

Lessons from the Carbon Tax in Chile

Presentation for the Coalition of Ministers
of Finance for Climate Action
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Context and Problem

- Chile has significant environmental problems
 - Climate Change
 - Atmospheric pollution
 - Congestion and motor vehicle pollution.
- Environmental policy is centered on standards and regulations.

Green Tax Legislation

- In September 2014, Chile passed a General Tax Reform Bill (Ley 20.780) with 3 green taxes.
- Three new taxes were introduced:
 - tax on CO₂ emissions from stationary sources with boilers and turbines (sum over 50MW)
 - tax on local contaminants also on stationary sources with boilers and turbines (PM, SO₂ and NO_x).
 - tax on the first sale of new cars considering the expected NO_x emissions over their lifetime.

Tax Characteristics and Results



Tax Proposed
and Rates



Design
Elements



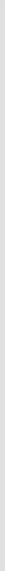
Results



Proposed
Innovations



Lessons from
Chile



Key Design Elements

Taxes on Stationary Source

The tax is based on all annual emissions of liable facilities. The CO2 and Local Pollutant tax have different rates, determined in terms of their respective marginal costs.

LOCAL POLLUTANT

$$T_{ij} = 0,1 \times CCAj \times CSCpc_i \times Pob_j$$

T_{ij} : Tax Rate of pollutant "i" in municipality "j" in US\$/t.

$CCAj$: Air Quality Coefficient "j".

SATURATED ZONE	1,2	LATENT ZONE	1,1
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$CSCpc_i$: Social Cost of pollutant "i".

Pollutant	PM	SO2	NOX
COST (US\$)	0,9	0,01	0,025

Pob_j : Population in municipality "j".

GLOBAL POLLUTANT

$$T = \text{USD } \$5$$

T : Tax per ton US\$/t.

The tax exempts energy from biomass

There is no earmarking.
Revenues go to national budget

Tax Rate on Local Pollutants

Municipality	CCA	MP US\$/ton	SO2 US\$/ton	NOx US\$/ton
PUENTE ALTO	1,2	67.560	751	1.877
MAIPÚ	1,2	60.385	671	1.677
ANTOFAGASTA	1,0	35.083	390	975
SAN BERNARDO	1,2	32.780	364	911
TEMUCO	1,2	31.594	351	878
CONTULMO	1,0	495	6	14
QUEILÉN	1,0	500	6	14
PORTEZUELO	1,0	506	6	14
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Other Relevant Design Features



TAX ON EMISSIONS



DEFINITION OF LIABLE
STATIONARY SOURCES



POINT OF REGULATION

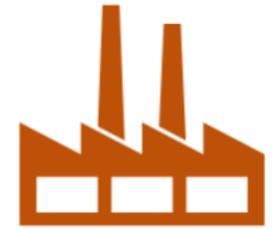
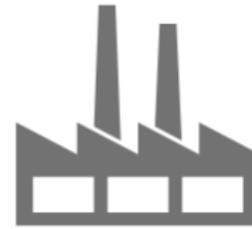


MONITORING
REPORTING AND
VERIFICATION (MRV)



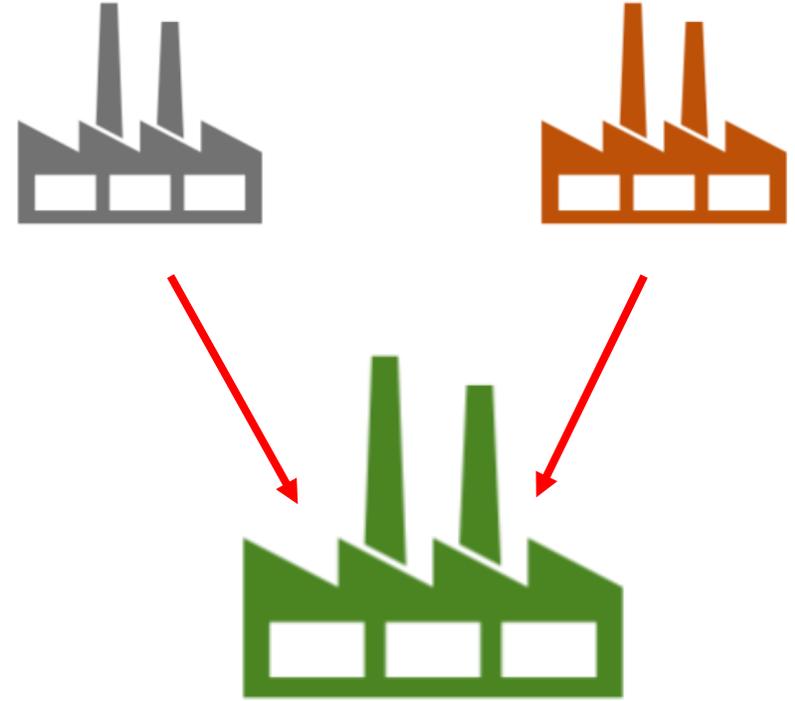
INSTITUTIONAL
INFRASTRUCTURE

Who are the Liable Entities?



Tax defines liable facilities in terms of the combined total power capacity of 50 MW.

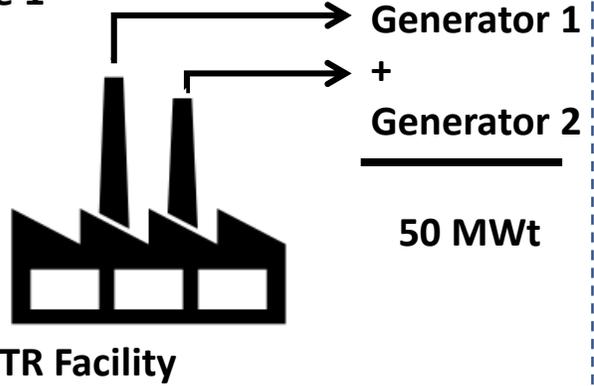
Liabile Entities



Tax defines liable facilities as those structures that have boilers and turbines (energy generation) in terms of the combined total power capacity of 50 MW.

Perimeter of the facility

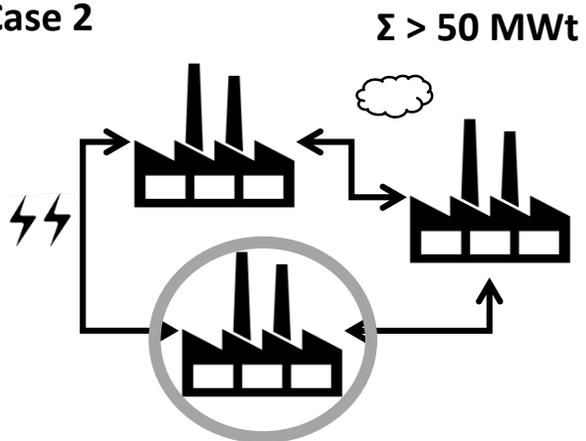
Case 1



Liable Facility

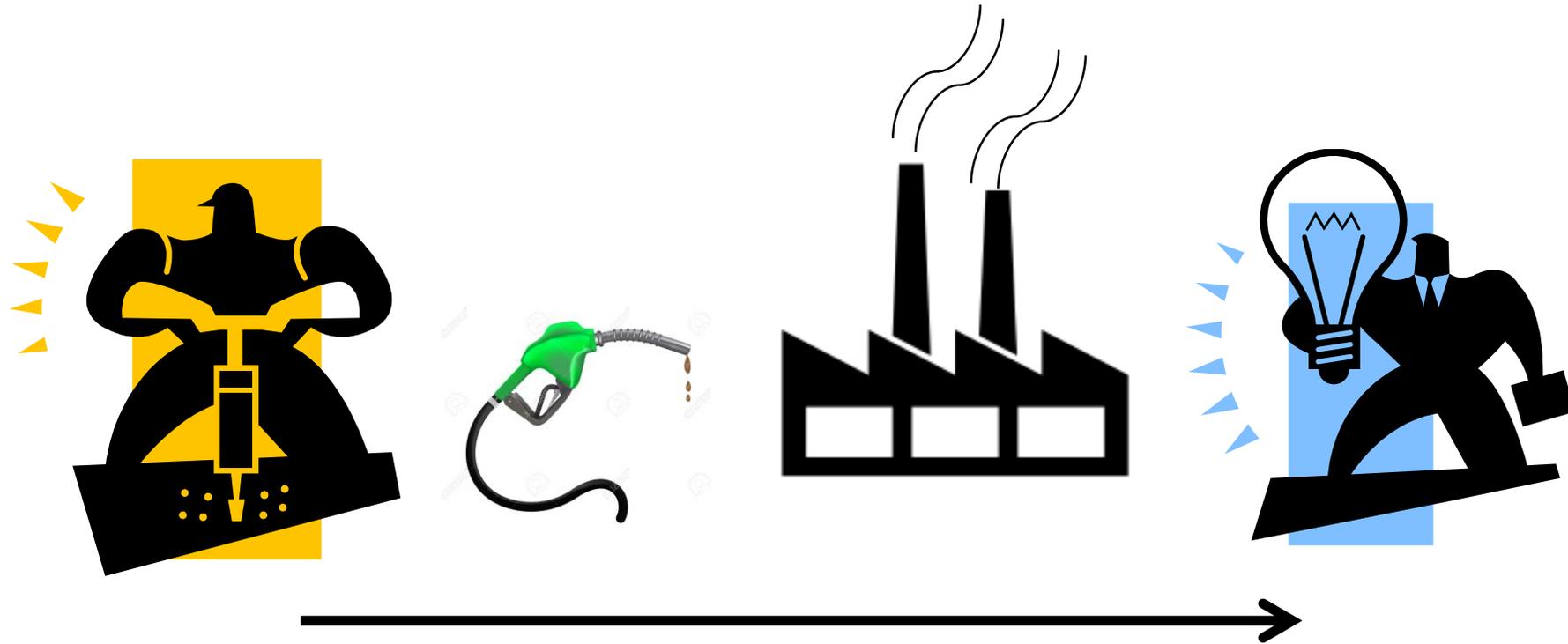
Perimeter of the facility

Case 2

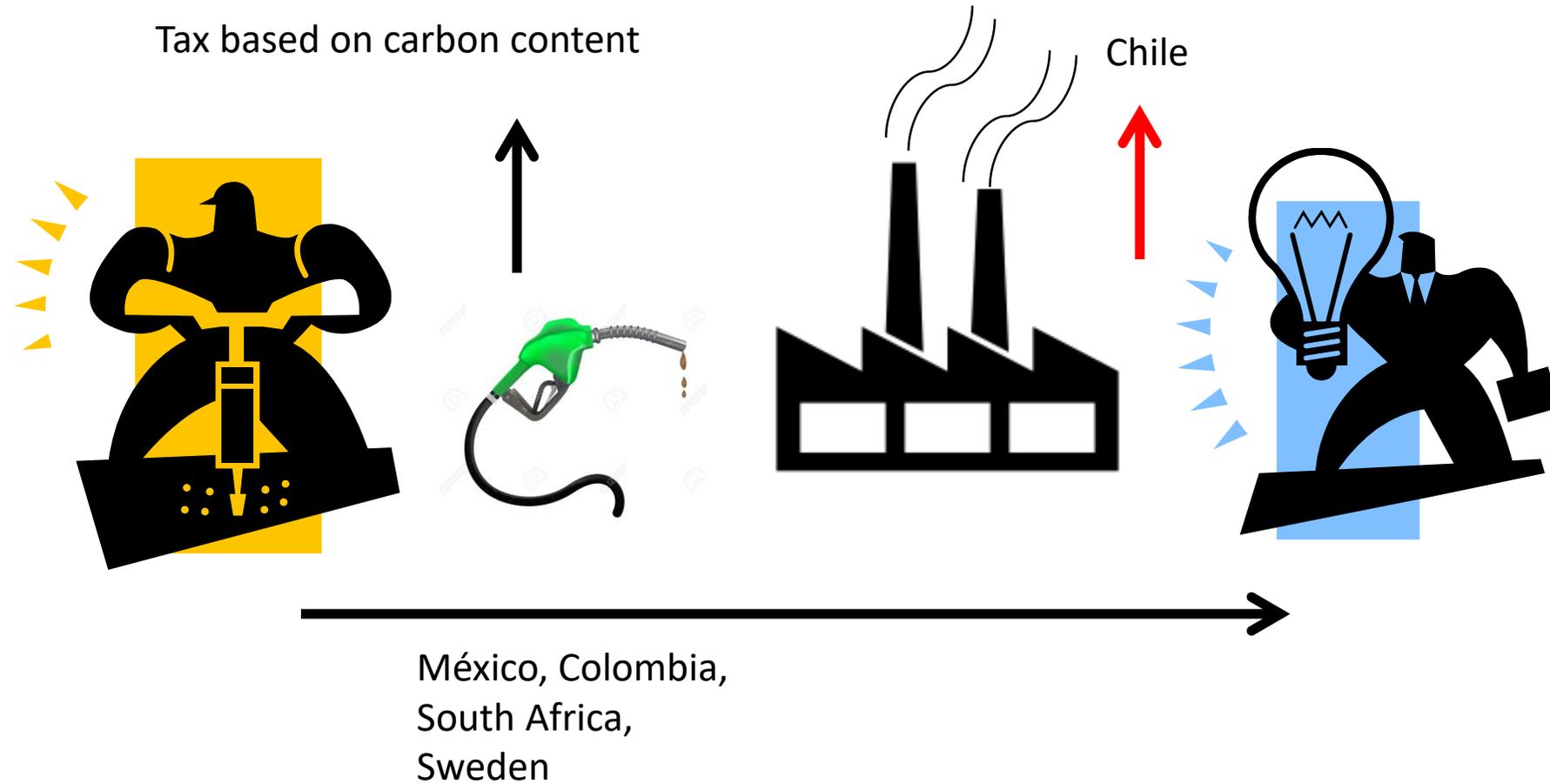


Multiple Facilities
operating
in coordination also
liable

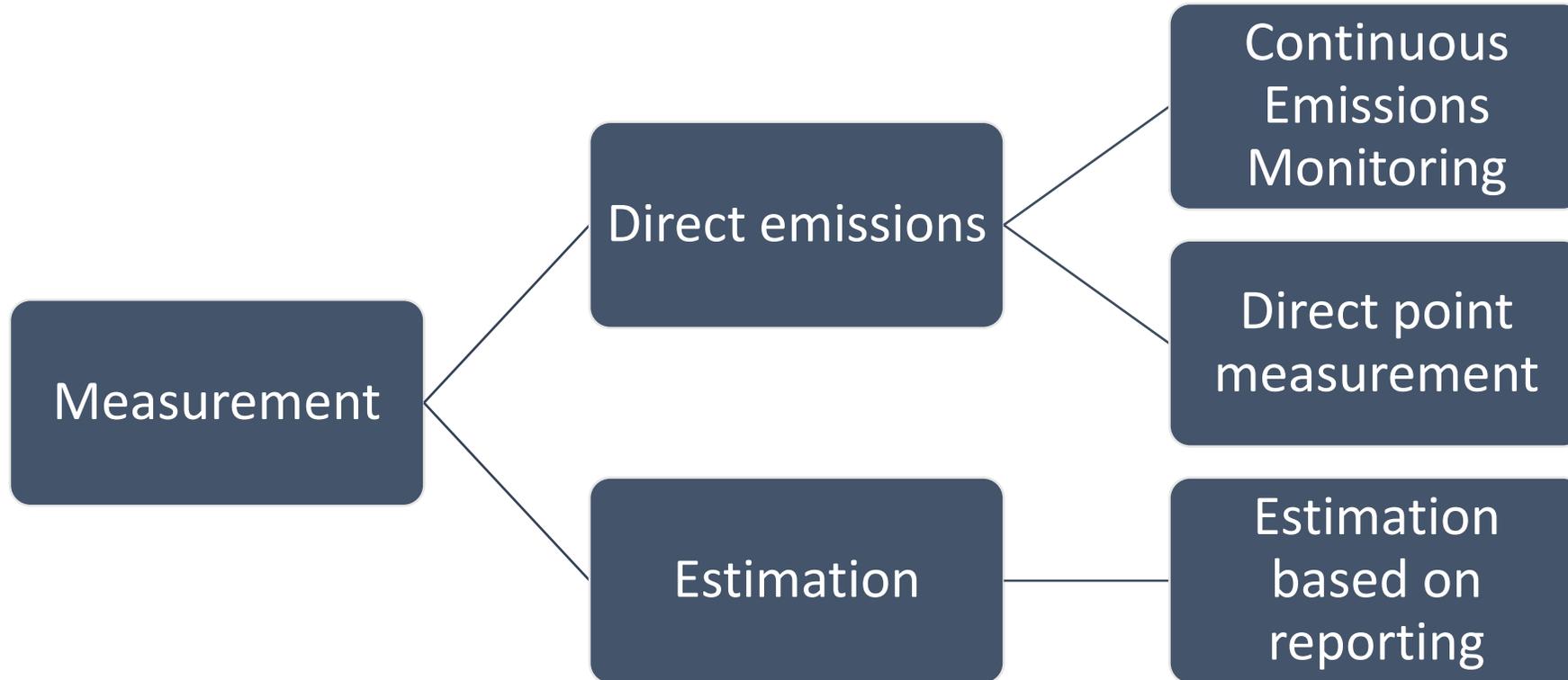
Which is the point of regulation?



Point of regulation



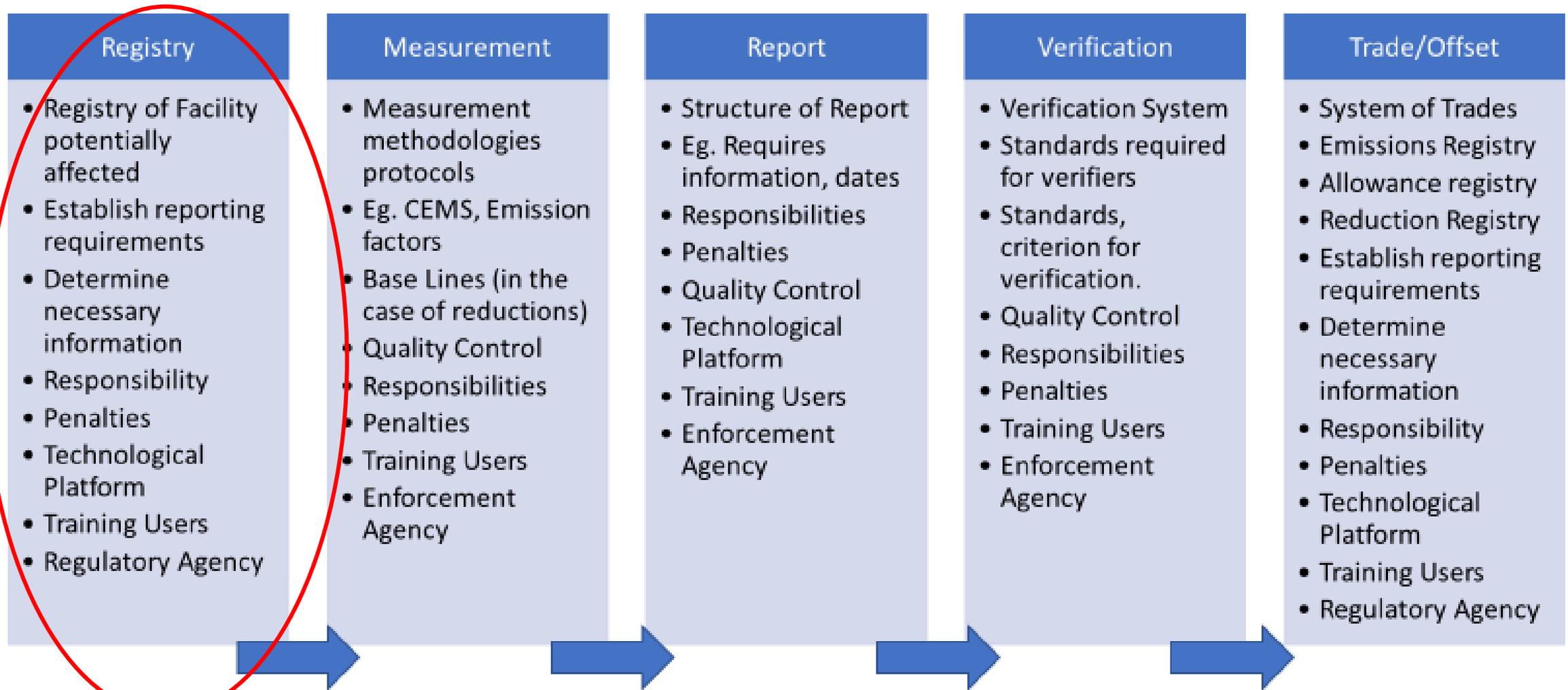
How to measure emissions?



The key:

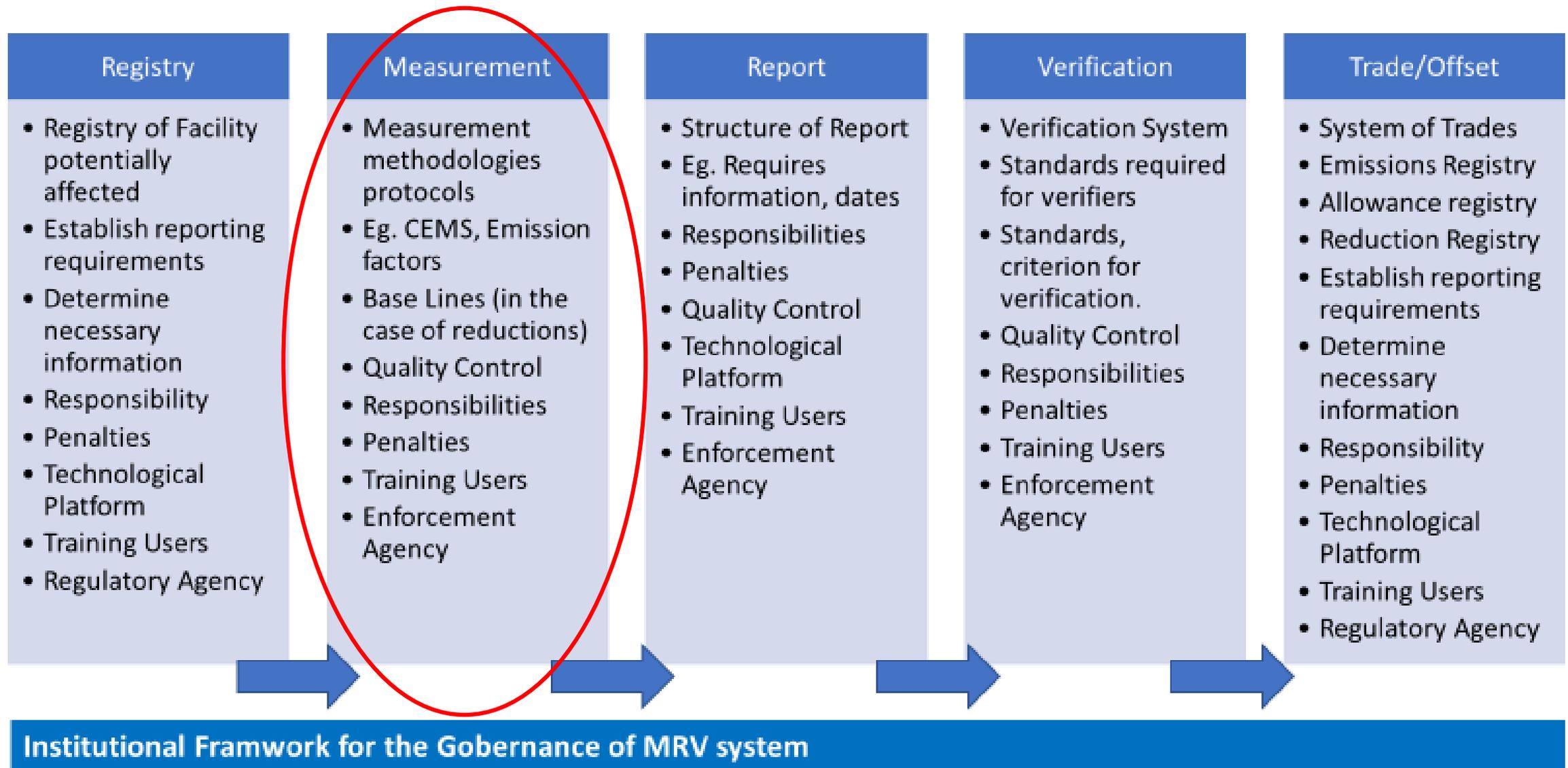
All methods require a reporting structure for each facility.

Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)

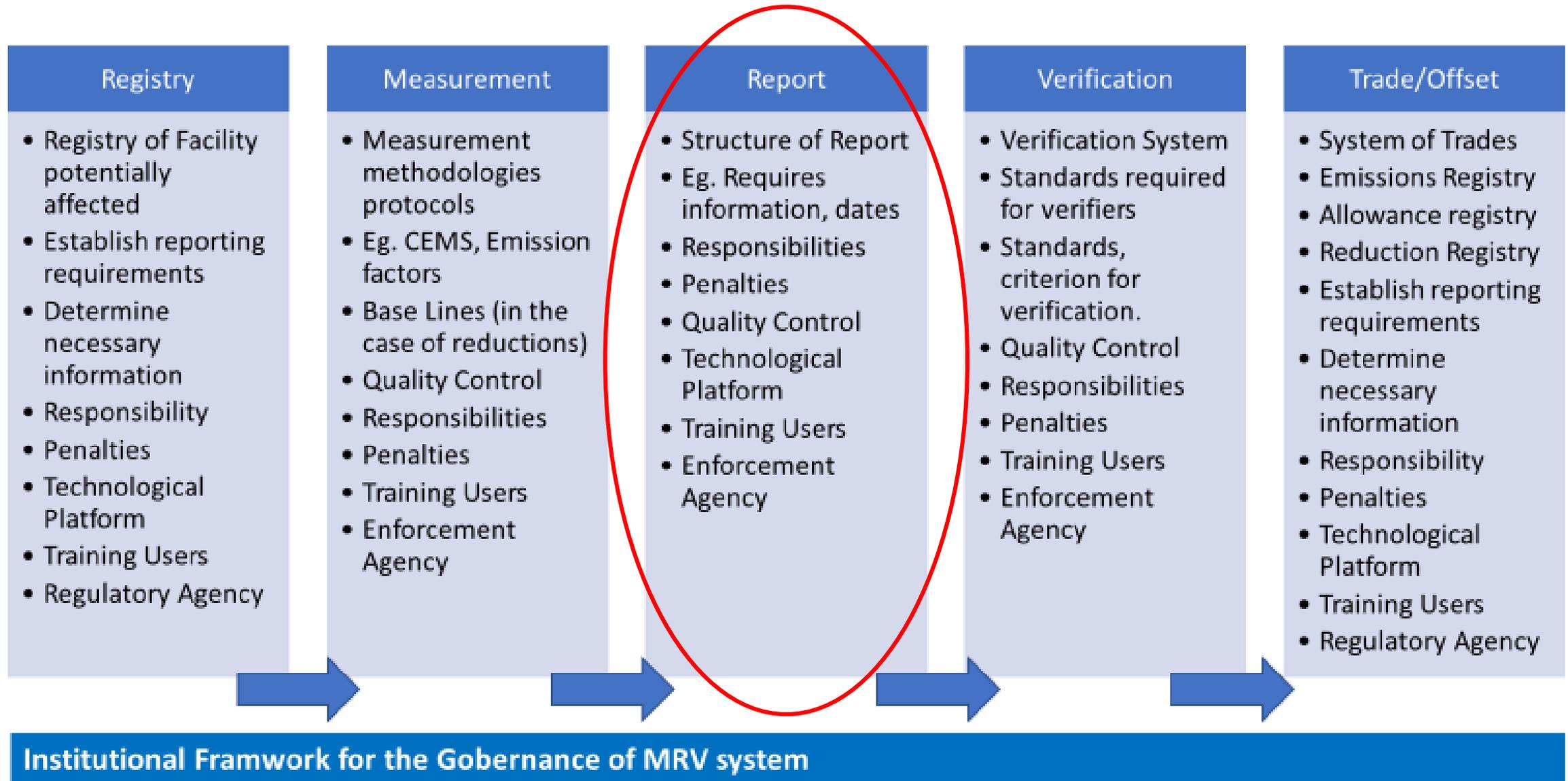


Institutional Framework for the Governance of MRV system

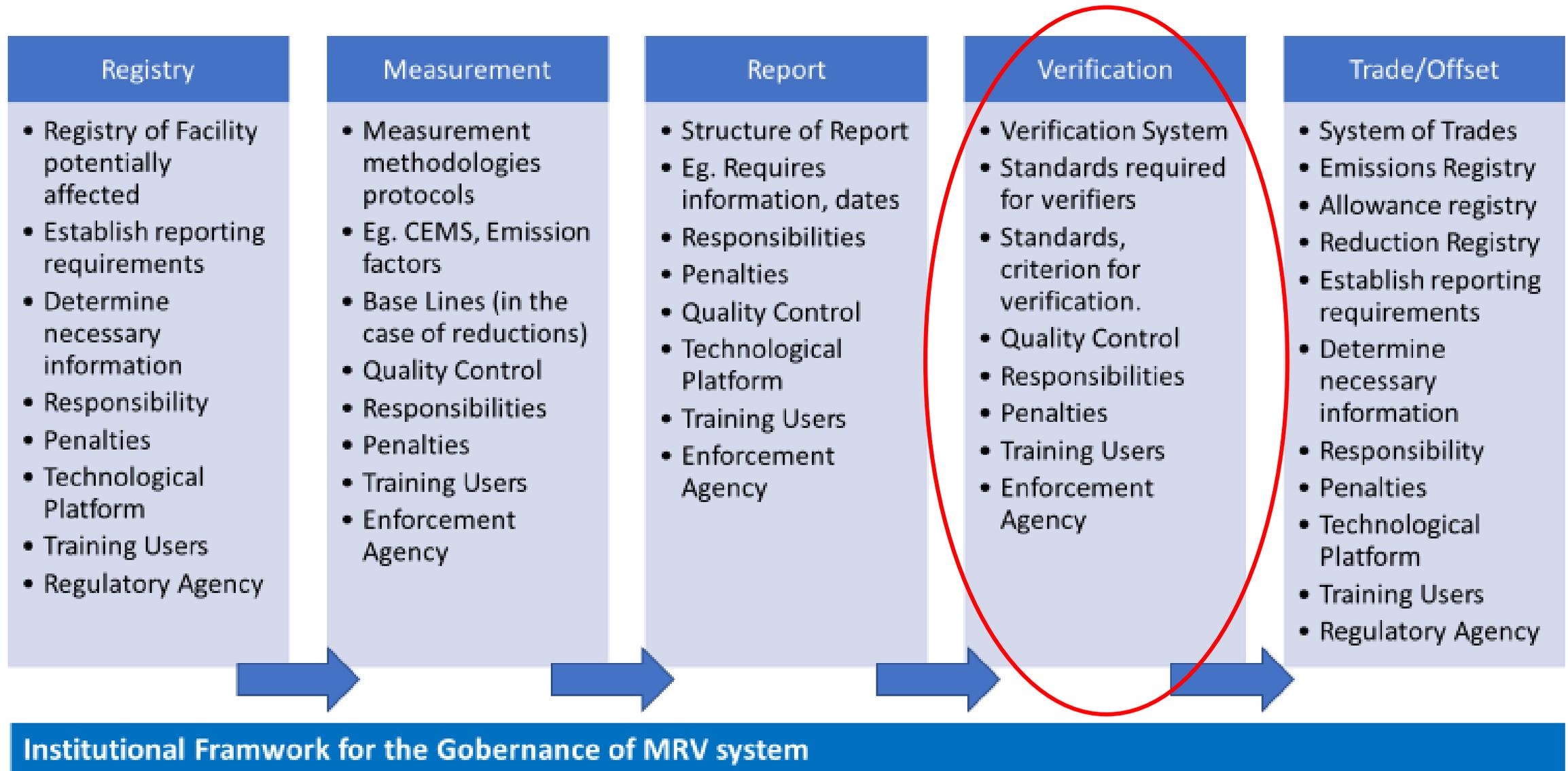
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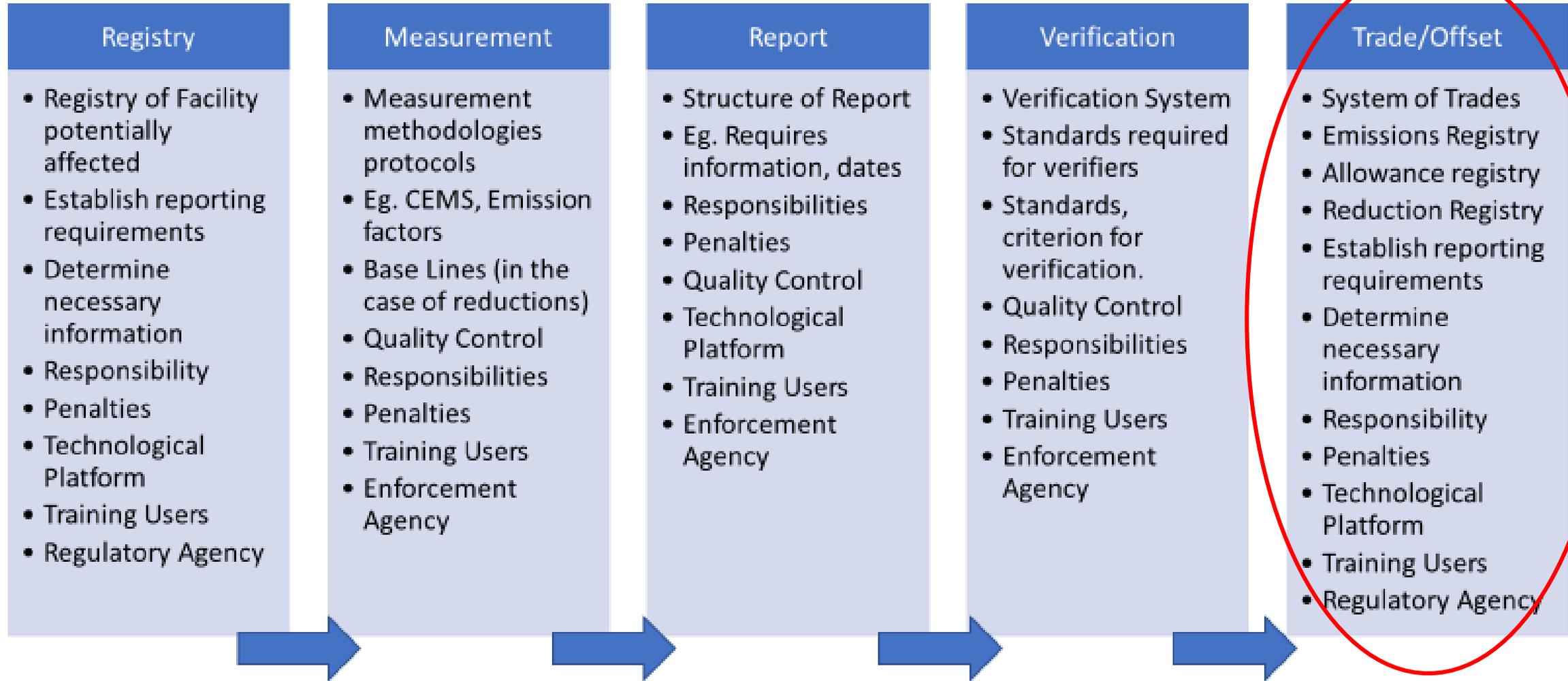
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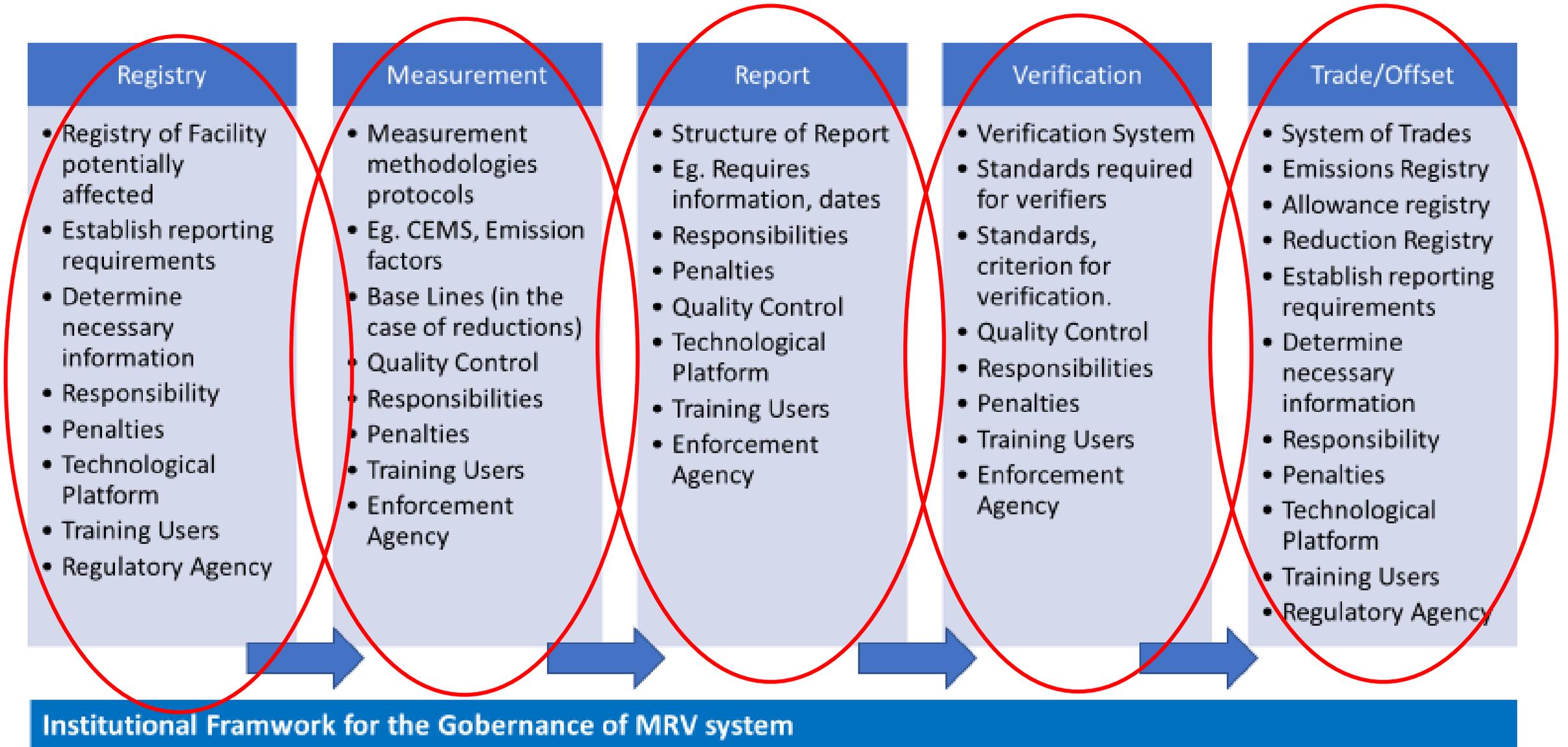


Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)



Institutional Framework for the Governance of MRV system

Monitoring, Reporting and Verification (MRV)



Institutional
Infraestructure

Major Institutional Framework

Regulatory
Framework
of Climate
Change
Policies

Regulatory
Framework
CPI

MRV Institutional Framework

Institutions

Others

MRV

Registry, Measurement,
Reporting, Verification,
Trade

Enforcement and
penalties

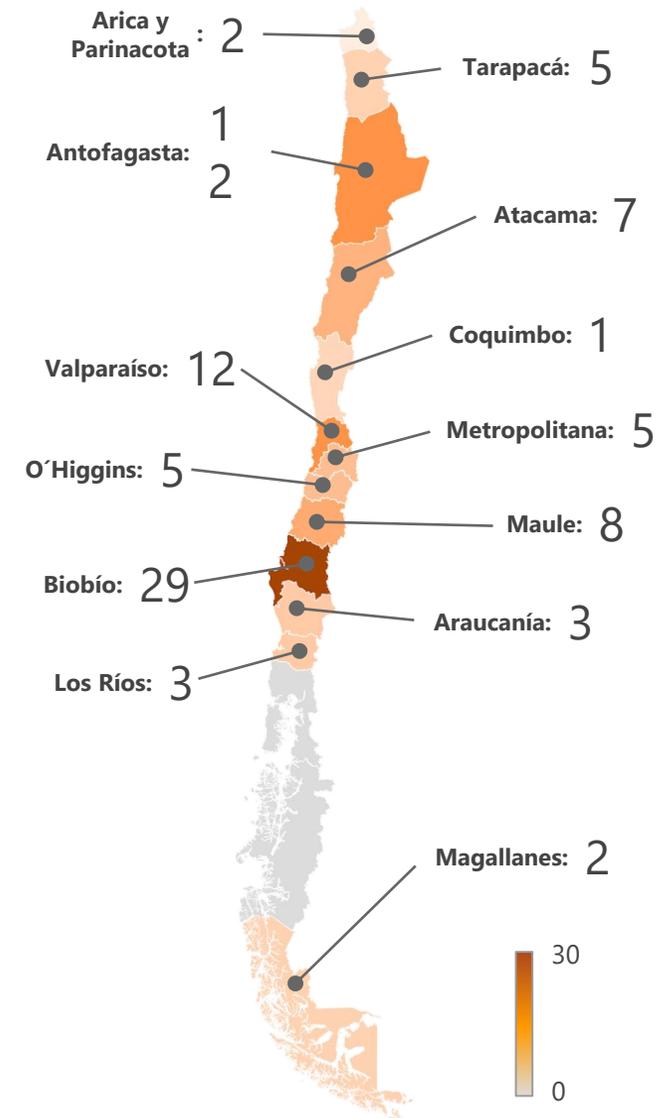
Results

Results: Liable Facilities

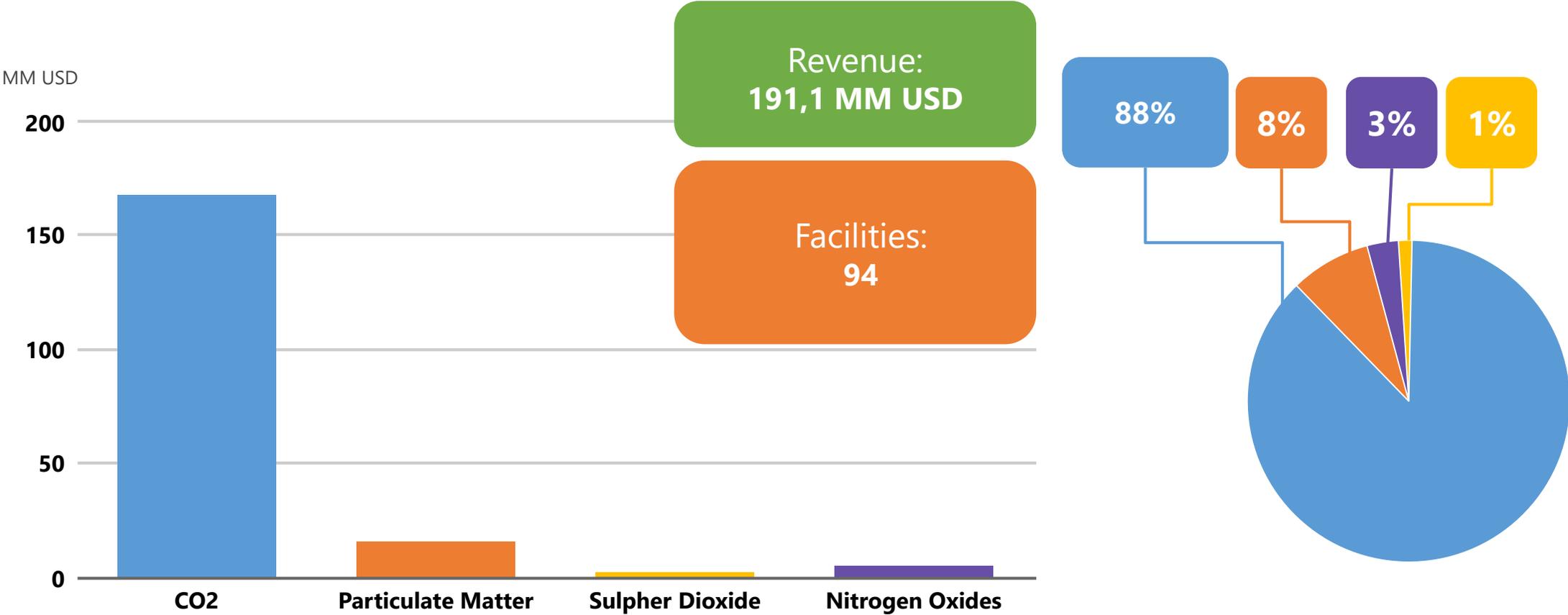
2017 RESULTS

REVENUES \$191.189.575: 88% CO₂ and 94% power generation.

SECTOR	NUMBER OF FACILITIES
Generadora	55
Pesquera	14
Celulosa/Papel	7
Agrícola	7
Maderero	4
Minería	1
Energía	1
Petroquímica	2
Químico	2
Cervecería	1



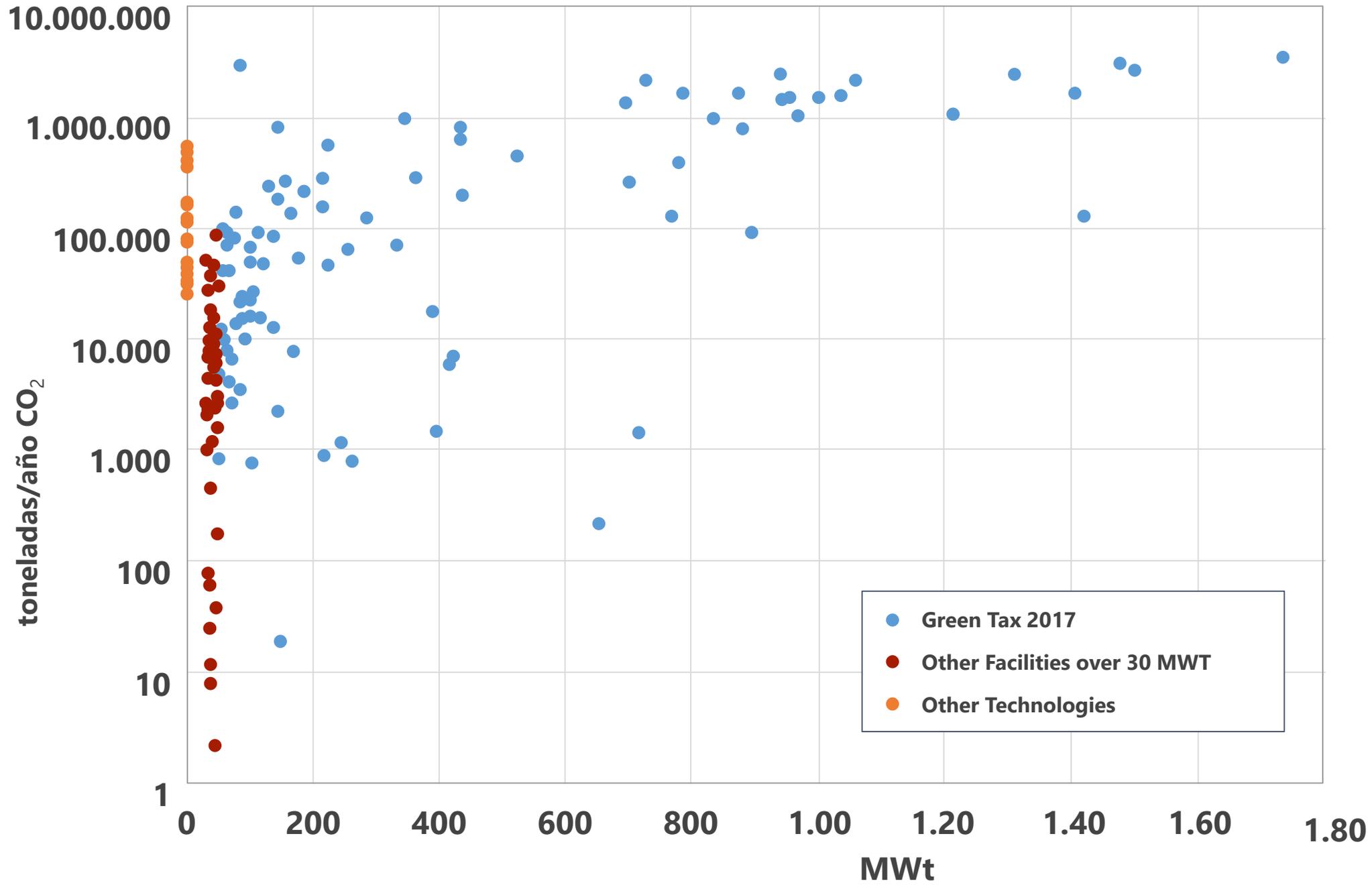
RESULTS





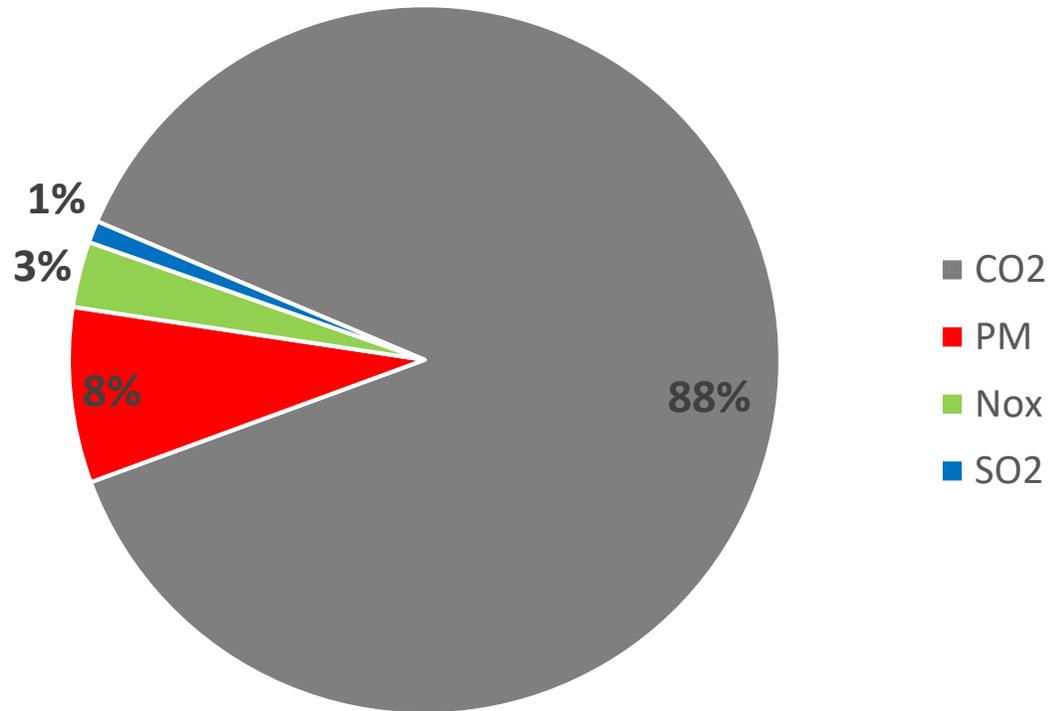
CO2
Coverage

	CO2 tons (mm)	Tax (2016)
Energy	85,1	
Generation	38,5	40
Industry	14,3	2,5
Others	32,3	
Industrial Processes	6,6	
Agriculture	13,7	
Waste	4,5	
Total	109.9	

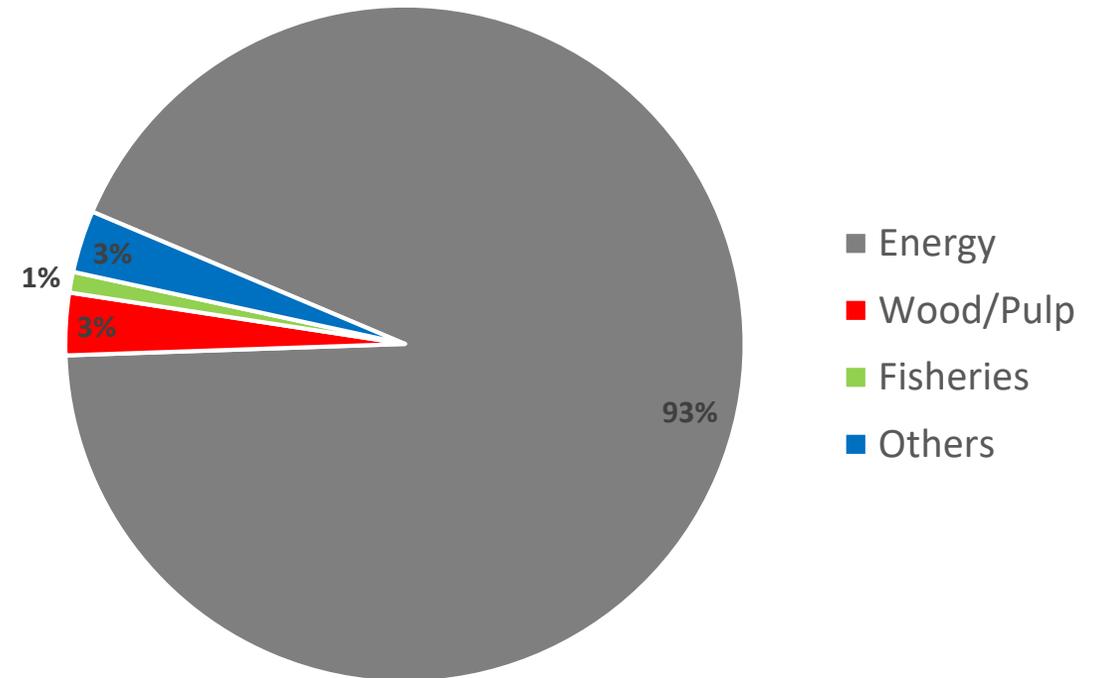


Revenues (2018) on stationary source: US\$186 mm

Contaminants



Sectors



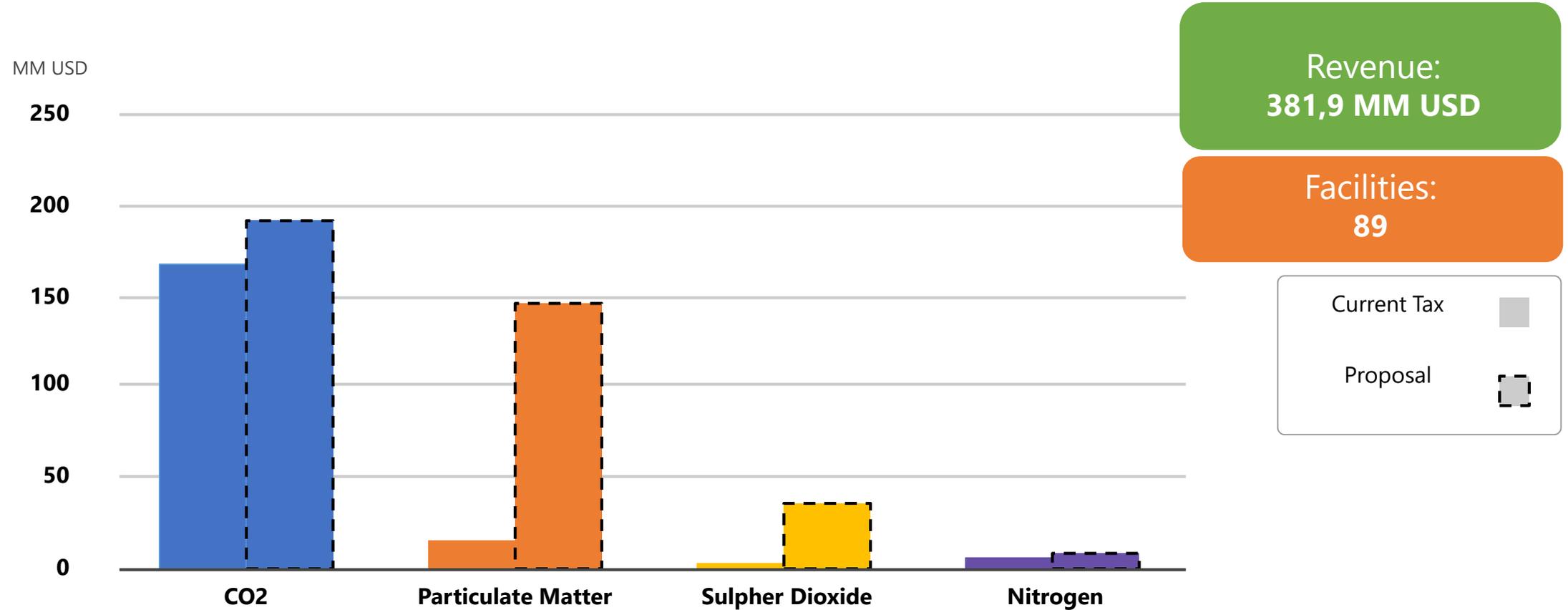
Impact 2017-2018



■ 2017-2018	-1%	-1.10%	-7%	-2%	-0.01%
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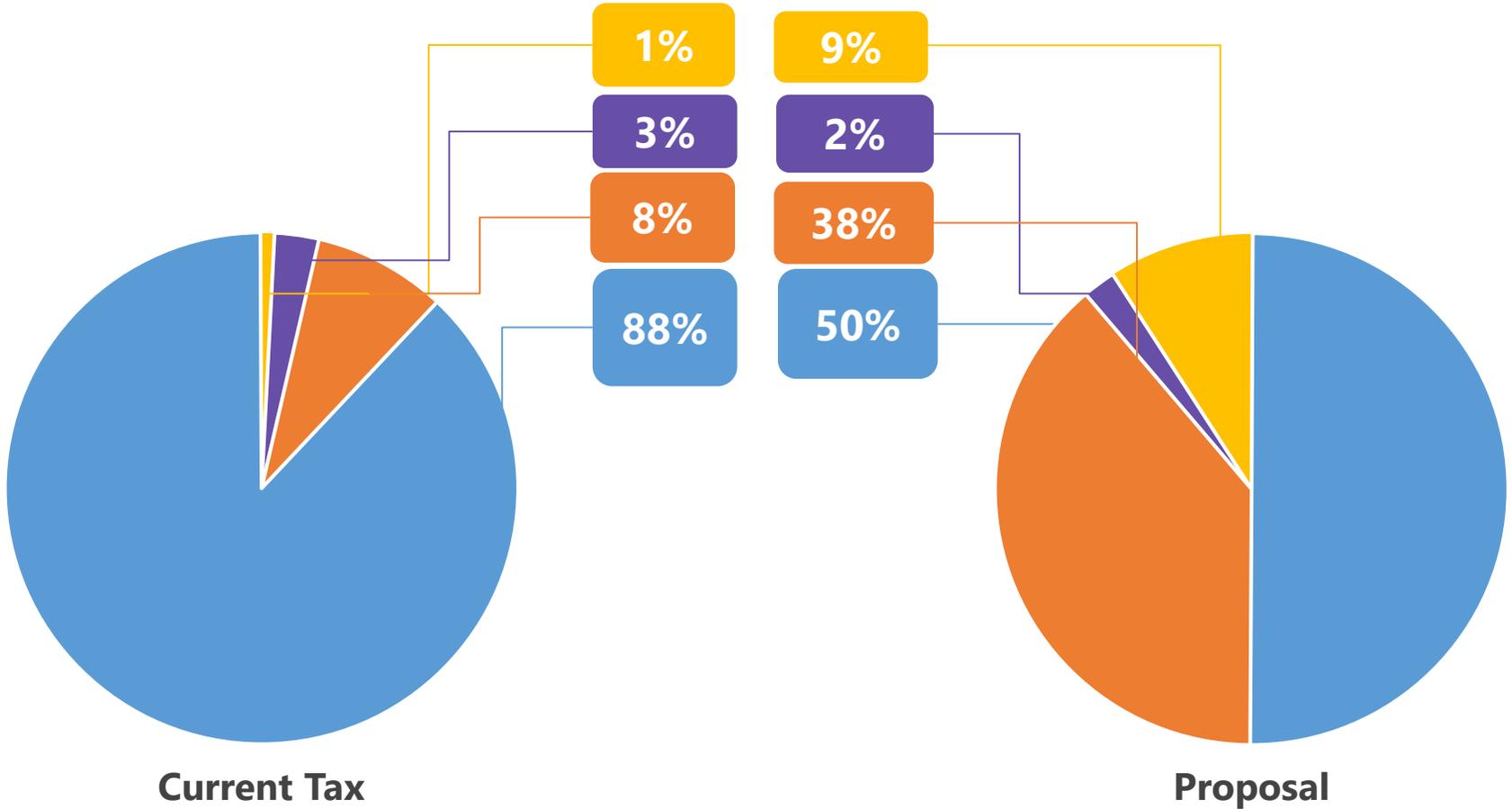
Innovations

Proposal currently discussed in Congress



Resultados
MODERN

MM USD
250
200
150
100
50
0



acion:
M USD
nientos

de ■
de □

Differences in Revenues is because of Local Pollutant Tax Rates:

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Lessons from Chile

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- 1. Political economy** is the key for implementation - propose in the context of broader tax reform.
- 2. Optimum tax** rate not so relevant. Low tax may be better, at least initially.
- 3. Think about cobenefits.** Combining carbon taxes with local pollutants may be relevant for domestic policy, especially LDCs.
- 4. Even a low tax has an impact.** Can act as a signaling and coordination device, and supports the development of an institutional infrastructure.
- 5. MRV overestimated.** Often complexity is overestimated and necessary for other policies.
- 6. Institutional infrastructure underestimated.** Reform of regulatory system underestimated is necessary and will serve other objectives.
- 7. Success breeds new commitments and more ambition.** Can be the basis of carbon markets.
- 8. Fuel approach vs Emissions Approach are complementary** rather than alternatives

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Thank you
tack så mycket

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- October 2019