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South Pole Group wins four categories in Environmental Finance's 2016 Market Ranking Awards

Zurich, Switzerland, 9 December, 2016 - South Pole Group has been voted number 1 in four categories in **Environmental Finance's 17th Annual Market Rankings**, the largest and most established industry rankings within the carbon, renewable energy, weather risk, and catastrophe risk markets. The Group took home the titles of **Best Trading Company - secondary market** and **Best Project Developer** in carbon markets, as well as **Best Trading Company** and **Best Advisory** in renewable energy certificates.

The prestigious Market Ranking awards recognises the Group's innovative approach and longstanding expertise in sustainability project development and advisory.

"We are proud to receive such an invaluable confirmation of our work from clients, partners and industry peers. It's the first time we are running for the Market Rankings Award and this is a great honour," says Renat Heuberger, CEO, South Pole Group. "Organisations of all sizes are starting to demonstrate a genuine commitment towards climate change mitigation and renewable energy, to their customers, employees, investors, and other stakeholders – we are glad to see that we stand out as their preferred choice of reliable provider."

As decision-makers and businesses work towards limiting global warming to the 2°C pathway called for in the Paris Climate Agreement, the adoption of market-based approaches that enhance international cooperation, such as carbon markets, are increasingly seen as one of the most efficient ways to tackle environmental challenges. While South Pole Group has today grown into one of the world's leading sustainability solutions providers, it also builds on a decade's worth of experience and investments in offering high-quality carbon credit solutions. Voters, restricted to clients and market participants, awarded the Zurich-based company the titles of **Best Trading Company**, **Best Trading Company - secondary market** and **Best Project Developer** in carbon markets (JI and CDM).

"The carbon credit market has become highly competitive, and customers seeking a suitable partner who is able to deliver innovative projects with shared value for both the environment and local stakeholders are turning to us," says Marco Hirsbrunner,

Director Projects, South Pole Group. *"We strive to establish lasting relationships and deliver real added value to our partners and customers"*

As global climate commitments are translated into national goals outlining the percentage of power that must come from renewable sources, the renewable energy market is set to grow. This growth will be further bolstered by private sector initiatives: *"The market volume is growing steadily, and the success of initiatives like the [RE100](#) show that apart from the traditional household demand for green energy in Europe, we now have large corporate end-consumers prescribing themselves to renewable energy consumption goals on a never before seen scale"*, **says Marie Christine Bluett, Head of Renewables Portfolio Management, South Pole Group.**

During the past years, the Group has expanded its scope of climate solutions to also include premium advisory services and tailored high-quality renewable energy solutions that include GoldPower, International RECs (I-RECs), US RECs and Guarantees of Origin. Substantiating this expertise, the Group was also awarded the title of **Best Advisory** within **Renewable Energy Certificates Europe**.

With more than 500 projects in its portfolio, the Group provides diverse offsetting services beyond the mere provision of carbon credits. South Pole Group's approach, emphasising collaboration and stakeholder engagement, ensures that projects also generate impacts in the environmental, social and economic domains. This means that on top of fulfilling the basic criteria for premium emissions reduction projects, the Group is able to quantify the triggered impacts of projects that directly support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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Note to editors

The voting for the Environmental Finance's 17th Annual Market Rankings was conducted by emailing companies in October 2016, and asking them to nominate the leading banks, brokers and service providers in emissions markets, weather and catastrophe risk and renewable energy finance, via an online survey. Voters were asked to vote only in those categories in which they had direct experience and to make their judgments on the basis of: efficiency and speed of transaction; reliability; innovation; quality of information and service provided; and influence on the market, not just the volume of transactions handled. Only one vote per company site was allowed and those firms that nominated themselves had their votes disregarded.

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About South Pole Group

South Pole Group is a leading provider of global sustainability solutions and services. The company has delivered climate-proven solutions to a wide range of public, private and civil society organisations for over a decade. Areas of expertise cover key areas of corporate climate action, investment climate risks, sustainable supply chains, green finance, as well as renewable energy and energy efficiency. A pioneer in emission reduction and renewable energy projects, the South Pole Group's portfolio is at present the largest available on the market. For more information, visit thesouthpolegroup.com or follow the company [@southpolegroup](https://twitter.com/southpolegroup).