

Press release

Successful year for climate protection – the myclimate Foundation board presents record turnover in the 2017 annual report

Zurich, 30 May 2018 – The Swiss climate protection foundation myclimate has published its annual report for 2017 today. In doing so, myclimate is looking back at its most successful financial year since the Foundation was established. The earnings have risen to more than 14 million Swiss francs (CHF). Last year, more than 800,000 tons of CO₂ have been offset with myclimate. In Switzerland, strong partnerships, including with Migros and Coop, as well as a further rise in interest amongst private individuals, have contributed to this great result. In addition, the myclimate "cause we care" campaign which is starting to sustainably change Swiss tourism was launched. Internationally, myclimate advanced its positioning thanks to attractive partnerships and opportunities. Since it was founded, myclimate has been able to mobilise 100 million Swiss francs for climate protection projects.

In 2017, too, considerably more companies and private individuals have again implemented climate protection, offset emissions, taken up offers of advice using myclimate and become involved on a local and global level. Kathrin Dellantonio, member of the myclimate management committee, comments: "More than 800,000 tons of offset CO₂ emissions mean a further increase by more than ten percent for the record year. New, strong partnerships allow us to look into the future with confidence. The continued growing interest of companies in our services, whether consulting contracts or educational engagements, likewise confirms our work. However, looking at the overly slow progress in the fight against climate change and the great potential for sustainable development around the world – in our projects and beyond – there is still much to do. We are moving in the right direction but the speed is not yet sufficient."

myclimate 2017 – the most important figures

The Foundation's total income in 2017 amounted to 14.29 million Swiss francs. Out of this, CHF 10.63 million applied to income from the CO₂ compensation. The business areas of education and consulting & solutions contributed to the overall result with 1.4 million and 1.6 million Swiss francs. Compensations and donations from private individuals via the myclimate web calculator have increased steadily and accounted for a good one million Swiss francs.

In 2017, myclimate projects have also made massive savings to CO₂ emissions around the world and have demonstrably contributed to the achievement of UN sustainable development goals (SDGs). Six million tons of CO₂ reductions have been generated since the Foundation was established. Over this time, more than 100 million Swiss francs have been mobilised for climate protection by companies, institutions and private individuals. This resulted, amongst other things, in the instalment of more than 600,000 efficient boilers and around 56,000 small biogas plants. It has enabled more than 9,000 jobs to be created. At the same time, more than 20,000 school children, 9,000 apprentices and trainees in Switzerland and 1,600 students around the world have been motivated to take the initiative. In total, more than 5.4 million people around the world have benefited from the effects of myclimate since 2002.

The myclimate Annual Report 2017 including detailed corporate accounts revised by KPMG Ltd. can be viewed via the following link:

www.myclimate.org/annualreport

Success stories

2017 was shaped by firsts and exceptional partnerships for the Foundation. In 2017, together with 15 partners myclimate launched "Cause We Care". myclimate "Cause We Care" is a voluntary initiative for climate protection and sustainability in Swiss tourism. Customers and providers take joint responsibility for this. The initiative has a double impact. On one hand, climate damaging emissions from products and offers are compensated. At the same time, sustainability measures are activated locally. myclimate "cause we care" is promoted by the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) via the "Innotour" programme.

At the World Climate Conference in Bonn, myclimate was introduced by the R20-Foundation, established by Arnold Schwarzenegger, as the exclusive partner for MRV (Monitoring, Reporting, Verification). As part of this work, myclimate is supporting the Impact Investment African Subnational Climate Fund with a tailor-made solution and has defined criteria, in addition to corresponding key performance indicators, on the basis of which decisions concerning investments in projects will be made. The focus is on projects in the field of "Green infrastructure". myclimate is also advising R20 in the field of evaluation methodology, establishes the connection to the SDGs and develops comprehensible coverage of the project's impact (impact measurement).

More climate protection would be possible

In 2017, myclimate also experienced that the available willingness and possibilities for more effective climate protection was not being utilised. When buying a product or booking a service, customers and private individuals in general still find that there is far too rarely a simple, transparent option to take responsibility for their own emissions by way of compensation. Everywhere that this is possible in an easy, transparent and quick way, the participation rates are high (e.g. with Hotelplan, Swiss Youth Hostels or Mobility).

Together with many partners, myclimate has created successful, established solutions that are now outgrowing the pioneer phase and having a great impact. I am convinced that these solutions represent the start of a long-term path to success for climate protection and sustainable development. The time is ripe for great acts of climate protection!" says Urs Egger, president of the myclimate Foundation Board, throwing a positive glance towards the future.

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About myclimate – The Climate Protection Partnership

myclimate is a partner for effective climate protection- both locally and globally. Together with partners from the economic sector as well as private individuals, myclimate wants to shape the future of the world through consultation, education and climate protection projects. myclimate pursues this as a science-based and business-orientated non-profit organisation.

The international initiative with its Swiss roots, belongs to the global leaders in voluntary quality compensation measures. Its clients include large, medium and small businesses, public administrations, non-profit organisations, event organisers and private individuals. Through its partner organisations myclimate is represented in nine countries: Germany, Austria, Sweden, Norway, Luxembourg, Greece, the United Arab Emirates, Japan and China.

With projects of the highest quality, myclimate promotes quantifiable climate protection and long-lasting development worldwide. Emissions are currently voluntarily compensated by means of more than 100 climate protection projects in 30 countries. Emissions are reduced there by replacing fossil energy with renewable energies, by realising local reforestation measures with small-scale farmers and by implementing energy-efficient technologies. myclimate climate protection projects meet the highest standards (Gold Standard, CDM, Plan Vivo), which, as well as reducing greenhouse gases, have a proven positive impact on sustainable development (SDGs), both locally and regionally.

Through our interactive and action-oriented educational programmes, myclimate encourages everyone to make a contribution towards our future. With this goal, myclimate has already reached around 20,000 school pupils and more than 9,000 trainees in Switzerland, and has also established a global network of 1,600 students and young professionals. Moreover the foundation offers consultancy on integrated climate protection with tangible added value. myclimate provides this through analyses, IT solutions, labels and resource management. Services range from simple carbon footprints for businesses to sophisticated product life cycle assessments (LCA). Experienced advisors help with identifying and tapping into potential in the areas of energy and resource efficiency.

Since the establishment of the foundation, myclimate's 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 offsetting. 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. Furthermore, in 2012 myclimate's climate education project "KlimaLokal" was awarded the Milestone Prize, the Swiss tourism industry's highest distinction. In May 2016, myclimate won the prix-eco, the Swiss sustainability prize and in 2017 the "Prix Balance" for its exceptional work-life balance.

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