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The Finance Club at the University of Liechtenstein at the SGES2021

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 Finance Club at the University of Liechtenstein

How do you implement the SDGs and measure impact?

What incentives can be used in an economic area to promote sustainable development?

How can sectors work together to achieve the SDGs?

What is the role of partnerships?

These were the central questions at the Innovation Forum 06 at this year's SGES.

The members of the Finance Club at the University of Liechtenstein had the opportunity to attend the SGES in cooperation with the Bankenverband Liechtenstein.

Jaques Ducrest mentioned that the economy decides itself, autonomously and voluntarily how and whether they participate in the Agenda 30. An active participation is the best way to prevent regulation. Peter Rupp, Head of Corporate Sustainability at Hilti AG, agrees that it's everyone's duty to implement the goals of the SDGs. Last year Hilti published a GRI report for the first time. Their goal is to be CO₂ neutral by 2030. Their sustainability report includes 16 SDGs. He also mentioned that Hilti is now replacing their whole car fleet with electric cars.

Olivier de Perregaux, CEO at LGT Private Banking, states the most important thing for private clients is transparency. It is important to explain the detail information behind ESG ratings. The clients need to understand the message of sustainability. He agrees with Jaques Ducrest that it is important to act now and to implement strategies voluntarily. LGT will not wait for regulation. A surprising statement from Mr. de Perregaux was his call for regulation in the field of ESG ratings and sustainability. He wants something like IFRS criteria for sustainability. Would those regulations be in force there is a possibility for a fair market. He also suggests that sustainability should be an obligatory part of the annual report. Important is the awareness-raising of employees with client-facing rolls. There is still a misconception on the clients side that ESG reduces the investment performance.

According to Mr. de Perregaux, 5-10% of LGTs private clients are convinced ESG-investors, 15-20% are refusers and the rest is impartial. There is a need to proactively advertise ESG products. He also mentioned that investors should now use the power of capital in form of voting rights to actively vote for sustainable solutions at the annual meetings. LGT's goal is to be net zero with investments by 2030. LGT selected a few SDGs which they actively contribute to within the company. Those SDGs are 3, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13 and 17 states Ursula Finsterwald, the Head of Group Sustainability Management at LGT and also Vice-President, Board of Trustees, Climate Foundation Switzerland and Board Member, UN Global Compact Network Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

Dr. Martin Henck, CEO of Hilcona, mentioned a surprising fact: customers want sustainable packaging, and it also should look sustainable. But not everything that looks sustainable actually is. We should not demonise plastic packaging. Ursula Finsterwald mentioned that biodegradable coffee to go cups are less sustainable than plastic ones in terms of life-cycle assessment. In 2020, the Hilcona brand "the green mountain" doubled its revenue while only selling vegan products.

After a panel discussion and private table discussions Karin Frei, the moderator, concluded three important takeaways. There need to be appropriate framework conditions, close contact between the state and the companies and people have to change their behaviour somehow. However, innovation will make it easier to live sustainably.

Our board and our members enjoyed this insightful event a lot and thank Simon Tribelhorn again for giving us the opportunity to be part of this.

[Pictures of the event:](#)



(first two pictures are CC Liechtenstein Marketing)