

Environmental Finance **2017**

Annual Market Rankings

Winner



Gearing up for future climate markets: South Pole awarded first place in four categories of Environmental Finance's 2017 Annual Market Rankings

Zurich, Switzerland, 20 December, 2017 - South Pole has been awarded first place in four categories of **Environmental Finance's 18th Annual Market Rankings** - the largest and most established industry rankings within the carbon, renewable energy, weather risk, and catastrophe risk markets. The rankings selected the global sustainability solutions provider as winner in the categories of **'Best Trading Company, secondary market'** and **'Best Project Developer'** for carbon credits, as well as **'Best Trading Company'** and **'Best Advisory'** for renewable energy certificates (Europe).

As nations prepare to implement the Paris 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 deliver on national pledges and tackle the challenges of a warming climate. Recognising South Pole's 10 years of expertise in the field, voters awarded it the titles of **'Best Trading Company - secondary market'** and **'Best Project Developer'** in **carbon markets (JI and CDM)**.

*"The key to delivering the emissions reductions the world needs, and to better guiding the marketplace on available activities, will be to increase the ambition of national climate pledges (NDCs)," says **Jeff Swartz, Director Climate Policy & Carbon Markets, South Pole**. "We believe that the voluntary carbon market can help ignite action on the NDCs - and we are providing proof of concept, through our projects and advisory, on what action and emissions reduction potential can actually take place within a country."*

Central to the success of national climate commitments will also be the rapid scaling up of renewable energy and involving the private sector to bridge the ambition gap. To further these goals, South Pole has expanded the scope of its renewable energy products to include premium advisory services and tailored, high-quality renewable energy solutions. One of these solutions is the coveted GoldPower, a renewable energy label that was relaunched earlier this year, based on and compliant with reportable renewable energy certificate standards. GoldPower enables true environmental impacts and social co-benefits in line with the SDGs. Market players have acknowledged these efforts by awarding South Pole the titles of **'Best Advisory'** and **'Best Trading Company'** in **renewable energy certificates (Europe)**.

"The non-state leaders in the voluntary carbon space - those preparing to align their business with a 2-degree reality - are now expanding their commitments and venturing into renewable energy," says **Marie Christine Bluett, Head of Renewables Portfolio Management, South Pole**. "As a sustainability advisory

company, we work closely with our longstanding partners around the world to stay ahead of the curve and understand the evolving energy regulations across various countries.”

With more than 500 projects in its portfolio, South Pole provides diverse climate solutions beyond the supply of carbon credits. The company is also at the forefront of emerging international carbon market mechanisms, providing consultancy services and pioneering pilot transactions under both Article 6 of the Paris Agreement and CORSIA, the International Civil Aviation Organization’s (ICAO) carbon offset mechanism that will ensure the climate neutral growth of the aviation industry from 2020 onwards. Looking ahead into 2018, South Pole plans to expand its services on climate policy, carbon markets and renewable energy, and contribute to the further growth of the company’s advisory and certificates offering.

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About South Pole

South Pole Group is a leading provider of global sustainability financing solutions and services. The company has 200 experts in 16 global offices and works with a wide range of public, private and civil society organisations for over a decade. The company’s expertise covers project and technology finance, data and advisory on sustainability risks and opportunities, as well as the development of environmental commodities such as carbon credits or renewable energy credits. South Pole has developed and provided climate-finance to over 500 projects in emission reduction, renewable energy, energy efficiency and sustainable land-use. For more information, visit southpole.com or follow the company @southpolegroup.