

Press Release

Impetus from Paris? – myclimate Publishes Annual Report 2015

Zurich, 13 July 2016 – The Swiss climate protection foundation myclimate today published its 2015 annual report. The outstanding initial situation as a result of record low energy prices is not reflected in the foundation's operating result. The strong results of the divisions Consulting & Solutions and Climate Education as well as the operating result of the subsidiary myclimate Deutschland do not completely offset the decline in compensated tonnes. Overall in 2015, 550,000 tonnes of CO₂ were compensated by companies and private individuals with myclimate climate protection projects. In 2015, these delivered further record results and positive news for global climate protection.

2015 was a very good year for climate protection, culminating in the historic Paris Agreement in December. The commitment to considerably more climate protection in 2015 has not (yet) been reflected in the myclimate results. The income from CO₂ compensation declined in 2015 for the first time. Compared to the previous year, it decreased by ten percent, also as a result of delays with individual major customers. “The fact, however, that in the year of the record low oil and energy prices, neither more consumers nor more suppliers decided to internalise the external CO₂ costs, makes one stop and think”, comments René Estermann, Managing Director of myclimate. “In Paris, the world committed to ambitious goals in climate protection, but it is up to every individual to ensure that this promise does not become mere lip service. We expect some striking impetus and, in the period after Paris, we are also already seeing the first signs, which will not however be reflected until the 2016 end result. Free pollution is an out-of-date model”, said Estermann, taking a positive view of the future.

myclimate 2015 in Figures

The foundation's total income in 2015 amounted to almost 12.6 million Swiss francs, which means that it reached the 2013 level. Of this, the income from CO₂ compensation came in at 9.1 million Swiss francs (CHF). It was possible to stop the continuous decline in the prices per tonne of CO₂. Customers who opted for compensation attached greater importance to high-quality climate protection. The increased involvement of private individuals is pleasing. The direct compensation via the various myclimate web calculators was used by around 25 percent more people in 2015. Since it was founded, myclimate has reduced CO₂ output by over four million tonnes.

myclimate significantly expanded its climate education activities thanks to an increase in contributions and donations. More than 400 school classes took part in the project year with Energy and Climate Pioneers. The Energy and Climate Laboratory reached over 1,000 people in education or training. The myclimate consulting activities were further strengthened with the development of the clean-tech agency act and the activities in the resource efficiency network Reffnet. myclimate Deutschland has been economically and operationally successful and steadily expanded its activities. myclimate Deutschland is a subsidiary organisation whose income flows

completely into the foundation's consolidated overall result. Lower personnel costs and marketing savings reduced net administration costs by 15 percent.

Climate protection projects successful at many levels

In 2015, climate protection projects once again generated more emissions reductions than the amount of customers paid in compensation. With more than 700,000 tonnes of CO₂ emissions savings, they delivered a result at the record level of 2014. Since 2011, myclimate has generated more CO₂ reduction per year in its projects than were sold per year. For René Estermann, this is a downside in light of the demand, which is not keeping pace: "We could and would like to do much more to combat climate change with biogas plants, efficient cookers or PV systems in existing and new projects. Unfortunately, we have had to significantly slow the development of existing projects due to a lack of support."

In total, myclimate climate protection projects cover 14 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which were agreed in 2015 and replace the Millennium Development Goals. Overall, myclimate projects have created more than 7,700 jobs since the beginning. Almost four and a half million people benefit directly or indirectly from the myclimate projects worldwide. 470,000 efficient or solar-powered cookers have been installed in countries such as Madagascar, Kenya, Peru, Bolivia and India.

A special honour was bestowed on two projects supported by myclimate: The project "Solar Energy for Education and Telephony – Mobisol" in Tanzania and Solvatten technology, which is used in the myclimate project "Clean Drinking Water for Schools and Households" in Uganda, were selected for Momentum for Change Awards at the Climate Change Conference in Paris. This is the second time that two myclimate projects have been awarded a prize at the highest level by the United Nations..

The myclimate Annual Report 2015, including detailed consolidated accounts revised by KPMG AG, can be viewed via the following link: <http://www.myclimate.org/annualreport>

For further information and interviews please contact:

René Estermann, CEO of myclimate
rene.estermann@myclimate.org, Tel. +41 44 500 43 50

Kai Landwehr, myclimate Officer
kai.landwehr@myclimate.org, Tel. +41 44 500 37 61

www.myclimate.org

About myclimate – The Climate Protection Partnership

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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, Japan and Turkey.

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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