## sia

schweizerischer ingenieur- und architektenverein société suisse des ingénieurs et des architectes società svizzera degli ingegneri e degli architetti swiss society of engineers and architects

## **DRR** in Switzerland

WFEO-DRR working group land use planning Federico Ferrario online, April 25th 2025

© Keystone, Michael Buholzer

## Presentation



### **Federico Ferrario**

Forest Engineer ETH Zürich / SIA MAS Hydraulic Engineer ETH Lausanne CEO of the Engineering company EcoEng AG Member of the board SIA, treasurer Specialized in flood, debris flow, avalanches, wildfires and risk management. Senior firefighter instructor. Captain Fire Brigade

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## Content

- Introduction
- Swiss society of engineers and architects
- Switzerland disaster risk reduction
- Planat (Swiss Platform Natural hazards)
- Case studies
- FAN (Swiss specialists natural hazards)
- Questions and discussion



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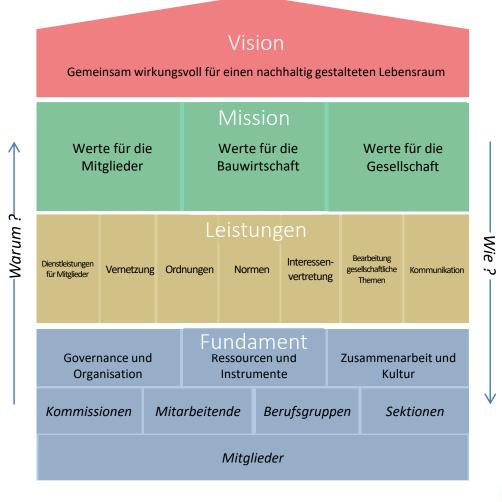
schweizerischer ingenieur- und architektenverein société suisse des ingénieurs et des architectes società svizzera degli ingegneri e degli architetti swiss society of engineers and architects

## Who we are?

# Acting together for a sustainably designed living environment.

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# **SIA Strategy**



sia

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## **Create values**

Values for the construction industry

Values for the members З Values for society

# SIA standards: set by volunteers - 171 committees

Established in balanced committees.

An outcome that serves all involved parties.



## **Benefits for members**

- 16'000 members
- Since 1837
- Further training
- Legal advice
- Association magazines
- Events
- Awarding of the Prix SIA

etc.

Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects

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#### STATUTEN

der

Gesellschaft schweizerischer Ingenieure \*) und Architekten.

#### §. 1.

Der Zweck der Gesellschaft ist: die Beförderung von Kenntnissen in den Fächern der Architektur und Ingenieur – Wissenschaften, durch Mittheilung gesammelter Erfahrungen und Beurtheilung vorgelegter, in dieses Gebiet einschlagender, Fragen. Es wird, zur Erreichung dieses Zweckes, jedes Mitglied von Zeit zu Zeit dem Präsidenten eine Abhandlung eingeben, die, je nach dem Wunsche des Einsenders, entweder nur bei der Gesellschafts-Versammlung verlesen, oder auch zur allgemeinern Verbreitung einer öffentlichen Schrift über das Bauwesen übergeben wird.

# **SIA** main topics

- Climate (Focus topic)
- Procurement
- Digital transformation
- Baukultur
- Spatial planning
- Education
- Future group (new)

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## What we do?

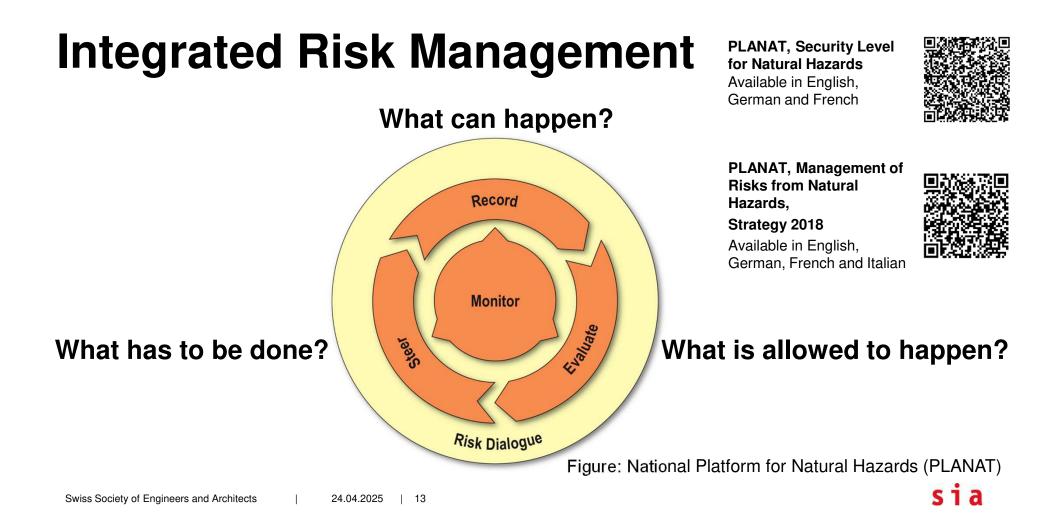


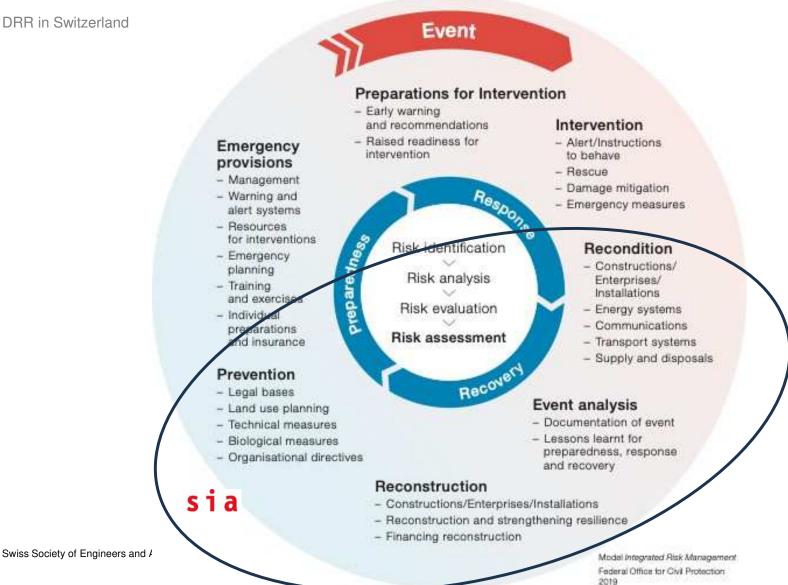
<sup>2</sup>egenwart und Z 19: Aarau, Sitten I futur des place re: Aarau, Sion

# SIA standards: values for the construction industry



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# **SIA Position Papers**

Climate protection,
 climate adaptation and energy

Available in German, French and Italian



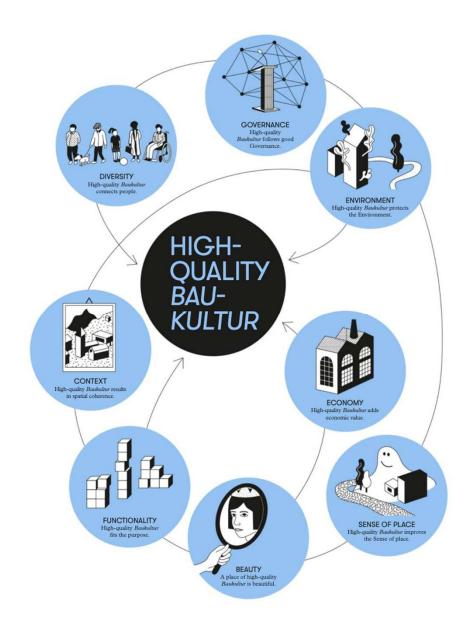




Available in German and French



# Davos Baukultur Quality System



Available in English, German, French and Italian



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# SIA building codes: structural engineering

sia		Schweizer Norm Norme Suisse Norma Svizzera
FprSIA 261/1:2019-06 Bauwese	n	Fpr505261/1
	Vorgesehen als E	Fratz der Norm SIA 261/1, Ausgabe 2003
Actions sur les structures porteuses – Azioni sulle strutture portanti – Indicaz Actions on Structures – Supplementar	ioni complementari	
Einwirkungen a Ergänzende Fes		
		6
		N
Referenznummer FprSN 505 261/1 2019-06 de Gültig ab: 2019-xx-xx	Herausgeber Schweizerischer Ingenieur- und Architektenverein	
	Postfach, CH-8027 Zürich	

- Objective of protection for flooding, avalanche, rockfall, mudflow:
  1 in 300 years (17% probability in 50 year lifetime of a building)
  Special buildings (shopping mall, school,
  - hospital, fire station):
    - 1 in 300 1'000 years

sia	
SIA 4002:2020 Bauwesen	
Crues - Ligne directrice de la nor	
Piene – Linee guida alla norma S	
Floods - Guida to coda SIA 261/1	
Hochwasser –	Wegleitung zur Norm SIA 261/1
	5 5
	Herousgaber Schweizerischer Ingenieur-
	und Amhitektenverein
Gültig ab: 2020-01-01	Postfach, CH-9027 Zürich

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# Building protection against floods - elevated ground floor





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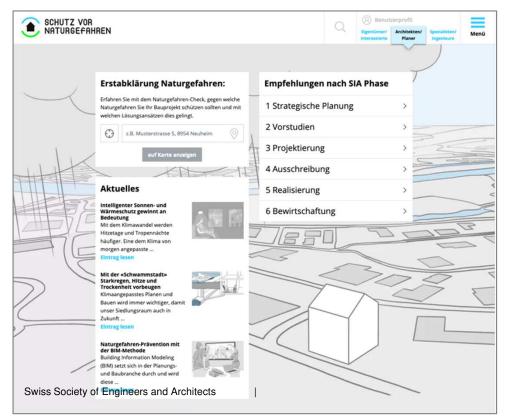
# Building protection against avalanche - solid structure (Spaltkeil)



picture Lukas Denzler

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# Web portal for architects, engineers and home owners



Available in German and French



Query on natural hazards based on location address

# Early inclusion in planning

Natural Hazards should be included in early phases of design and planning to ensure sustainable and efficient solutions. Documentation D0260: Design and Planning with Natural Hazards in building construction (from 2019)



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## Partner project «Sponge city»



Available in German, French and Italian



### & partner project for rain data for future climate

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# SIA building codes: future indoor climate

Scenarios of future climate: data for modelling und planning indoor climate





Available in Englisch, German and French

## **Risk based spatial planning**

	Dokumentation D 0246	s i	a
	Nachhaltige Raumer Kommunale und regi Erläuterungen zum Merkblatt S	onale Planungen	
schwitzerischer Ingenieur- und architekteurerin des Ingénieurs et des architectes societé suizzers degli ingegeri e degli architetti swiss society of segimers and architects			
selmaustrasse 16 ch-8027 zürich www.sia.ch			

SIA publication on sustainable spatial planning

&

webinar on risk based spatial planning with regard to flooding

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# Disaster Risk Reduction





## Every sixth house is at risk

Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects



In Schwanden (GL) vurschüttete ein Erdratich 2023 ein halbes Datzend Häuser, wirnse Din Maggiatal (TI) wurde im Jani 2024 von Unweitern heimgesucht.

Baselland, nicht bekannt für seine stei-

Was auch cristaunt: Das Tessin, im

vergangenen Sommer ebenfalls von

schweren Unwettern betroffen, rangiert

weit hinten in der Liste «Dass das Tessin

hinsichtlich des Anteils der von Natur-

gefähren betroffenen Wohngebäude als

Bergkanton so gut dasteht, hat uss am

meisten überraschts, sagt Jörg Schellen-

der potenziell betroffenen Wohnhäuser

allein sagt wenig über die tatsächliche

Gefahr nus. Denn in den alleemeisten

Fillen wird das Risiko als gering einge-

Im Testin ist die Situation die Esste-

sogar erheblich. Nur im Wallis und in

Neuenburg sind es noch mehr. «Dies-

doutet darnuf hin, dass im Tessin gwar

relativ wenige Gebluide officiell gefähr-

Das Tessin zeigt aber auch: Die Zahl

berg von der ZKB.

### Jedes sechste Haus ist gefährdet

Der Kanton Glarus wird von Hochwassern und Bergstürzen besonders bedroht, das Tessin kaum

ACQUELINE LIPP

Die Bewohner von Brienz sind nicht mehr Bewohner von Brienz. Das Bündner Dorf int seit Mitte November evakulert. Die 90 Einwohner mussten ihre Häuser verlassen, es droht ein Bergsturz, Phase Rot. Soither durften sie nur gerade zwei-

mal für einen Besuch zurück in ihr Dorf. Am Freitag vergangener Woche mitzten 86 Personen das Zeitfenster von 9 bis 17 Uhr, um etwas in der eigenen Wohnung zu erledigen. Am Samstag war das bereits nicht mehr möglich: Dichter Nebel behinderte die Sicht, eine Rückkehr war zu gefährlich, der Gemeindeführunmstah saute den Besuch ah-

#### Das grösste Risiko

Das Blindner Bergdorf int ein Extremfall. Aber: Die Gefahr droht vieleroris Jedes sechste Wohnhaus in der Schweiz ist von einer Naturgefahr bedroht. Das zeigt eine neue Auswertung der Zürcher Kantonalbank auf Basis der kantonalen Gefahrenkarten. Mit Abstand um grössten ist das Risiko von Hochwasser. Man erinnert uch noch zu gat an die Bilder vom vergangenen Sommert die abgeschnittenen Dörfer im Wallis, die verschüttete Strasse un Mison, der hohe Peecl des Bodensees

Besonders im Glarnerland at das Risiko gross: Jedes zweite Haus im Kunton Glarus ist mindestens einer Natur-

gefahr ausgesetzt. Denn viele Wohngebliude befinden sich in den Überschwemmungsgebieten der Linth und der Seruf. Hinter Glarus folgen die Kantone Wallis, Schwyz, Graubfinden und St. Gallen.

Dass vor allem Bergkantone ein len Bergwände, relativ viele Häuser in hobes Risiko aufweisen, hat in erster der Gefahrenzone. Grund sind die Ton-Linie topografische Gründe. «Die intenund Mergelschichten, die bei viel Regen siven Niederschläge in den steilen Bergihre Stabilität verlieren.

#### Wenn Starkregen mit der Schneeschmelze zusammenfällt, kann die Lage rasch kritisch werden.

regionen fliessen schnell ab und lassen schätzt. Nur bei vier Prozent aller Händie Pegelstände der Bäche und Flüsse ser schweizweit gilt eine erhebliche Gerasch anateigen», sagt Jörn Schellenfahr. Das sind weniger als 0.8 Prozent berg, Leiter GIS-Analysen bei der Züraller Wohngebitade im Land - aber doch cher Kantonalbank. Wenn Starkregen immerhin 12 600 Häuser. mit der Schneeschmelze zusammenfalle und die Boden bereits wassergesättigt hen zwar vereleichsweise wenige Häuseien, könne die Situation schnell kriser in der Gefahrenzone, aber bei fast tisch wenden der Hälfte ist die Gefahr mittel oder

Starke Niederschläge können in den Bergen zudem Murgänge auslösen, wie 2023 in Schwanden im Kanton Glarus Nebst Hochwasser sind auch Rotschongen. Felistürze oder Lawinen ein Risiko. det sinil, diese jedoch stärker betroffen Das hohe Risiko von Berekantonen ersein könnten», sagt Schellenberg. staunt kaum. Die Daten zeigen, dass aber auch «Flachland»-Kantone be-Erhöhte Gefahr, tiefere Preise troffen sind. So stehen etwa im Kanton

In der Schweiz sind Immobilien grund sätzlich gut gegen Naturgefahren ver sichert. Die meisten Kantone haben eine staatliche Gebäudeversicherung mit Versicherungsobligatorium. In den restlichen sieben, den sogenannten «Gustavo-Kantongu» Genf, Uri, Schwyz, Tes sin, Appenzell Innerthoden, Wallis und Obwalden, gilt teilweise eine Pflicht für eine Privatversicherung, teilweise ist die Versicherung freiwillig.

Zudem investiert die öffentliche Hand ruge in den Schutz, etwa in Form von Hochwasserschutztämmen oder Steinschlagnetzen, laut ZKB mehr als eine Milliarde Franken Jährlich, Absolute Sicherheit ist allerdings weder mög Lich much finanzierbar

Die Hausbesitzer von Brienz wissen Wenn ein Haus von Hochwasser oder Febsture bedroht int, schligt sich das tendenziell auch in den Immobilienpreisen nieder. In der Hochwassergefahrenzone liegen die Preise im Durchschnitt 2.6 Prozent tiefer als ausserbulb, Day zeigt eine Auswertung von Immobi tieninseraten, welche die ZKB gemach hat. Bei Felssturzgefahr lag der Ange-

botspreis sogar durchschnittlich 12 Pro

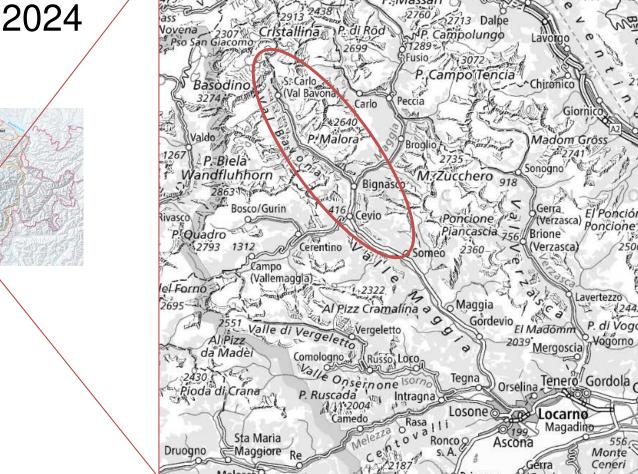
zent niedriger als ausserhalb der Ge

fahrenzone - egal, ob die Gefahrenstufe

gering oder mittel ist

Source: Neue Zürcher Zeitung, 12.04.2025

## Valle Maggia 2024 **Debris flow**



Maggiore Re

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lina

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Rodi-Fiesso

Massari 🕉

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Schweizerischer Ingenieur- und Architektenverein

24.04.2025

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(Verzasca)

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P. di Vogori

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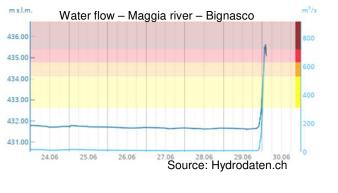
Monte

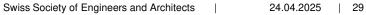
Ceneri

## Valle Maggia 2024 - Debris flow

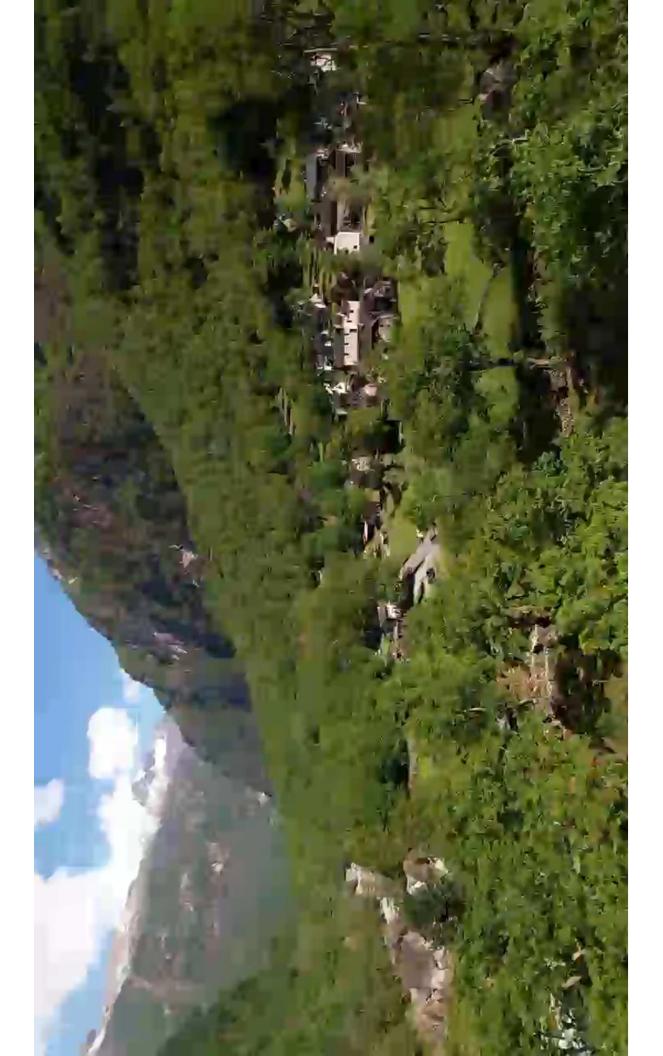
29 - 30 June 2024

- Intense rainfall (200l/m<sup>2</sup> in 24h in the upper part of the valley)
- Snowmelt









## Switzerland's focus on Disaster Risk Reduction

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Schweizerische Eidgenassenschaft Canfederation suisse Confederazione Svizzera Canfederazion svizze

April 2022

#### SWITZERLAND'S FOCUS ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION



Source: Philippe Gyarmati, FOEN

This paper summarises the key elements that Switzerland considers important in disaster risk reduction (DRR)<sup>1</sup>. It has been harmonised within the DRR working group<sup>2</sup> and is meant to serve as a basis to inform a coherent Swiss position at the upcoming 7th Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction (GP 2021).<sup>2</sup>

#### Overall goal in DRR

In line with the global community and as depicted in the Sendal Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–30, Switzerland strives to reduce eaking risks substantially and to prevent new risks. Notecover, Switzerland is committed to strengthening the ability of its society, economy and environment to resist and adapt to haards and recover from disasters, thereby safeguarding people's welfare.

#### Switzerland's approach

Integrated risk management<sup>4</sup> is a process aimed at addressing and managing risks. As a syntematic approach, it means identifying and assessing risks (what can happen?), evaluating and prioritising them (what is allowed to happen?), and taking appropriate measures to reduce them (whot should be done?). The broad range of measures and actions in the areas of prevention and migation, preparedress, response and recovery are seen as complementary mechanisms that need to be combined in an appropriate and balanced way.



SWITZERLAND'S FOCUS ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION

 Disaster is a serious disruption of the functioning a community or a society moving widespice human, material, economic or environmental losse and impacts, which exceeds the ability of the affected community or society to cope using its ow resources. Distasters are often described as a result of the combination of the exposure to a hazard, th conditions of winerability that are present; an insufficient capacity or measures to reduce or cop with the potential negative consequences.

ITION

Risk is defined as the potential loss of life, injury, or destroyed or damaged assets which could occur to a system, society or a community in a specific period of time, determined probabilistically as a function of hazard, exposure, vulnerability and capacity. It can be displayed as a product of damage and likelihood.

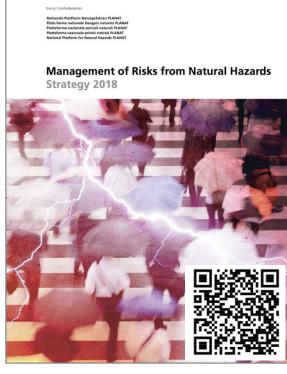
Hazard is a dangerous phenomenon, substance, human activity or condition that may cause loss of life, injury or other health impacts, property damage, loss of livelihoods and services, social and economic disruption, or environmental damage.

Exposure refers to who and what may be affected in an area in which hazardous events may occur. If the population and economic resources were not located in (exposed to) potentially dangerous settings, no risk would exist.

Vulnerability depends on the characteristics and circumstances of a community, system or asset that make it susceptible to the damaging effects of a hazard. There are many aspects of vulnerability, arising from various physical, social, economic, and environmental factors.

Capacity refers to the combination of all the strengths, attributes and resources available within an organisation, community or society to manage and reduce disaster risks and strengthen realilence. Capacity may include infrastructure, institutions, human knowkedge and skills, and collective attributes such as social relationships, leadership and management.

## **Swiss Strategies**

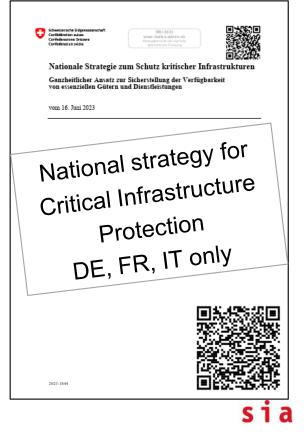


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## **Management of Risks from Natural Hazards**

## **National Platform for Natural Hazards PLANAT**

The National Platform for Natural Hazards PLANAT is an extra-parliamentary commission set up by the Federal Council in 1997. Federal Council in 1997. PLANAT develops Switzerland's strategy for dealing with risks from natural hazards and further develops integral risk management (IRM).

#### Strategic work

With its strategy «Dealing with risks from natural hazards», PLANAT sets out the how Switzerland deals with risks from natural hazards. It also advises the Federal Council on technical issues, comments on political political processes and draws up recommendations on the level of safety in Switzerland.

#### Raising awareness

PLANAT strives to realise the vision of a risk-competent society that conscious and forward-looking way of dealing with risks from natural hazards. To this end propagates that risk analyses and action planning should be carried out in a participatory so that authorities, experts and those affected can work together to develop optimal solutions together.

#### Coordination

PLANAT ensures that synergies are better utilised. The platform promotes the exchange of knowledge and experience both within Switzerland and abroad.

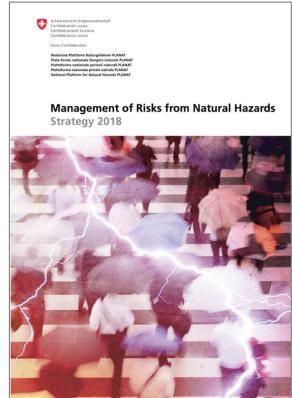
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Source: www.planat.ch



# **Management of Risks from Natural Hazards**



## **National Platform for Natural Hazards PLANAT**

(extra-parliamentary commission) Strategy 2004, updated in 2018



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## Action plan:

Umgang mit Naturgefahren in der Schweiz





## **Management of Risks from Natural Hazards**



#### **Objectives**

Switzerland provides adequate security against natural hazards

- Switzerland is resistant
- Switzerland is able to recover
- Switzerland is able to adapt

#### **Principles**

Switzerland addresses natural hazards with a risk-oriented approach

- Switzerland practices a comprehensive risk culture
- Integrated risk management involves everyone
- Risks from natural hazards are managed in a spirit of solidarity
- Knowledge of natural hazards and risks is up-to-date and accessible
- Risk management takes into account all aspects of sustainability

#### **Priorities**

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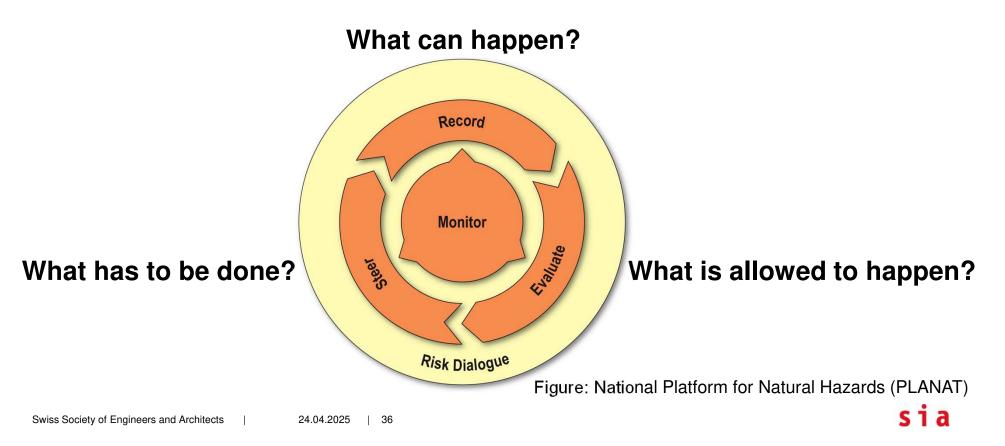
Switzerland sets priorities for managing natural hazards

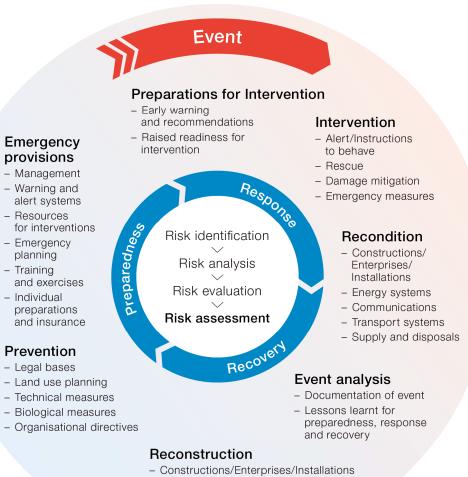


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## **Integrated Risk Management**





- Reconstruction and strengthening resilience
- Financing reconstruction

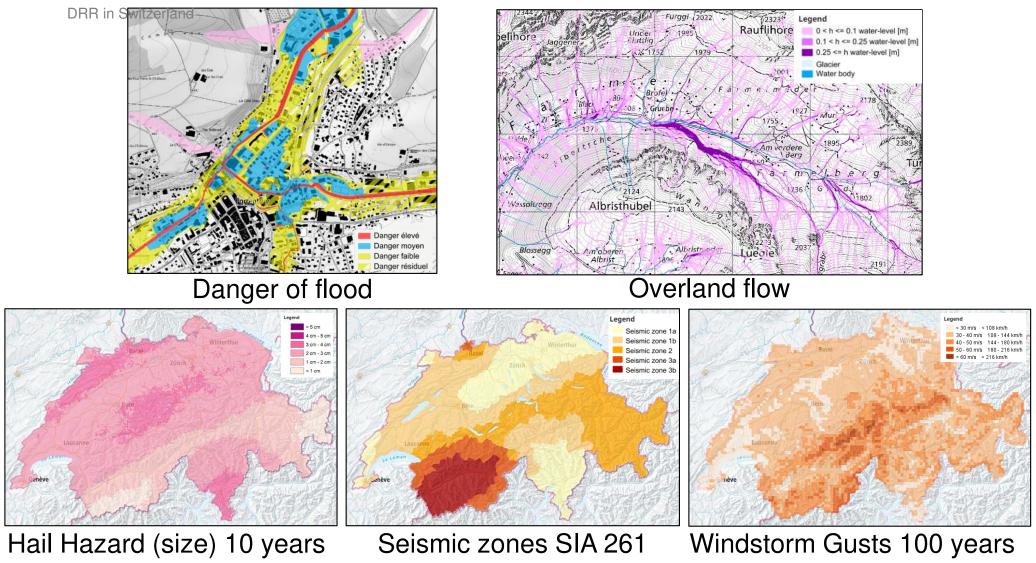
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Model Integrated Risk Management Federal Office for Civil Protection 2019

#### FLOOD HAZARD LEVELS (COMBINATION OF FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY)

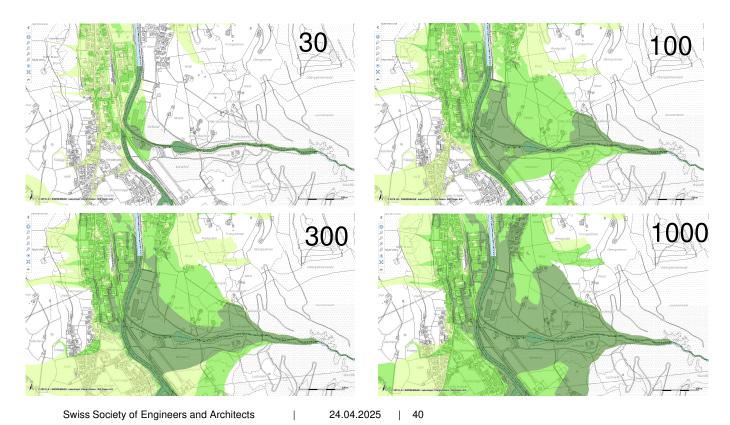


FLOOD RISK (COMBINATION OF HAZARD, ASSETS AND VULNERABILITY)



Source: map.geo.admin.ch / Cantonal GIS website

### **Hazard Maps**



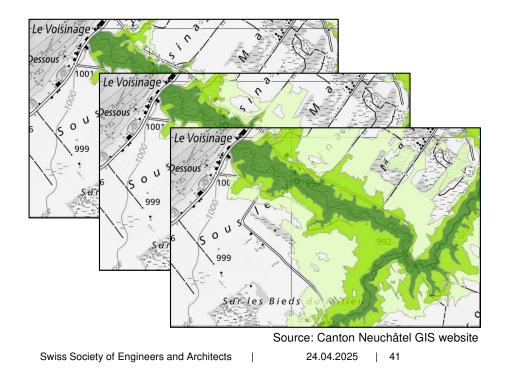
#### Example Flood

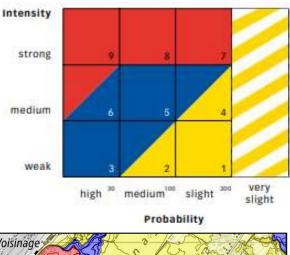
Intensity at 30-year, 100-year, 300-year and 1000-year return periods

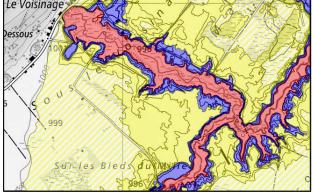
Similar hazard maps exist for avalanches, rock fall, and land slides

# Hazard map concept

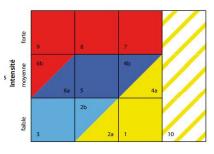
#### Combination of intensity and probability



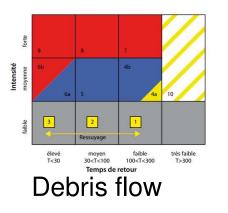




## Hazard map concept

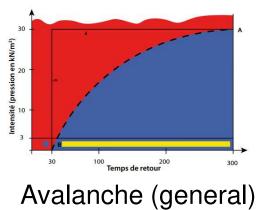


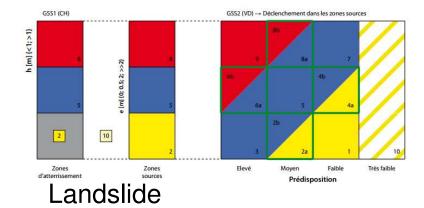
Flood

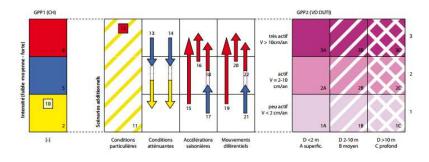


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#### Rockfall / Rockslide







### Permanent Landslide

sia

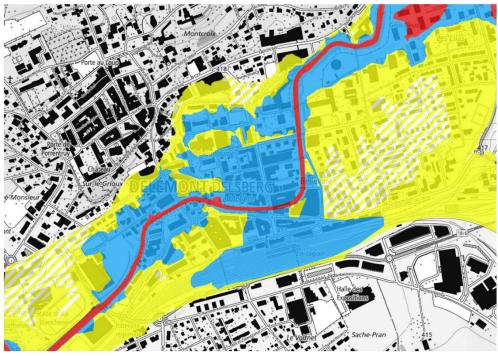
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#### **Delémont (JU)**

Flood of 2007 in Delémont

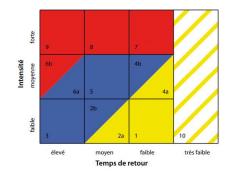
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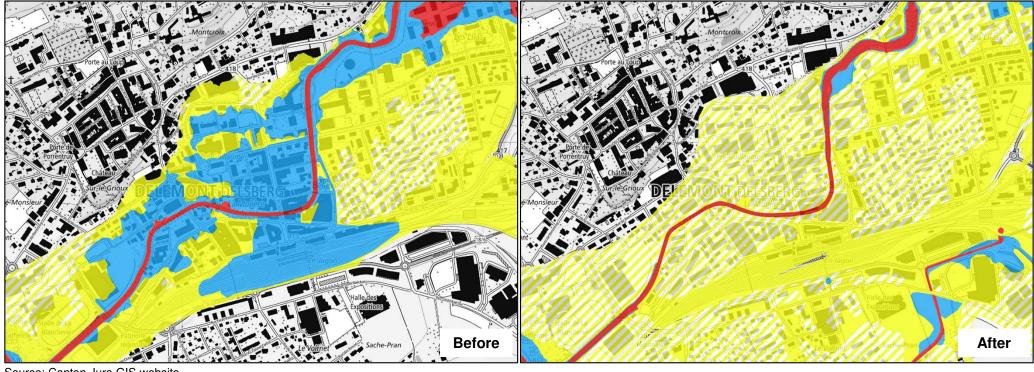
Danger of flood in Delémont 2019

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- City center highly affected by flood
- Insufficient hydraulic section
- Highly constructed environment







Source: Canton Jura GIS website

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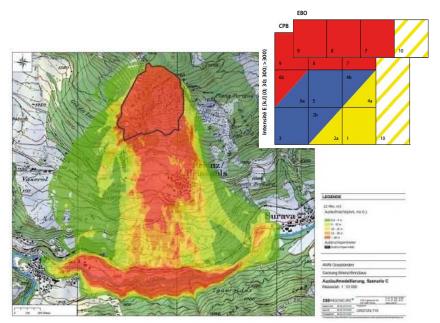
#### **Brienz (GR)**

Rock avalanche in Brienz (GR) 16.06.2023 © Keystone Gian Ehrenzeller

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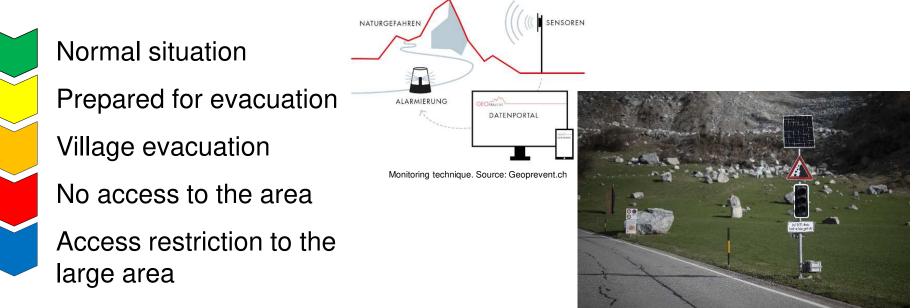
#### Monitoring techniques:

- Radar
- GNSS sensor
- Total station
- Water pressure sensor
- In-SAR
- Seismograph
- Optic fiber
- ...



Simulation of worst case scenario. Source: Blog alertswiss

#### **Prevention:**



Traffic light. © Keystone Gian Ehrenzeller

#### **Measures:**

Dam (road protection) Drainage tunnel (2024-2027)



Drainage tunnel. Source: SRF News. © Tiefbauamt Graubünden

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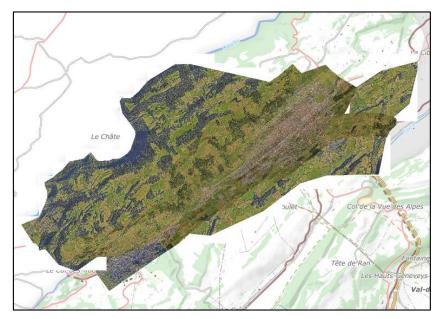
### **Risk Management – Case studies**



Windstorm La Chaux-de-Fonds 25.07.2023 © Lionel Peyraud, MétéoSuisse

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La Chaux-de-Fonds (NE)



Rapid-Mapping product - Windstorm La Chaux-de-Fonds (NE) 08.2023

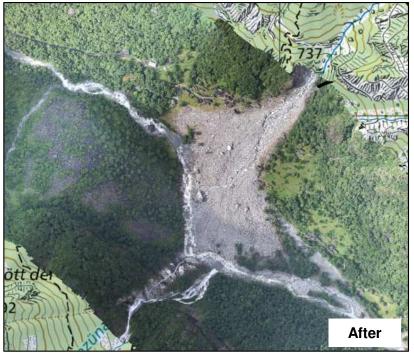


Canopy difference between before and after the event Source: Canton de Neuchâtel



Ortho-image 2021 Source: Swisstopo

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Rapid-Mapping product - Debris-flow Valle Bavona (TI) 06.2024



Ortho-image 2021 Source: Swisstopo



Rapid-Mapping product - Debris-flow Misox (GR) 22.06.2024

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# **Risk Management – Emergency** preparation





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#### Zurich airport – Risk analysis

- Considering war influences
- Considering cyclical economic effects
- Not considering Swissair collapse

#### Unternehmerische Risiken

- Verkehrsprognosen
  - Konjunktureinflüsse
  - Kriegerische Ereignisse
- Dominierender Hauptkunde
  - Home Carrier fällt Entscheide kurzfristig und selbstherrlich ...
  - An die ganz grossen (und nun eingetretenen) Risiken wurde in diesem Fall überhaupt nie gedacht (Worst Case: Swissair fremdbeherrscht)

Souce: ZIPBau Workshop 2002

### FAN – Natural hazards specialists



Fachleute Naturgefahren Spécialistes des dangers naturels Specialisti in pericoli naturali



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# **FAN** – Natural hazards specialists

- Holistic/Integrated Protection against Natural Hazards
- Gravitational Natural Hazards
  - Floods, Mudslides and Debris Flows, Landslides (shallow / deep-seated), Snow Avalanches, Rock Falls and Rock Avalanches
  - Interdisciplinary Assessment of Hazardous Processes in Switzerland

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# **FAN** – Natural hazards specialists

- Main Areas of Work are as follows:
  - Hazard Assessment
  - Hazard Mapping
  - Identifying Risks and Dealing with Risks
  - Constructional, Biological Engineering, Planning and Organizational Measures



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# FAN – Natural hazards specialists

- Goals:
  - Exchange of Experience between Practitioners, Researchers and Authorities
  - Communication of new Research Results
  - Preservation Specific Interests
  - Cooperation with Professionals in related Fields of Activity





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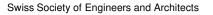




# FAN – Natural hazards specialists

- Activities: •
  - **Organization of Continuing Education Courses**
  - **Organization of Professional Exchange Meetings**
  - Statements and Participation in Consultations
  - Expert advice
  - Participation in Research Projects and basic research Activities
  - **Publications**







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# FAN – Natural hazards specialists

#### **Practical Course Hazard Assessment Gravitational Natural Hazards**

- Series of Continuing Education Courses
- For beginners with little practical experience
- Management Team of experienced Natural Hazard Experts
- Opportunity to acquire comprehensive Skills in Assessing Gravitational Natural Hazards
- Exercises, Case Studies, Discussions
- Script and Course Document
- 6 Modules Basics
  - Rock falls
  - Landslides
  - Torrents
  - Rivers 24.04.2025 | 63
  - Snow Avalanches





# Conclusions

Today's planning should include:

- Integral thinking (all types of measures early in the planning process)
- Participatory processes (all stakeholders)
- Data for future climate

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### **Questions**?

