

EDUCATING AND TRAINING



THE FOCP SUPPORTS THE CANTONS IN RELATION TO CIVIL PROTECTION TRAINING AND ALSO RUNS ITS OWN TRAINING COURSES.

The FOCP coordinates joint training activities among the partner organisations and the army. It also supports the cantons with training their joint staff units. The FOCP sets down the regulations and develops training documents. It also trains command units and Protection & Support training staff, as well as P&S officers and specialists. In addition, it offers courses on security policy. The FOCP has a training centre in Schwarzenburg (EAZS).

MAKING INFRASTRUCTURE AVAILABLE



THE FOCP SUPPORTS THE CANTONS WITH THE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED TO PROTECT, ALERT AND GUIDE THE POPULATION.

The FOCP prepares the basis for the construction, development and long-term maintenance of protective structures and technical systems. It supplies material and supports the cantons with their material supplies. It coordinates the development of a secure radio network – POLYCOM – for the authorities and organisations responsible for rescue and security. The installation of a remote controlled alarm system means that the population can be alerted quickly.

IN FOCUS

POLYCOM

The Swiss Security Network (POLYCOM), which is currently under construction, should guarantee smooth flow of communication between the authorities and the organisations responsible for rescue and security. They include the police, the fire service, the medical services, the Protection and Support service, frontier guards corps and army back-up services. The FOCP guarantees the coordination of the project and the training of all partners.

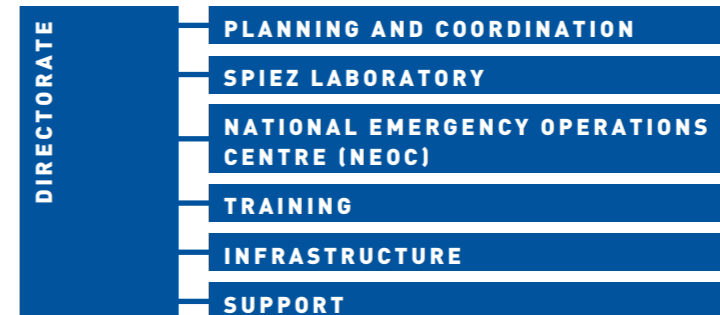
DDPS SECURITY LABORATORY

New threats demand new ways to avert danger. The anthrax attacks in the US in 2001 clearly showed that biological weapons can be used for terrorist purposes. The FOCP plans to set up a bio-security laboratory within the SPIEZ LABORATORY to identify special pathogenic agents. This new DDPS security laboratory will fill a gap in the civil protection system.

PROTECTION OF CULTURAL PROPERTY

The Protection of Cultural Property service prepares protective measures to prevent or minimise damage to cultural property in the event of a disaster. The relevant tasks are guaranteed by the Confederation, cantons and municipalities alongside public institutions and private individuals; the FOCP is responsible for the protection of cultural property at federal level. It is also the contact point for all questions on cultural property protection in Switzerland.

STRUCTURE



The FOCP has around 300 staff and its offices are spread over several locations. Its headquarters, directorate, Press and Radio Taskforce (APF), as well as the business divisions – Planning and Coordination, Training, Infrastructure, and Support – are located in Berne. The latter is the FOCP internal service centre covering IT, Commercial Services, Logistics and Security, Communication and Language Services.

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL PROTECTION

Monbijoustrasse 51A, CH-3003 Berne, Phone +41 (0)31 322 50 11
Fax +41 (0)31 322 59 89, info@babs.admin.ch, www.babs.admin.ch

SPIEZ LABORATORY

CH-3700 Spiez, Phone +41 (0)33 228 14 00, Fax +41 (0)33 228 14 02
laborspiez@babs.admin.ch, www.labor-spiez.ch

NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (NEOC)

Ackermannstrasse 26, CH-8044 Zurich
Phone +41 (0)848 840 080/+41 (0)1 256 94 81, Fax +41 (0)1 256 94 97
info@naz.ch, www.naz.ch

FEDERAL TRAINING CENTRE

Kilchermatt, 3150 Schwarzenburg, Phone +41 (0)31 734 33 33
Fax +41 (0)31 734 33 22, www.eazs.ch


SOURCE AND ORDER NUMBER

BBL, Vertrieb Publikationen, CH-3003 Bern
www.bundespublikationen.ch (zivile Drucksachen), verkauf.zivil@bbl.admin.ch
408.955e



FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL PROTECTION (FOCP)

PROVIDING THE POPULATION WITH COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION

 Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Office for Civil Protection FOCP

FEDERAL OFFICE FOR CIVIL PROTECTION (FOCP): A RELIABLE PARTNER



FIVE ASSOCIATED SERVICES FORM THE JOINT CIVIL PROTECTION SYSTEM.

Disasters, emergencies, terrorist attacks: these are the main hazards Switzerland faces today. Due to our modern and high-tech society, they can cause even greater damage than before. Their likelihood of occurrence is nevertheless high and may appear without any or only a brief prior warning period.

The new joint civil protection system is the ideal response to current security challenges. It enables a comprehensive protection of the population, its vital resources and cultural property. The joint system brings together the combined forces of five partner organisations.

Events that cause damage must be brought under control on site and near to the population affected. Therefore operational responsibility for civil protection lies first and foremost with the cantons and municipalities. The Confederation sees to the coordination of civil protection services and defines its fundamental aspects. For events with a national impact, the Confederation coordinates the deployment of the relevant partners and takes over responsibility for managing the situation.

The Federal Office for Civil Protection (FOCP) supports the cantons and municipalities as well as the partner organisations in their civil protection activities. With the creation of the FOCP in 2003, all areas of the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (DDPS), which specialise in civil protection issues were grouped together. This restructuring reflects the growing importance of civil protection.



* Increased radioactivity, dam failure, epidemic, epizootic.

THINKING AHEAD, PLANNING AND COORDINATING



THE FOCP ANALYSES HAZARDS AND THREATS AND DEVELOPS MEASURES TO PROTECT THE POPULATION, ITS VITAL RESOURCES AND CULTURAL PROPERTY AS BEST AS POSSIBLE FROM THE EFFECTS OF DISASTERS, EMERGENCIES AND TERRORIST ATTACKS.

For events which cause large-scale damage, the operational units must act immediately and correctly. The FOCP analyses the possible effects of storms and floods, earthquakes, nuclear power plant accidents, violence and terrorist attacks. It develops comprehensive baselines and studies, which it makes available to the cantons and Civil Protection partner organisations to help with their planning and preparation.

PROTECTING AGAINST NBC HAZARDS



THE FOCP AIMS TO PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE PROTECTION OF THE POPULATION FROM NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL (NBC) HAZARDS.

The SPIEZ LABORATORY develops the scientific and technological bases for NBC protection. It supports the relevant authorities in assessing and evaluating NBC protective equipment and is responsible for various activities in relation to the handling of dangerous substances. Through its technical expertise and advice the SPIEZ LABORATORY supports international efforts to control the proliferation of NBC weapons.

ALERTING AND INFORMING



THE FOCP ENSURES THAT IN THE EVENT OF A DISASTER THE RELEVANT AUTHORITIES AND OPERATIONAL BODIES ARE ALERTED IMMEDIATELY AND PROVIDED WITH ALL NECESSARY INFORMATION.

The National Emergency Operations Centre (NEOC) is reachable 365 days of the year, 24 hours a day. As the federal centre of expertise it is responsible for all events involving assumed or increased radioactivity. In certain other cases, such as chemical accidents, dam failure or storms, the NEOC provides the cantons with guidance, information or coordination to bring a situation under control.