



Sustainability@Commerzbank | Issue 25 | November 2020

Commerzbank makes climate risks in its portfolio transparent

Corporate Responsibility Newsletter

Dear Sir or Madam,

Since September 2020, Commerzbank has been an official supporter of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). The TCFD recommendations constitute a risk management framework for the management of climate change effects and for related company reporting practices. The standard was established by the Financial Stability Council of the G20-members and central banks. Globally, more than 1,000 companies have already made commitments to TCFD recommendations.

In addition, Commerzbank has joined the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) in September 2020, which has pledged to reduce greenhouse gas emissions based on scientifically determined targets. This will enable companies to align their climate policies with the Paris Climate Agreement objectives and thus effectively counteract climate change.

In accordance with these two initiatives, we want to adjust our loan portfolio over the following years to finance the transformation towards a low-carbon economy and provide our stakeholders with decision-critical information based on comparable and transparent benchmarks. As a tangible first step, the Bank has identified the CO₂-intensive sectors of its overall portfolio – such as parts of the energy and automotive segments – and is currently determining their CO₂ emission levels. Commerzbank plans to publish its first TCFD report in 2022 for the fiscal year 2021.

- ▶ [more about TCFD](#)
- ▶ [more about SBTi](#)

klimaVest: impact fund for private investors

Commerz Real has launched its first impact fund for private investors: klimaVest is investing in assets which make a tangible contribution to a reduction in CO2 emissions such as plants for the generation of renewable energies as well as sustainable infrastructure, mobility and forestry. Investors can participate with sums of 10,000 euro upwards. They are provided with regular reporting not only regarding the value appreciation but also on the impact of the assets in the fund on the climate. ► [more](#)

Second Green Bond Issuance with an 8-Fold Re-Offer

In September, Commerzbank AG has successfully issued another Green Bond with an issuance volume of €500 million. The Bank will use the proceeds to finance renewable energy projects. The non-preferred senior Bond was met by extraordinary investor interest. At a volume of more than €4 billion, the final order book reach an 8-fold re-offer price. In its second party opinion, the sustainability rating agency Sustainalytics confirms that the Bond is compliant with current Green Bond Principles. Commerzbank has reserved the proceeds from the Bond for loans covering onshore-, offshore wind, and solar projects in Germany, Europe, and North America. The projects financed by the Green Bond aim to avert CO2 emissions measuring to around 850,000 tons per year. ► [more](#)

Asset Management according to the Principles for Responsible Investments

Commerzbank's Asset Management and Commerz Real have signed the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI), a United Nations financial initiative. Its principles reflect the increasing importance of environmental and social aspects as well as sustainable corporate governance for investment decisions. ► [more](#)

Apply now for an environmental internship in 2021

For more than 30 years, Commerzbank has enabled students to work as interns in a German protected area for several months. In 2021 also, up to 75 students will be able to complete an open-air semester in one of the 27 national parks, nature parks and biosphere reserves involved. The Commerzbank environmental internship offers students the opportunity to combine their passion for nature and the environment with practical experience, thereby acquiring important skills for the future career choice. The closing date for applications is 15 January 2021. ► [more](#)

Online magazine for responsible investments

In the current issue of our online magazine "nachhaltig+" (i.e. sustainable and more), the chief investment officer from the retail banking sector explains the ration of return and risk of sustainable investments, how a fund company can influence the sustainability of companies and some sustainability news of Commerzbank itself. The magazine in film format is published every three months (German only). ► [more](#)

Commerzbank Foundation Allocates Culture Mediation Award

At 80,000 Euro, the most highly endowed award for institutional culture mediation in Germany, "Zukunftsgut", had been presented on September 30th, 2020. For the first time, the Commerzbank Foundation has awarded four institutions simultaneously: The

Landesbühnen Sachsen and the Kulturforum Witten have attained a joint first place. The second place is shared by the Kunsthaus Dresden and the Traumschüff Potsdam. All four institutions had convinced the jurors with their strategic cultural mediation practices. Through their capacity for innovation and creativity, they demonstrated that cultural education does not have to be confined to urban life but may also be propagated in rural areas. ► [more](#)

Nasdaq Sustainable Bond Network

Commerzbank is the first German Green Bond issuer to join the Nasdaq Sustainable Bond Network (NSBN). NSBN displays all data, qualitative information, and documents submitted by issuers on a public website. The network's ambition is to bring transparency to the global sustainable bonds market, equipping both product issuers and investors with information required to advance organizations engaging in green initiatives. ► [more](#)

"Leopoldina Early Career Award 2020" for biodiversity researcher

Dr. Patrick Weigelt, a junior scientist at the University of Göttingen, receives the "Leopoldina Early Career Award 2020". The prize is endowed with 30,000 euros, which are provided by the Commerzbank Foundation. The National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina honours Weigelt for the development of biodiversity databases and for his research on the biodiversity of plants. His research areas include the influence of humans on the spread of plant species outside their origin areas, for example due to man-made climate change. The "Leopoldina Early Career Award of the Commerzbank Foundation" has been awarded every two years since 2010. He honours scientists in the first ten years after their doctorate who have performed outstanding achievements in a field represented at Leopoldina. ► [more](#)

Register Now: The Main Incubator's Impact Festival

At the Impact Festival in April 2021, Commerzbank's research and development unit, the "Main Incubator", will be launching a community-platform for the purpose of accelerating the green transition. A project of this kind has so far been unprecedented in Europe: It seeks to bring together sustainability-pioneers in Green Start-Ups, Corporates, and Venture Capital Investors to engage in the discussion and development of sustainable business models. Scientific, political, and educational perspectives will all be brought in. Designed as a hybrid event due to Corona, the agenda of the Impact Festival 2021 will encompass intriguing pitch sessions, presentations, matchmaking rounds, and workshops. The event is now open to registration. ► [more](#)

German Reading Prize 2020 awarded

The actress Annette Frier is honored with the German Reading Prize for her commitment to promoting reading. She is one of 16 people and institutions to receive this award from the Commerzbank Foundation and the Reading Foundation (Stiftung Lesen) in 2020. The German Reading Prize is awarded in six categories and is endowed with a total of 25,000 euros. One category is the special award from the Commerzbank Foundation for prominent commitment. It is associated with 2,500 euros for a good cause. Annette Frier wants to donate half of the prize money to the library of the Baltasar children's hospice in Olpe and the other half to the reading room of a children's clinic in Cologne. ► [more](#)

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