



Sustainability@Commerzbank | Issue 16 | September 2018

With ZukunftsGut, Commerzbank awards Germany's first prize for institutional cultural mediation to Staatsschauspiel Dresden

Corporate Responsibility Newsletter

Dear Sir or Madam,

The prize for institutional cultural mediation, which was announced for the first time during the European Cultural Heritage Year of 2018 and is worth EUR 80,000, was awarded as part of the official awards ceremony in Frankfurt am Main on 12 September 2018. The first prize-winner is Staatsschauspiel (state theater) Dresden. It received EUR 50,000 for its pioneering role in the concept of the Bürgerbühne (citizens' theater). With its Bürgerbühne, Staatsschauspiel Dresden is the first theater in Germany to offer its audience the chance to play a considerably active role in its performance - thereby creating a bridge between classical drama and the present day. The second and third places went to the Historical Museum in Frankfurt and Theater Oberhausen. The Historical Museum received EUR 20,000 for its contributory exhibition strategy. The programme-related involvement of Frankfurt's multi-cultural residents and the inclusion of their testimony with regard to the city's history in the exhibition concept stands for living cultural mediation. The prize money of EUR 10,000 went to Theater Oberhausen. As part of its mediation activities, it cooperates with manifold social groups and institutions. Current affairs are addressed and incorporated into the enactments. As such, the theater has become a meeting place for a broad audience boasting diverse backgrounds.

Germany's highest individual prize for institutional cultural mediation, "ZukunftsGut", awarded by the Commerzbank Foundation, is targeted at cultural institutions throughout Germany. Private, public and not-for-profit institutions based in Germany, which concentrate on at least one of the focal points of fine arts, music, literature, visual arts or cultural history as part of their mediation activities, were called on to participate in the competition. The most important pre-requisite for participation was that cultural mediation is deemed to be a core task in the institution, where it is practiced and made accessible and comprehensible to a broad audience. 125 applications from all over Germany were received by the Commerzbank Foundation from mid-January to the end of March this year.

In future, the prize will be awarded every two years. ► **More (German only)**

"Action Plan Inclusion" published

As the first bank in Germany, Commerzbank has published an "Action Plan for the Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities". In this manner, it has committed itself to the implementation of several measures and projects aimed at continuing to improve the situation at Commerzbank for individuals with disabilities.

With the "Action Plan Inclusion", Commerzbank has developed guidelines which include targets, measures and projects. Not only the more than 1,700 employees with a disability or a recognized equivalent status, but also the customers are to benefit from this plan. The action plan, which is based on the 2009 UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, is aimed at breaking down mental barriers and creating the organisational prerequisites for a successful working relationship between disabled and non-disabled persons.

► [More](#)

Commerzbank nominated for 11th German Sustainability Prize 2019

For the first time, Commerzbank has been nominated for the German Sustainability Prize. With five competitions and over 800 candidates, the German Sustainability Prize is the highest award of its kind in Europe. This award is granted in cooperation with the Deutscher Nachhaltigkeitspreis foundation, the German government, as well as the trade associations and civil society organisations. The German Sustainability Prize determines Germany's most sustainable enterprises in three size categories every year. On 7 December 2018, the winners will be made known during the awards ceremony. ► [More](#)

UN Women's Empowerment Principles ratified

Via the signing of the UN Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) by the Chairman Martin Zielke, Commerzbank has committed itself to the continued promotion of gender equality. These WEPs are a joint initiative by UN Women and UN Global Compact. On a global level, this is the first initiative which addresses the promotion and empowerment of women in companies with the aid of seven dedicated principles. ► [More](#)

Carbon-neutral 2018 Annual General Meeting

By purchasing CO2 certificates in climate protection projects, Commerzbank has offset the greenhouse-gas emissions resulting from its Annual General Meeting this year in the amount of 217 tonnes (previous year: 247 tonnes). In this manner, Commerzbank is pursuing its climate strategy, which is primarily aimed at the reduction of CO2 emissions and provides for the compensation of unavoidable emissions via the purchase of high-quality CO2 certificates.

► [More](#)

Report on sustainable progress at Commerzbank

Commerzbank provides a report on the results of its sustainability performance for 2017 in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI Record 2017). In this conjunction, it has compiled this report for the first time according to the new GRI Standards. With regard to the selection of topics, the chapter "Sustainable finance" also took into account the branch-related data for financial services providers. This includes information on the contribution made by Commerzbank in its core business towards sustainable development. ► [More](#)

Malteser Social Day 2018

During the time from 17 to 21 September, Commerzbank will be participating in the annual Maltese Social Day for the seventh time; this event sees the implementation of several non-profit projects in twelve German cities. Playing an active role in society, thereby fostering one's own team spirit and a feeling of togetherness in the company - these are the goals of the Maltese Social Day. ► **More (German only)**

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