

PRESS RELEASE OF KOMMUNALKREDIT AUSTRIA AG

Kommunalkredit joins UN Global Compact sustainability initiative Clear commitment to sustainability and corporate responsibility

(Vienna, 11/10/2021) – At the end of the summer, Kommunalkredit Austria AG (Kommunalkredit) joined the United Nations Global Compact Initiative. The world's largest alliance for responsible corporate governance aims for an inclusive and sustainable global economy based on ten universal principles relating to human rights, labour standards, environmental protection and anti-corruption. This participation represents another milestone for the Kommunalkredit Group in its sustainable orientation.

Kommunalkredit, as a specialist bank for infrastructure and energy financing as well as public finance, creates tangible benefits for the community in terms of measures against climate change, economic dynamism, job creation and social cohesion. The bank addresses green energy solutions, e-mobility, digitalisation and social infrastructure with a clear focus: sustainability and alignment with SDG/ESG criteria.

The concept of sustainability is firmly embedded in Kommunalkredit's business model and DNA. In 1997, the bank was the first financial services provider in Europe to introduce an environmental management system in accordance with EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme), which has since been enhanced into a comprehensive sustainability management system. The fact that Kommunalkredit was the first Austrian issuer to issue a social covered bond in 2017, which was successfully refinanced in September 2021 - several times oversubscribed - also illustrates the importance of sustainability within the bank.

In November 2020, Kommunalkredit became the first financial services provider in Austria to join the "European Clean Hydrogen Alliance", the European hydrogen alliance launched by the EU Commission in mid-2020. Clean hydrogen technologies as climate-neutral energy carriers have enormous potential to contribute to decarbonisation and climate neutrality.

The focus on sustainability extends across the Group: Kommunalkredit, through its subsidiary Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH (KPC), manages national and EU funding programmes, especially in the environmental, water management and alternative energy sectors.

"We take our socio-political responsibility seriously and want to continue to play a pioneering role in regards to sustainability. We don't just talk about sustainability, we live it. Be it in the daily, careful use of resources, the financing of green or energy-efficient infrastructure and energy projects, the support of municipalities in the realisation of sustainable projects or equity investments in the solar and hydrogen sector," says CEO Bernd Fislage.

About Kommunalkredit:

Kommunalkredit is a specialist for infrastructure and energy financing. Together with its customers as partners, the bank creates values that continuously improve people's lives. In doing so, it facilitates the construction and operation of infrastructure facilities by balancing the financing needs of project sponsors and developers with the growing number of investors looking for sustainable investment opportunities. Main investment segments are energy & environment | communications & digitalisation | transportation | social infrastructure | natural resources.

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