

**ERA-NET CRUE Funding Initiative
Research project fact sheet**

**Development of flood risk in mountain catchments and
related perception - RISKATCH**

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Executive summary

The RISKATCH project aims to deliver new, practical and viable solutions for an integrated risk-assessment-based management of natural hazards in Alpine environments and related forelands. A special focus is on the interaction of technical and non-technical measures during recent flood events in catchment areas. Comparing the status quo and historical development of risk and forecasting possible future developments based on scenarios, necessary action will be derived and efficiency of non-technical measures of flood defence will be evaluated. Based on the assessment of historical and possible future development of hazard, values at risk and vulnerability, non-technical measures will be evaluated from an economic and technical point of view using scenario technique, cost-benefit analysis and cost comparison method. With respect to different scenarios of the temporal development of risk, maps will be generated and assessed with respect to its perception, using the method of graphic semiology.

Intended outcome

RISKATCH will provide quantitative information on the temporal development of risk in mountain catchments, particularly considering non-structural mitigation measures. Integration of stakeholders from the test sites in Germany and Austria in the French approach of graphic semiology; evaluation of the relevance and applicability of flood risk maps and discussion of necessary future actions for flood risk management and risk communication.

Dissemination and implementation actions

RISKATCH will deal with four major challenges faced by risk communicators: (1) how to provide a transparent, consistent, and reasonable risk characterisation, (2) how to communicate uncertainties, (3) how to deal with risk amplification as well as risk attenuation, and (4) how to justify appropriate precautionary actions?

Methods and data to be intended to use

Risk analyses for different catchment areas in the Alps and related forelands will be carried out, the resulting risk maps will be presented to multiple stakeholders for an evaluation of perception.

Geographical focus of research (test sites)

Catchments of Wartschenbach and Enterbach (A)
River Vils (D)

Project duration

01/2007 – 06/2008

Project costs [€]

€ 148,485; requested funding 96.5 %

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