

**Press Release** 

# Twenty years of commitment to the climate – myclimate presents its 2021 Annual Report

Zurich, 24 May 2022 – The total revenue of the myclimate climate protection foundation increased significantly in the 2021 financial year. The Annual Report shows total revenue of around 45 million Swiss francs. In particular, the business area of offsetting for voluntary and mandatory markets made a significant contribution to our record performance, with more than 3.7 million tonnes of  $CO_2$  offset. The Zurich-based foundation presented its business balance for 2021 in the Annual Report published today.

In 2021, companies continued to work with myclimate for concrete solutions and measures in climate protection and for the development of comprehensive climate strategies. As a result, the services in the "Consulting and Solutions" business area as well as the number of voluntarily offset tonnes of  $CO_2$  – this time more than 3.7 million – reached new highs. Stephen Neff, myclimate CEO, commented: "It took ten years for myclimate as an organisation to offset a total of one million tonnes. The development over the last few years and especially in 2021 shows that climate protection services and the instrument of offsetting have arrived in the economy across the board. While previously it was mainly flights that were calculated and offset, our partners are now looking at climate protection as a holistic undertaking."

# myclimate 2021 – the most important figures

The Foundation's total income amounted to 44.98 million francs in 2021, up significantly from 27.86 million francs in 2020. The myclimate "Carbon Offsetting" business area alone contributed 40.27 million francs, while revenue from the "Education" area remained constant at 1.56 million francs, and the area of "Consulting and Solutions" increased turnover by 10% to 2.34 million. With a total value of more than two million francs, the myclimate online calculators achieved the second-best result since their launch. This was the first time that the flight calculator was not the most frequently used, with the greatest revenue coming from the myclimate donation calculator. The myclimate online calculators enable private individuals and smaller companies to take action for effective climate protection in the form of offsetting or donations.

myclimate was founded in 2002 as a spin-off of ETH Zurich, and has operated as a foundation since 2006. Since its establishment in 2002, myclimate has developed and supported 174 carbon offset projects in 45 countries of the world. Through these projects, around 13.5 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions have been avoided since the organisation was founded. Altogether, 9.1 million people worldwide have benefited from myclimate's activities, with around 65,000 schoolchildren, 11,000 apprentices and 1,400 students in Switzerland, Germany and Liechtenstein empowered to take effective action themselves. Meanwhile, myclimate's projects have helped to create 20,000 jobs, plant 18 million trees worldwide, and set up 150,000 solar plants, 220,000 biogas plants and more than 770,000 efficient cookers. The climate protection and education projects have been shown to help achieve all 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The myclimate 2021 Annual Report, including detailed consolidated accounts revised by KPMG AG, can be viewed via the following link: <u>www.myclimate.org/information/about-myclimate/annual-reports</u>



### New partnerships and selected success stories from the 2021 Annual Report

With the help of the myclimate Davos Climate Fund, for the first time myclimate is supporting an entire destination, including the service providers based there and the local businesses. Davos has set itself the goal of becoming Switzerland's first climate-neutral destination by 2030, with guests and local businesses jointly contributing to the overarching Climate Fund as a way of supporting local climate protection. Sustainability efforts are also supported at the participating businesses.

Now myclimate is enabling small companies without the resources for climate and CO<sub>2</sub> management to access tools that will guide them toward climate-neutral operations. They can use the myclimate online calculator to compute their company's emissions, offset them following automatic verification and simultaneously receive the "climate-neutral operations" label from myclimate.

The myclimate Company Challenge, which inspires young professionals within companies to pursue climate protection, has seen a high level of demand within Switzerland. In 2021, for example, the program reached out to, encouraged and educated 200-plus young professionals at Emmi, fenaco, Griesser, IGP Powder Coatings, Clientis, Arnold and several other businesses in the city of Wil to actively contribute to climate protection.

Over the past year, myclimate assisted various companies, including Hochland, Integra Biosciences and Jungbunzlauer, with establishing science-based targets and submitting these to the "Science Based Targets initiative" of the same name.

# A future without dependencies – Stephen Neff looks ahead

"A future in which our society is no longer dependent on fossil energy sources, whether for transportation or in buildings, is possible. Together with our partners and customers, we want to work towards this with innovative solutions, improved and more efficient processes, and with conscientious decision-making," says Stephen Neff, outlining the strategic direction for myclimate over the next few years.

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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 CO<sub>2</sub>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 other countries such as Germany, Austria, Sweden or Norway.

The high-quality projects promote quantifiable climate protection and greater sustainability worldwide. myclimate has developed and supported 174 carbon offset projects in 45 countries around the world since its foundation in 2002. Here, emissions are reduced through replacement of fossil energy resources with renewable energies, storing of CO<sub>2</sub> in natural sinks (alternative: in nature-based projects) (such as local afforestation measures or renaturation of moorland), and implementation of energy-efficient technologies. myclimate climate protection projects meet the highest standards. International projects can gain certification according to the Gold Standard, Plan Vivo or VCS (incl. CCB and/or SD-VISta), and Swiss projects according to the guidelines from the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)/ Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) or the myclimate CH VER guidelines. The projects not only reduce greenhouse gases locally and regionally, but also make a positive contribution to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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 65,000 school children and 11,000 trainees in Switzerland, Germany and Liechtenstein and established a global network of 1,400 students and young professionals. Moreover, the foundation also advises on integrated climate protection with tangible added value. In the field of  $CO_2$  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 CO<sub>2</sub> 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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