

Press Release

LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein 2017 - increasing climate protection by means of digitalisation and cooperation

Vaduz - Today, LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein (LIFE) published its Annual Report for the year 2017. In the reporting year, LIFE launched together with partner organisations two comprehensive environmental projects. The first project is the "Climate Ledger Initiative", an international multi-stakeholder initiative that exploits the potential of blockchain technology in the context of international climate action. Secondly, LIFE contributed significantly to the launch of the Liechtenstein "Waterfootprint" at the occasion of the World Water Day 2017, making Liechtenstein the first country with a nationwide Waterfootprint.

By supporting the Climate Ledger Initiative right from the beginning, LIFE provided an important contribution to integrate digitalisation into sustainable development. Liechtenstein's Prime Minister and President of the Board of LIFE Climate Foundation explains: "The advancing digitalisation is far more than the prospect of optimising existing processes. In the case of IT developments such as blockchain technology, the evolution will go far beyond the optimisation of processes. We will eventually see the creation of entirely new interaction opportunities. The blockchain technology may contribute that information and values may be directed to much more environmentally friendly directions in the near future. The respective development will offer very interesting opportunities for Liechtenstein in the coming years." Besides the Governments of Liechtenstein and Switzerland the Climate Ledger Initiative receives further support from the World Bank and the EU's Innovation Fund Climate KiC.

In contrast to the international dimension of the Climate Ledger Initiative, it is the strong regional link that characterises the 2017 launch of Liechtenstein's Waterfootprint. The aim of the Waterfootprint is to provide access to clean drinking water to a number of persons in need equalling the number of Liechtenstein's citizens. The Waterfootprint targets large and small employers in the country and operates with its slogan "Drink tap water, donate drinking water". Until now, the project is being implemented by several large companies and the entire Liechtenstein national administration. It was realised by the charity organisation Drink&Donate and has been supported by LIFE from the very beginning.

Another highlight of 2017 was the LIFE special award "Climate / Environment" during the startup-event "Ideen Kanal". The awarded project "Food - Direct and Regional" provides an online platform which shows consumers which products are currently available from producers (e.g. farms) in the region.

With regard to further LIFE activities in 2017, Simon Tribelhorn, Director of LIFE, adds: "The variety and divergence of projects we saw in 2017 was enormous. Together with other foundations from Liechtenstein and in collaboration with the Liechtenstein Office for Foreign Affairs we realised the deployment of a Photovoltaic installation on a school in the Peruvian rainforest. We have prolonged the Incentive Program E-Mobility which supports the use of emissions-free vehicles in Liechtenstein. Furthermore, we have supported an educative program at primary schools in Liechtenstein to strengthen the kids' awareness for a reasonable usage of our energy."

The Board of LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein as well as the foundation's executive team look back on a very successful and colourful year 2017. The foundation is looking forward to further meaningful activities, cooperations and projects in the future - true to the slogan: "for a better life".

The **LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein** is a non-profit foundation established in early 2009 under Liechtenstein law. The goals of the LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein are to raise awareness and promote all aspects of sustainability and climate protection in order to protect our environment for future generations - "for a better life". The foundation's supporters include the Government of the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Liechtenstein Bankers Association, the Liechtenstein Institute of Professional Trustees and Fiduciaries, the Liechtenstein Investment Fund Association, the Liechtenstein Insurance Association LVV and the University of Liechtenstein. Bringing together the worlds of business, academia and politics, the LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein has become a driving force and a private-public partnership that reaches out to key sustainability players and brings them all together.

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