

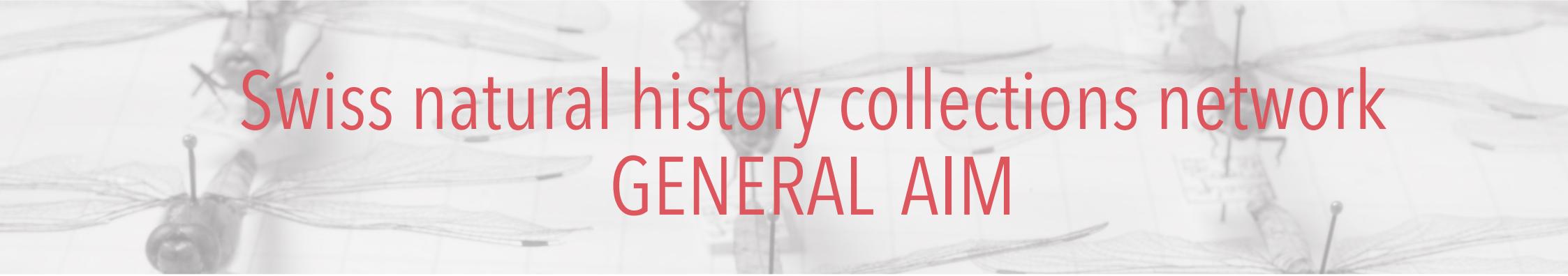
A background image showing numerous pinned dragonflies of various species and colors (blue, brown, yellow) mounted on a light-colored board with a blue grid pattern.

January 2024 · Uni S, Berne

# SwissCollNet Workshop

## Update on SwissCollNet Activities

Pia Stieger, Head of SwissCollNet



# Swiss natural history collections network

## GENERAL AIM

Promoting the **potential** of Switzerland's natural history collections  
for **science, education and society**,

as well as

promoting the **development, maintenance and financial support** of natural history collections.

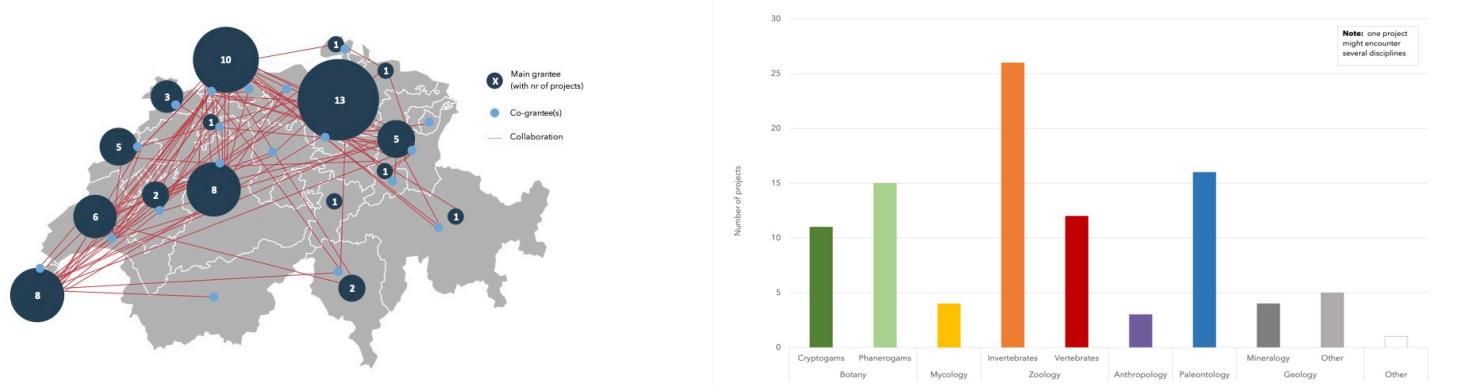
# Swiss natural history collections network

## INDIVIDUAL GOALS

- Promoting the management and maintenance of natural history collections in Switzerland
  - Modernisation, inventory and digitisation of the natural history collections
- 
- Physical and virtual access to standardised information on biological and geological collections
  - Creation of a networked and open access to the relevant data
  - Creation of a platform to promote and support the scientific use of the collections
- 
- Develop a national natural history collections strategy
  - Build sustainable 'follow-up' organisation of SwissCollNet

# Swiss natural history collections network

## EXPECTED RESULTS



- Revised, processed and digitised collections from the individual projects in the collection institutions (68 projects, 53 institutions, 21 cantons)\*
- Standardised data on collection objects and collection units
- Inventory of the collections in Switzerland (One Swiss Collection)\*
- Network of collection institutions with joint collection strategy



# Swiss natural history collections network EXTRACTS of COMPLETED PROJECTS

Project nr	title	main grantee	institution
SCN105-GE	Rediscovery the collections of a pioneer of Swiss Paleontology: François-Jules Pictet	Cavin Lionel	MHNG
SCN106-GE	Digitisation of the unidentified spiders from Switzerland present in the collection of the Geneva natural history Museum	Monod Lionel	MHNG
SCN124-BS	Cholevinae (Coleoptera, Leiodidae) of the world – conditioning, databasing and digitisation	Borer Matthias	NMB
SCN126-BS	The Swiss Auchenorrhyncha collection of Heidi Günthart	Zürcher-Pfander Isabelle	NMB
SCN133-ZH	The Roth collections; from splendid isolation to fossils for all	Aguirre-Fernandez Gabriel	PIMUZ
SCN134-ZH	Digital mobilisation and curation of Type specimens in the bryophyte collection of the United Herbaria Zurich Z+ZT	Hofmann Heike	United Herbaria Z+ZT



# Swiss natural history collections network

## EXTRACTS of COMPLETED PROJECTS

- 6 projects completed
- 6 main grantees, 4 co-grantees
- 10 months / project in average
- 260'000 CHF total of SwissCollNet funds
- 307'400 CHF total of matching funds
- 567'400 CHF total of financial investments
- 15 publications
- 18'623 specimens digitised
- 1366 type specimens digitised
- 150 new types detected
- 7755 pictures / scans
- 3676 specimens reidentified
- 32'779 specimens reconditionned



# Swiss natural history collections network OUT of the BOX



## OUT OF THE BOX

Donnerstag 23. November 2023 09:05:29 Uhr

### Ein fossiler Schatz bei der Digitalisierung wiederentdeckt

Am 19. November zeigte das Naturmuseum wertvolle Stücke seiner Sammlung, die sonst nicht zugänglich sind. Die Hauptrolle spielte der Pfeifhase.

Donnerstag, 23. November 2023

**Winterthurer Zeitung**

### Out of the box

Was die Digitalisierung von Schweizer naturhistorischen Sammlungen ans Tageslicht bringt



À la recherche du spécimen disparu

C'est presque par miracle que le Musée d'histoire naturelle de Fribourg (MHN) a retrouvé un spécimen de renoncule de Rion, bien loin de son lieu supposé.

Bild: Jardins botaniques du Grand Nancy et de l'Université de Lorraine



«Noch nie ein instructiveres Stück gefunden»

Ein fossiler Mastodonkiefer sorgte in Wissenschaftskreisen des 19. Jahrhunderts international für Aufregung. Das zeigen historische Protokollbücher.

Bild: Naturmuseum Winterthur



Die Pfeifhasen vom Bodensee

Bei der Digitalisierung seiner Sammlung stiess das Naturmuseum Winterthur auf die originalen fossilen Pfeifhasen, die dem Künstler Johann Rudolf Schellenberg vor 240 Jahren als Modell dienten.

Bild: Naturmuseum Winterthur



Das ertrunkene Schwein, das keines war

# Swiss natural history collections network WORKSHOPS and CONFERENCES



Annual workshops

Conference 2024/2025  
on results of SwissCollNet projects

## Experience exchange



Bild: pxhere

The support from SwissCollNet for Experience and Methodology Exchanges is aimed at persons working with natural history collections in Switzerland, who want to host their own event/workshop to allow collection communities to exchange experiences and knowledge gained in the SwissCollNet programme. For instance, best practices in natural history collection management, digitisation of collections, data registration and management etc. can be shared.

# Swiss natural history collections network

## EXPECTED RESULTS

- Common data models for collections and objects\*
- Common data aggregators for data from biological, respectively geological collections\*
- Data resulting from SwissCollNet projects are aggregated
- SVNHC online portal to present Swiss institutions and their collections and make data openly accessible
- Strengthened interactions with national and international data infrastructures  
(InfoSpecies, VDC, GBIF, GeoCAsSe, DiSSCo)

# Swiss natural history collections network

## EXPECTED RESULTS

- Swiss national natural history collections strategy (2025-2035)
- Solution for sustainable 'follow-up' organisation of SwissCollNet

# Swiss natural history collections network

## EXPECTED RESULTS

Maintenance and development of the network and the collection strategy

Processing and digitisation of the collections

Maintenance and further development of the data aggregator

Maintenance and further development of the SVNHC web portal

Maintenance of data models in international coordination

.....

**MusNatColl**  
Connects and networks local institutions

**SCNAT**  
Represents academic interests at national level

**InfoSpecies and GBIF.ch\***  
Maintain of national data infrastructures, network with international initiatives



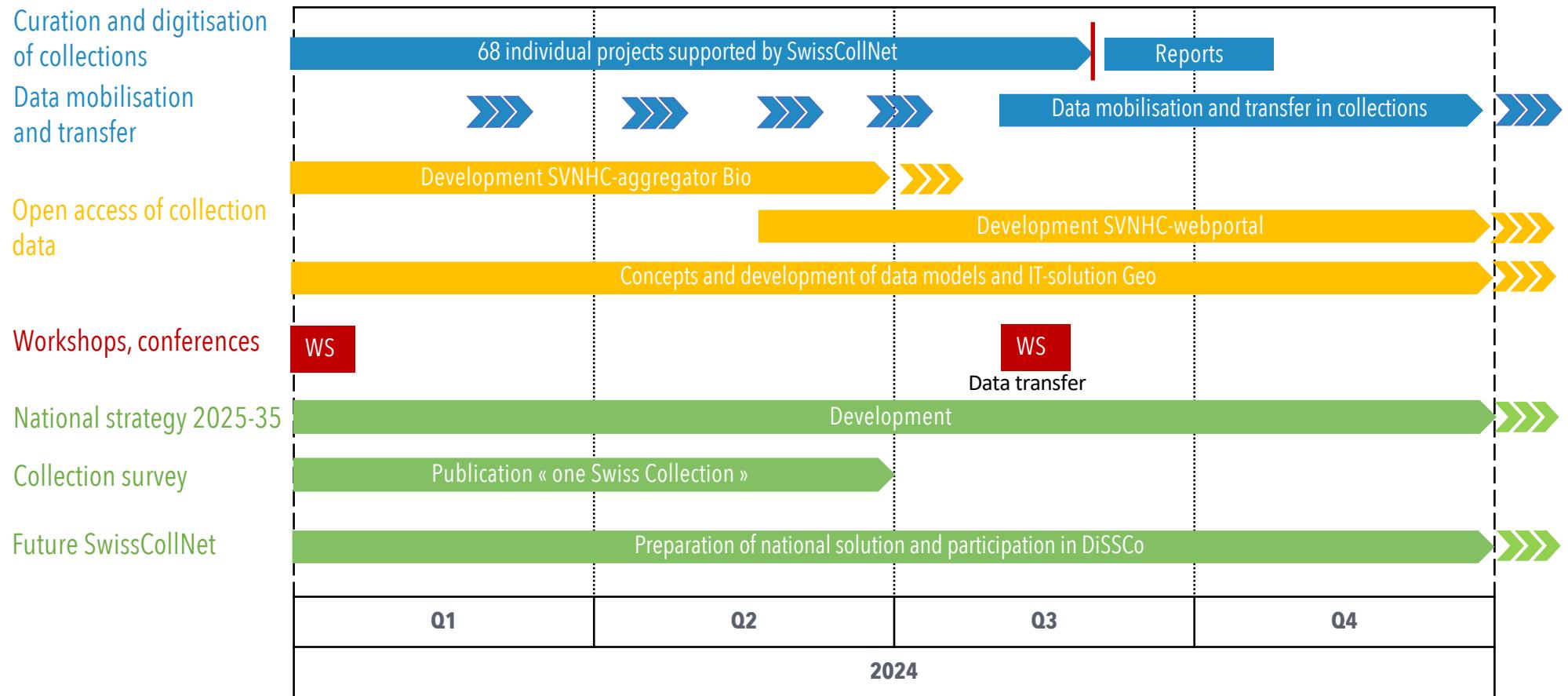
# Swiss natural history collections network

## FUTURE PLANNING

SCNAT has received a **cost-neutral** prolongation  
for SwissCollNet of 2 years (2025 and 2026)

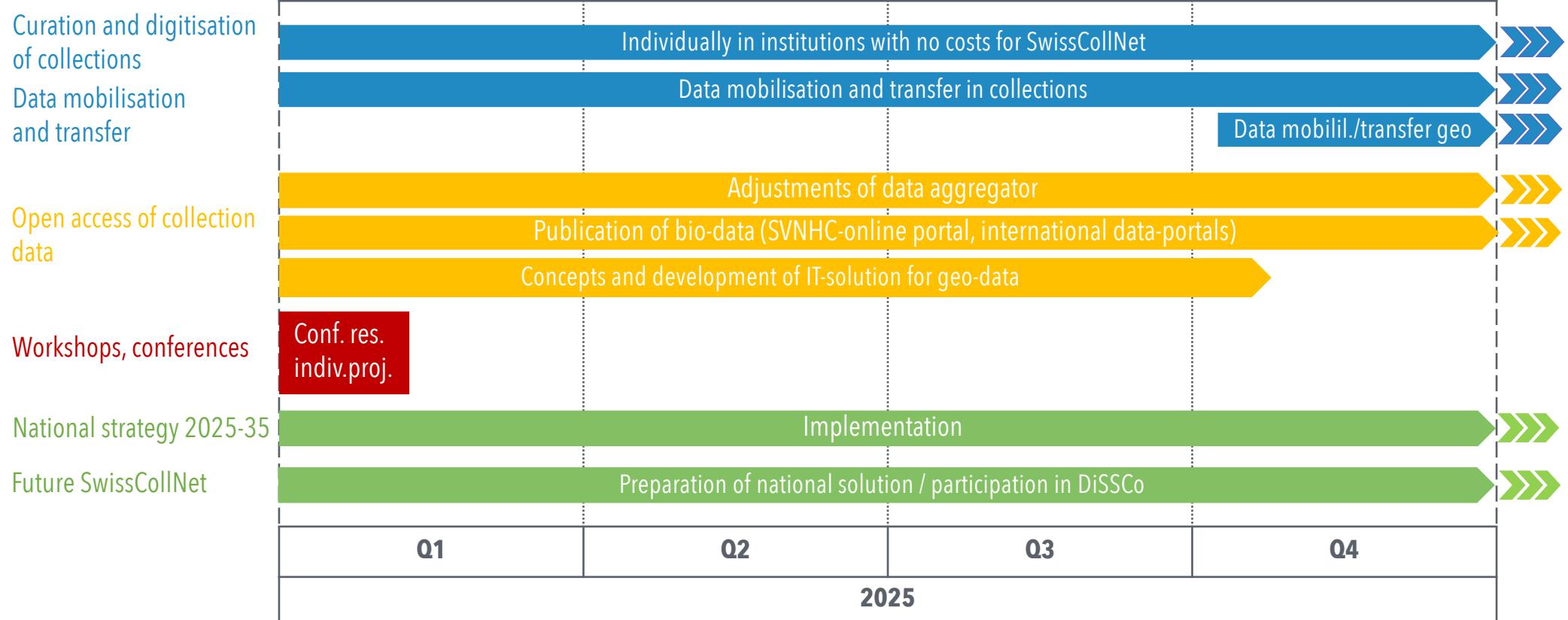
# Swiss natural history collections network

## FUTURE PLANNING



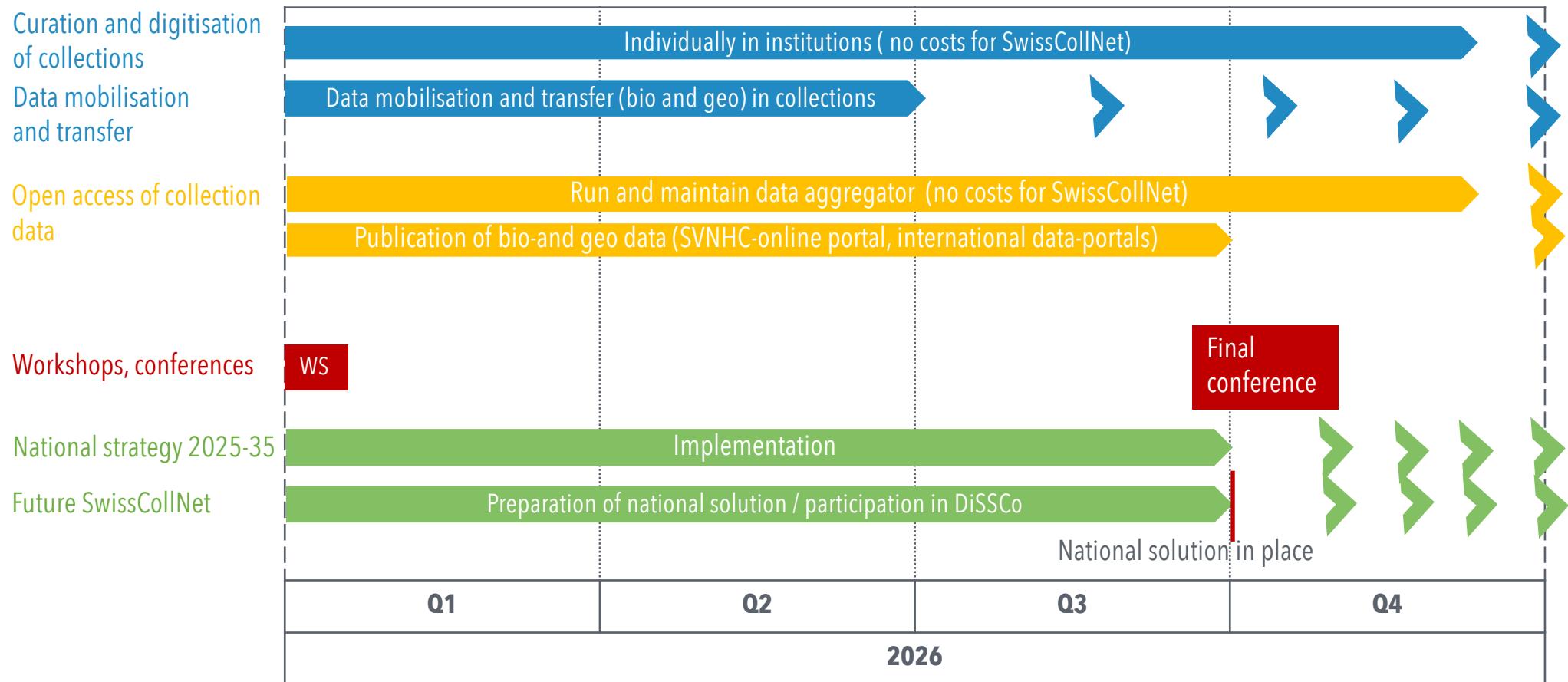
# Swiss natural history collections network

## FUTURE PLANNING



# Swiss natural history collections network

## FUTURE PLANNING



# Swiss natural history collections network

## THANKS to

### Steering Board



Christoph Scheidegger  
(president) WSL



Peter Wandeler



Britta Allgöwer



Felix Althaus



Ana Casino



Walter Berendsohn  
(former m)



Daniel Croll



Christophe Dufour



Stefan Eggenberg



Wibke Kolbmann



Barbara König



Hendrik Vogel

# Swiss natural history collections network

## THANKS to

### Board of Experts (BoE)



Alice Cibois  
(chair)



Michelle Price



Michael Greeff



Holger Frick



Nadir Alvarez



Silvan Thüring

THANKS to the entire network of SwissCollNet  
THANKS to our partners from InfoSpecies

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