

Resource efficiency in information and communication technologies (ICT)

Increasing resource efficiency in the area of information and communication technologies is one of six areas of activity to promote a green economy. Acting for the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment, EBP has drawn up a set of basic principles for developing appropriate measures.

Increasing the efficiency of resources by using ICT is one of the six areas of activity to promote a green economy at the Federal Council of Switzerland. As a basis for developing measures in this area, we have drawn up a series of questions on environmental and resource-related economic questions in connection with ICT, which include the following aspects:

- Positive and negative ecological aspects of ICT in the different phases of its life cycle (raw material extraction, manufacture, transport, implementation, use, disposal)
- Measures to reduce negative environmental impacts (technical measures and changes in behaviour)
- ICT rebound effects: analysis and approaches to reduce rebound effects
- Promotion of resource efficiency in various phases of the life cycle of ICT products and services: national measures, examples.

The analyses show that national measures to promote resource efficiency are needed due to negative external effects, a lack of market transparency and further market deficiencies. In addition, the study points out some basic considerations and concrete examples of possible actions for the government.

Client

Swiss Federal Office for the Environment
(FOEN)

Facts

Period 2010

Project Country Switzerland

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