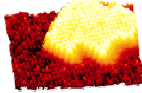


KTI/CTI
THE INNOVATION PROMOTION AGENCY

NANO

National Center of Competence in Research Nanoscale Science



TOP NANO 21

NOVARTIS



FNSNF

SCHWEIZERISCHER NATIONALFONDS
FONDS NATIONAL SUISSE
SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

SATW

Schweizerische Akademie der Technischen Wissenschaften
Académie suisse des sciences techniques
Accademia svizzera delle scienze tecniche
Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences

SVMT

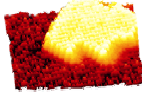


Safety and Risks of Nanotechnology

Welcome and Introduction



National Center of Competence in Research Nanoscale Science



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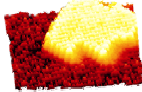


Schweizerische Akademie der Technischen Wissenschaften
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Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences



Welcome and Introduction

In the name of the Core Group "Safety and Risks of Nanotechnology", which was formed by the Management Team TOP NANO 21, we are welcoming our guests from the national funding agencies, our guests from abroad and all the members of the Swiss Nano Science Community, as well as the sponsors of our evening event.



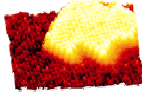
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Welcome and Introduction

During the last 5 years we had a committed collaboration to implement the existing and new findings in Nano Science and Technologies in industrial applications. The objectives have been:

1. to strengthen our economy by applying the new findings at the Nano Scale
2. to increase the knowledge in Nano Science and Technology
3. to introduce the Nano Scale to teaching at all three educational levels
4. to support start-up companies.



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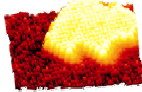


Welcome and Introduction

Nanotechnologies bear a high potential on the development of new materials, products and processes with improved performance or even altogether novel properties. At the same time, as with all new technologies, the impact on human health, our environment and generally on society is up to now mostly speculative.

Potentially harmful effects of Nanotechnology might arise as a result of:

- the nature of the nanoparticles themselves (i.e. chemical reactivity).
- the characteristics of the products made with nanoparticles.
- aspects of manufacturing processes.



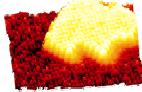
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Welcome and Introduction

We warmly welcome our speakers from various disciplines and countries for the thematic introduction that will provide a sound basis for the workshops of tomorrow.

As outcome of the workshops we expect **practical guidelines** of how to tackle the safety and risk issues at the Nano Scale and of how to complement the research efforts addressing the impact on environment, the impact on human health, ethical and legal issues as well as their impact on society.



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Welcome and Introduction

With these guidelines we hope to assist you to provide the right answers and to create trust to the public. We hope to enter in a phase of objective and fruitful discussions between the different stakeholders. The results of these discussions should end in two outcomes:

1. the support of ongoing applications of Nano-technology in industry
2. the addressing of human health issues, environmental and more generally social aspects.