



Liechtenstein banks support innovative and economical SMEs

Vaduz, Zurich

LGT, LLB and VP Bank are becoming partners of the Swiss Climate Foundation. In this way, they are jointly making an active contribution to climate protection and the sustainable promotion of SMEs in the Liechtenstein financial centre.

Climate protection knows no borders: In mid-May 2012, the Swiss Climate Foundation and the LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein therefore decided to engage in cross-border cooperation. This cooperation laid the cornerstone for Liechtenstein service enterprises to become members of the Swiss Climate Foundation as well. The three largest Liechtenstein banks – LGT Bank in Liechtenstein AG, the Liechtensteinische Landesbank AG and the Verwaltungs- und Privat-Bank AG – have decided to join the Swiss Climate Foundation and to donate their rebates from the CO₂ incentive tax.



Further step toward becoming a competence centre for sustainability

With their engagement, the three banks are leading by example and taking responsibility for healthy economic and social development. Ursula Finsterwald, Group Sustainability Manager of LGT, will serve on the board of trustees of the Swiss Climate Foundation as the representative of the three Liechtenstein banks.

Liechtenstein SMEs benefit

With its members' donations, the Swiss Climate Foundation supports small and medium enterprises (SMEs) taking measures to improve their energy efficiency and reduce their CO₂ emissions. Thanks to the membership of the three banks, Liechtenstein SMEs are now also able to submit applications for support and to benefit from the other promotion measures of the Swiss Climate Foundation, effective immediately. Smaller applications are evaluated on an on-going basis. The Swiss Climate Foundation decides on applications with larger investment or promotion volumes in half-yearly cycles. The Swiss Climate Foundation has



agreed to consider applications from Liechtenstein for the promotion of larger projects already in the current cycle, which runs until the end of September. Applications must be submitted to the Swiss Climate Foundation by 21 September 2012. Applications for the promotion of larger projects submitted after that date will be considered in the cycle running through the spring of 2013.

Simple application process

Financial support is for instance granted for the refurbishment of building shells, optimization of heat distribution, the replacement of fossil heating systems with wood chip heating and heat pumps, and the use of waste heat. SMEs can submit their electronic applications for energy efficiency measures simply and with minimal effort via the website www.klimastiftung.ch/energiesparen.html.

The SMEs is informed of the decision and financial support by e-mail. The application process is unbureaucratic and easy to understand. This allows applicants to focus on their actual projects.

Together with the Swiss Climate Foundation, the Liechtenstein Bankers Association, the LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein and the Wirtschaftskammer Liechtenstein will host an evening event at the University of Liechtenstein **on 18 September 2012** to provide first-hand information on the cooperation, support options and opportunities for Liechtenstein SMEs.

Vaduz, 13.09.2012

Contact

info@climatefoundation.li

www.climatefoundation.li