

2023

Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL

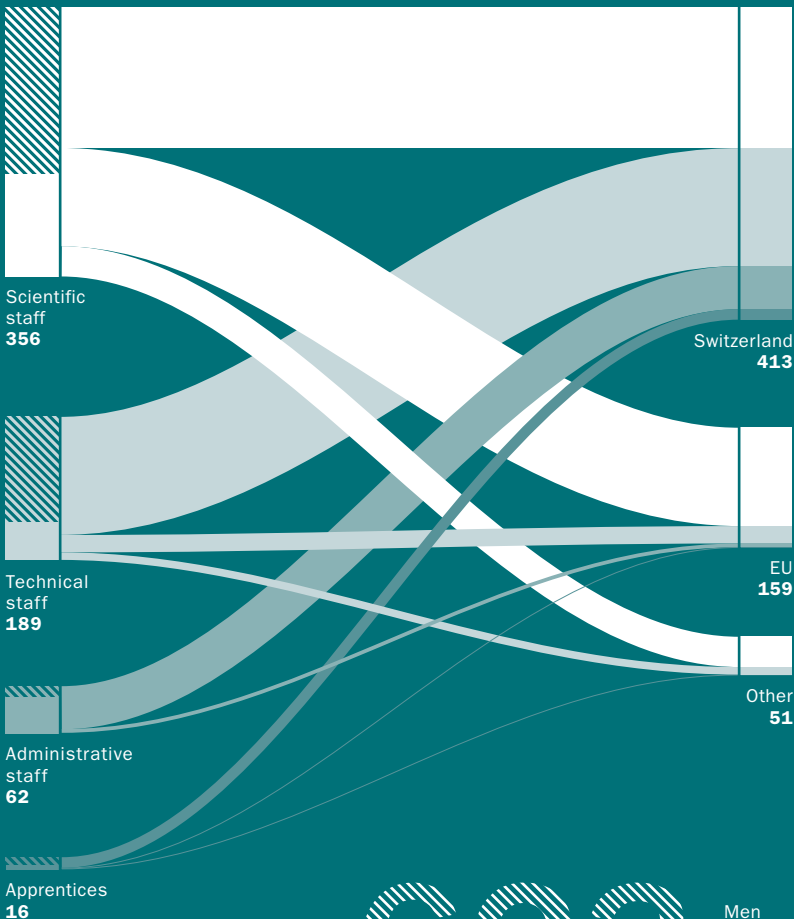
Research for People and the Environment



Staff

Function

Origin



623

Total staff

Men
61%

Women
39%

Knowledge

We generate knowledge about the environment via scientific publications, lectures, the DIAGONAL magazine, information for specialists, events and websites.



Finances

We are mainly funded through a basic contribution from the federal government, with additional contributions for research from the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), other foundations, and the EU, as well as contracts with state and private entities.



Highlights in 2022



Awarded: SLF becomes WMO's Snow Monitoring Competence Centre



Appointed: two professors and two joint professors



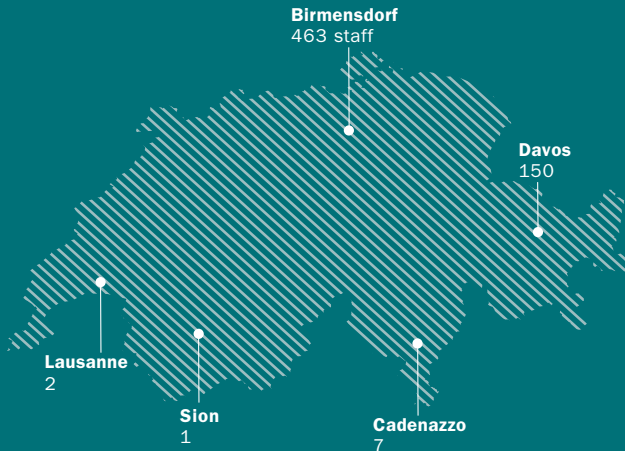
Communicated: "Forum Suisse Romande" on extreme events in forests



Recorded: WSL has collected data on storm damage for 50 years

Locations and cooperation

We maintain more than 6000 test, observation and experimental sites, large-scale test facilities, and laboratories in all language regions of Switzerland. We also cooperate actively with partners from all over the world.



Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL (wsl.ch)
WSL Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research SLF (slf.ch)
Director: Prof. Dr. Beate Jessel
WSL is a research institute of the ETH Domain.



Vision and mission

WSL strives for excellence in terrestrial environmental research, with the aim to provide solutions for improving the quality of life in a healthy environment.

- We explore the dynamics of the terrestrial environment, as well as the use and protection of natural habitats and cultural landscapes.
- We monitor forests, landscapes, biodiversity, natural hazards, and snow and ice.
- We develop sustainable solutions to socially relevant issues, together with our partners from science and society.



Our focus

We focus on research, transfer of knowledge, and services related to forests, landscapes, biodiversity, natural hazards, and snow and ice.

Services for Switzerland

Findings from our research are often relevant for local authorities, specialist centres, and the public generally. We make our findings available to them through services such as:

- the Avalanche Bulletin
- the Swiss National Forest Inventory NFI
- the Swiss Forest Protection information platform
- Hydrological forecasts





History

WSL was founded in 1885 as a forest research institute. In 1989, the Federal Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research SLF became part of WSL.

