



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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Swiss Confederation

Bonn, 20 June 2011 | Othmar Schwank

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

NC Switzerland

Annex I country presentation

Consultative Group of Experts on National Communications from Parties
not included in Annex I to the Convention (CGE)



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Content

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Country context

National circumstances



Picture shows Capital Berne with Alps, mountain country ranging 200 m – 4600 m asl

National circumstances and status of NC

- Population 7.8 million (growing approx. 1%/a)
- Federal state (26 cantons), applies subsidiarity principle ->
- Policy decisions and legislation at all 3 state levels
- 1st NC (1994), 2nd NC (1997), 3rd NC (2001), 4th NC (2005), 5th NC (2009)
- Most recent trends in GHG emissions and impacts:

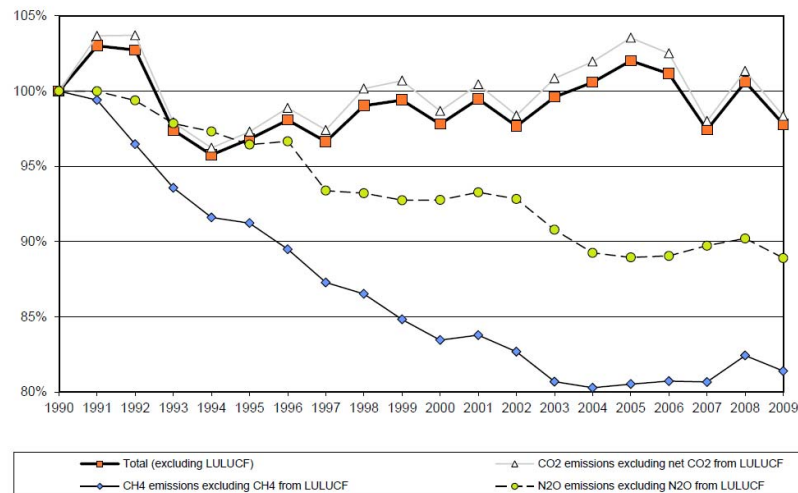
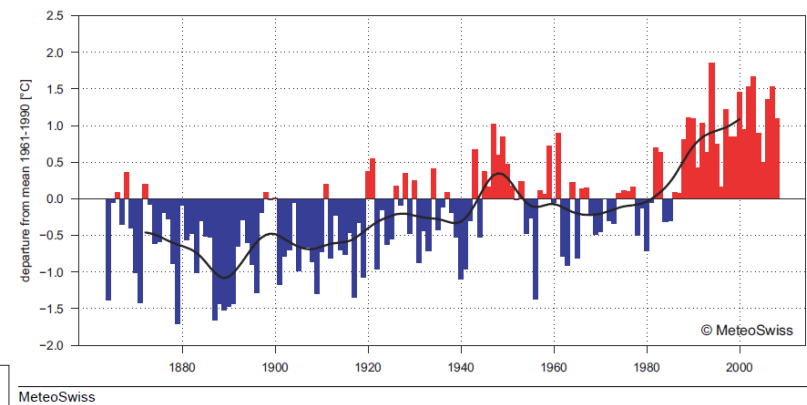


Fig. 17 > Mean annual temperature anomalies in Switzerland 1864-2008

Annual temperature anomalies in Switzerland shown as deviation from the mean of 1961-1990. The years with positive anomalies (warmer) are shown in red and those with negative anomalies (cooler) in blue. The black line represents 20-year Gaussian low pass filtered data.



Climate policy priorities

Mitigation

- Fed. Act on the Protection of the Environment (1985):
framework
- CO₂ Act (entry into force 2000) (under revision for post-Kyoto)
 - Reimbursable CO₂ tax on fossil fuels
 - Emission trading
 - Further measures in energy and transport policy
- Energy Act (norms, efficiency action plan, energy programmes
at cantonal and city level)
- Further policies in building efficiency, transport (EU emission
standards for passenger cars), industry, agriculture, power
(feed in tariffs)

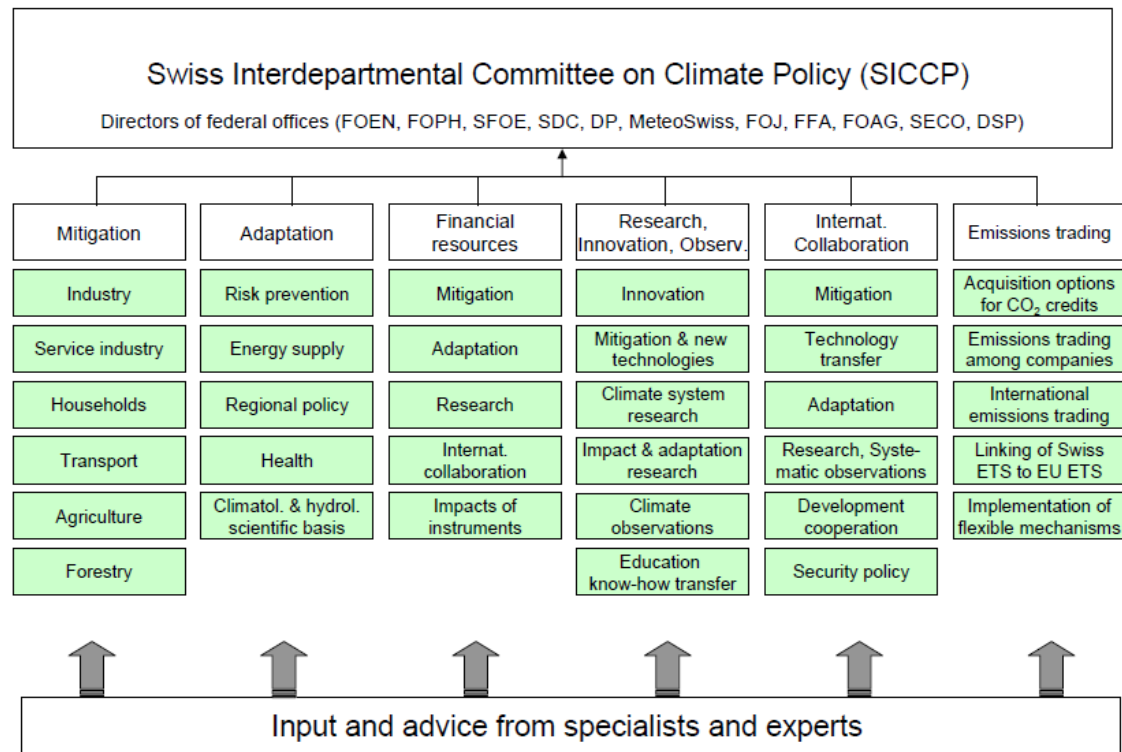
Adaptation

- Coordination mandate by the Federal Council
- Cantonal competence: DRR and sectoral implementation

Swiss Interdepartmental Committee on Climate Policy (SICCP)

Fig. 72 > Organizational structure of the Swiss Interdepartmental Committee for Climate Policy

The SICCP is chaired by the directors of the relevant federal offices. Its activities are divided into six operational units, each of which pursues its tasks independently from the others. Experts and specialists are invited to sit in the working groups depending on the tasks on the current agenda.



SICCP, Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

Merits und demerits of Swiss institutional arrangement from sustainability perspective

Merits

- Centralized system for GHG data collection and archiving
- Clear mandate by Federal Department DETEC to Environment Office (FOEN) to lead
- Operational climate section within FOEN (special climate reporting section)
- GHG inventory, NC reporting and climate policy in the same division
- Successful division of work between the operational and supervisory body (SICCP)

Demerits

- Political and strategic coordination between FOEnergy and FOEN merits streamlining
- Coordination complexity between different Federal Offices (e.g. for the projections)
- EMIS = multiple use tool for air pollution and GHG monitoring -> needs to match requirements of different conventions
- Policy coordination by federal council, but parliament and cantons have their say



Research and systematic observation

- National Centers for Meteorology, Hydrology and Glaciology. Further:
 - Competence center climate research: addressing natural climate variability, disaster risk, and projections including impacts on ecological and socioeconomic systems
 - International research cooperation, enhancing partnerships with institutions in developing and transition countries
- In systematic climate observation (GCOS), CH supports the GCOS Cooperation Mechanism (GCM): improving/ coordinating climate observing systems NAI countries



Education, training and awareness

- Contribution by federal, state, local authorities as well as the private sector
- Training education and public awareness on clean tech and climate response options is the joint responsibility of Federal Environment/Energy offices and the conference of Cantonal Governments
- Scientific advisory bodies (Proclim/OcCC) supporting dialogue with policy makers
- Private sector initiatives: Voluntary agreements with Energy Agency for the Economy, best practice guidance tools by Swiss Association for Ecological Management of Enterprises (ÖBU)

Climate Change assessment

- GHG Inventory process well institutionalized,
- Key challenge is V&A assessment also in Switzerland
- Quality of V&A assessment differs among sectors (good knowledge of natural hazards); projections uncertain
- Development of National Adaptation Strategy = step forward
- Coordination among sectors and with EU challenging (mitigation and adaptation): different priorities pursued by different institutions (public and private)
- Multi-stakeholder processes: best practice examples
 - (**which** and **how many** institutions/experts to involve?)
 - Action Plan Black Carbon control (polluters from different sectors/sources -> different departments): Govt. decision based on incentives and norms (ahead of EU)

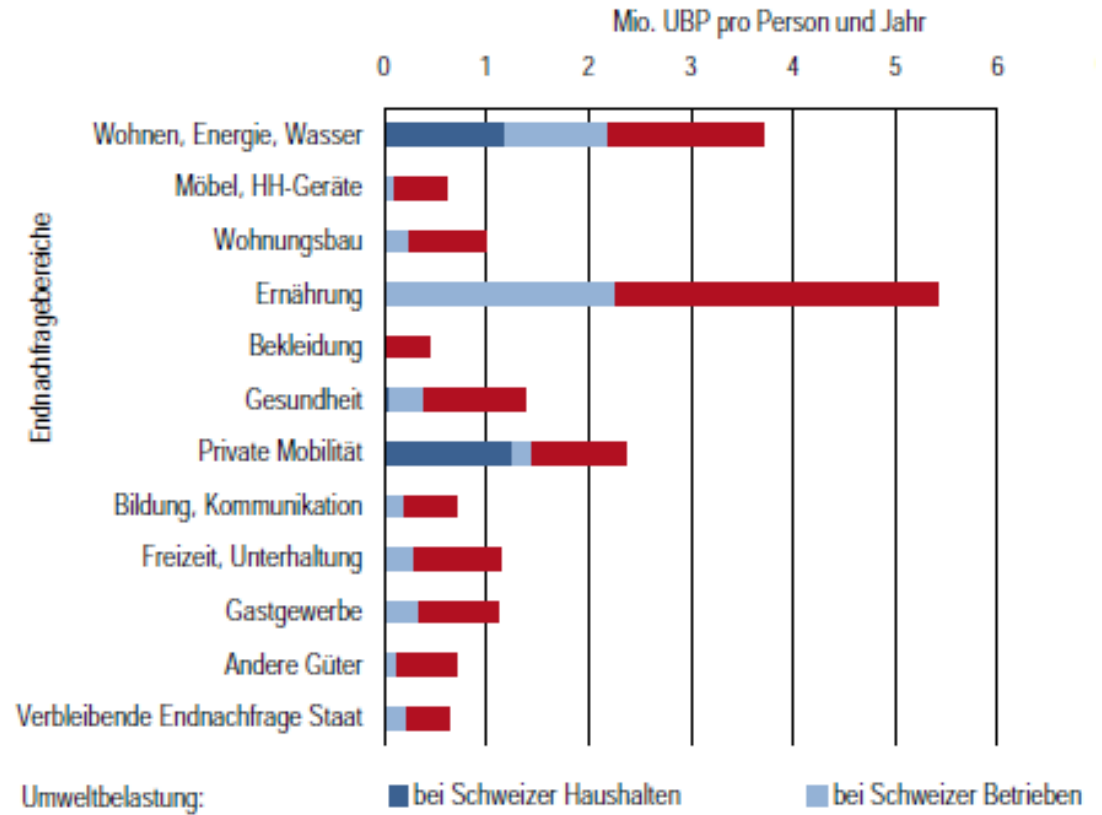
Sustaining the process of NC development

- Strong core group within the Federal Office for Environment (with long-term contracts)
- Dependency on consultants in key inventory sectors (long term contracts)
- Inventory development plan (continuous updates of to do's) →
- (Inventory) data provider are linked to the reporting section of FOEN (institutionalized annual meeting)
- long-term mandate and allocation of responsibilities
- Small core group and complementary large expert group as a success factor
- Co benefits → “greening the economy” (Rio+20) building on inventory process (next slide)

GHG inventory co-benefits -> greening economy

Environmental footprint consumption

- Settlement, energy/water
- Furniture
- Building construction
- **Food**
- Clothes
- Health
- Transport/Mobility
- Education/communication
- Leisure/entertainment
- Hotels/Restaurants
- Other



Darstellung: ESU-services GmbH und Rütter+Partner

Blue: domestic, red: imported environmental load

Future challenges

- Collecting data on financial flows in systematic manner: reporting process and the monitoring of disbursements by different departments (by NAI partner country) and private sector challenging

- Challenge bi-annual reporting
 - Standard process GHG reporting under CRF (already annually)
 - financial flows: calls for additional effort
 - Mitigation: Annual status check, overlaid by rather slow policy development and volatile economic development trends -> co-benefits in monitoring of policy gaps
 - May lead to closer cooperation between statistics, federal office of energy /economy and environment