



Adaptation to climate change in Switzerland

National Adaption Strategy

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Swiss Adaption Strategy

Agenda

- Legal basis for adaption in Switzerland
- Stakeholders involved in strategy development
- Swiss Adaption Strategy – an overview
- Development and content of the Swiss Adaption Strategy
 - 1st part: strategy
 - 2nd part: action plan
- Experiences, challenges



Legal basis for adaptation in Switzerland

Revised CO₂ act, in force from 1.1.2013



Art. 8 Coordination of Adaptation Measures

- 1 The federal government coordinates measures to prevent and cope with damages to people and assets caused by increased greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere.
- 2 It ensures that basic information needed for adaptation is made available.



Involved Stakeholders

Intergovernmental Committee on Climate

- Environment
- Energy
- Spatial Development
- Agriculture
- Health
- Animal Health
- Economy
- Civil Protection
- Meteorology
- Finance



Consultation of cantons



Swiss Adaption Strategy



Strategy 1st part

⇒ Adopted by the
Federal Council on
2 March 2012

Action plan (2nd part)

⇒ To be adopted by the
Federal Council at the
end of 2013.

Adaption goals

Principles

9 sectoral
sub-strategies
- fields of action
- strategic goals

12 cross-sectoral
challenges

Measures of the
federal offices in
order to reach the
sectoral adaptation
objectives

↓
Coordination of
adaption to deal
with challenges



Swiss Adaption Strategy



Adaption goals

- Make use of **opportunities** arising from climate change

Principles

9 sectoral sub-strategies
- fields of action
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- Minimise **risks** from climate change: protect population, public assets and natural life support systems

12 cross-sectoral challenges

- Improve the **adaptive capacity** of society, economy and environment



Swiss Adaption Strategy



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- Sustainability
- Partnership-based approach
- Complementarity of adaptation and mitigation
- Scientific findings
- Risk approach
- Consideration of uncertainties
- Consideration of different response time scales
- International knowledge exchange
- Evaluation of adaptation progress
- Dynamic process



Swiss Adaptation Strategy



Adaption goals

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Adaption in sectors

1. Water management
2. Natural hazards management
3. Agriculture
4. Forestry
5. Energy
6. Tourism
7. Biodiversity management
8. Health
9. Spatial development



Sectoral sub-strategies



48 fields of action in 9 sectors

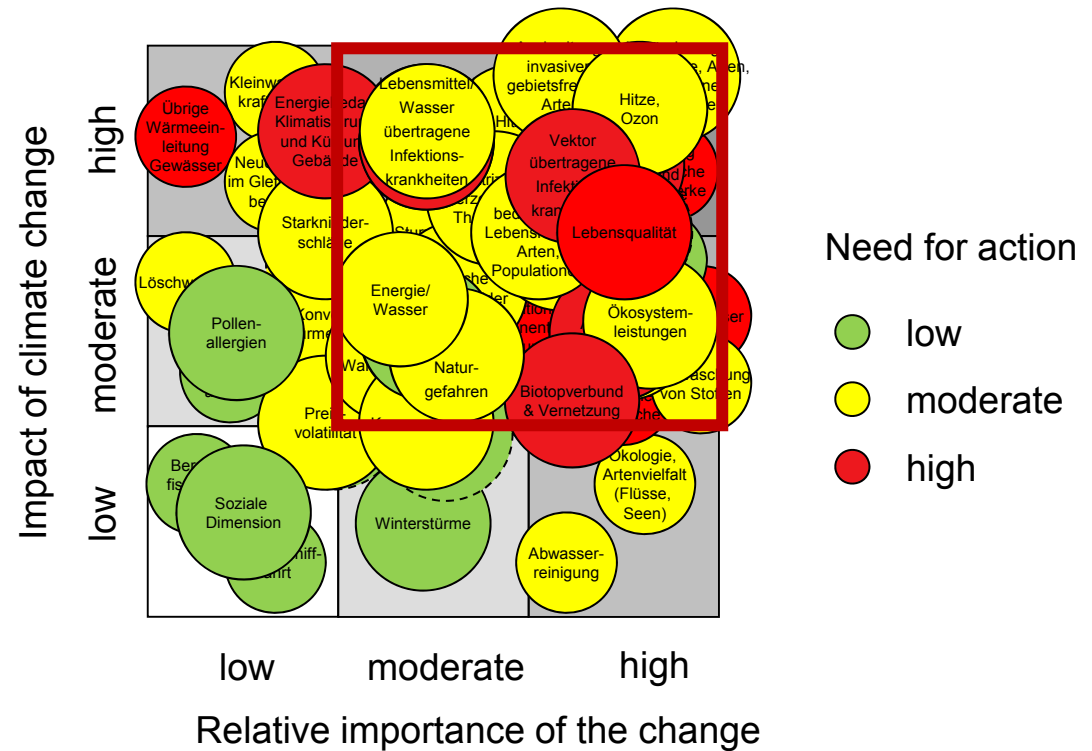
Identification of main **fields of action**

Adaption goals

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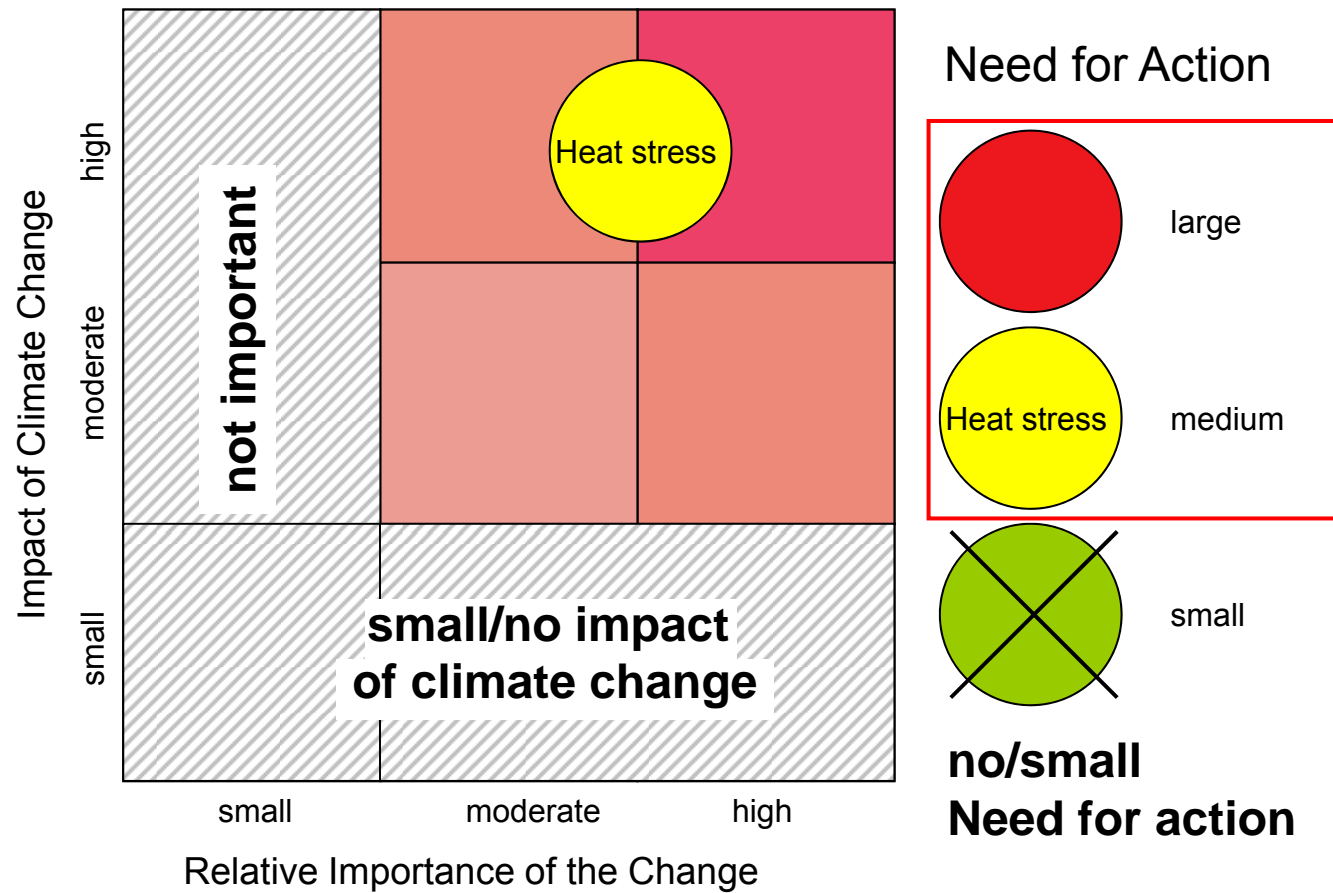
12 cross-sectoral challenges





Fields of action - Explanation

Identification of main **fields of action**





Fields of action - Interfaces

	Water mng.	Natural hazard mitigation	Agriculture	Forestry	Energy production	Biodiversity mng.	Tourism	Health	Spatial planning
Water management									
Natural hazards mitigation									
Agriculture									

Synergies? (Green box with arrow pointing to the intersection of Water management and Natural hazard mitigation)

Conflicts? (Red box with arrow pointing to the intersection of Natural hazards mitigation and Agriculture)

View (Blue vertical bar with arrow pointing to the Health column)

50 interfaces between identified fields of action

Interface water distribution

Water management – energy

Water management – agriculture

Water management – biodiversity



Swiss adaptation strategy



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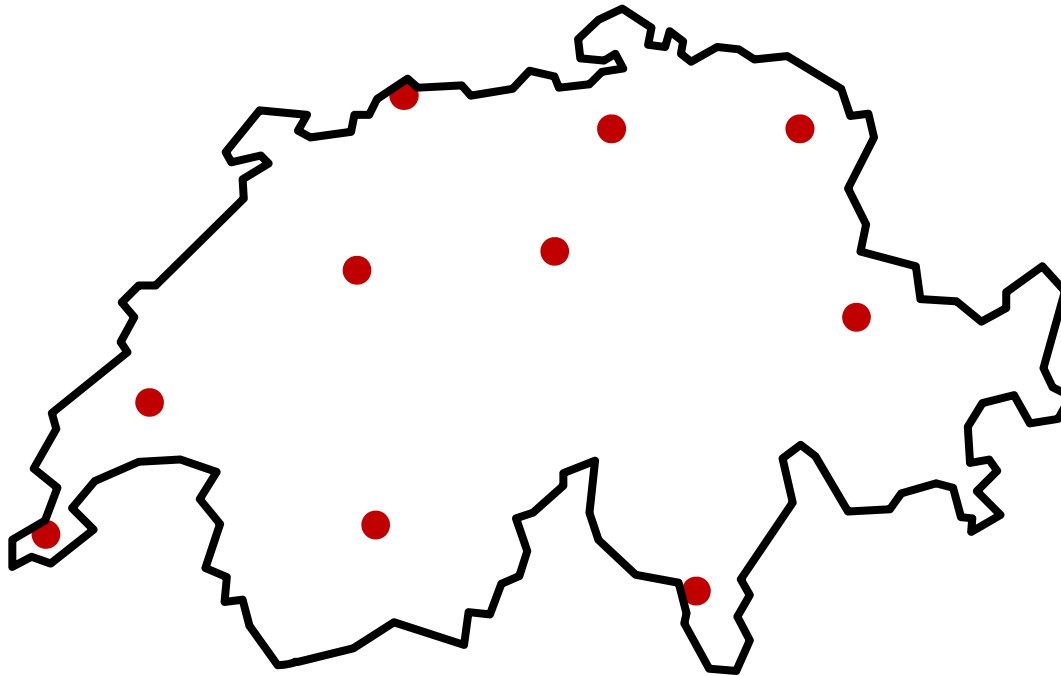
12 cross-sectoral
challenges

1. Greater heat stress in urban areas
2. Increasing levels of summer droughts
3. Greater risk of flooding
4. Decreasing slope stability
5. Rising snowline
6. Impaired water, soil and air quality
7. Change in habitats and landscapes
8. Spread of harmful organisms and disease
9. Monitoring and early detection
10. Uncertainties and knowledge gaps
11. Raising awareness
12. Resource requirements and funding



Cross-sectoral challenges - Example

Impacts of heat waves in cities and urban regions



Sectors concerned:

Spatial planning, health, energy sector



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Action plan - Adaptation Measures

76 adaption
measures in
9 sectors

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Sectoral survey

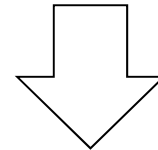
- F1 Adaptation measure
- F2 Relation to adaptation strategy (part 1)
- F3 Objective(s)
- F4 Description
- F5 Prioritization (1., 2., 3. Priority)
- F6 Time horizon (short-, middle-, longterm)
- F7 Responsibility
- F8 Application instrument
- F9 Interfaces to other sectors
- F10 Knowledge gaps
- F11 Resources required



Action plan - Coordination Need

Workshops

- 12 cross-sectoral challenges
- 76 adaptation measures



- **Fields for coordination** between sectors in order to tackle the challenges from climate change
- **Examples**
Water distribution/storage
sectors concerned: agriculture, energy, water mng., biodiversity

Reduction heat islands, sectors concerned: spatial development, biodiversity

Measures of the federal offices in order to reach the sectoral adaptation objectives

Coordination of adaption to deal with challenges



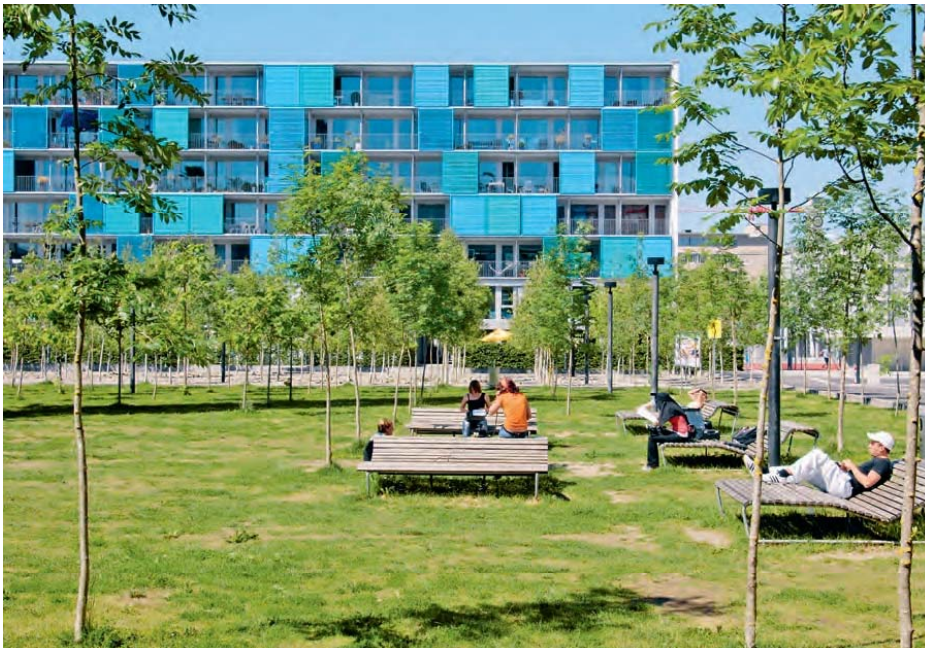
Experiences, Challenges

- Find acceptance as environmental agency to lead the process
- Find a common understanding of what adaptation is
- Focus on adaptation instead of the battle for resources
- Motivate all sectors to participate in the development of the adaptation strategy



Adaptation to climate change

- ▶ Seize opportunities
 - ▶ Minimise risks
- ▶ Increase adaptive capacity



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