

We are a society that is competent in dealing with risks - we are aware and we manage risks from natural hazards in a conscious and forward-looking manner.

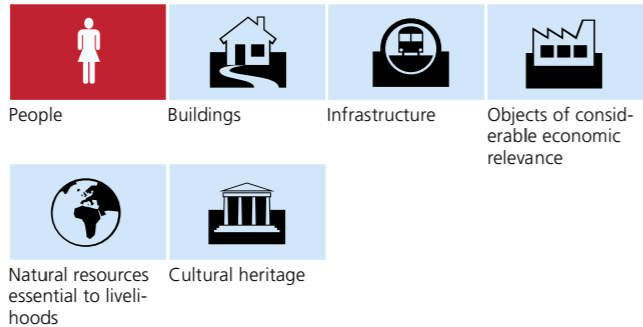
Recent loss events abundantly demonstrate the threat from gravitational, seismic, climate, and meteorological hazards to people, material assets, and the environment in Switzerland.

The frequency and intensity of events are likely to increase as a consequence of climate change. Natural phenomena such as drought and heat waves have drawn little attention so far, but might increasingly affect Switzerland in the future. In addition, earthquakes in Switzerland are an underestimated natural hazard. Meanwhile, population figures as well as utilisation and interconnectedness of Switzerland's living and economic environment are all on the rise. This in turn increases the level of risk if developments are not monitored, evaluated, and controlled in an aware and forward-thinking manner.

## Objects to be protected and natural hazards

Risks occur when there is the possibility that objects to be protected will be affected by natural hazards.

### Objects to be protected – What we seek to protect:



### Natural hazards – Possible threats:



## Priorities and addressed stakeholders

### Key points:

#### Implement comparable processes for dealing with risk

of particular relevance to public authorities

#### Implement integrated risk management at all levels

of particular relevance to public authorities, the insurance sector, planners, and engineers

#### Avoid unacceptable new risks

of particular relevance to public authorities, planners, and engineers

#### Clarify responsibilities

of particular relevance to public authorities and the insurance sector

#### Create awareness of responsibility

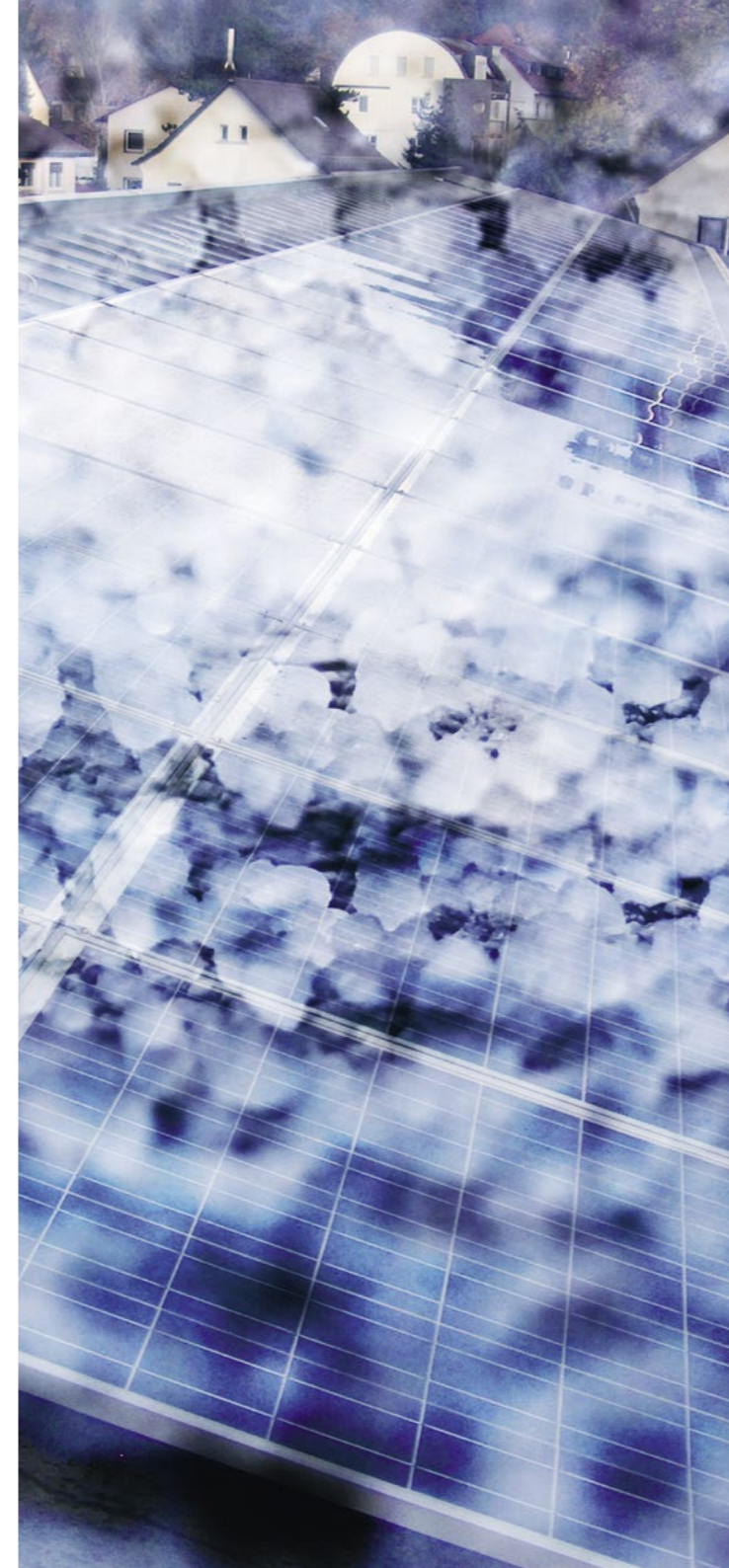
of particular relevance to public authorities, organisations, the insurance sector, planners, and engineers

#### Enhance and exchange knowledge

of particular relevance to the research community, education and training institutions, the insurance sector, and public authorities

#### Foster solidarity


of particular relevance to policymakers, the insurance sector, and society at large



Switzerland provides adequate security against natural hazards. Natural hazards can affect everyone in Switzerland – so everybody must be involved in dealing with them.

The goal is to achieve a level of security that is ecologically tenable, economically reasonable, and socially acceptable.

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## Management of Risks from Natural Hazards Strategy 2018





## Switzerland is resistant

Being resistant means reducing damage from hazardous natural events to a tolerable level.

We strengthen our resistance by ...

### Avoiding hazards

- plan land use preferably in low-hazard areas
- put in place and utilise buildings and infrastructure risk-consciously
- use hazard-conscious behaviour

### Providing adequate protection

- use measures to reduce the frequency, intensity, and impacts of natural processes
- design and construct buildings and facilities to ensure reduced vulnerability

### Providing redundancies where necessary

- use parallel systems to ensure reduced disruption of key goods and services

## Switzerland is able to recover

Ability to recover means the rapid regaining of functional capacity for society and the economy after natural events.

We strengthen our ability to recover by ...

### Preparing ourselves

- work out the basics and make them known
- establish instruments, organisations, and cooperative structures that are well-practiced and stand ready for deployment

### Providing adequate resources

- define personnel resources and technical aids and make them known
- regulate competencies for their deployment
- regularise and assure the provision, procurement, and distribution of financial resources for restoring functionality

### Offering mutual assistance

- render assistance in a spirit of solidarity and in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity

## Switzerland is able to adapt

Ability to adapt means that society and the economy can prepare for changes in conditions in a timely manner.

We strengthen our capability to adapt by ...

### Identifying and reacting to changes

- monitor and assess developments in natural hazards and risks
- address identified need for action in a timely and appropriate manner

### Creating and deepening knowledge

- foster research into the course and consequences of natural hazard processes, the effects of measures, and in particular the social and economic impacts

### Imparting knowledge

- incorporate findings from research and analysis of events into education and training
- foster the exchange of knowledge between experts, public authorities, private stakeholders, and the general population

## Integrated risk management

Integrated risk management means assessing risks holistically and prioritising the need for action.

Integrated risk management ...

- ... encompasses the full range of natural hazards
- ... applies comparable standards for quantifying risks
- ... comparably manages all risks
- ... involves all stakeholders and affected parties
- ... weighs possible measures by considering all aspects of sustainability

### Risk management supplies answers to three questions:

#### What can happen?

Analysis of both the intensity and frequency of natural hazards identifies the expected consequences and damages.

#### What is allowed to happen?

Evaluation identifies acceptable and unacceptable risks.

#### What has to be done?

Integrated planning of measures weighs risks and opportunities and defines the degree to which risks are to be avoided, reduced, or borne.

## Comparable dealing with risks

Risk-oriented management of natural hazards means the comparable management of risks everywhere.

Comparable management is ensured when the level of security to be achieved for a given case is developed jointly by those responsible, in accordance with a uniform procedure.

- Stakeholders (those responsible, risk carriers, those affected) are identified
- Stakeholders have formulated their objectives and made them known to all
- Solution variants and envisaged measures are discussed with all stakeholders well in advance and an optimised solution devised
- Those responsible have taken and justified executive decisions with awareness of the risks and uncertainties involved