

National Centre of Competence in Research

"CLIM+"

Climate Extremes & Society



► Brief description

In recent years, extreme weather events and natural disasters have increased worldwide, revealing the severe risks associated with climate change. Switzerland has been particularly affected, with temperatures rising twice as fast the global average. Heatwaves, droughts, heavy precipitation and compound events are becoming markedly more frequent. Global climate disasters also affect Switzerland indirectly, for example by disrupting supply chains. Continued warming is likely to bring even more extreme events, with the potential for long-term societal crises. The societal, political and technological transformations required to address these challenges are considerable. The associated opportunities and trade-offs need to be carefully assessed.

The National Centre of Competence in Research (NCCR) "CLIM+" combines expertise from multiple disciplines and unites 47 research groups from 13 Swiss research institutions. This creates a nationwide, interdisciplinary climate research community that works with stake-holders in health, agriculture, water management and finance.

"CLIM+" aims to develop scientifically grounded future scenarios that integrate both physical and societal dimensions of extreme climate impacts. Using state-of-the-art climate models, artificial intelligence, and advanced statistical methods, the NCCR will open new research fields – such as those addressing rare but high-impact extreme events. It will also tackle emerging questions on social change in the context of climate protection and societal resilience, spanning topics from federalism and governance to economics, ethics, law and climate awareness.

In its first phase, the NCCR will establish the new Center for Climate Extremes and Resilience in Swiss Society (CERESS). This center will consolidate nationwide research on climate extremes and societal resilience, design user-oriented test environments ('Living Labs') and develop concrete recommendations for action. In doing so, the NCCR "CLIM+" will play a key role in the elaboration of Switzerland's long-term climate and energy strategies.

► Facts and figures

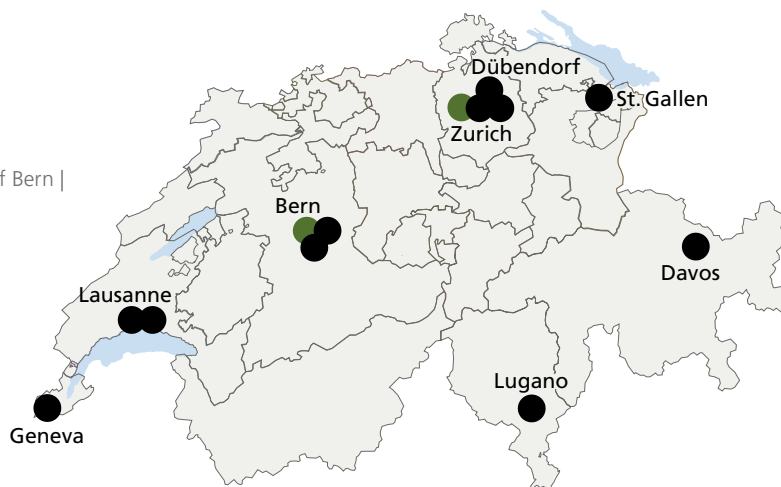
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Federal funding (2026–2029): CHF 16.88 million

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● Host institution (number of groups)

- ETH Zurich (15)
- University of Bern (10)

● Network (number of groups)

- University of Zurich (5)
- University of Lausanne (4)
- University of Geneva (3)
- Eawag (1)
- EPFL (1)
- University of St. Gallen (1)
- Swiss National Supercomputing Centre (CSCS), ETH Zurich (1)
- MeteoSwiss (2)
- Agroscope (1)
- Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL-SLF) (2)
- Wyss Academy, University of Bern (1)

Further information

www.sbfi.admin.ch/national-centres-of-competence-in-research



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Research and Innovation SERI**