



Networking and Communicating - Building Blocks of the Swiss National Centre for Climate Services (NCCS), a National Coordination Mechanism and Partnership

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In recognition of the Global Framework for Climate Services (GFCS) – which advocates for the establishment of national coordination mechanisms – Switzerland founded its National Centre for Climate Services (NCCS) in late 2015. The Centre is a concerted national effort comprised of seven Federal Agencies and Institutes and further partners from academia committed to implementing the Framework at national to subnational level and creating global synergies.

The goals of the NCCS are to bundle the existing climate services of the Swiss Federation, identify unaddressed needs and co-create new tailored solutions with users, and act as a network agent and knowledge broker – to boost climate literacy and enable climate-sensitive decision-making leading to increased resilience. Thus, the services support policy-makers from national to local level as well as the business sector and society at large in their risk management, adaptation and mitigation endeavours.

Since its inception, the NCCS attracted essential key players, mapped stakeholders and their requirements, and accordingly defined and populated six priority themes in line with the priority areas of the GFCS. One of the themes – and a core product of the NCCS – is the development of the new Swiss climate scenarios for 2018. These will be of a user-oriented fashion, and their uptake enhanced by means of stakeholder dialogues and collaboratively developed communication formats. In terms of international development engagement, the WMO-GFCS project CLIMANDES2 supports climate services twinning between Peru and Switzerland.

In 2017, a multi-tiered network and communications strategy is being designed and rolled out to ensure a targeted approach in creating and strengthening the interfaces and partnerships between the main stakeholders of the Centre. The formats are both target-group specific and all-inclusive and range from one-on-ones via Swiss-wide events to participation in European and international research projects. Media work and further dissemination aspects such as publications are also considered. As one of the main formats, the setup of an interactive web portal is currently in progress, with the aim to serve as a one-stop-shop and market place for the provision of climate services. The contents are discussed in a participatory manner, entry points will be manifold and links to other portals, such as the Copernicus C3S Data Store, will be established.

This presentation will give an overview of the NCCS and its first accomplishments as well as discuss its strategies, activities and current challenges. Specific attention will be given to showcasing the network and communications strategy.