

Press Release

ARVAL AND CLIMATESEED LAUNCH A WORLDWIDE PARTNERSHIP TO SUPPORT ARVAL'S CUSTOMERS IN THEIR ENERGY TRANSITION

Rueil-Malmaison, 2 March 2021 – Arval and ClimateSeed are joining forces in a worldwide environmental partnership. With this partnership, Arval will complete its offer to accompany its customers along the entire zero-carbon trajectory and will offer climate contributions through carbon reduction projects to those who are already engaged in a decarbonisation process at a company or fleet level.

The consequences of climate change are already visible and are accelerating. Achieving global carbon neutrality by 2050 appears to be the solution to reach the 1.5°C targets of the Paris Agreement. Organisations and society as a whole can contribute to global carbon neutrality through two main levers: a decrease in global emissions and an increase in carbon sinks. Organisations must therefore first measure their own CO₂ emissions, reduce them and make a **climate contribution** through CO₂ reduction projects for any residual emissions.

Since 2018, **Arval** has been supporting its customers in their energy transition via the SMaRT (Sustainable Mobility and Responsibility Targets) approach. In implementing this methodology, customers may find themselves confronted with residual CO₂ emissions that they will not be able to eliminate in the short term. Therefore, the participation in CO₂ reduction projects becomes key. These include forest conservation, reforestation, energy efficiency, renewable energy, community projects, water and waste management.

ClimateSeed is the first Social Business launched in collaboration with the team of Nobel Peace Prize winner Prof. Yunus, and a 100% subsidiary of the BNP Paribas Group, reinvesting all of its profits in environmental projects. **ClimateSeed's** offer complements Arval's SMaRT approach, going beyond a measurement and reduction solution and offering the possibility to **contribute to carbon reduction projects** with strong social and environmental impacts.

This partnership between both companies consists of five steps:

- Thanks to the SMaRT approach, Arval Consulting teams are able to establish a CO₂ emission reduction plan for their customers' fleet.
- Arval Consulting teams will then calculate their new carbon footprint.
- To offset potential residual CO₂ emissions, customers will be granted free access to the ClimateSeed platform.

- They will select and contribute to certified CO₂ reduction projects via the ClimateSeed platform and will obtain a certificate on supported projects.
- For customers to display the actions they have taken, they will also receive an external and internal communication kit.

A win-win-win partnership

This partnership will benefit both companies and their customers. For ClimateSeed, it will give as many people as possible access to its catalogue of certified projects. For Arval, as an additional step in reinforcing its commitment as leader in sustainable mobility within its new **Arval Beyond** strategy.

Social Business is the central value of this partnership hence Arval and ClimateSeed are committed to reinvest all profits either for the benefit of Arval's clients (sustainability training programmes, employee awareness initiatives) or to the creation of new climate contribution programmes.

"We are very happy to launch this new cooperation with our natural partner ClimateSeed, as we are both part of the same Group, BNP Paribas. In an environment where reliability is key, it is fundamental to offer Arval's customers the possibility to work with a trusted climate partner to achieve their CSR objectives," declares Shams Dine El Mouden, Arval Consulting Director.

"ClimateSeed is proud to be Arval's climate partner and provide its customers a solution to accelerate the transition to a greener mobility. Decarbonisation and contribution to CO₂ reduction projects are necessary steps to reach global carbon neutrality. All projects not only have positive environmental and social impacts, but they also support local communities and protect the planet and its biodiversity," declares Sébastien Nunes, ClimateSeed CEO.

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About Arval:

Arval specialises in the European leader in full service vehicle leasing and new mobility solutions, leasing almost 1.4 million vehicles at end December 2020. Every day, more than 7,200 Arval employees in 30 countries offer flexible solutions to make journeys seamless and sustainable for its customers, which range from large international corporates to smaller companies and individual retail clients.

Arval is a founding member of the Element-Arval Global Alliance, a worldwide leader in the fleet management industry, with 3 million vehicles in 50 countries. Arval was founded in 1989 and is fully owned by BNP Paribas. Within the Group, Arval sits within its Retail Banking & Services division.

www.arval.com

About BNP Paribas:

BNP Paribas is a top-ranking bank in Europe with an international profile. It operates in 71 countries and has almost 199 000 employees, including more than 151 000 in Europe. The Group ranks highly in its three core areas of activity: Domestic Markets and International Financial Services (whose retail banking networks and financial services are grouped together under Retail Banking & Services) and Corporate & Institutional Banking, centred on corporate and institutional clients. The Group helps all of its clients (retail, associations, businesses, SMEs, large corporates and institutional) to implement their projects by providing them with services in financing, investment, savings and protection. In Europe, the Group has four domestic markets (Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg) and BNP Paribas Personal Finance is the leader in the field of consumer lending in Europe. BNP Paribas is also rolling out its integrated retail banking model across the Mediterranean countries and in Turkey and Eastern Europe and has a large network in the western part of the United States. In its Corporate & Institutional Banking and International Financial Services activities, BNP Paribas enjoys leading positions in Europe, a strong presence in the Americas and has a solid and fast-growing network in the Asia/Pacific region.

www.bnpparibas.com

About ClimateSeed:

ClimateSeed is a Social Business launched by BNP Paribas in collaboration with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Prof. Yunus' team.

It accompanies organizations to contribute transparently to carbon reduction projects that preserve the planet, support local communities, and protect biodiversity.

Through its centralized platform, ClimateSeed connects sustainable project carriers worldwide with corporations and organizations that want to support carbon reduction projects (carbon offsetting) and have social and environmental impacts on the planet.

With ClimateSeed, organizations have access to the highest quality projects that have passed a robust three-level verification process, including project certification, banking due-diligence and anti-money laundering assessment, and validation from ClimateSeed's internal Sustainability Committee.

As a Social Business, ClimateSeed is 100% committed to reinvesting its profits and promoting social and environmental programs to fight climate change. It makes climate action transparent through its services and tools and increases security and efficiency for its clients.

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www.climateseed.com