

Sustainability @Commerzbank

Corporate responsibility newsletter

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Commerzbank admitted into CDP Climate Performance Leadership Index

Commerzbank has been admitted into the renowned climate protection index Climate Performance Leadership (CPLI). It is the only bank in Germany to be honoured with such a listing. The independent, non-profit- organisation CDP attested to Commerzbank "an exemplary role in curbing climate change." Apart from Commerzbank, 186 other companies from around the globe are represented in this index, amongst them 13 from Germany. All in all, CDP evaluated the climate data of just under 2,000 stock-listed companies worldwide in 2014.

"We are very pleased to have been admitted into the CDP Climate Performance Leadership Index. This is an important affirmation of our climate strategy which systematically focuses on the reduction of CO₂. At the same time, the award constitutes a commitment for us to continue with our endeavours," says Frank Annuscheit, Member of the Commerzbank Board of Management Directors, responsible for climate protection, amongst others.

Commerzbank's climate strategy, which was adopted by the Board of Managing Directors as early as in 2009, pursues three targets: First, the Bank aims to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 70 per cent by 2020 compared to 2007, and to gradually make the Bank carbon neutral. Second, it intends to make its core business even more sustainable and develop other innovative climate-relevant products and services. Third, the Bank is working towards making its staff and the general public even more aware of climate change and promoting active climate protection. In terms of the implementation of its aim to reduce CO₂ emission, Commerzbank is already close to the finish line: For 2013, the Bank's

CO₂ emissions for banking operations were almost 64 per cent below those of the base year of 2007 and, thus, close to the aspired 70 percent by 2020.

Furthermore, Commerzbank supports the initiatives of CDP on the road to the upcoming 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, where the participating nations aim at concluding a new convention as follow-up agreement to the Kyoto Protocol with binding climate targets for all 194 member states of the UN Climate Convention. With its initiatives, CDP focuses, amongst others, on the further development of renewable energies, the limitation of global warming to 2 degrees and a stronger commitment by companies to climate protection. On behalf of 767 institutional investors currently, who manage around USD 92 trillion, CDP compiles and publishes the climate data of companies worldwide.

Further information on this article:

- [Climate Performance Leadership Index 2014](#)
- [Commerzbank climate strategy](#)
- [CDP initiatives "road to Paris" to the 2015 Climate Change Conference](#)

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In a nutshell: Sustainability initiatives at Commerzbank

Commerzbank commits itself to Green Bond Principles

Commerzbank has been a member of the Green Bond Principles since July 2014. The Principles set a voluntary standard for the emission process of green bonds. Their aim is to promote standardisation, integrity and transparency on the green bond market. The Green Bond Principles make, amongst others, recommendations for the use of the emission proceeds. In accordance with the Principles, these proceeds are to be invested in projects with clear ecological benefits. Commerzbank has been accompanying the emission of green bonds since 2013 – in particular for major energy providers.



Apply now for the Commerzbank environmental internship

Starting 15 October 2014, students of all fields of studies can apply for an open-air semester in one of the participating national parks or biosphere reservoirs. For 25 years, the Commerzbank environmental internship has been offering students a unique opportunity to experience nature at close range and to acquire skills for their career.



Climate-friendly means of transport in Frankfurt



Since 1 September 2014, 50 company bikes have been freely available to Commerzbank employees at five locations in Frankfurt. Company bikes make it possible for Commerzbank

employees to move quickly and healthily through the city of Frankfurt, since riding is often the fastest mode of city-transport. Frank Annuscheit, Member of the Commerzbank Board of Managing Directors, responsible for HR and Services: "With this initiative, Commerzbank is setting a clear signal for environmental protection and mobility." By mid-October, more than 2,600 employees registered to use the company bicycles.



Member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil

Since August 2014, Commerzbank has been a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) as the first German bank to join. With this membership, we intend to contribute to a sustainable development of the palm-oil sector as well as to have a positive impact on the support of sustainable production.

The example of palm oil makes it clear just how successfully Commerzbank anchors sustainable criteria in its core business. Since 2008, binding standards apply to palm-oil deliver-

ies which are supported by Commerzbank: The palm-oil supplier in question must be a member of the RSPO. Suppliers must also provide information (such as certification) about the extent to which sustainable palm oil production is already carried out within their process chain, or about their targets for ensuring sustainable production.



Commitment to more educational equality



Commerzbank employees support young people who run the risk of dropping out of school, who do not find a training place, or who might not complete their training. The so-called education

mentors accompany their mentees for one entire year, show them perspectives, and help them to become aware of their strengths and to develop self-confidence. The programme was launched in 2013 with 40 participants in Berlin, Hamburg, Hesse and North-Rhine Westphalia. Due to the positive response, the number of members was increased to 50 in September 2014, and the programme was extended to the German federal states of Berlin and Thuringia.



500 employees participate in Maltese Social Day

For the third time, around 500 Commerzbank employees took part in the Maltese Social Day. From 22 to 26 September 2014, they supported a total of 44 social projects in 14 cities throughout Germany. In various non-profit institutions, they helped with renovation and gardening chores, took care of children, elderly and ill people, or cooked meals for the homeless. The Maltese Social Day has established itself as a fixed milestone in the social commitment of Commerzbank. Commerzbank releases the employees involved from work and assumes any pertinent costs incurred. This year, too, the demand was so huge that not all the employees who were interested could be given a place in the project.



Status Report on Corporate Responsibility 2014

The Status Report 2014 includes the main news concerning Commerzbank's commitment to corporate responsibility. Furthermore, it serves as a progress report on the status of the implementation of the UN Global Compact's ten principles and presents the most important key figures from 2013 related to sustainable corporate activities. Here you can directly access the Status Report.

