

National climate change mitigation programs

In recent years, Governmental climate mitigation programs have steadily gained in importance. Generally speaking, governments finance such programs in collaboration with development banks. How should these government climate change mitigation programs be structured and implemented? How do they contribute to reaching climate targets? Based on our many years of experience, we support and evaluate climate change mitigation programs in Switzerland and around the world.

In December 2015, 197 countries agreed to contribute to efforts to fight climate change together at the international climate conference (COP21) in Paris. For the first time, all of the treaty signatories, including developing countries, committed to lowering greenhouse gas emissions. In advance of the COP21, the parties formulated national climate change targets, most to be achieved by 2030, and submitted them to the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC).

Government climate change mitigation programs are gaining in importance as measures to achieve these goals are being implemented. Currently, the central mechanism for such programs in emerging and developing countries are Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs). NAMAs are usually customized according to the various sectors, such as energy, waste, transport or building. They are often developed and funded by governments in cooperation with development banks, and increasingly also by international climate funds.

One such climate change mitigation program which has been running successfully for several years in Switzerland is the national building program, which supports energy-efficient building modernization and thus plays a role in reducing greenhouse gases in Switzerland.

With our climate change experience in many sectors and countries, we support the development of climate mitigation programs both in Switzerland and internationally. We work directly with governments, development banks and development organizations, such as the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), the World Bank and Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).