
Media information

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Volkswagen invests in climate protection projects to compensate for unavoidable CO₂ emissions

- **Projects are certified according to highest international standards**
- **First project compensates unavoidable CO₂ emissions from the ID.3¹⁾ electric car**
- **This project involves forest protection and restoration on the Indonesian island of Borneo**

Wolfsburg, September 19, 2019 - The Volkswagen Group is now supporting climate protection projects, focusing initially on forest conservation and restoration, especially in the tropics. Projects are certified according to the highest international standards 'Verified Carbon Standard' (VCS) as well as 'Climate Community and Biodiversity Standard' (CCB) or "Gold Standard".

The first project, Katingan Mentaya, a forest protection project on the Indonesian island of Borneo, compensates for the currently still unavoidable CO₂ emissions from the supply chain, production and delivery of the new Volkswagen e-vehicle ID.3, as well as emissions from other areas.

Ralf Pfitzner, Head of Sustainability at the Volkswagen Group, said: "The decarbonisation strategy of the Volkswagen Group focuses on the prevention and reduction of CO₂ emissions, for example through energy efficiency and conversion to renewable energies. Where total decarbonisation is not yet possible, we want to invest in forest conservation programs that greatly reduce atmospheric CO₂, provide long-term support to local communities, protect biodiversity, while at the same time, help address the climate crisis in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, the IPCC 1.5-degree report of leading climate scientists states that natural carbon sinks are essential for meeting climate goals and we want to contribute towards this.

In the Katingan Mentaya Project, Volkswagen is working with Permian Global, a developer of tropical forest protection and restoration projects. The Katingan Mentaya Project, which protects 149,800 hectares of tropical peatland forest, is located in Central Kalimantan on the Indonesian island of Borneo.

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The Project also protects a high conservation value habitat, which is home to a vibrant and important mix of species, including between five and 10 percent of the remaining populations of Borneo Orangutans, Proboscis monkeys and Southern Borneo gibbons.

The Project also works closely with 34 surrounding village communities to improve living conditions and contribute to sustainable development, - including direct employment in the fire management teams, the provision of microfinance loans, and support to education and health.

Further projects in cooperation with project development partners for the protection and restoration of tropical forests in South America and Southeast Asia are under development. In addition, climate protection projects for the factory locations of the Group will be prepared or expanded in further course.

For more information:

<http://katinganproject.com/>

¹⁾ The vehicle is not yet for sale in Europe.

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About the Volkswagen Group:

The Volkswagen Group, with its headquarters in Wolfsburg, is one of the world's leading automobile manufacturers and the largest carmaker in Europe. The Group comprises twelve brands from seven European countries: Volkswagen Passenger Cars, Audi, SEAT, ŠKODA, Bentley, Bugatti, Lamborghini, Porsche, Ducati, Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles, Scania and MAN. The passenger car portfolio ranges from small cars all the way to luxury-class vehicles. Ducati offers motorcycles. In the light and heavy commercial vehicles sector, the products include ranges from pick-ups, buses and heavy trucks. Every weekday, 664,496 employees around the globe produce on average 44,567 vehicles, are involved in vehicle-related services or work in other areas of business. The Volkswagen Group sells its vehicles in 153 countries.

In 2018, the total number of vehicles supplied to customers by the Group globally was 10,8 million (2017: 10,7 million). The passenger car global market share was 12.3 per cent. In Western Europe 22.0 per cent of all new passenger cars come from the Volkswagen Group. Group sales revenue in 2018 totalled €235.8 billion (2017: €231 billion). Earnings after tax in 2018 amounted to €17.1 billion (2017: €11.6 billion).
