

Raiffeisen Switzerland is a member of the London Bullion Market Association

- **With its membership in the international industry association “London Bullion Market Association”, Raiffeisen further strengthens its experience and competence in precious metals trading**
- **Raiffeisen only sells gold bars from refineries that satisfy the association’s Good Delivery Standards.**

St.Gallen, 18 April 2023. In recent years, Raiffeisen Switzerland has seen increased demand from clients and significant growth in the precious metals business. With its membership in the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA), Raiffeisen is now strengthening its experience and competence in precious metals trading. As the largest internationally recognised industry association for precious metals, the LBMA sets market standards and also shapes the future alignment of the precious metals industry with regard to environmental, social and governance (ESG) aspects. This includes, in particular, the responsible sourcing and procurement of precious metals. Raiffeisen only sells gold bars from refiners that meet the LBMA Good Delivery Standards.

Pioneer in responsible gold procurement

In the procurement of gold for its own gold bars, Raiffeisen has pursued the new “Responsibly Sourced and Traceable” approach since 2021. This approach permits traceability of the gold’s origin and promotes the environmental and social compatibility of the companies in the supply chain. The origin of each bar as well as all companies involved in the supply chain can be traced via a Raiffeisen website using the bar number. In addition to this, Raiffeisen integrates gold from small-scale mines from developing and emerging countries, provided that they are part of a recognised programme for the improvement of environmental and social compatibility. For instance, with the aim that the mines refrain from using mercury or that they improve the safety of the workforce. At the same time Raiffeisen also provides financial support for such initiatives. In November 2021, Raiffeisen was the first retail bank in Switzerland to launch an exchange-traded gold ETF that invests in responsibly sourced and traceable gold, the “Raiffeisen ETF – Solid Gold Responsibly Sourced & Traceable”. Raiffeisen was awarded with the Swiss ETF Awards 2023 in the Newcomer category for this fund.

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Raiffeisen: third-largest banking group in Switzerland

The Raiffeisen Group is Switzerland's leading retail bank. With over 2 million cooperative members and 3.64 million clients, the Group is the third-largest player in the Swiss banking market. The Raiffeisen Group is present at 803 locations throughout Switzerland. The 220 legally autonomous Raiffeisen cooperative banks are members of the Raiffeisen Switzerland Cooperative. The Raiffeisen Switzerland Cooperative assumes the strategic management and supervisory function for the entire Raiffeisen Group. The Raiffeisen Group offers private individuals and corporate clients a comprehensive range of products and services via its Group companies, cooperative ventures and participations. On 31 December 2022, the Raiffeisen Group had CHF 242 billion in assets under management and CHF 215 billion in loans to clients. The Group's market share in mortgage lending is 17.6%. Total assets amount to CHF 281 billion.

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