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Swiss Federal Office of Energy SFOE

# Energy efficient housing in Switzerland



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# Contents

1. Political system and energy policy of Switzerland
2. SwissEnergy - the Swiss programme for energy efficiency and renewable energies
3. Implementation of measures
4. Swiss building stock - Challenges and objectives of future policy formulation
5. Conclusions



# The political system of Switzerland – competences within the building sector

## **Confederation**

Energy act with general regulations and mandate to the cantons:

“The cantons legislate for energy use ...in buildings”

## **Cantons**

Competent for building regulations in terms of energy and its execution as well as for incentives

## **Municipality**

Responsible for spatial planning and partially for building regulation



# Current energy policy of Switzerland

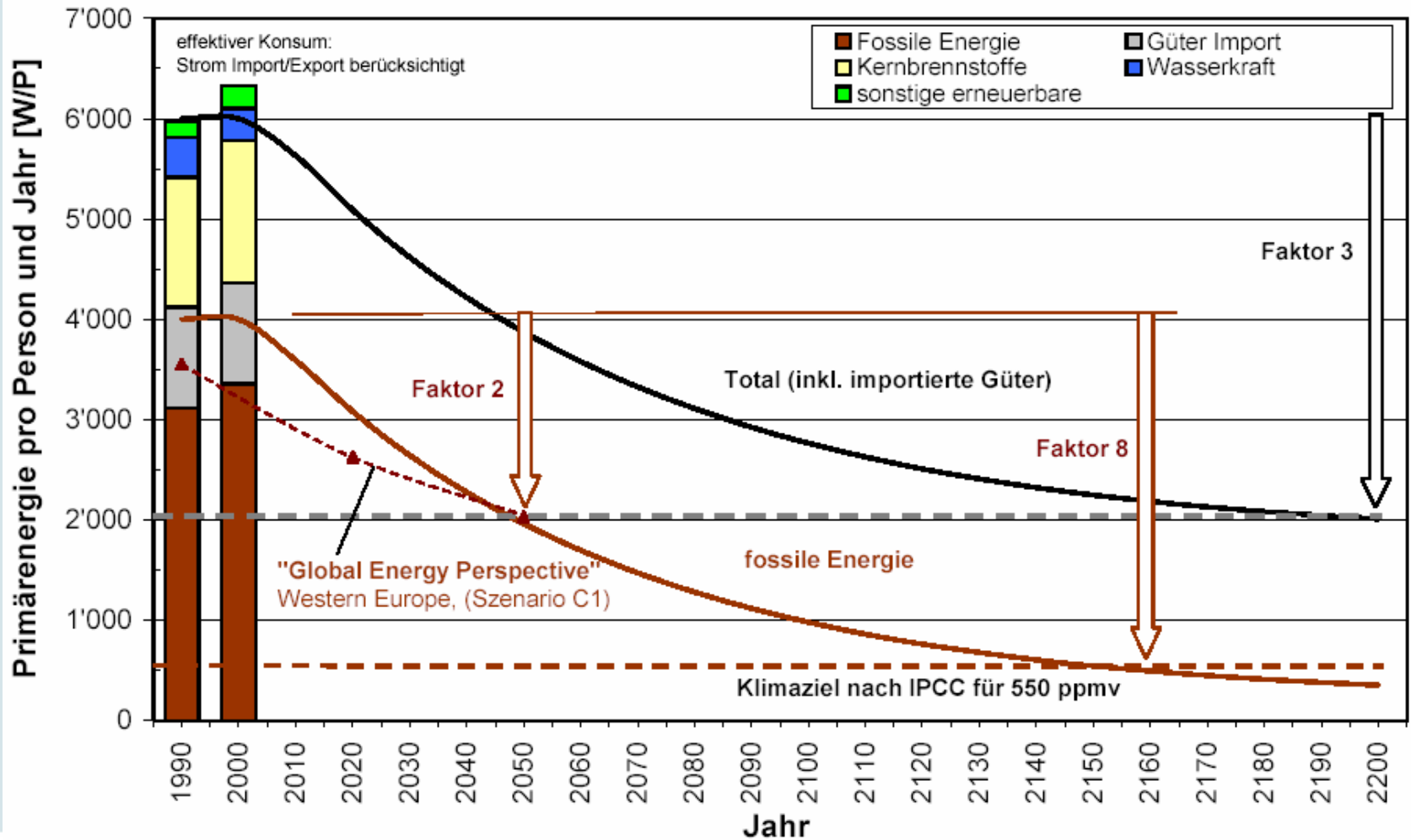
The energy strategy of the Federal Council is structured in four columns:

- **Energy efficiency**
- **Renewable energies**
- **Main power stations**
- **Energy foreign policy**

→ The final goal: „2000-watt society“



# Vision 2050: 2000-Watt Society





# Swiss energy policy for the buildings sector

**Taxes (Confederation):**

**CO2-tax on combustibles (since 2008)**

**Legislation (Cantons):**

**Energy efficiency and renewables**

**Voluntary actions (Confederation + Cantons):**

**SwissEnergy programme**



# SwissEnergy programme – objectives

- Reduction of **CO2-emissions** (10% until 2010 on the base of 1990, according to the targets of the Swiss CO2-Act).
- The **limited increase of electricity consumption** until 2010 to be maximum 5 %
- The **increase of new renewable energies** to be doubled compared to the year 2000 (including small hydropower of less than 1 MW)



# SwissEnergy programme – mechanisms

- SwissEnergy between voluntary and mandatory measures
- Voluntary activities as a first step
- Legal prescriptions and measures as second step



# SwissEnergy programme - instruments

Instruments for the building sector are:

- **Contracted Partners** contribute additional partner-activities (MINERGIE, market players, etc.)
- **Global-contributions** to the cantons for their subsidy-programmes for energy efficiency and use of renewables
- **Pilot and demonstration** (P+D) projects to push innovative technologies
- **Promotion and communication** activities on national scale



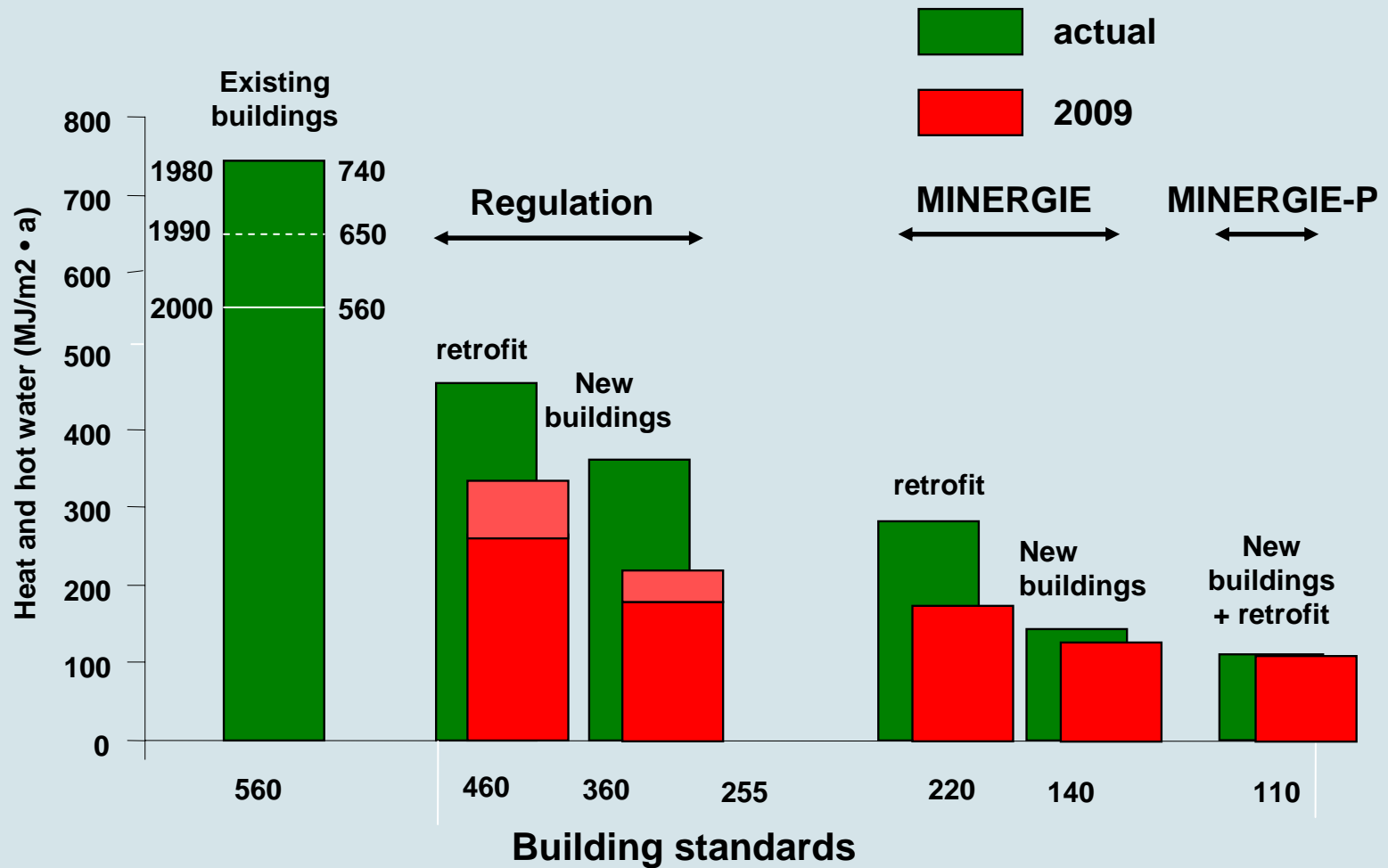
# SwissEnergy programme - implementation

## Example: MINERGIE

- Voluntary building standard
- Supported by confederation, cantons and industry
- Successful on the market
- Model function for building regulation → adaption 2009
- Adapt MINERGIE-requirements to be more stringent again

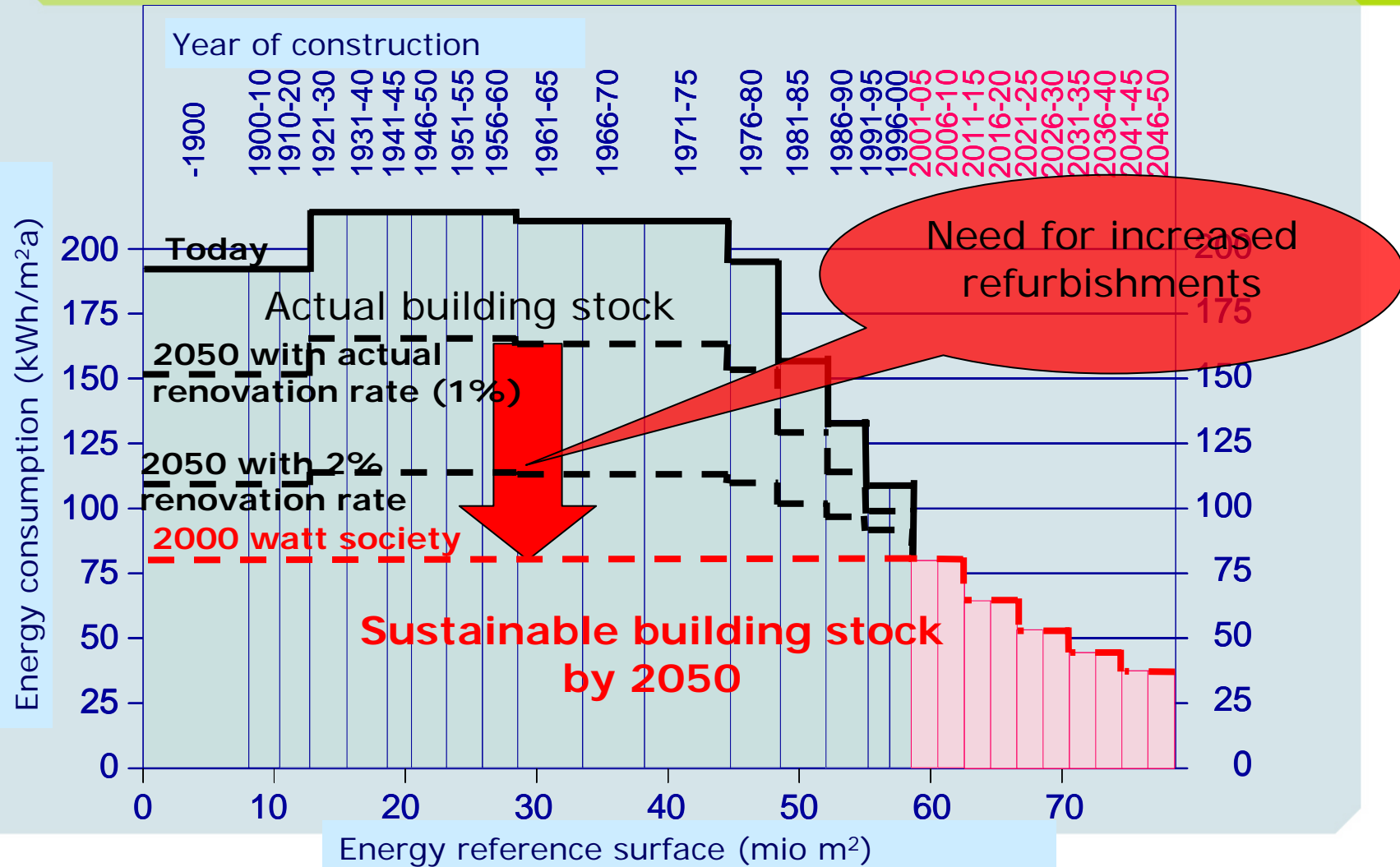


# Building standards





# Challenge: Transformation of the existing building stock





## New measures to be introduced by 2012: Action Plan for Energy Efficiency

Proposed measures for the Building sector are:

### **National programme for refurbishment of dwellings:**

- CHF 200 Million p.a. from 2010

### **Energy certificate for buildings:**

- Voluntary model for consultation of building owners: 2009
- Mandatory as a market instrument

**Tax deductions:** for energy efficient refurbishment

### **Increase of global contributions to cantons:**

- To be decided by the parliament

### **More stringent building regulations:**

- Decrease of energy consumption of new buildings by a factor 2 through energy efficiency and use of renewables



## Conclusions

- The Swiss climate- and energy-policies are in change (Action Plan for Energy Efficiency)
- New instruments need to be established: CO2-taxation, more stringent regulations, voluntary efficiency standards for first movers (MINERGIE), incentive programmes for refurbishment of dwellings, energy certificate for buildings
- Successful implementation according to competences (Confederation, Cantons, Market)
- Ambitious targets to meet needs everybody's contribution – it's a common task!