The Indo-Swiss Collaboration in Biotechnology (ISCB) is a longstanding collaboration funded and steered by SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Department of Foreign Affairs, government of Switzerland) and DBT (Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science and Technology, government of India). The ISCB promotes research partnerships between Swiss and Indian research institutions and focuses on issues and concerns in the fields of environmental and agricultural biotechnology with a developmental impact in India. The current phase includes about twenty Swiss and Indian research institutes and the objective is in particular to steer projects towards product development.

Example 1: Licensing agreement

The most promising technologies developed in the frame of the ISCB program were showcased to the private sector (twelve seed companies). For two project partners of the Pulse Network a seed company offers to license their technologies. On behalf of the two institutes, the ISCB established a detailed licensing agreement. The key element of the proposed agreement is a non-exclusive licensing. In addition, a licensing agreement with a public partner was established. These licensing agreements were signed and a first transfer of material was performed. Cooperation with and transfer of technology to public and private partners is enabled in parallel, which allows efficient product development towards the end-user.

As an additional important achievement, the following standard agreements and documents were established in order to steer projects towards product development:

- A technology advancement policy framework
- A standard co-development agreement (framework agreement between ISCB project partner and ISCB to promote commercialisation of the technology in consonance with the mandate of the ISCB)
- A standard licensing agreement with private partner (agreement between ISCB project partner and private company to license the technology/material)
- A standard licensing agreement with public partner (agreement between ISCB project partner and public sector to license the technology/material)

Example 2: SBIRI

With the objective of bringing research achievements to the end-user, it was decided that two projects should be transferred under a new funding scheme introduced by DBT under further supervision of the ISCB. The Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI) was created to boost public-private partnership efforts in India. The aim is to support private industries and to get them involved in the development of products and processes which have high societal relevance. A SBIRI proposal for the Biosensor Project was approved and funds were sanctioned for one year. A consultant from the ISCB supports this project in the current programme. A second project, the Biopesticide Project, is in the current phase supported by ISCB to establish the conditions to be financed in the frame of SBIRI.