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Federal Department of the Environment, Transport,  
Energy and Communications DETEC  
**Federal Office for the Environment FOEN**

# **Session 1: Institutional and governance framework for the implementation of Article 6**

*International Conference for Implementing Article 6 of the Paris  
Agreement, 17.02.2022*

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# Big picture: Swiss NDC and Article 6

- Switzerland's NDC:
  - Minus 50 percent GHG emissions in 2030 relative to 1990
  - Minus 35 percent over NDC period 2021-2030
  - NDC achievement partly through use of Article 6.
- NDC implementation through national legislation, Swiss CO<sub>2</sub> Act and ordinance (pending)
  - Various domestic instruments: CO<sub>2</sub> levy, Emissions Trading System etc.
  - Article 6: Offset obligation on importers of fossil motor fuels (partly in Switzerland and abroad)
    - implementation through Art. 6.2



# Switzerland's bilateral agreements

- **Need for bilateral agreements** between Switzerland and partner country to **set framework** for activities by private actors
- Core of a bilateral agreement:
  - Authorization process for activities -> investment security
  - Clarify requirements and steps: criteria for environmental integrity, double counting, verification, human rights, sustainable development, infrastructure
  - Commitments by countries once authorization is issued: reporting, corresponding adjustment
- Specific **guidelines** that inform decisions under the bilateral agreement are **set at the respective national level** (Swiss CO<sub>2</sub> law and ordinance and partner country)



# Switzerland's bilateral agreements

- Switzerland started discussions on bilateral agreements in 2018
  - No detailed Art. 6 guidance available → bilateral agreement necessary to clarify cooperation
  - Going forward: reference relevant CMA guidance, + add additional criteria, as applicable
- Agreements signed: Peru, Ghana, Senegal, Georgia, Vanuatu, Dominica; expecting more in 2022/2023;
  - Implementation of Art. 6.4 mechanism



# Authorization

- Bilateral agreements set framework, real cooperation starts with authorization of activities
  - Once **both countries support a proposed activity** that will happen in the host country, they authorize it (see para. 18(g) 6.2 guidance)
  - Authorizations foreseen unilaterally by each Party (no joint committee), but likely in a coordinated manner
  - Establishment of the **national procedures** in Switzerland and partner countries may take time (relationship to NDC, technical and process questions)
- Federal Office for the Environment lead agency for authorizations in close cooperation with relevant ministries



# National framework preparations

- CMA Art. 6.2 guidance is implemented and elaborated on through Swiss CO<sub>2</sub> law and ordinance (*work in process*) and bilateral agreements:
  - Environmental integrity criteria for authorizations of activities (white/black list)
  - Double counting avoidance
  - Sustainable development contributions
  - Validation, monitoring, verification requirements
  - Registration and issuance in Swiss Emissions Trading Registry
- Coordinate specific process requirements with partner countries