



International Geneva
Directory of Swiss Global Health Actors

Federal Office of Public Health | FOPH

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

The Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH) is part of the Department of Home Affairs (FDHA) and its overriding aim is to promote and maintain the good health of all people living in Switzerland. The FOPH is responsible for national health policies, health and accident insurance and, in conjunction with the cantons, for public health. As the national authority in health matters, the FOPH also represents the interests of Switzerland in international organizations and in dealings with other countries.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Consumer protection
- Health and accident insurance
- Efforts to control substance dependence
- Regulatory supervision of chemical and biological substances
- Epidemics prevention
- Digital health and innovation
- Radiation protection and public health

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The goal of the FOPH is to ensure that the residents of Switzerland can deal competently and responsibly with their health. It works towards ensuring that the healthcare system continues to provide high quality care and remains affordable and accessible to all. The Health 2020 strategy, adopted by the Federal Council contains 36 measures to improve the quality of life, increase equality of opportunity and improve transparency and quality of care. The FOPH is responsible for twenty laws and numerous ordinances that are based on health standards set out in the constitution of Switzerland. The office regulates social health and accident insurance, chemicals, medicine, biosafety, university medical and health professionals, research on humans and transplantation medicines. It is also responsible for national health promotion and to implement national programs combating addiction and sexually transmitted diseases. The Radiation Protection Division is providing technical support and collaboration in radiological and nuclear emergency preparedness and public health response, as well as in the field of radon action plan and improved indoor air quality, non-ionizing radiation and in the field of medical radiation exposures.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

The FOPH employs 565 people (456.35 full-time equivalents) with permanent posts. Additionally, it offers fixed-term and temporary positions, apprenticeships and internships.

The Director of the Office is Mr. Pascal Strupler. Senior Management also includes the heads of four directorates and five divisions. The current Head of the FDHA is Federal Councillor Alain Berset.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

The annual budget for 2017 is CHF 155 million. Additionally, the FOPH administers restricted funds of approximately CHF 2.978 billion for premium reductions, military insurance payments and other committed costs.

PUBLICATIONS

See: <https://www.bag.admin.ch/bag/en/home/service/publikationen.html>

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