

Switzerland



SOGE, 05/16-17/05, Bonn, Germany

- **Switzerland, as a Party to the UNFCCC and a member of the international community, has the willingness to cooperate with other Parties to tackle the negative impacts of climate change on a global scale**
- **Switzerland is vulnerable to climate change:**

Increase of temperature:

In the world (20th century): +0.6°C

In Switzerland (20th century): +1.3°C

Increase of extreme natural events



Extreme weather events

- **Summer heat wave in 2003 caused nearly 1'000 human casualties**
- **Extreme weather events over the last 20 years, such as floods, hurricanes, mud flows, caused damage costs of more than 3.8 billion Euros**



Context of the Swiss climate policy

The Swiss climate policy is guided by the principles of:

- sustainable development

and is based on :

- The Swiss Federal Constitution (1999)
- The priorities of Swiss foreign policy (2000)
- The strategy for sustainable development adopted by the Swiss Government (2002)



Demonstrable progress in implementing the Kyoto Protocol

Main legal framework to cut energy related CO₂ emissions: CO₂ Law (2000)

Additional specific measures (CO₂ and other greenhouse gases) implemented in the sectors:

Energy

Transport

Agriculture

Forestry

Environmentally hazardous substances
(HFC, PFC and SF₆)



CO₂ Law (2000)

Objectives:

- Legally binding reduction target for energy related CO₂ emissions: -10 % by 2010 compared to 1990 levels
- Sector targets for heat and process fuels (-15 %) and motor fuels (-8 %) by 2010 compared to 1990 levels



CO₂ Law (2000)

Instruments:

- **Voluntary agreements between the private sector and the government**
- **CO₂ levy on stationary fuels as of 2006, revenues fully redistributed to population and business community**
- **Climate cent on motor fuels privately levied by importers to fund project based mechanisms and mitigation projects in Switzerland and abroad (transport and buildings sector)**
- **Flexible mechanisms**



Other important CO₂ relevant measures

Transport sector:

- Heavy vehicle fee (2001) to promote modal shift
- Promotion of biofuels and natural gas as motor fuel (mineral oil tax reform as of 2007)

Energy sector:

- Federal Law on Energy (1998)
- The national action plan « SwissEnergy »: 28.5 mio Euros p/y to promote energy efficiency and renewable energies
- Voluntary agreements to reduce energy consumption



Non CO₂ Gases

Agricultural sector:

- Shift to integrated or biological farming
- Limited application of plant treatment chemicals
- Decrease of CH₄ and N₂O emissions by 10% from 1990 to 2000

Waste sector:

- Ban on landfills (2001)
- Decrease of CH₄ by 40 % between 1990 and 2000

Environmentally hazardous substances (HFC, PFC, SF₆):

- Restrictions of uses and promotion of alternatives based on B.A.T., better containment (2003)



Our vision of the future Swiss climate regime

- **Work in the framework of the Swiss Energy Perspectives (2035-2050)**
- **Long term vision by 2050: The 2000 Watts society**

Energy and climate policy guided by sustainable development strategy targets :

1 ton of CO₂ per capita

500 watts from fossil fuels

1500 watts from renewable sources



UN's vision of the future international climate regime

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“We must develop a more inclusive international framework beyond 2012, with broader participation by all major emitters and both developed and developing countries, to ensure a concerted globally defined action, including through technological innovation, to mitigate climate change, taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities”

Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General

“In larger freedom: towards development, security and human rights for all”, 21 March 2005, p. 20.



Our vision of the future international climate regime

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Switzerland is in the process of considering the future international climate regime but has not yet determined its official position.

However, the possibilities of our vision of the future international climate regime might include the following considerations



Our vision of the future international climate regime

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Long-term goals should be :

- To decarbonise our economies and our lifestyles**
- To generate social and economic co-benefits**
- To use environmentally friendly technologies**
- To achieve a worldwide GHG emission reduction by 2050 of 50 to 70 % compared to current levels**



Our vision of the future international climate regime

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The climate policy should take place within a framework that :

- Ensures sustainable development**
- Makes use of the market forces while not penalising social and economic development**
- Provides incentives for domestic action and international cooperation**
- Promotes new and improved technologies for reducing Giga tons of GHG emissions**



Our vision of the future international climate regime

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For the period post-2012 goals, Switzerland would support an international climate regime that is framed by the following features :

- It is environmentally integer**
- It contributes to sustainable development of all countries**
- It is fair and equitable**
- It strengthens international cooperation, including technology transfer**
- It is conducive to domestic action**



Our vision of the future international climate regime

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More specifically, for the period post-2012, a regime might include:

- An agreement in which all Parties engage themselves to reach a common goal: to reduce globally GHG emissions taking into account national circumstances
- An agreement that includes all major emitters
- The continuation of the “Kyoto-like approach” with the use of targets and timetables and economic instruments (joint implementation, CDM, emissions trading)
- Contraction and convergence
- A multistage approach
- Energy intensity objectives, promotion of technologies, sectoral measures



Proposed Next steps

- **Open discussions among all Parties in the framework of the Convention on the future of the international climate regime**

