

RDV Philanthropiques de l'UNIL, 2022-09-06

## **Assemblée Citoyenne Académique**

Sascha NICK



ACA is a model of a citizens' assembly built on academic principles (evidence-based, lobby-free, no ideology), open to the whole society and, using a novel process and tools, scalable to millions of participants.

This deliberative and participative approach builds on the Swiss tradition of direct democracy, and combines high-quality deliberation of citizens' assemblies with the legitimacy of direct democracy.

ACA is suitable for complex topics like climate action, in the age of populism, lobby power, social media, and fake news.

## **The Academic Citizens' Assembly**

**21st century  
democratic  
decision-making  
for the Swiss  
societal transition.**

# Academic Citizens' Assembly 2022

- Saturday 04.06.2022 at EPFL and online
- 70 participants
- 216 proposals submitted
- 11'971 votes cast
- 40 proposals chosen
- High convergence, mostly >90%

## Transport+Urban Planning

1. Concept of 15' city: everything reachable within 15' + Encourage sust. urban planning: services, living & work are concentrated
2. Encourage biking/walking by replacing car lanes with bike/pedestrian spaces and trees + Improve bike culture/skills/behaviors
3. Reallocate climate-harmful transport subsidies towards clean and affordable transportation

## Agriculture+Food

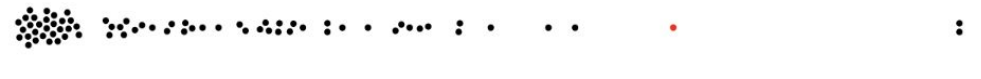
4. Adapt food-type consumption to anticipated future conditions: much less meat, select climate-resistant crops
5. Link subsidies to good farming practices (biodiversity and carbon footprint) + Carbon tax on imported food
6. Reduce meat consumption in schools by introducing progressively more vegan options, until 100% vegan, bio, regional, seasonal

## Education+Engagement

7. Every Swiss resident (CH, permit B, C) participates in a Citizens Assembly organized by municipality (1 day off/year)
8. A quota in mainstream media (some minutes per day, advertising space) to raise awareness on climate change and on solutions
9. Promote culture and arts to change paradigm from consumption society to a sustainable one; media: movies, books, theater, ...

## Buildings

10. Replace housing heating in Switzerland within 5 years



STATEMENT	OVERALL 76	A 38	B 27	C 11
20 Reallocate climate harmful transport subsidies towards clean and affordable transportation; sufficiency; subsidy and public investment.	91% 1% 7% (69)	93% 0% 6% (32)	84% 3% 11% (26)	100% 0% 0% (11)
28 Encourage soft mobility such as biking and walking by replacing car lanes with bike lanes, pedestrian spaces and trees/vegetation	92% 5% 1% (68)	96% 0% 3% (32)	88% 12% 0% (25)	90% 9% 0% (11)

# Goals for the next 18 months

**Two full-scale assemblies in Swiss cities,**  
population ideally 5'000-30'000

We are **seeking financial and institutional support** to:

- Identify suitable cities
- Prepare the topic and refine process in collaboration with each city
- Implement independent governance
- Customize IT tools and support
- Communicate in each city and beyond



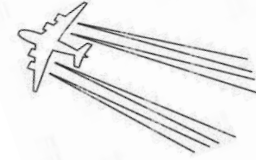
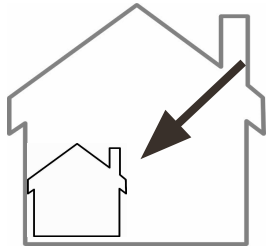
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# Fonds pilote suisse pour les émissions négatives

Sascha NICK



# Who benefits from negative emissions?



1 Sufficiency

2 Efficiency

3 Clean Energy

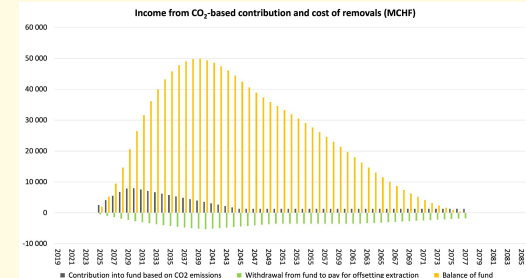
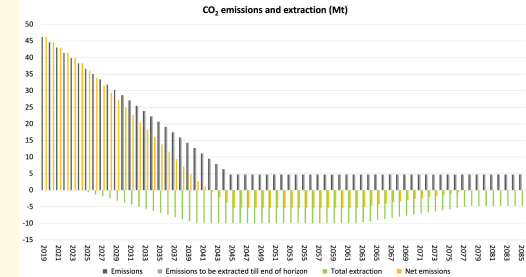
4 CCS

5 NET

6 SRM

7 Adaptation

Benefits->	Society	Incumbents
Funding	Public fund, polluters pay	Public subsidy to private interests
Goal	Accelerate decarbonization	Extend life and profits of fossil fuels
Approach	Nature Based Solutions, local governance+jobs	Technical solutions, industry lock-in, high risk





# Project example: Re-naturing wetlands restores Swiss biodiversity hotspots, stops peat oxidation, and restarts carbon sequestration

## Polluters pay, via the Fund

Wetlands, Switzerland, 1800 : 2500 km<sup>2</sup> (6% of country area)

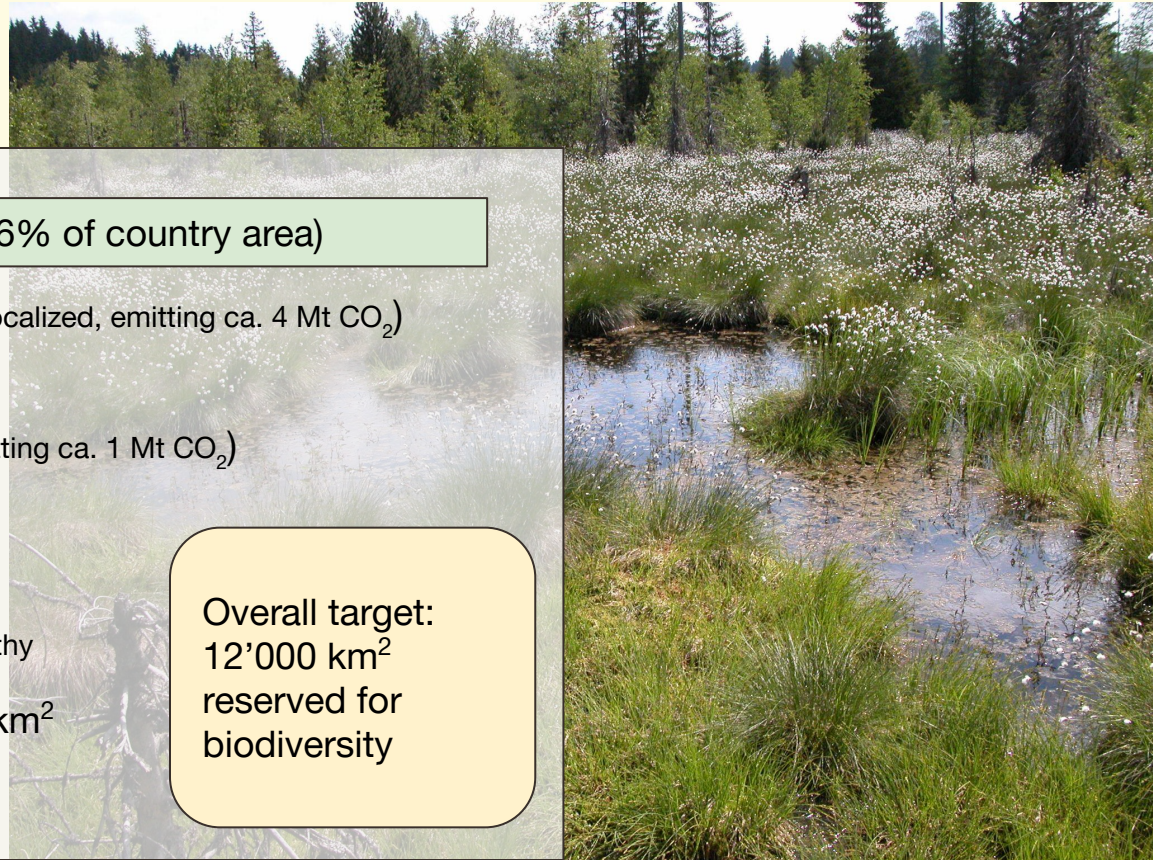
Organic soils, 2022 : 1000-1500 km<sup>2</sup> (non-localized, emitting ca. 4 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>)

Organic soils, 2022 : 280 km<sup>2</sup> (localized, emitting ca. 1 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>)

Wetlands 2022 : 15 km<sup>2</sup> of which 1.5 km<sup>2</sup> healthy

Wetlands, Switzerland, 2050-2070: 1000 km<sup>2</sup>

Overall target:  
12'000 km<sup>2</sup>  
reserved for  
biodiversity

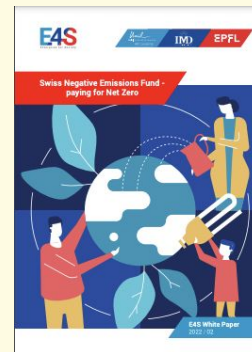


# Goals for the next 18 months

- Launch the pilot fund with 3-5 major participating organizations
- Build team and establish governance
- Develop certification methods w. FOEN
- Implement 3+ negative emissions projects
- Communicate to establish national awareness

We are **seeking financial and institutional support** to reach the above objectives

## Swiss fund, model and scientific background



## Pilot fund, summary and implementation note

