



Disaster Preparedness and Response:

Elements of a

- **Private Sector Approach**
- Growing **Partnership**

Otto Kocsis

Head of Business Resilience
Practice

Risk Engineering

Zurich Financial Services Ltd.

Zurich Risk Engineering ©

5/31/11



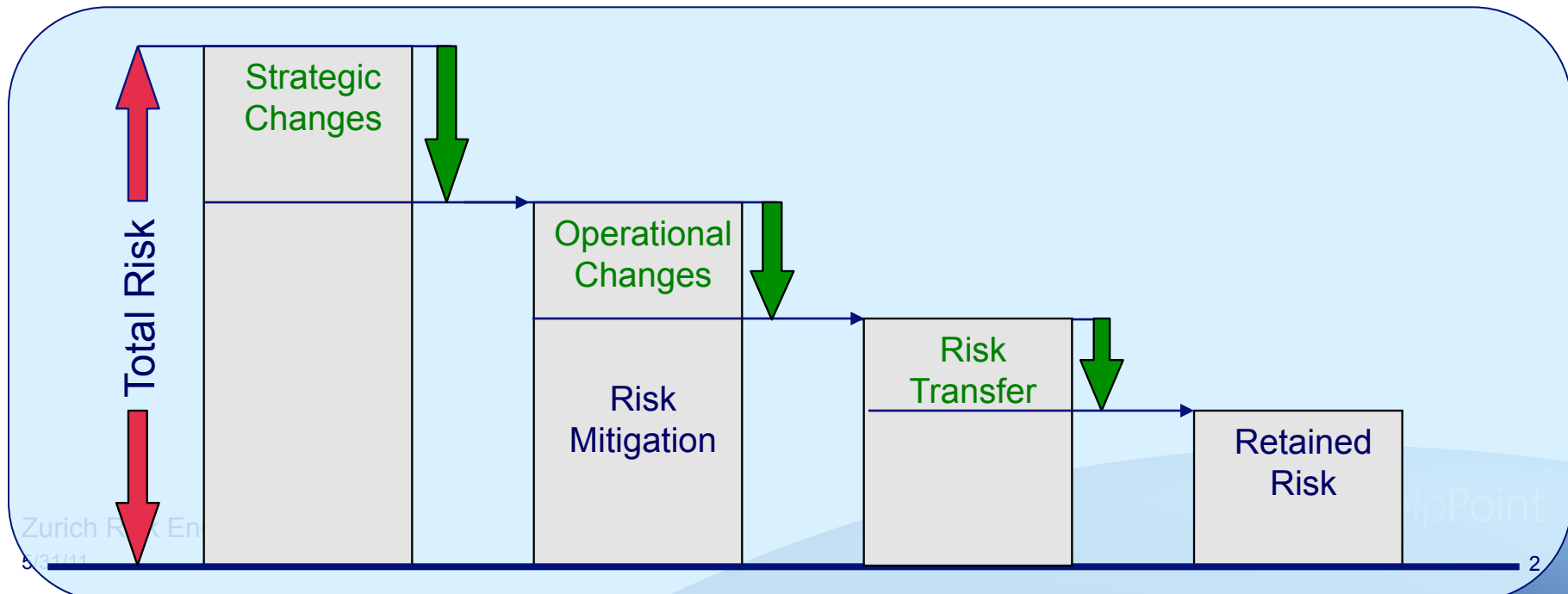
Zurich Financial Services Ltd. – a *non-financial* overview

Insurance is our business

- Risk transfer is also **sharing of risk**

Our customers are at the heart of all we do

- **Risk management** and reduction on shared risks:
Risk avoidance, risk elimination, risk mitigation
and only then proper risk transfer



30 years of risk engineering experience spanning a global network



Local Zurich Risk Engineering representation

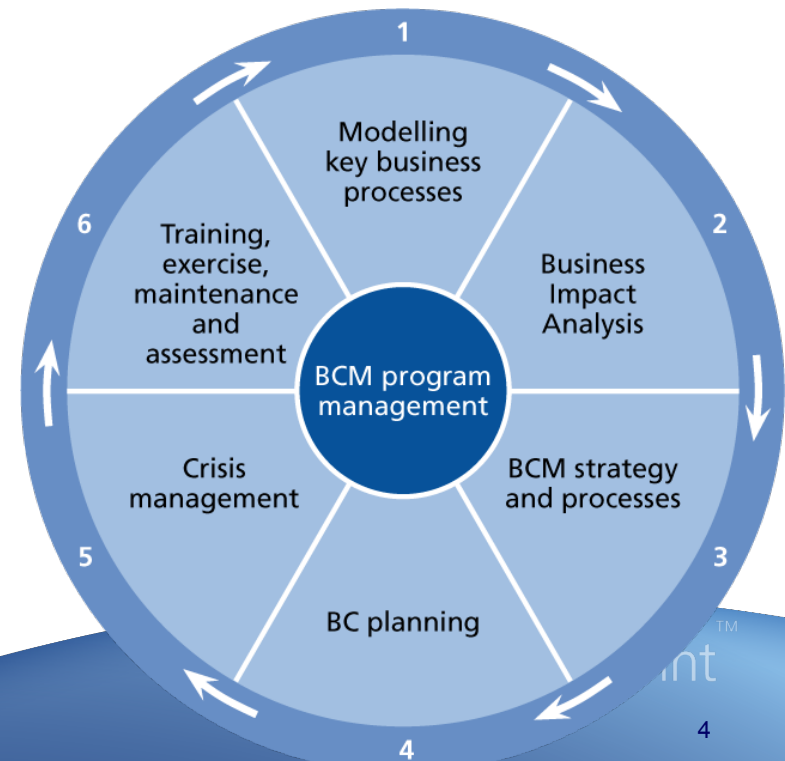
- **1,000 risk specialists** in 35 countries with specialist **industry experience**
- **56,000 site assessments**
138,000 risk assessments annually
- **650 international risk engineering programs**
- **Consistency:** ISO 9001 standards compliance

Effectiveness depends heavily on preparedness and early action

Zurich strives to increase

protection, preparedness and RESILIENCE

1. **Identify** local hazards & vulnerabilities
2. **Assess** the disaster risks
3. Develop **mitigation measures**
4. Develop monitoring/**early warnings** reaching the exposed
5. **Know and train** how to re-act



Some challenges also Zurich is facing and striving to tackle



1. Number, severity and impact of **disasters are on the rise**
2. Minimize the losses effectively and efficiently with **limited** technical, financial and material **resources**
3. **Harmonisation** of **risk management** programs in organizations over **different continents + cultural gaps**
4. **Short-term** (relief) and **long-term** investments (disaster reduction, etc.)
5. **Predicting** versus confirming disasters
6. **Climate change** information: applying it and putting it into action

Importance of disaster risk reduction and response to Zurich



- Committed to risk reduction and build up of **resilience** not just hazard identification and asset protection
- Zurich **builds and strengthens early, multi-stakeholder action**
- Zurich's commitment to mitigate risks from natural disasters:
Zurich is a Partner for disaster risk reduction



Partnership and collaboration between **IFRC** and Zurich



Global Alliance for Disaster Risk Reduction

- Exchange of **perspectives/experiences** ⇒ **mutual learning**

Expert volunteering/ expertise exchange

- Support for **impact assessment and cost-benefit analysis**
- **Protection + resilience Indicators** linked to quantitative analysis.
- **Global** ⇔ **local** – connecting national RC societies with Zurich's business units at country level
- Clarified expectations and roles -> mutual **trust**





International Federation
of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies



Joint RESILIENCE because it matters!

Risk Engineering
Zurich Financial Services Ltd.

Otto Kocsis
Head of Business Resilience Practice
+41 78 826 75 28
Otto.Kocsis@Zurich.com

Thank you

