eawag’s mission. Problems of water scarcity, environmental pollution, resource exploitation and loss of biodiversity are of growing concern in the developing world for which Eawag’s multi-disciplinary research approach with its network of scientific partners and research centres in the South & East is increasingly providing pertinent solutions. The Eawag Partnership Program (EPP) aims at bringing together Eawag’s research and training activities into a developing world context.

The Eawag Partnership Program started in 2008 with four distinct components:

- The EPP Fellowship Program
- Visiting Scientist Program
- UNESCO-IHE Partnerships
- Curricula Development Fund

EPP Fellowship Program

The EPP Fellowship Program is the core of the Eawag Partnership Program and currently supports 6 fellowships per financial year for distinguished students from developing countries, preferably PhD students working on environmentally, technically and/or socially relevant topics in collaboration with Eawag staff. Fellowships are only open to students from countries of the developing world (OECD applicants excluded).

Each fellowship has to be affiliated with one of the Eawag departments. The fellowship program enables students to visit Switzerland and Eawag for a study and research visit of 3 or 4 months. The fellowship applications will be subjected to a competitive selection process. Selection criteria are (i) development context relevance and (ii) scientific quality. The fellowship program has two application deadlines, one by March 01 and the second by September 01. Ideally, 3 successful applicants will be selected after each deadline. Entries are judged by a 7-member EPP Selection Committee. Application forms and submission details can be accessed on the external Eawag website.

Visiting Scientist Program

The visiting scientist program will enable preeminent researchers and sector specialists from the developing world to exchange and discuss research with Eawag scientific staff and present their research at Eawag (e.g. at seminars). Furthermore, this program shall also support Eawag staff to prepare and monitor new or on-going research with topics relevant to the EP program. The visiting scientist program covers only travel and accommodation plus per diem costs and does not cover conference trips or fees. Scientists based in other OECD country institutions are not eligible. Proposals must be forwarded to the EPP committee 2 months before the intended visit. Application forms are on the intranet at: http://www.eawag.ch/en/teaching/academic-education/epp/

UNESCO-IHE Partnerships

An established UNESCO-IHE – Eawag collaboration program has been incorporated into the EPP. Three UNESCO-IHE students from developing countries will be selected each year to visit Eawag (both Dübendorf and Kastanienbaum) and conduct their MSc research project here or in their home country. Students will jointly be selected by UNESCO-IHE and Eawag representatives.

Curricula Development Fund

This component is specifically geared towards assistance in curricula development of selected training and research institutions with a regional outreach. This includes the development of training modules and course material or giving a series of lectures in selected developing country institutions, preferably based on on-going collaboration and partnership agreements. Application forms can also be downloaded from the intranet and must be forwarded to the EPP committee 2 months before the intended activities.