



Electromagnetic Fields

National Report Switzerland 2022

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1. Research Activities

The Swiss Research Foundation for Electricity and Mobile Communication (FSM)

FSM is a non-profit foundation, founded in 2002, sponsored mainly by industry, but supported by government, NGOs and research organisations. The aim of the FSM is to promote innovative research projects in the mobile phone sector and distribute the resulting research findings to scientists and the public. Following research areas are covered: basic research, risk perception & communication and technology & applied research. Information on the FSM as well as on the research projects can be found under <http://www.emf.ethz.ch/en/>

The Foundation for Research on Information Technologies in Society (It'Is)

It'Is is a non-profit research foundation that has been founded in 1999 with the aim to create a flexible and dynamic research institution capable of addressing the research needs of society in the explosively expanding field of information technologies. Information on the It'Is and on their research projects are available under: www.itis.ethz.ch

Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH)

The Swiss TPH is a public organization of the Basel-City region. The Swiss TPH has become a world-renowned institution for teaching, research and services in the field of international health development.

Research Activities supported by the Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH)

The FOPH mandated It'Is Foundation to do measurements about induction hobs. The results will be published in 2023 and the FOPH will accordingly adapt the fact sheet about induction hobs.

Research Activities supported by the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)

The FOEN launched a call for projects in 2022 to promote research on the effects of non-ionizing radiation (NIR) on health and the environment. The call aimed to support research projects investigating health or biological effects of NIR. In total, six research projects on different topics started at the end of 2022 / beginning of 2023. Further information on the projects can be found on the webpage: [Recherche sur les effets du rayonnement non ionisant sur la santé et l'environnement \(admin.ch\)](https://www.admin.ch/gov/de/press/foen/medienmitteilungen/2022/220516_01_recherche-sur-les-effets-du-rayonnement-non-ionisant-sur-la-sante-et-l-environnement.admin.ch)

2. New Policies and Legislations

Ordinance relating to Protection from Non-Ionising Radiation (ONIR)

In order to calculate the radiation of adaptive antennas, the Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) published an implementation guide for the cantons and municipalities in February 2021. At its meeting on December 17, 2021, the Federal Council decided to anchor individual elements of the implementation guide in the Ordinance on Protection against Non-Ionizing Radiation (ONIR). In doing so, the Federal Council wants to strengthen legal certainty. The limit values of the ONIR as well as the level of protection remain unchanged. With this decision, the limits, which are central to the health protection of the population, will not be relaxed, and the currently applicable level of protection will be maintained. The adapted NIR Ordinance entered into force on January 1, 2022.

3. New public information activities

FOEN - Swiss expert group on electromagnetic fields and non-ionising radiation (BERENIS)

The FOEN has nominated a consultative group of Swiss experts from various disciplines with scientific competence regarding electromagnetic fields and non-ionising radiation, which has commenced its work in July 2014. The group is called “BERENIS”, based on the acronym of the respective German term. The BERENIS experts regularly screen the scientific literature, and use defined criteria to assess the publications, which they consider as relevant for the protection of humans from potentially adverse effects. The evaluations are published in quarterly newsletters in English, German and French. The first newsletter is available online:

<http://www.bafu.admin.ch/elektrosmog/15188/index.html?lang=en>

<http://www.bafu.admin.ch/elektrosmog/index.html?lang=de>

<http://www.bafu.admin.ch/elektrosmog/index.html?lang=fr>

FOEN, FOPH and OFCOM – New website with information on 5G

Three federal offices, FOEN, FOPH and OFCOM, provide information on mobile communications and 5G on behalf of the Federal Council via a website created especially for this purpose. On the webpage you'll find answers to the most important questions in relation to mobile communications and 5G, including information on the technology, the radiation emitted by antennae, the granting of concessions, and mobile phones.