



SOLARIMPULSE FOUNDATION

MEDIA RELEASE

FOLLOWING THE FIRST ROUND-THE-WORLD SOLAR FLIGHT, THE SOLAR IMPULSE FOUNDATION LAUNCHES THE “WORLD ALLIANCE FOR CLEAN TECHNOLOGIES”

Marrakech, 11 November 2016 – The Solar Impulse Foundation launched the World Alliance for Clean Technologies today during COP22, as a legacy to the first ever solar flight around the world. Its goal is to federate the main actors in the field of clean technologies, in order to create synergies, promote profitable solutions to the world’s most pressing environmental and health challenges, and give credible advice to governments.

Less than four months after the landing of the first ever solar flight around the world, accomplished by Bertrand Piccard and André Borschberg, the Solar Impulse Foundation is launching, at COP22, the [World Alliance for Clean Technologies](#) – a second phase in the realization of Bertrand Piccard’s vision that clean technologies can accomplish impossible goals and offer tangible solutions to solve many of the challenges facing global society today, as well as reach the objectives of the Climate Action Agenda.

The Alliance's overarching ambition is to globally advance the cause of clean technologies, which it defines as *"any practical solution that allows to bridge the gap between ecology and economy. They are not limited to the production of renewable energy, but encompass technologies, systems, know-hows or processes that protect the environment, improve health, increase energy efficiency or save natural resources, while creating jobs, generating profit and sustaining growth"*.

“We need to embrace clean technologies, not because they are ‘eco-logical,’ but because they are ‘logical,” said Bertrand Piccard, Chairman of the Solar Impulse Foundation. *“Even if climate change didn’t exist, energy efficient technologies would make sense to create jobs, generate profit and boost economic development, while also reducing CO2 emissions and protecting natural resources.”*

Until now, there was no such organization, gathering the clean technologies stakeholders around the world; hence the Alliance will bring together start-ups, companies, institutions and organizations producing, implementing or supporting the use of clean technologies. Together, the members will share experiences and create synergies in order to improve the overall value chain and demonstrate concrete solutions to support governments, corporations and institutions in reaching their environmental and health targets, advising them depending on their specific situation.

Commenting on the launch of the Alliance, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said: *“The Solar Impulse flight showed the world that it is possible to push the limits of technology in order to build the foundation for a sustainable future. By harnessing this and other innovative technologies, we can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.”*

“Initiatives like the World Alliance for Clean Technologies are exactly what we need to further enable investors, governments, cities and citizens to harvest the rich variety of clean

technologies that already exist or are under development,” added Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Patricia Espinosa, who was present at the launch. *“We need the best and brightest minds – from the North and the South – to deliver clean technologies that can collectively accomplish the goals of the Paris Climate Change Agreement and all the Sustainable Development Goals to catalyze a healthy and prosperous future for all.”*

Richard Northcote, Chief Sustainability Officer at Covestro, shared: *“We are delighted to continue our relationship with Solar Impulse through the World Alliance for Clean Technologies. Our contribution to the Solar Impulse project proved that we have the technology to make the world a brighter place and through this alliance we intend to accelerate the implementation of these technologies to tackle the challenges society faces while generating business growth.”*

“The success of Solar Impulse has proven to the world how powerful collaborative innovation between visionary entrepreneurs and companies that believe in science and research can be to deliver technological breakthroughs. This is just the beginning of what open collaboration and innovation can do to combat climate change,” concluded Jean-Pierre Clamadieu, CEO of Solvay, Solar Impulse's first partner.

The Solar Impulse Foundation offers to the Alliance its administrative support, as well as the media, political and institutional relations developed during the round the world solar flight. The Alliance is funded thanks to partners such as Covestro, Solvay and Nestlé, among others, as well as private donors.

As Bertrand Piccard said upon the final landing in Abu Dhabi *“If an airplane can fly around the world without a drop of fuel, clean technologies can undoubtedly be implemented on the ground to make a cleaner, more efficient and richer world.”*

For more information:

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About the World Alliance for Clean Technologies

The World Alliance for Clean Technologies brings together start-ups, companies, institutions and organizations producing, implementing or supporting the use of clean technologies. Together, the members share experiences and create synergies in order to improve the overall value chain and demonstrate concrete solutions to support governments, corporations and institutions in reaching their environmental and health targets, advising them depending on their specific situation.

An association registered under Swiss law and headquartered in Lausanne, Switzerland, the Alliance is a non-profit entity. To guaranty its independence, all members are required to sign

and follow the principles and values laid out in its [Charter](#) and accept to be held accountable to its standards.

About the Solar Impulse Foundation

The Solar Impulse Foundation created the World Alliance for Clean Technologies – which it fully administers and funds thanks to partners and private donors – following the success of the first solar flight around the globe. As one of the direct legacies of Solar Impulse, the World Alliance for Clean Technologies also benefits from the media, political and institutional relations developed over the course of the project.

Connect with Bertrand Piccard – Chairman of the Solar Impulse Foundation:
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