Funding for decarbonisation roadmaps

The Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) and the SwissEnergy programme provide financial support to industries seeking advice on net-zero emissions. The following funding conditions apply from 1 January 2024:

1. Funding

- Funding is available for up to 40% of the total costs, up to a maximum amount of CHF 25,000 for businesses in the industrial sector and CHF 15,000 for those in the service sector. Licence costs, fees and administrative costs (e.g. preparing a bid and funding application) are not considered eligible costs.
- The businesses' own contributions are calculated at a flat rate of 20% of the total costs.
- Companies that predominantly employ internal resources (more than 50% of the services) to create their roadmap and manage the project internally are also eligible for up to 40% of the total costs. The maximum funding available for industrial sector businesses is CHF 15,000 and CHF 10,000 for service sector businesses. No additional single payment is available for own contributions.
- SwissEnergy reserves the right to consider or reject the applications received. The project can only begin once the application has been approved by SwissEnergy.
- Upon completion of the project, a roadmap report must be submitted to SwissEnergy by 30 June 2025 at the latest.
- Payment is made after submission and approval of the final report.

2. Project conditions

2.1 General conditions

- Services that are funded in the context of target agreements or PinCH analyses are not eligible for funding in this programme. We recommend integrating the findings from these analyses into the roadmap. These can then be listed as services performed.
- All services must be performed by specialised partners. The application must show which expertise relates to which services.[1]

2.2 Roadmap requirements

- The roadmap must be drawn up for the whole company including all locations in Switzerland. We recommend that businesses conduct carbon accounting for locations abroad, but this is not eligible for funding.
- The roadmap must take into account all direct (Scope 1), indirect (Scope 2) and upstream and downstream (Scope 3) emissions.
- The roadmap must set the target of net-zero emissions (Scope 1 and 2) by 2050 at the latest and define interim targets at least every 5 years. Scope 3 emission-reduction targets are strongly recommended;. The method according to which the reduction path is set must also be explained.

- The accounting method should be based on the GHG Protocol. Emission factors used must be clearly disclosed. For example, we recommend using the carbon emission factors from the Swiss greenhouse gas inventory and the emission factors provided by mobitool.

2.3 Measures – requirements

- Emission-reduction measures are initially based on avoiding emissions, for example by replacing fossil fuels, increasing energy efficiency, avoiding waste and recycling, procuring environmentally friendly products, etc. Measures relating to carbon capture and utilisation (CCU) and carbon capture and storage (CCS) should only be considered for emissions that are difficult to avoid; funding for reduction measures in these areas may amount to a maximum of 5% of the total costs.
- The following information on the measures must be provided:
  - a precise description of the measure;
  - an estimate of the implementation costs;
  - a calculation of the effect achieved by the measures in tonnes of CO_2eq and the associated impact on energy consumption;
  - the avoidance costs of the individual measures in CHF/TCO_2eq;
  - the planned implementation schedule.
- The measures up to 2030 should be described more fully than those for the period after 2030.
- The measures should focus on Switzerland.
- Particularly innovative measures are recommended and should be identified as such.
- The technical, economic and ecological risks of each measure should be carefully analysed with regard to feasibility and sustainability.[2]

1 — For example, Scope 3 emissions are analysed by resource efficiency and life cycle analysis (LCA) specialists
2 — For example, in the case of measures based on the use of biogenic and synthetic fuels, regional long-term availability and possible competing uses must be considered.

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