

# **New goals and approaches of the Swiss Academy of Sciences**

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Bern October 2007**

## Swiss landscape in science policy

- 1. State Secretariat for Education and Research**
- 2. Swiss University Conference**
- 3. Rectors' Conference of the Swiss Universities**
- 4. Swiss Science and Technology Council**
- 5. Conference of the Universities of Applied Sciences Switzerland**
- 6. Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences**

# New Swiss landscape in science policy (new law for universities)

## Research and Education

*Swiss Universities*

## Promotion of Research

*Swiss National Science Foundation  
and Commission for Technology and Innovation*

## Science and Society

*Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences*

# The Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences

- **Swiss Academy of Human Sciences (SAHS)**
- **Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences (SAMS)**
- **Swiss Academy of Technical Sciences (SATS)**
- **Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT)**

# The competence of the 4 Academies

- **Foresight**

*Issues relevant for the society*

- **Dialogue Science – Politics/Society**

*Promotion of reciprocal understanding*

- **Ethics**

*Responsible scientific activities*

## Common strategies of the four Academies concerning the main duties

**Four distinct Academies associated in a «strategic Management Holding»**

- **Contract of prestation** Gouvernement/Academies with **Globalbudget**
- **Interacademic Definition of the goals and approaches**
- **Operational competence attributed to specific Academy**

*No new Academy of the Academies!*

## The duties of the SCNAT

- **Main duty**  
Promotion of Natural Sciences as part of culture in Switzerland
- **Bridge formation and function**
  - Natural Sciences <-> Foresight
  - Natural Sciences <-> Politics
  - Natural Sciences <-> Society



## The SCNAT

35 000 members

- **Disciplines: specialized societies**
- **Problem solving: commissions**
- **International links: national committees**
- **Socially relevant topics: forums**
- **Public relevant: cantonal and regional societies**

► **Numerous organs**

**National park research**  
**North-South research partnership**  
**Climate and global change**  
**Genetic research**  
**Synthetic Biology**  
**Energy**  
**Geosciences**  
**Biodiversity**  
**Eco-system research**  
**Alpine research**  
**Transdisciplinarity**  
**New generation of scientists**  
**Politics**

## Goals of the reform of the Swiss Academy of Sciences

- 1. Integration in the new socio-political environment and in the new orientation of the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences**
- 2. More Flexibility**
- 3. Better Efficiency**
- 4. Improved Communication inside and outside**

# Organization of the SCNAT

**Assembly of the delegates**

**Central Committee** (with Advisory Board)  
**Platform Committees**

**Executive offices**

# Platforms

- **Mathematics, Astronomy and Physics**
- **Chemistry**
- **Biology**
- **Geosciences**
- **Natural Sciences and Regions**
- **Science and Policy** (Climate Change/Genetic Research and –technology/Biodiversity/Alpine Research/  
Transdisciplinary network (in construction))

## Natural Sciences <-> Society

- **Dialogue with the public**
- **Promotion of sciences among the young generations**
- **Collaborations with Museums, Botanical and Zoological Gardens**

**Determinant Impact of volunteers contributions**

# Chances

- **Strong Profile und Recognized Identity**
- **Improved Impact in Science Policy**
- **Increased Motivation to contribute to the Image of the Academy**