One planet, one future.

Only by working together can we safeguard our future.

What are the challenges of climate change?
Global warming has increased sharply through the use of fossil fuels, deforestation and livestock farming. The consequences are a significant burden on the environment and our natural resources. But if we are all prepared to take ambitious measures, we can protect the climate together.

Why are we getting involved?
We are taking responsibility for future generations and want to be part of the solution. The needs of our clients have also changed. That’s why we’re supporting investors and companies that want to help bring about a more climate-friendly economy.

As a financial services provider
Because we are stronger together

US dollars in climate-related investments by our clients (e.g., in the Swiss energy transition).

US dollars of wealth in our “Climate Aware” strategy (e.g., investments by Swiss pension funds in line with the Paris Agreement).

Issues of green and sustainable bonds (e.g., first green bond for an energy and infrastructure company listed on the Swiss stock exchange).

Strategic transactions for public utilities to adapt to the Swiss Energy Strategy 2050.

As a company
Because we take responsibility

Pages of transparency. Our annual sustainability report is industry-leading, comprehensive and follows internationally recognized disclosure standards.

Drop in financing of companies that have a negative impact on the climate since 2018 (our exposure to carbon-related assets on our banking balance sheet is low, at 0.8%).

Financing of new coal-fired power plant projects, offshore oil projects in the Arctic, greenfield projects for coal mines or oil sands mining.

Oil, gas and utilities companies at the heart of our Climate Aware engagement program (results: e.g., linking of management rewards with CO₂ reduction targets).

Reduction in our own greenhouse gas footprint since 2004. We are well on track to reach the target of 75% for 2020.

Electricity from renewable sources in Switzerland since 2007 (worldwide from mid-2020) while reducing our energy consumption.

Reduction in our business air travel since 2007, in addition to full compensation for the resulting emissions.

Environmental education projects for students.
The Paris Agreement

The Paris climate agreement aims to limit average global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius compared with preindustrial levels. Public and private financial resources are to be diverted in such a way as to ensure economic development low in greenhouse gases and better adaptability to a changing climate.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

We are working to achieve the UN’s 17 SDGs, including climate protection. By the end of last year, for example, we had invested USD 3.8 billion of client assets into new impact investments that help achieve the SDGs. We want to increase this volume to 5 billion US dollars by the end of 2021.

Principles for responsible banking

As a founding member, UBS was one of the first signatories of the Principles for Responsible Banking (PRB) in September 2019. The global framework defines what banks can and should contribute to a sustainable future. This includes aligning our business with the SDGs and the Paris climate agreement.

We are pursuing these strategies

Because of our leading role in their implementation

Ambitious targets

We want to play a leading role in climate protection. With innovative investment solutions, we are motivating our clients to invest in the environment. We finance companies with a more climate-friendly business model. We set ambitious goals and report comprehensively on our progress every year.

An orderly transition

We support an orderly transition to a climate-friendly economy. We are driving change, raising awareness and using our influence – in discussions with clients and the companies we invest in. We have introduced stricter criteria and have greatly reduced our financing of companies that pollute the atmosphere.

Strong cooperation

No industry or company can meet the challenges of climate change on its own. That’s why we are committed to greater cooperation. We actively support the development of industry standards and often achieve more in dialog with companies than if we simply no longer do business with them. We are increasing our impact through our participation in organizations such as Climate Action 100+ and UNEP FI.

We receive these awards

Because independent experts also appreciate our commitment

#1 industry leader in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index

Last year we achieved a first-place rating in the prestigious sustainability rankings for the fifth straight time and are the leaders in the category “Climate Strategy.”

“A-” ranking for our handling of climate risks (CDP)

For our handling of climate risks, we were awarded an A- last year by CDP, which assessed the most important listed companies in the world on a scale from A to D-.

#1 in climate change votes (ShareAction)

For our voting behavior on climate issues, we finished first in the 2019 ranking by ShareAction, which looked at asset managers worldwide.

Outstanding: We’re proud of how far we’ve come, but we also know that there’s still a lot to do...

ubs.com/climate