

4 Sustainability

Framework conditions

SERV carries out sustainability assessments for all insurance applications, based on where any given project is located.

When assessing insurance applications, SERV takes into account the international guidelines of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the principles of Swiss foreign policy according to Art. 6 para. 2 SERV Act (SERVG). These relate in particular to the peaceful co-existence of peoples, respect for human rights and promotion of democracy, conservation of natural resources and the alleviation of poverty and destitution in the world, but also to preserving Switzerland's independence and protecting its national welfare.

Further requirements may arise as a result of Switzerland's obligations under international law. The extensive sustainability checks conducted include environmental, social and human rights reviews, anti-corruption audits and, in certain cases, audits of the debt sustainability of public-sector buyers when financing supported projects. SERV also conducts climate audits for fossil fuel energy projects in accordance with the provisions of the SERV guidelines on aligning its support for the clean energy transition.

When assessing larger projects with potentially high environmental, social and/or human rights impacts (Category A and B projects), on-site visits are also carried out where necessary in the presence of the responsible independent consultant.

Transparency

Project information is made available with the highest possible degree of transparency.

To ensure transparency, SERV publishes two project lists on its website. The first is a list of Category A projects, which includes a description of every project and a link to the relevant Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) at least 30 days before the project is approved. The second is a half-yearly list of insured OECD-related projects for which the portion insured by SERV exceeds ten million Swiss francs. Since the beginning of 2025, insurance commitments in principle (ICP) and transactions outside the scope of the Arrangement on Guidelines for Officially Supported Export Credits are now no longer being published. This change has given the "List of insured projects" greater clarity.

An NGO dialogue takes place once a year.

SERV also maintains a regular exchange of information with interested non-governmental organisations (NGO). This includes the annual NGO dialogue, through which SERV provides information on current projects, strategic shifts, and developments in the OECD export credit group. Representatives of various NGOs focusing on different areas take part in the dialogue.

The list of insured projects is available on www.serv-ch.com/project-information.

