

Liechtenstein

Liechtenstein Bankers Association (LBA)

History and Governance structure:

Established in 1969, the Liechtenstein Bankers Association is the domestic and international voice of the banks operating in and out of Liechtenstein. The member banks can be viewed [here](#) and the passive members [here](#).

Objectives:

It is one of the country's most significant associations and plays a key role in the successful development of the financial centre. Member interests are pursued in accordance with the principles of sustainability and credibility. The Liechtenstein Bankers Association is a member of key [committees](#) at the European level and plays an active role in the European legislation process.

Priorities for 2020

In 2016, the Liechtenstein banks formulated the next phase of the strategy, its [Roadmap 2020](#), with a view to the future. The vision is that Liechtenstein will position itself as a respected financial centre with sustainable and stable operations at the heart of Europe. Liechtenstein is to distinguish itself by its high level of innovation, efficiency, and proven expertise in the field of wealth management. Its demanding, internationally-oriented client base is to receive holistic solutions, tailor-made products, and outstanding services. Quality, stability, and sustainability are the strategic cornerstones of the Roadmap 2020.

As a result of this Roadmap, the LBA and its members are committed to anchor sustainable finance as a key concept and becoming mainstream in the Liechtenstein financial centre. Therefore, one of the top-priority for 2020 is to build on the assessment conducted in 2019, and work out a dedicated sustainable finance roadmap with targeted measures at the level of the LBA in order to increase and equally accelerate the engagement of the entire banking centre in the field of sustainable finance. Part of this roadmap will be to support its members in light of the forthcoming EU regulation set out in the Action Plan Financing Sustainable Growth of the EU Commission. Besides that, it will be of utmost importance how technological change can be used to transform the economy into more sustainable ones. Digitalisation can help to simplify things. For instance, it will help automating processes, reduce costs, and achieve positive economies of scale. Moreover, it will help to quantify and measure the effective impact of an investment or portfolio in terms of ESG factors but also in terms of the contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals.

3 Highlights, facts or figures

1. The Liechtenstein Bankers Association received the prestigious 2019 award for Outstanding Contribution to Good Governance Liechtenstein from Capital Finance International (CFI.co).¹
2. Liechtenstein as a financial centre generates about 24% of the country's GDP and contributes about 40% of its tax revenue.²
3. LGT Bank AG; Liechtensteinische Landesbank AG and VP Bank AG, are the biggest members of the Liechtenstein Bankers Association, and account for a share of about CHF 54.5 billion of the balance sheet total of CHF 63.8 billion (85% of market share) of all Liechtenstein's banks.³

¹ <https://www.bankenverband.li/en/news/auszeichnung-fuer-lbv-proaktiv-und-zukunftsweisend>

² <https://www.bankenverband.li/en/bankers-association/roadmap-2020>

³ https://www.bankenverband.li/application/files/9215/5196/3703/Factsheet-2020_Final_EN.pdf

Membership of any other sustainable initiatives/networks:

The LBA is a member of the European Banking Federation (EBF, www.ebf.eu) of which sustainable finance is one of the strategic cornerstones. Besides that, the LBA is one of the sponsors of the international initiative Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST, www.fastinitiative.org) which is a partnership between the Governments of Liechtenstein, Australia and the Netherlands along with the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research as well as a consortium of banks, philanthropic foundations, and associations. Furthermore, Liechtenstein and LBA member banks have decided to be part of this year's Paris Agreement Capital Transition Assessment (PACTA, <https://www.transitionmonitor.com/pacta-2020/>) which will be coordinated transnationally and aims to support its users to comply with the TCFD recommendations as well as the upcoming EU Disclosure Regulation and Sustainability Taxonomy Regulation.

At national level, the LBA is

- 1) a founding member of the **LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein** (www.climatefoundation.li).

In 2009, the LIFE-initiative was converted into a non-profit foundation according to Liechtenstein law. The goals of the LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein are to raise awareness and promote all aspects of sustainability and climate protection in order to protect our environment for future generations - "for a better life". Bringing together the worlds of business, academia and politics, the LIFE Climate Foundation Liechtenstein has become a driving force and a private-public partnership that reaches out to key sustainability players and brings them all together.

- 2) a supporter of the **not-for-profit association Drink&Donate:**

To mark World Water Day, on 22 March 2017 the "Waterfootprint Liechtenstein" was launched. The principle behind the project is straightforward: "Drink tap water. Donate drinking water". With this campaign, Liechtenstein is aiming at becoming the first country to provide access to clean drinking water to one suffering person for every resident in Liechtenstein which means to improve the living conditions of around 37,500 people in need. The Waterfootprint initiative is well on the way to achieving this target. To date a total of more than 22'000 "water footprints" have been activated. The government, schools, all municipalities and numerous companies, amongst them as well all the big Liechtenstein banks support the initiative by refraining from purchasing bottled mineral water and using only domestic tap water.

Links to Social Media pages (icons on webpage):

https://twitter.com/LBA_Banking

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/liechtenstein-bankers-association/>