

## Facts and News.

16<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### **Agreement between Switzerland and the EU on linking emissions trading systems. Approval and implementation (amendment of the CO2 Act).**

The Agreement on the linking of the Swiss and EU emissions trading schemes (ETS) has been ratified by the representatives of both parties and has come into force on 1 January 2020. Linking the Swiss ETS with that of the EU will be beneficial for both environmental policy and the economy. Since 2020, companies in the Swiss ETS are able to trade emission allowances in the larger EU emissions market. The linking of the two schemes marks the first ETS linking between states anywhere in the world.

Extended information on this topic: here in [english](#), in [german](#), in [french](#) and in [italian](#).

### **Climate policy. Federal Council adopts Switzerland's long-term climate strategy (agreed on August 2019 and adopted on January 2021).**

- The guidelines of this new strategy are central to achieving the net-zero target by 2050.
- It strategic goals for the various sectors.
- The strategy ties in with the measures and goals of the revised CO2 Act.
- It leads to a 50 percent reduction in greenhouse gases by 2030, which is essential to meet the 2050 climate target.
- There is a reduction target in Switzerland and abroad: ratio at home 75% / abroad 25%.

Extended information on this topic: here in [english](#), in [german](#), in [french](#) and in [italian](#).

### **Total revision of the CO2 Act for the period after 2020 (entry into force 1 January 2022 if the citizens approve it in the referendum of 13 June 2020).**

- Transitional regulation applies in 2021:
  - Reduction target: 1.5% for 2021 compared to 1990 (approx. 800,000 tCO<sub>2</sub>).
  - Exemption from CO<sub>2</sub> tax until the end of 2021 and emissions trading for an unlimited period.
- Increase in CO<sub>2</sub> tax on fossil and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions regulations in the areas of transport, buildings and industry by 2050.
- Companies can be exempted from the CO<sub>2</sub> tax if they undertake to reduce their emissions vis-à-vis the Confederation (contract).

Extended information on this topic: here in [german](#).

### **Roadmap Electromobility: new century and renewed targets (2021 - 2030):**

Of the 76 measures currently recorded, 53 are being implemented and ten have already been completed. The success of electric cars on the new car market makes a new, ambitious target for the phase after 2022 necessary. On December 2020, the discussion about a more ambitious target was launched in the road-map community. Federal Council is expected to make a decision in March.

Extended information on this topic: here in [german](#).

### **Resource and Environmental Management of the Federal Administration: RUMBA 2020+**

With RUMBA the Confederation has continuously built up its own operational resource and environmental management system over the past twenty years. On 3 July 2019, the Federal Council adopted the "Federal Administration Climate Package" (Climate Package; EXE no. 2019.1304). In doing so, it decided to intensify the efforts in the Federal Administration and set reduction targets for 2030. RUMBA, together with the Spatial Planning and Environmental Management System of the Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport (RUMS DDPS), acts as a coordinating body for the federal administration. New challenges lie ahead from 2020 onwards:

- Continuously reduce the environmental impact of the activities of the Federal Administration.
- The Confederation must act as a role model.
- Sensitise employees and encourage them to take the initiative.
- Coordinate environmental activities of the civilian Federal Administration

Extended information on this topic: here in [german](#), in [french](#) and in [italian](#).

### **Funding program SWEET & SOUR: SWiss Energy research for the Energy Transition & SWEET Outside-the-box Rethinking.**

SWEET is a funding programme of the Swiss Federal Office of Energy with purpose to accelerate innovations that are crucial to achieve the country's climate policy goals. SWEET spans the innovation cycle from application-oriented basic research to preparations for deployment. SWEET targets consortia that work together over several years to pursue portfolios of interrelated, transdisciplinary projects. Collaborations of research institutions with the private sector and the public sector are particularly encouraged.

The first SOUR call complements SWEET Call 1-2020 and addresses the guiding theme «Integration of Renewables into a Sustainable and Resilient Swiss Energy System». It is open from 28 January to 31 March 2021.

Extended information on this topic: here in [english](#), in [german](#), in [French](#) and in [Italian](#).