



# CONSULTING, POLICY ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH





IN THE MIDDLE OF DIFFICULTY LIES OPPORTUNITY.  
ALBERT EINSTEIN





# SOCIETY

**INFRAS cares about the future of a social Switzerland. Current demographic, economic, and technological developments are creating ever-new social and policy challenges. Through its commissioned studies INFRAS contributes significantly to analyses of social issues and works out options for action.**

## **Social security**

We analyse the impacts of funding concepts in the area of social security and develop concepts for a modern, incentive-based social policy.

## **Health care**

We draft solutions for a more efficient and economic health policy and analyse the impacts of new regulations.

## **Public administration**

We develop instruments for efficient resource use by public administration. Just one example is systematic planning for demand-oriented classrooms or family assisting child care facilities.

## **Impact analyses and evaluations**

We evaluate social and economic impacts of private and government programmes and activities. We find it essential to take a comprehensive approach and combine economic model analyses with the methods of empirical social research.

## **Projects**

### **Demand-oriented planning for day care facilities**

Social Department of the City of Zurich, 2001  
INFRAS developed an EXCEL-supported prognosis and planning model for family assisting child care facilities in the city of Zurich.

### **Effects of the Federal law on health care tariffs**

Federal Office for Social Security, 2001  
INFRAS conducted a systematic evaluation of the effects of the law on tariffs, suppliers, and insurers.

### **Universal Services in energy, telecommunications, postal services, and public transport**

Federal Office for Spatial Development and State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, 1999-2000  
INFRAS analysed the state of the art of Universal Services in Swiss infrastructure areas and identified lines of action for a coherent and comprehensive public utility and Universal Services policy.





Maintaining economic competitiveness is a core prerequisite to sustainable development. How can we develop an economy that is both viable long-term and socially and environmentally sustainable?

# ECONOMY

## Projects

### **Globalisation, technological development and structural change in Switzerland**

State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, 2002  
INFRAS conducted a study on the relationship between technological development and globalisation, and the impact of these processes on companies, business sectors, and the different regions of Switzerland.

### **Effects of government intervention on the pricing of medicinal products for human use in Switzerland**

Federal Department of Economics, General Secretariat, 2002  
INFRAS is conducting a comparison of price levels of medicinal products for human use in Switzerland and five selected countries and analysing the reasons for differences in pricing. INFRAS is working out recommendations for the inter-departmental working group «Parallel Imports» for the improvement of the regulations in the market for medicinal products.

### **Sustainable assets**

INrate, since 1998  
INFRAS has developed a specific rating system for evaluating the environmental and social performance of companies worldwide. These ratings provide a platform for investment decisions on ecologically and ethically sound investments.

## Economic policy

We work out economic analyses and policy concepts in various domains, such as labour market and fiscal policy, regional and technology policy.

## Sustainable assets

We evaluate sustainable assets and have developed our own ethically responsible rating screen in collaboration with the NEST pension fund. Together with NEST we founded the subsidiary company INrate, which specializes in conducting the ratings.

## Sector analyses

We conduct economic business sector analyses for trade associations and private and public companies and provide consultancy services in strategy and organisation for market and product development.





# ENVIRONMENT

The threat to biodiversity decrease, climate change, urban sprawl, effects of chemicals on human beings and ecosystems, noise exposure, and air pollution raises the question of limits to growth. INFRAS works out strategies and concepts for reducing environmental impacts and resource consumption. Many public organisations and administrations depend on our extensive know-how – at the local, national and international level.

## **Environmental management and life-cycle assessment**

We advise companies in setting up environmental management systems and offer long years of experience and know-how in life-cycle-analysis.

## **Air quality, water protection, and agriculture**

We mediate and monitor compliance processes in the areas of water resources, agriculture, and air quality. We also work out solutions for waste management and conduct environmental audits.

## **Climate change**

We advise businesses and governments in the development, implementation, and evaluation of policies, measures and projects in the area of climate change.

## **Spatial planning policy and sustainable development**

We develop concepts and strategies for sustainable development, landscape protection, and spatial planning policy.

## **Projects**

### **Policy on sustainable development in Switzerland**

**Interdepartmental Rio Committee, 2001**  
Benchmarking of the Federal performance, 10 years after the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio. Identification of the most important challenges and needs for action for sustainable development in Switzerland, providing the basis for the Federal Council's new sustainability strategy 2002 and the Swiss Report on behalf of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg 2002.

### **Springer Environmental Report**

Springer-Verlag, 1997–2001

INFRAS assisted the monitoring department with the production of emission inventories for Springer-Verlag's different business locations.

### **National reports on climate change, Switzerland and Liechtenstein**

**Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape, 2001**

INFRAS assisted the relevant administrations in each country to prepare their 3rd National Communication on climate change, on behalf of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).





New information and communication technologies are transforming society and the economy and are posing challenges to business and policy. How can we cope with these changes successfully? INFRAS analyses the developments and consequences and provides clients with concepts and strategies that will support successful answers to the transformation in diverse areas.

# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

## Projects

### **Information Society Zurich – Zurich on its Way to the New Economy**

Zurich Cantonal Bank, 2001

INFRAS analysed the impacts of the new information and communication technologies on Zurich's economy and discussed economic and political options for action.

### **Evaluating the tenders for two new national mobile communication licences (GSM)**

Federal Office for Communications, 1998

To provide a decision basis for the Federal Communications Commission, INFRAS conducted a scientific evaluation of the bids submitted to a «beauty contest» for two new national GSM licences.

### **Introducing digital television**

Various Swiss cable network companies, since 1999

We support a cooperation between medium-sized cable network companies for the implementation of digital television services by process moderation and development of organisational and business plans.

## Markets and strategies

We analyse markets and technologies, assess economic efficiency and risks, and develop strategies and business plans for product and service providers in the telecommunications sector.

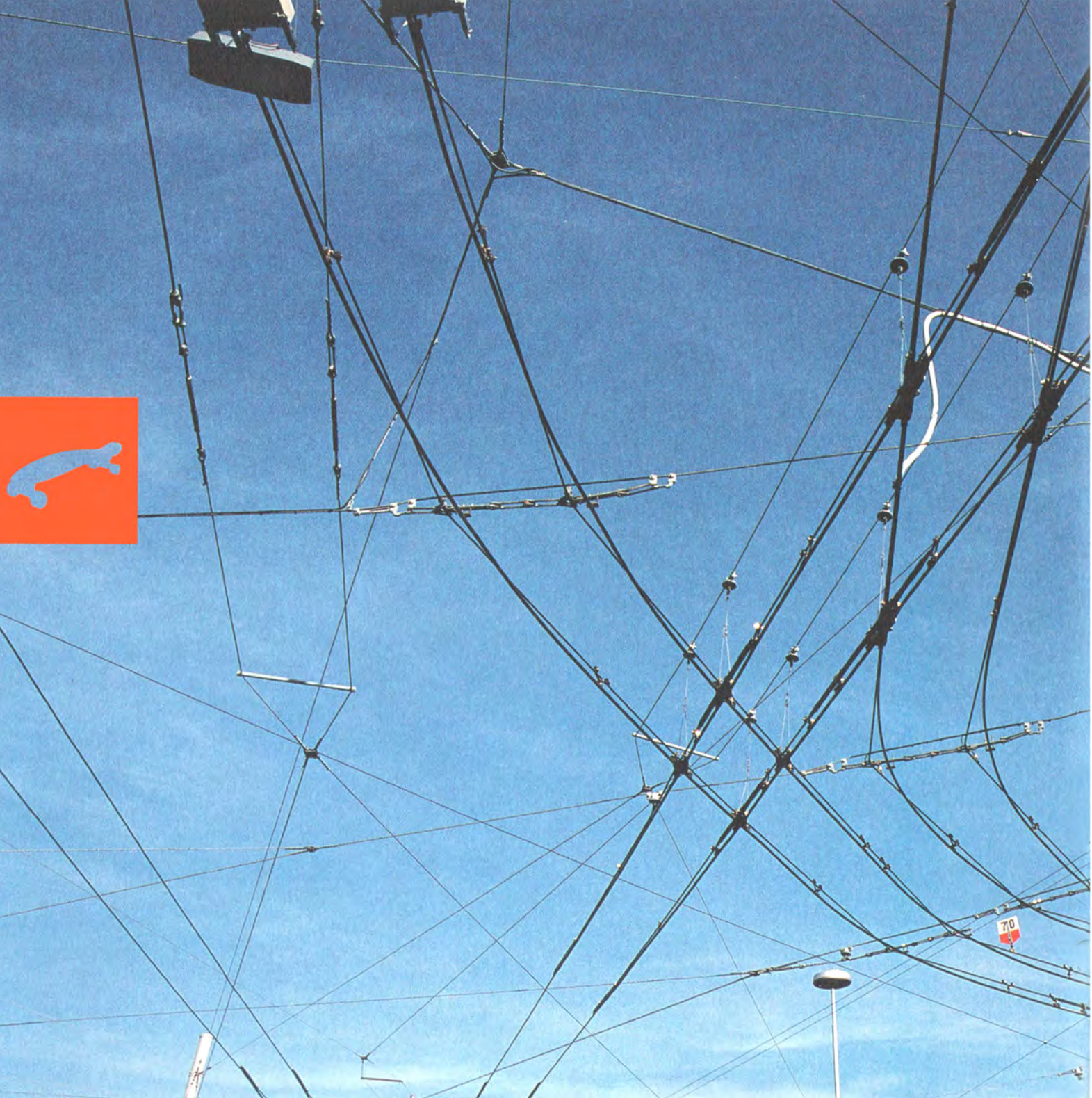
## Telecommunications policy

We investigate the impacts of liberalisation of the telecommunications and media markets and develop concepts and decision support tools for regulatory policy.

## Information society

We study the characteristics and impacts of the social and economic transformation towards the information society and draft policy concepts and recommendations.





# TRANSPORT

Growth of the economy and prosperity always goes hand in hand with rapid development in the field of transport. Infrastructure requires planning, and services have to be enlarged and improved. On the other hand, however, more and more people are affected by the negative ecological and health hazard impacts of transport. INFRAS develops concepts and strategies for sustainable transport systems at the national and international level, and offers a wide range of services in this sector.

## Concepts for public transport

We evaluate and design concepts for transport services for public and road transport.

## Economic efficiency and fiscal strategies

We analyse the economic costs and benefits of transport and develop new concepts for pricing policy, financing strategies, and economic efficiency.

## Project evaluations

We evaluate transport projects and assess the economic efficiency and effectiveness of new transport infrastructure and transport policy measures.

## Policy strategies

We develop new ideas in the areas of policy and strategies. We provide strategic decision support to the public sector and to private transport companies. INFRAS also produces business plans.

## Transport, emission and air quality models

We develop transport, emission and air quality models to show the transport, pollution and noise load in Switzerland and other countries.

## Projects

### Economic efficiency of the city rail in Zug

Department of Economic Affairs of the Canton of Zug, 2001

INFRAS evaluated the project of a city rail in Zug with respect to the transport forecast, service supply concept, and cost-benefit-analysis.

### Fair and efficient prices in transport

Swiss National Science Foundation, 1997-1999

INFRAS calculated the external costs and worked out a system for a new pricing policy in Switzerland that takes into account efficiency, financial, and environmental aspects.

### Rail 2000, 2nd stage

Conference of the Cantonal Directors of Public Transport, since 2000

INFRAS coordinates the cantonal planning of the expansion of rail transport systems in Switzerland scheduled to begin in 2010 and monitors the planning process.

### Air pollutant emissions by road transport 1950-2020

Swiss Agency for the Environment, Forests and Landscape, since 1993

INFRAS calculates air pollutant emissions and energy consumption by road transport, develops data-based emission models, and maps out perspectives up to 2020.





Energy-saving technologies and lifestyles as well as renewable energies can increase productivity. INFRAS develops ideas and concepts for responsible and efficient management of natural resources.

# ENERGY

## Resources

We develop concepts and measures for the promotion of rational energy management and renewable energies.

## Energy tax

We develop feasible concepts for the use of market instruments, such as energy tax and ecological tax reforms, and analyse their impacts.

## Liberalisation of the energy markets

We work out decision support bases for regulatory policy and support market actors in reorienting their strategies and products.

## Impact analyses and evaluations

We produce impact analyses as decision bases for the design and continuous optimisation of energy policy concepts. We apply a comprehensive approach by combining both economic and social scientific research methods.

## Projects

### Export promotion of energy technologies

Swiss Federal Office for Energy, 2001

INFRAS analysed the competitive strength and export potential of Swiss suppliers in the areas of energy efficiency and renewable energies (in cooperation with the Fraunhofer Institute, Karlsruhe, Germany).

### Energy concept Vorarlberg 2010

Government of Vorarlberg, Austria, 2001

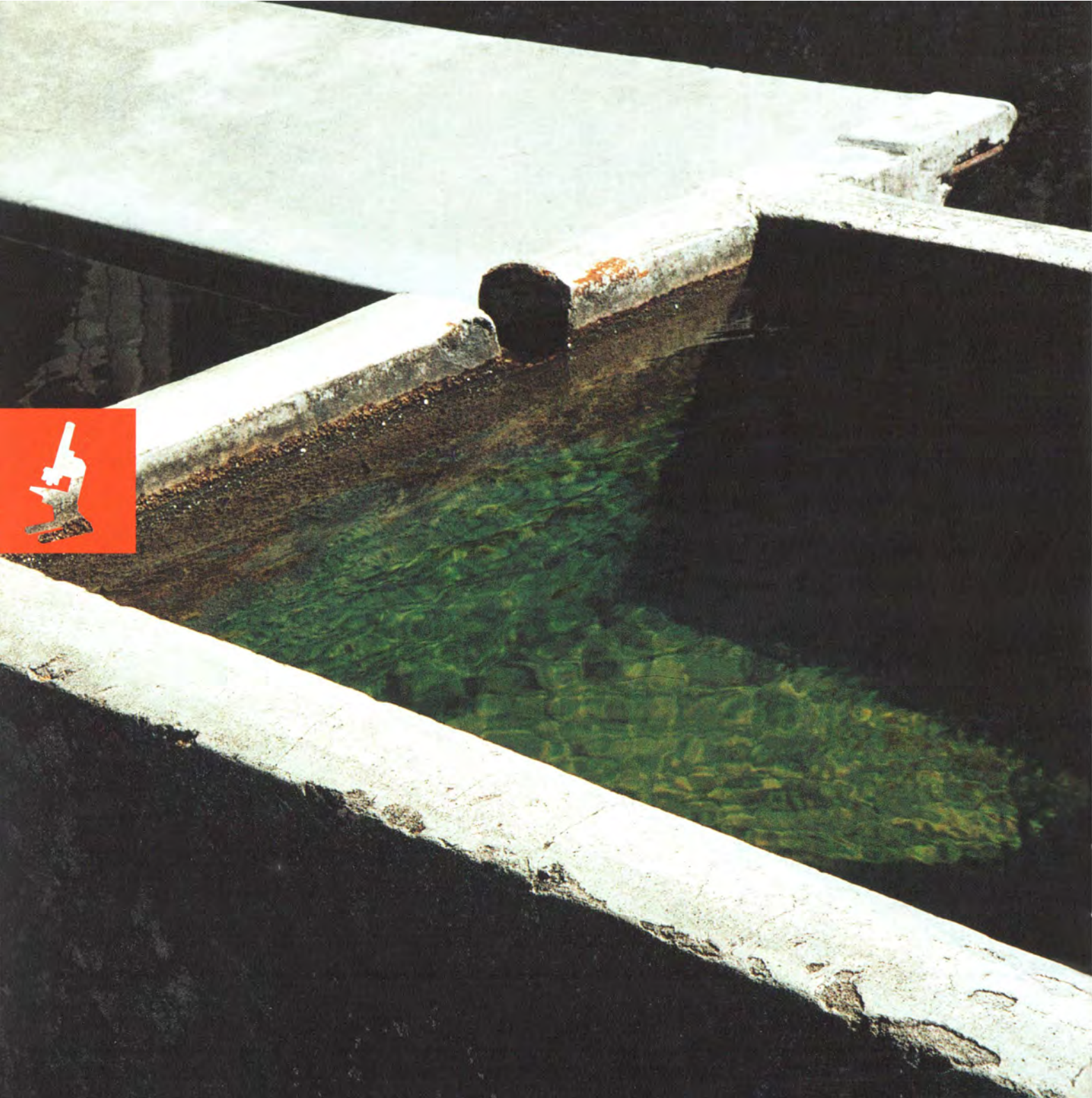
INFRAS developed an energy plan in cooperation with the most important regional actors in the field of energy policy.

### Market and organisation strategies for Swiss utility companies in the liberalised electricity market

Several power utilities, since 2000

INFRAS analyses the impact of liberalised energy markets and supports power suppliers in developing promising market strategies and organisational and legal structures in the liberalised electricity and gas markets.





# DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION

Globalisation produces conflicting realities that demand attention and examination. This is particularly the case when developing and transition countries are affected. Thanks to long years of work in development cooperation, the dialogue between cultures and our partnership orientation in conducting projects have become our core competencies.

## Technical assistance in development cooperation

For public and private technical assistance, we coordinate the transfer of knowledge and sustainable technologies in developing and transition countries. We offer a variety of services in the areas of project planning, execution, and evaluation.

## Global environment

We work together with international research partners to develop strategies and proposals in the area of the global environment, particularly climate protection, protection of the ozone layer, and sustainable management of natural resources and energy.

## Projects

### The ECOFRIG Project: An Indo-Swiss-German Technology Cooperation for Ecological Domestic and Commercial Refrigeration

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, since 1992

The ECOFRIG project transfers know-how and technical information to Indian industry and research partners and supports applications research and pilot production for the use of ozone and climate friendly hydrocarbon refrigeration. The project is supportive to India in fulfilling its obligations according to the Montreal Protocol for the protection of the ozone layer.

### Energy efficient residential building

Swiss Development Cooperation, 1997–2000

INFRAS executed a pilot project together with a local managing partner and cooperatives from Kiev for the implementation of cost-efficient energy saving measures and innovative model financing.

### National Strategy Study of China on a possible contribution of climate protection projects under the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol

World Bank and State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, 2001-2003

INFRAS heads a team of international experts and co-advises (with partners) the Chinese client on methodological and management questions.



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