

# The somewhat different living room

Linder Immobilien is now building above and below water.

With every new building realized by the Riehen-based family business, an underwater living room in the ocean is created.

Thanks to the cooperation with SeaForester, Linder Immobilien is significantly involved in the reforestation of algae forests on the seabed, so-called kelp forests, which serve as living rooms of a somewhat different kind for countless creatures. Here, a multitude of fish, turtles, mussels, snails and crabs thrive between the up to sixty meter high kelp plants. In addition, this underwater ecosystem provides the habitat for various kinds of birds. Kelp forests are enormously species-rich habitats and therefore require special protection.

## A new concept

This innovative concept is just one of the new priorities set with the change of management in the traditional family business. In addition to the proven quality of the Riehen-based company, the new generation around Matthias Linder is focusing on a three-pronged concept consisting of design, functionality and sustainability.

The goal in terms of sustainability is to build as climate-neutral as possible, i.e. to leave as small a CO<sub>2</sub> footprint as possible. Where it is not yet possible to completely avoid carbon dioxide emissions, the idea is to compensate for them in order to neutralize the environmental impact. Kelp forests are particularly efficient in their conversion of CO<sub>2</sub> to oxygen: they require no fertilizer, land or irrigation and sequester six times



Kelp stores up to six times more CO<sub>2</sub> than trees ...

Foto: Kelp Forest Damsels © Jim Hellems

as much CO<sub>2</sub> as trees. The rapid growth of kelp also contributes to its high productivity – certain species grow up to half a meter a day. The underwater forests are therefore called the second «green lung» of our planet, along with the tropical rainforests and mangroves.

## Reforestation

In addition to underwater forests, Linder Immobilien also invests in «overwater forests» by working with One Tree Planted to replace the wood used in construction projects on a one-to-one

basis through reforestation in regions that are particularly poor in trees. This not only counteracts soil erosion and desertification, but also makes a valuable long-term contribution to climate protection. Linder Immobilien builds on several levels: On the one hand, developing land not only creates living space for people, but also habitat for animals.

## Building bridges

On the other hand, the second generation of the company also wishes that through initiatives

such as these, more and more bridges between business and environmental protection can be built. The method used by SeaForester to revive algae forests serves as inspiration: small stones are seeded with kelp spores in the laboratory and planted on the seabed by dropping them into the ocean from a boat. Likewise, the dedicated team at Linder Immobilien wishes to plant small stones of inspiration for a better world and build a better future through its sustainable approach.

## Further information

... on the topics of kelp, reforestation and sustainable building can be found on the website of Linder Immobilien under «Sustainability»:

[www.linderimmo.ch](http://www.linderimmo.ch)  
061 643 13 35

