

ETH Board: Water is plentiful but forethought is still necessary

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Topics: Drinking Water | Water & Development

Despite melting glaciers, Switzerland faces no shortage of water, even in the long term. Currently only 5% of available annual precipitation is used for the water supply.

"Nevertheless, forethought remains important", says Prof. Janet Hering, director of Eawag today at the ETH Board annual press conference. "Catastrophes such as the fire in Schweizerhalle in 1986, creeping problems with chemicals from residential areas, transport and agriculture, use of hydro power and increasingly intensive use of land have a negative impact on water quality and on watercourses in their function as ecosystems."

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