

Press release

A Turnaround with Records – myclimate Publishes its Annual Report 2016

Zurich, 29 June 2017 – The Swiss climate protection foundation myclimate today published its 2016 annual report. Overall in 2016, around 725,000 tonnes of CO₂ were offset by companies and private individuals through myclimate climate protection projects. This is an absolute record value. The fact that far more climate protection would be possible without any problems is proven by the myclimate climate protection projects, which also delivered new record results and positive news for worldwide climate protection in 2016. myclimate's educational activities were able to continue their growth trend and to celebrate premieres.

In 2016, considerably more companies and private individuals implemented climate protection with myclimate and offset their CO₂ emissions completely or partially. myclimate's CEO, René Estermann, comments: "Since the first decline in 2015, we've really turned things around. The more than 700,000 tonnes of compensated CO₂ emissions are not only a record value in the history of myclimate and demonstrate growth of 30%. We see this as a clear sign that global climate protection is growing in significance extensively after the Paris Agreement. Although this is great news, there's a bitter aftertaste when we consider the performance capacity of our current and the many waiting projects. We could realise much greater climate protection in our projects very quickly. It's time for a more widely fixed, binding price on CO₂ emissions!"

myclimate 2016 in Figures

The foundation's total income in 2016 amounted to 12.94 million Swiss francs. Of this, the income from CO₂ compensation came in at 9.4 million Swiss francs (CHF). The increased involvement of private individuals is pleasing. The direct compensation via the various myclimate web calculators also showed double-digit growth rates in 2016.

myclimate projects also made huge savings in CO₂ emissions worldwide in 2016: For the first time in the foundation's history, the one-million-tonne mark has been passed, and by a long way. Since 2002, a total of more than five million tonnes of CO₂ have been saved in the myclimate projects. By the end of the year, six million tonnes will have been exceeded considerably.

The income in the area of climate education has also risen significantly in 2016. For the first time, myclimate has been active in Iran in this regard: In December, a YES Impact Lab was implemented in cooperation with Amirkabir University in Tehran. With the Climate Educators Network, a new project has also been launched. Both the customer base and the range of services have also been expanded gradually in the Consulting and Solutions business area. With myclimate smart3, a software solution has been placed on the market that enjoys widespread acceptance and high demand among companies.

The development of myclimate Germany is very positive and, as an organisation, it has been able to expand its commitments continually and with economic success. myclimate Germany is a subsidiary organisation whose income flows completely into the foundation's consolidated overall result. Worldwide, myclimate is locally active with representatives in a total of 13 countries, and myclimate Austria and myclimate China were founded as new subsidiary organisations in 2016.

Too many obstacles

myclimate regrets that it is still being made too difficult for private individuals to take responsibility for their own emissions through compensation when they buy a product or book a service. Everywhere that this is possible in an easy, transparent and quick way, the participation rates are high (e.g. with Hotelplan, Swiss Youth Hostels, Mobility). In the area of flights, in particular, there is still great potential for successful climate protection. A great example of this is the partnership started by myclimate in 2016 in Germany with BlaBlaCar, the world's largest carpooling platform, which is the very first mobility provider to have completely integrated CO₂ neutrality into its product.

"2017 will be an important year for climate protection again. It's now about acting in every area and about not hesitating, true to our current campaign claim "The future is coming anyway! What it will look like is up to us." myclimate is very well positioned for the challenges of the future, and the first positive feedback both on the large international stage and also on the smaller but very important local one allows us to look ahead full of confidence", René Estermann says, with a positive outlook for the future.

The myclimate Annual Report 2016, including detailed consolidated accounts revised by KPMG AG, can be viewed via the following link:

www.myclimate.org/annualreport

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About myclimate:

myclimate is a partner for effective climate protection, globally and locally. Together with industry partners and private individuals, myclimate wants to shape the future of the world through advisory services and educational programmes, as well as its own projects. It does so in a market-oriented and customer-focused way as a non-profit organisation.

This international initiative with Swiss roots is one of the world's quality leaders in voluntary CO₂-compensation measures. Its customers include large, medium-sized and small companies, public administrations, non-profit organisations, event organisers and private individuals. Via its partner organisations, myclimate is represented in nine countries: Germany, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Luxembourg, Greece, the United Arab Emirates, China and Japan.

The high-quality projects promote quantifiable climate protection and greater sustainability worldwide. CO₂ emissions are currently compensated voluntarily by means of more than 70 climate protection projects in 30 countries. Emissions are reduced there by replacing fossil energy resources with renewable energies, and by implementing local afforestation measures with smallholder farmers and energy-efficient technologies. myclimate climate protection projects meet the highest standards (Gold Standard, CDM, Plan Vivo), which are not only proven to reduce greenhouse gases locally and regionally, but also make a positive contribution to sustainable development.

myclimate encourages everyone to make a contribution to our future, through interactive and action-orientated educational programmes. With this aim in mind, myclimate has already reached more than 15,000 school children and 7,000 trainees in Switzerland, and established a global network of 1,600 students and young professionals. Moreover, the foundation also advises on integrated climate protection with tangible added value. In the field of CO₂ and resource management, myclimate supports companies with advice, analyses, IT tools and labels. The portfolio ranges from simple carbon footprints (emissions calculations) at the corporate level through to comprehensive life cycle assessments for products. Our experienced advisors help with identifying and tapping into potential in the areas of energy and resource efficiency.

Since the foundation was established, the myclimate climate protection projects have created thousands of jobs, protected biodiversity and improved the general living conditions of hundreds of thousands of people. Not least because of this, the German Federal Environment Agency is explicitly showcasing myclimate as a supplier for voluntary CO₂ compensation. In both 2015 and 2012, the Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) recognised two myclimate projects as "game-changing Climate Lighthouse Activities", which were subsequently honoured by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon at the UN climate conferences in Paris and Doha. In addition, the myclimate education project "KlimaLokal" was awarded the Milestone Prize in 2012, the Swiss tourism industry's highest distinction. In May 2016, myclimate received the Swiss sustainability award PrixEco.

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