A ECA Prévenir Secourir Assurer

Nous protégeons l'essentiel

Climate Change - An Insurer's spotlight on the Canton Vaud

Markus Wendler – Insurance Director Etablissement Cantonal d'Assurance (ECA) IDHEAP Aula, UNIL, 9.2.2024

ECA = Compulsory fire & natural disasters Insurance institution of the Canton of Vaud (VD)

ECA's 3 core missions ...



Intervention

Mitigate "loss and death"

Rescue operations in response to fires and natural disasters are organized and financed with a view to enhancing the fire department's effectiveness and ability to limit disasters.





Who is ECA?

3 missions to fulfill for

- o 220'000 Insured buildings
- o 850'000 Insured people
 - \rightarrow Insured capital miaCHF 400
 - \rightarrow Annual premium mioCHF 275
- Staff 320 and 5'000 voluntary firefighters

Prevention

Mitigate "potential of damage"

Prevention includes all the constructive, technical and organizational measures, as well as specific training and general information, designed to avoid the occurrence of an event or to limit its effects.

Insurance coverage

Mitigate "financial risks"

Insurance guarantees comprehensive coverage for fire and natural perils and provides adequate compensation.

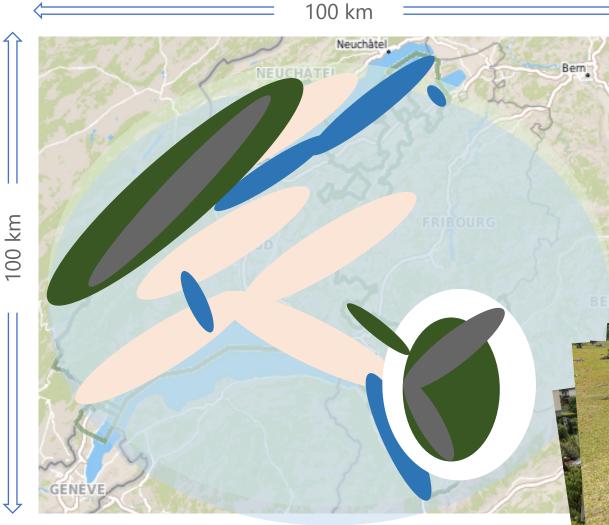


Risk diversity as a challenge ...



Key figures VD

- Surface area 3'212 km2
- Population Approx. 830'000
- Lowest point Lac Léman 372 m
- Highest point Les Diablerets 3'210 m
- Economy 8% CH GDP (63 miaCHF)



Insured perils

- Ext. storm / rain
- Torrential rain
- Hailstorm
- Floods
- Avalanche/weight of snow
- Landslide
- Sinkholes
- etc.



Past losses by event type ...

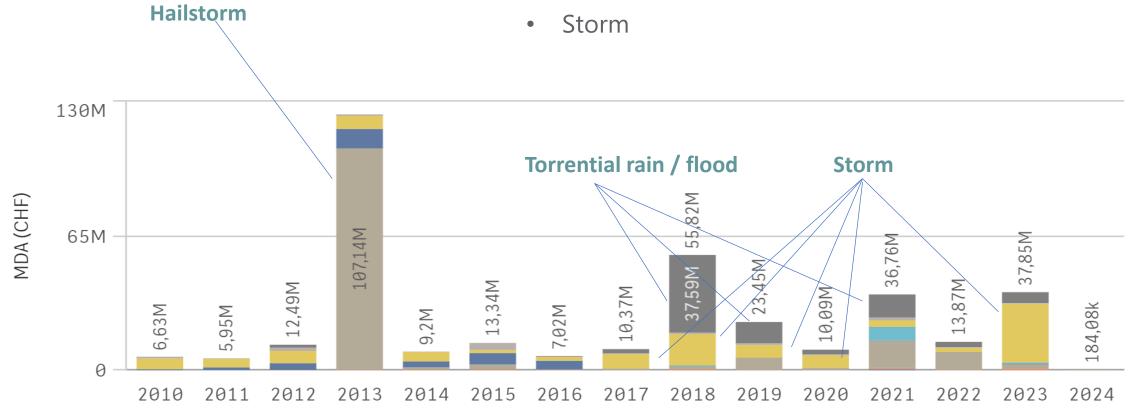


Low frequency, high impact :

• Hailstorm

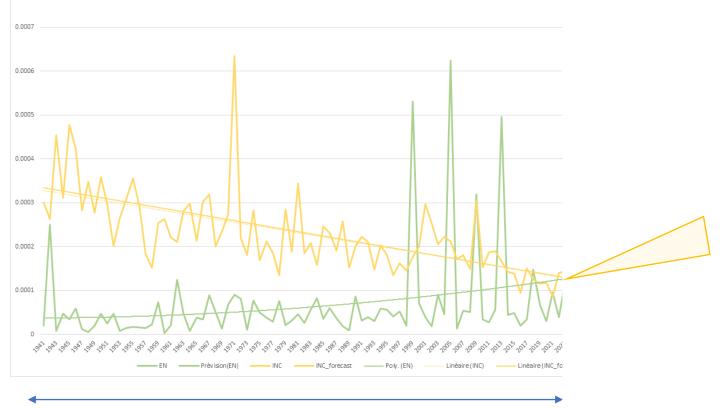
High frequency, low impact :

• Torrential rain / flood





Long term trends ...



1941 - 2023

Yellow : average annual cost rate (fire) Green : average annual cost rate (natural disaster)

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A new reality ...

Fire defense and prevention is working

- Awareness
- Legal requirements
- Technical improvements
- Emergence of new risks (forest fires, drought, etc.)

Climate related risks are the game changer

- Higher frequency
- Unpredictable
- Increased severity
- Sudden, local events («out of nowhere»)



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