

Workshop on National Platforms 23 - 29 August 2008, Davos Switzerland



Disaster Risk Reduction
National Coordinating Mechanisms

in

Switzerland

PLANAT





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Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

THE COUNTRY



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SWITZERLAND: A FEW DATA

	Agricultural land s.l.	36.9%
The territory 41,285 km ²	Settlements and urban areas	6.8%
	Unproductive land	21.3%

Its population in 2006: 7.5 mio

Four national languages: German, French, Italian and Romanche;

Three official ones: German, French and Italian

Switzerland: its political system divides the tasks between the three levels



Federal Government

- Conceptual work and legislation
- Supervision of implementation

Cantons (26)

- Implementation of federal regulations

Municipalities (< 3000)

- Implementation of federal and cantonal regulations



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SWITZERLAND AND ITS « NATURAL » DISASTERS

Disasters in Switzerland related to natural hazards



One of the major recent disaster:



**AUGUST 2005
HEAVY RAINS
IN CH**



Recent « major » disasters in Switzerland

Events	Year	Death toll	Damage (in mio €)
Snow avalanches	1951	97	80
Floods in the Alpine Arc	1987	4	800
Snow avalanches	1999	17	500
Floods in the Alpine foreland	1999	2	390
Windstorm Lothar	1999	14 (+ 15 during recovery)	1'330
Floods in the Wallis & Ticino	2000	16	445
Floods in Central Switzerland and Bern	2005	6	1'750
Floods and terrain instabilities	2007	4	430



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THE POLICY

The National Platform for Natural Hazards: PLANAT



PLANAT was created in 1997 by the Swiss Federal Council and made responsible for coordinating concepts in the field of prevention against natural hazards.

The main objectives of the extra-parliamentary commission are:

- A paradigm shift from pure protection against hazards to the management of natural risks within a uniform vision.**
- A National forum for discussion**

The National Platform for Natural Hazards



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Nationale Plattform Naturgefahren PLANAT
Plate-forme nationale «Dangers naturels»
Piattaforma nazionale «Pericoli naturali»
National Platform for Natural Hazards



PLANAT consists of twenty specialists coming from the Confederation, the cantons, research, professional associations, the economy and insurances.

They are from all regions of Switzerland.

The Federal Council appoints them for periods of four years.

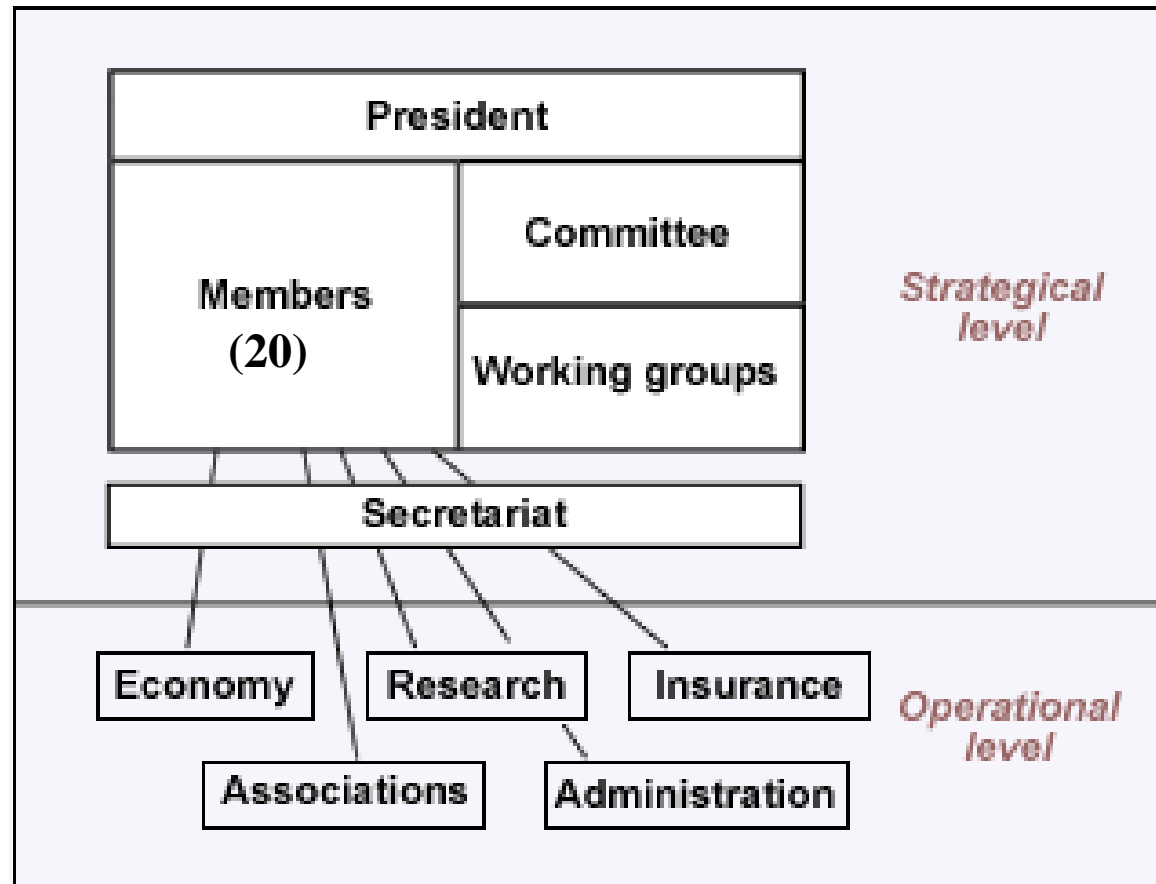


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PLANAT: its organization



Context of Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) in Switzerland

PLANAT members

Federal Administration



DETEC FOEN ARE DDCP M.DFA DHA



ETHZ



MeteoSwiss



Canton



Canton



Private sector



EPFL



University



Private sector



Canton



Canton



Insurance



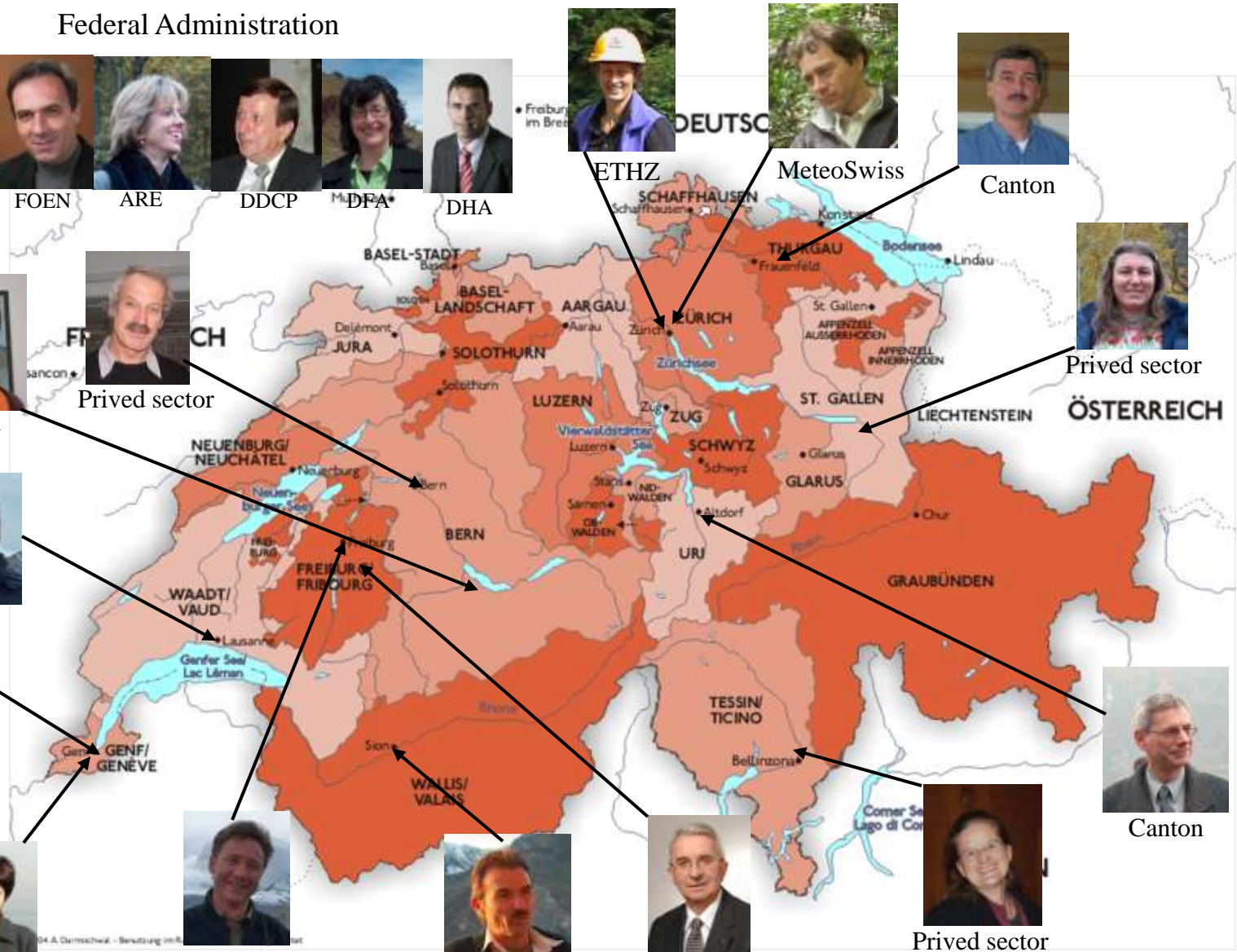
Private sector



Private sector



Canton





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Nationale Plattform Naturgefahren PLANAT
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The Swiss Federal Council mandated PLANAT to develop a comprehensive and interlinked strategy to improve the protection against natural hazards.

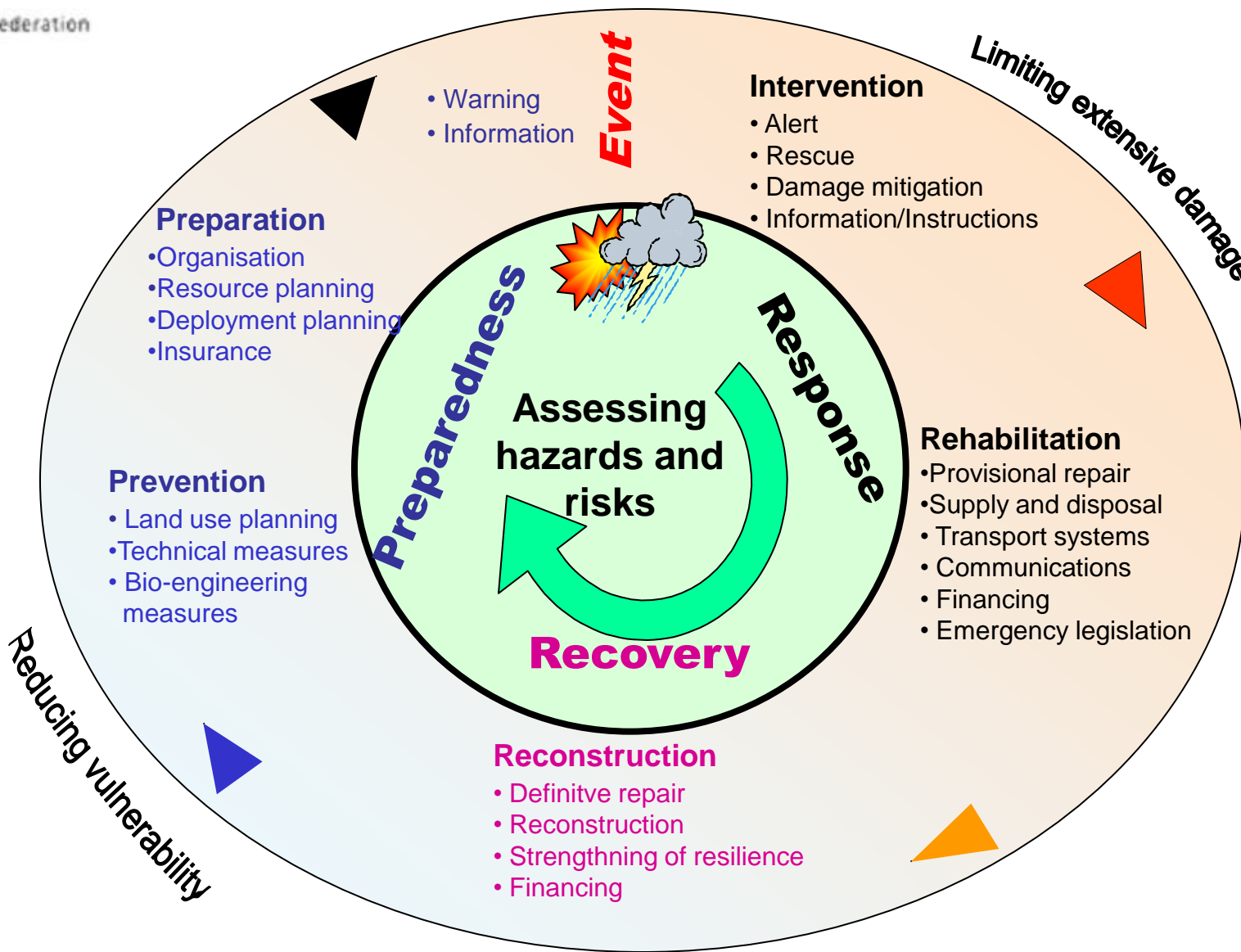
The Federal Council emphasized that protection against natural hazards should not only be provided for residents of the Alpine region, but for the entire population of Switzerland.

It also intends to ensure comparable security standards throughout Switzerland based on extensive risk management.

The aim is to protect people and their livelihood as well as important material assets.



The cycle of integrated risk management



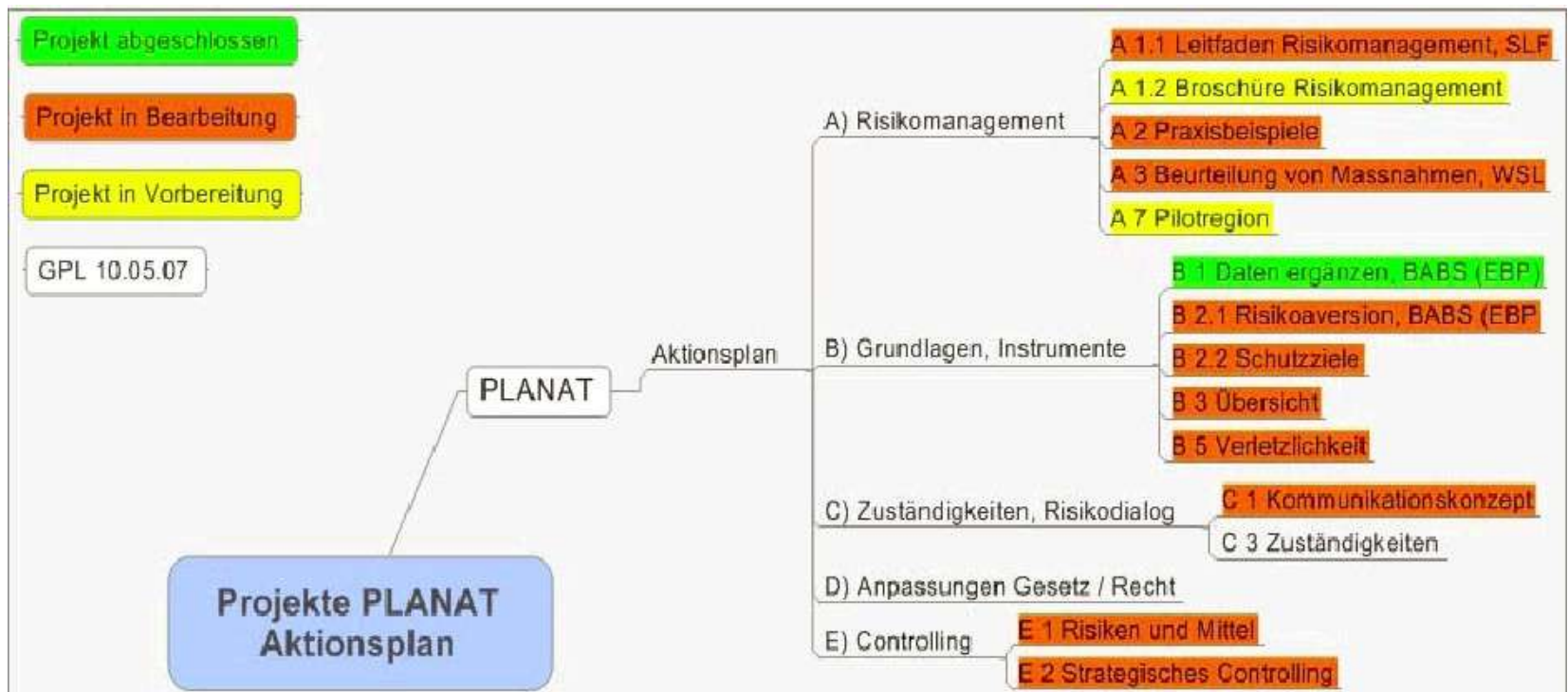
Nationale Plattform Naturgefahren PLANAT
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THINK GLOBALLY

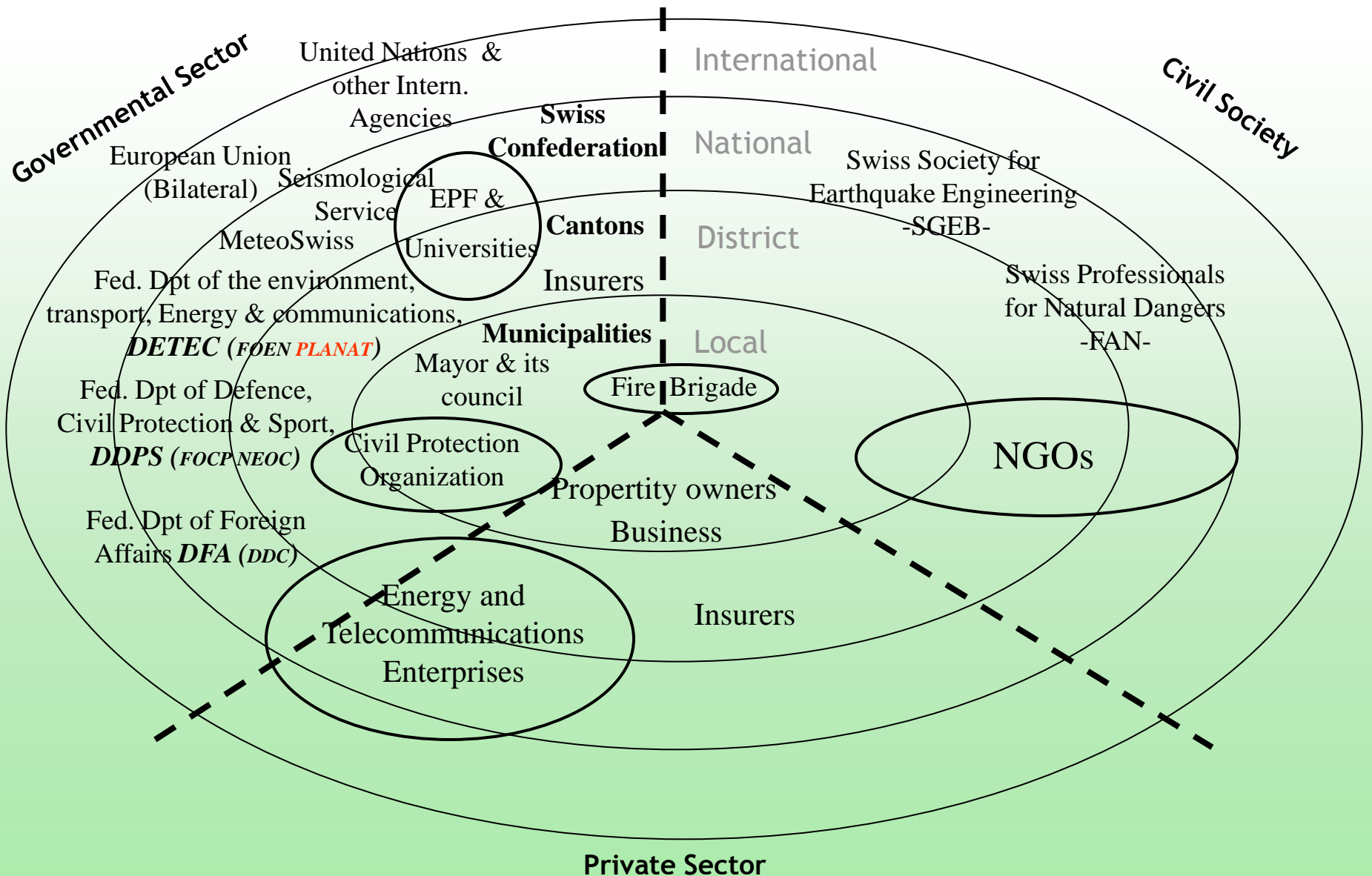


ACT LOCALLY

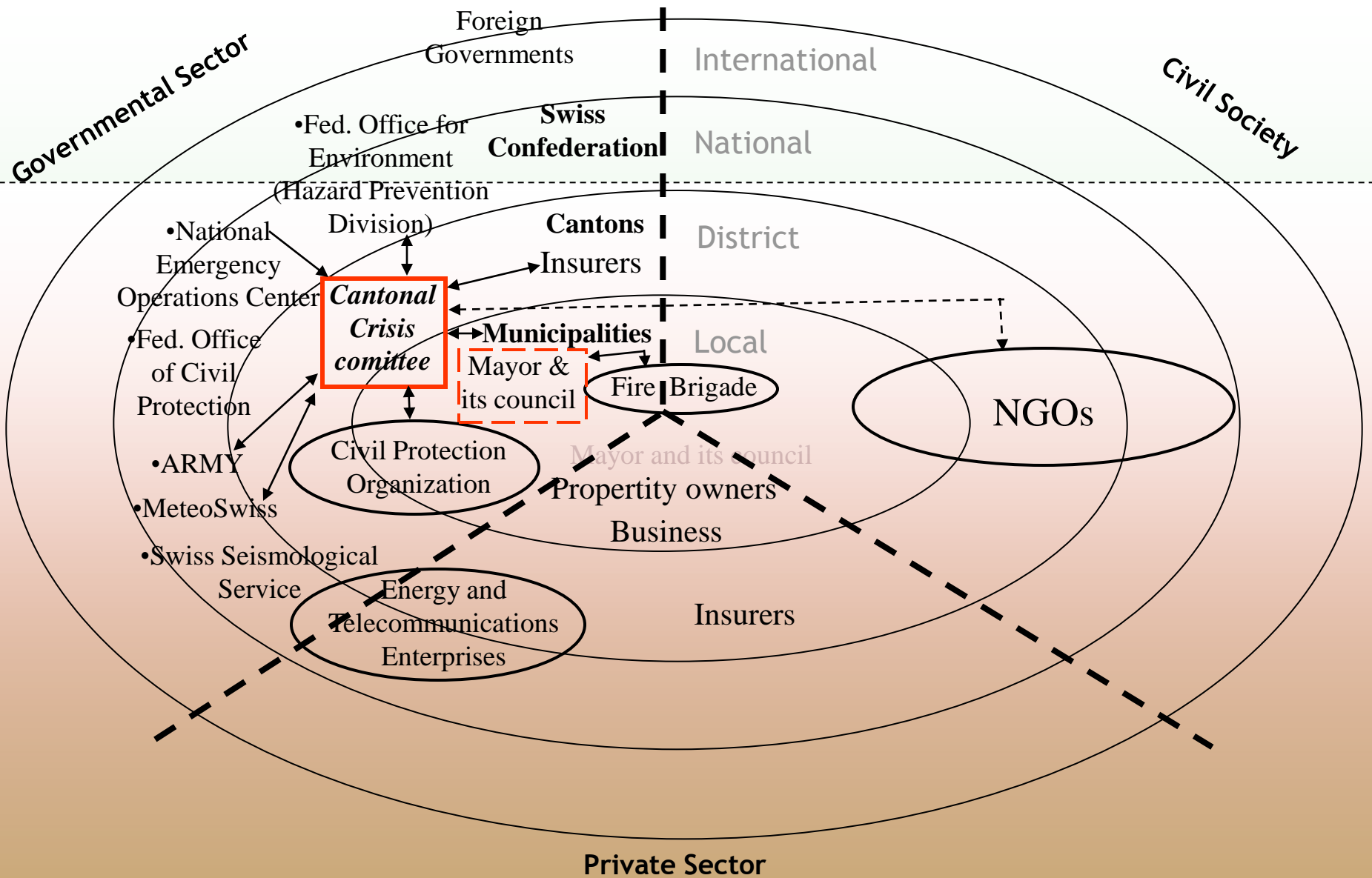
PLANAT ONGOING PROJECT: ACTION PLAN IN THE FRAME OF DRR AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE



Institutional Actors and Stakeholders in Normal Times



Institutional Actors and Stakeholders in Crisis Times





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Partners of civil protection system

Civil Protection System

Management



Police



Fire service



Public health care service



Technical services



Protection & support service



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CONCLUSION:

**SWITZERLAND HAS APPROPRIATE INSTITUTIONS
DEALING WITH DRR AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

**NEVERTHELESS A CONSTANT EFFORT HAS TO BE
MADE FOR A CLOSER COOPERATION TO INSURE
THE POPULATION SECURITY**

**THIS ESPECIALLY FOR THE FUTURE WHICH
WILL BE MORE DEMANDING IN RELATION WITH
EXTREME METEOROLOGICAL EVENTS
GENERATED BY THE **CLIMATE CHANGES****