



Press release

BCV and Romande Energie team up to support property owners' environmental upgrade plans

BCV and Romande Energie are joining forces to take the hassle out of property renovation and energy efficiency upgrade plans. Under this partnership, property owners – individuals or businesses – will save money on three fronts: a CECB® Plus energy audit delivered by Romande Energie at a preferential rate, zero-interest financing for the first 12 months through BCV's Green Bonus offering, and energy savings thereafter.

Lausanne and Morges – 24 August 2021 – The CECB® Plus report goes a step further than the CECB® cantonal energy certificate for buildings, which has been mandatory in Vaud canton since 2017 for transfers of title or replacements of fossil-fuel heating systems. The CECB® Plus report is compiled by accredited specialists, who in addition to the building's energy certificate provide a list of practical improvements, alternative renovation options, a financial assessment and personalised practical advice. The scheme is guided by the demands of the energy transition.

Under this partnership between BCV and Romande Energie, the CECB® Plus audit is carried out by Romande Energie's network of specialists. The cost reduction applicable under the partners' joint programme may be up to 25%, after deduction of the grant awarded by Vaud Canton for these improvements.

The CECB® Plus audit is a document that can serve as a framework for renovation programmes. BCV's Green Bonus offering provides a loan covering the cost of the work at a zero rate of interest for the first 12 months on condition that the upgrade meets 'green' criteria, specifically that at least 25% of the total loan amount (at least CHF 20,000) is used to harness energy savings qualifying for subsidies. In addition, the mortgage must be arranged at a fixed rate and have a minimum term of five years.

Buildings: over 40% of energy consumption

Buildings account for over 40% of energy consumption in Switzerland. Energy efficiency improvements, environmental upgrades and increased use of renewable energies are key ways for Switzerland and Vaud Canton to meet their climate targets.

“Helping to finance the energy transition in Vaud canton is fully aligned with BCV's corporate mission,” commented Pascal Kiener, CEO of BCV. “We're delighted with this partnership because it will give the canton's residents access to a renowned energy company in addition to attractive ways to finance the refits. It complements the many other sustainability measures that our Bank has already taken.”



“Through this partnership, we're giving all kinds of property owners the chance to review the energy efficiency of their assets and make it easier for them to play their part in the energy transition by availing themselves of this specially tailored renovation programme, all at a special rate. We're thrilled to be joining forces with BCV,” added Christian Petit, CEO of Romande Energie.

Sample upgrade case

What is the energy profile of your 1970s-constructed building? The question is worth considering, especially since a standard 20th century construction consumes around four times as much energy as a new B-rated building under the CECB® certification. You ask for a quote, ticking the advice box because you would like to receive Romande Energie's expert assessment as part of the subsidy request. The CECB® Plus report costs CHF 2,000. Once you have deducted the Canton's grant – which may be up to CHF 1,000 – and the BCV–Romande Energie partnership discount, the report will only cost you CHF 750. With the report in hand, you can plan your upgrades and arrange financing.

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Romande Energie at a glance

Romande Energie Group is the leading supplier of electricity in Western Switzerland and a mainstay in the Swiss energy industry. It offers a wealth of sustainable solutions for the distribution and generation of electricity, and in energy services, energy efficiency and electromobility.

All its generation assets are driven by renewable sources of energy. Additionally, it is working hand in hand with customers, investors and employees to provide ever-better standards of living through innovative services and a commitment to corporate social responsibility. Romande Energie is dedicated, day in day out, to offering high-grade services and security of supply, just as customers expect, as well as supporting them in using more sustainable forms of energy and advancing the decarbonisation of Western Switzerland.

For more information on Romande Energie Group: www.romande-energie.ch

The BCV group at a glance

BCV has been providing superior banking services to Vaud's residents and businesses since 1845. In line with its corporate mission, the bank's nearly 2,000 employees across 60 branches draw on their proven expertise and in-depth knowledge of the local economy to best meet the needs and expectations of the *Vaudois*. BCV is Vaud's leading home-loan provider, financing one in every three mortgages.

BCV is also a responsible corporate citizen which has pledged to pursue an agenda of sustainable development by addressing its own environmental impact, applying environmental and social criteria to its lending activities, offering customers a broader range of top-flight sustainable investments and playing an active role in society.

For more information on BCV, visit www.bcv.ch/en