### CO<sub>2</sub>URIER CARBON NEUTRAL COURIER SERVICES

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Federal Ministry of Education and Research

The National Centre

for Research and Development











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## Agenda

- 1) Project partners
- 2) Project objectives
- 3) Project findings
- 4) Next steps
- 5) Lessons learnt



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## Project partners



A science-based and business-orientated nonprofit organization

Expertise in carbon footprints and lifecycle assessments

quriers.pl

A courier company based in Łódź, Poland

Focus on express and city delivery

Testing and implementation of the sustainable business plan, inlcuding carbon offset experiment





Non-profit and independent research institute based in Mannheim, Germany

Substantial experience in climate policy evaluation and design

Implementation and scientific evaluation of carbon offset mechanism for Quriers Non-profit and independent research institute based in Konstantynów Łódzki, Poland

Provides tailor-made research services in the field of environmental engineering

Business and economic analyses of courier market and Quriers company



## Project objectives

- 1. Identify elements bearing the potential to reduce environmental impacts from CEP services
- 2. Provide concrete sustainability improvements in the CEP service industry by creating more environmentally-friendly services

Status Quo: Calculation of Quriers' carbon footprint Analyzing potential for improving sustainability of Quriers' business model

Implementation of carbon off-setting mechanisms

Scientific evaluation and strategy for roll-out

### Project findings: Environmental impact assessment of Quriers



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#### 1) CORPORATE CARBON FOOTPRINT (CCF)



#### 2) PRODUCT CARBON FOOTPRINT (PCF)

#### **OVERHEAD EMISSIONS**

- 40t  $CO_2$ e overhead emissions  $\rightarrow$  allocation to all services
- 4.462 deliveries in 9/2016  $\rightarrow$  747 g CO<sub>2</sub>e / service.

#### **CITY SERVICE – BIKE TRANSPORT**

• Emission-free  $\rightarrow$  only overhead emissions are applied

#### **CITY SERVICE – STANDARD**

 2,3% surcharge on city deliveries (by Quriers' cars) covers emissions compensation

#### **COOLED TRANSPORT**

higher emissions due to dry ice production + use → 9,2kg CO<sub>2</sub>e / parcel.

#### TRANSPORT BY TRAIN (NATIONAL ONLY)

• 82% lower emissions than by car

### Project findings: Carbon neutral company strategy







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### Task: Design and analysis of a carbon offsetting program for online purchases

- Goal:
- Scientific assessment of determinants of green behavior in online decisions
- Our focus: The role of green stickers as a way to signal green behavior



Nadawca troszczy się o środowisko – Twoja przesyłka jest zeroemisyjna [The sender of this delivery cares about the environment – your parcel is emission-free]



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• Major steps:

#### Step 1: Adjusting the ordering process

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• Major steps:

### Step 1: Adjusting the ordering process

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• Major steps:

#### Step 1: Adjusting the ordering process



• Major steps:

Step 2: Analyzing the role of the green stickers

• Customers were randomly assigned into three different groups

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• Group 1: No sticker on the label

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#### Wizualizacja listu przewozowego





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• Major steps:

Step 2: Analyzing the role of the green stickers

- Customers were randomly assigned into three different groups
- Group 1: No sticker on the label
- Group 2: Sticker is automatically attached to the label (for program participants)

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#### Wizualizacja listu przewozowego



• Major steps:

Step 2: Analyzing the role of the green stickers

- Customers were randomly assigned into three different groups
- Group 1: No sticker on the label
- Group 2: Sticker is automatically attached to the label (for program participants)
- Group 3: Sticker can be optionally attached

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### • Data

- we observe online orders between March 28 and July 31, 2018
- 4678 purchases from 118 different customers
- the largest share of services (72.6%) are city services
- av. emissions: 4.7 kg per order
- av. (hypoth.) price for offsets: 1.4% of total price per order

Treatments	Total # of orders (%)
T#1 (baseline treatment without sticker)	1326 (28.3%)
T#2 (mandatory sticker)	1568 (33.5%)
T#3 (optional sticker)	1784 (38.1%)
Total	4678

- Key results (T#1 baseline treatment without sticker)
- Without any sticker on the label, 8.7% of all orders are  $CO_2$  neutral





• Key results T#2 (mandatory sticker)

100

80

60

40

20

0 -

%

- Attaching automatically a sticker to the label **decreases** participation rates to **5.6%** 





Nadawca troszczy się o środowisko – Twoja przesyłka jest zeroemisyjna



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Note: Differences between treatments are statistically significant based on a chi-squared test on equality of proportions

- Key results T#3 (optional sticker)
- Providing the sticker optionally leads to the highest participation rate (10.9%)
- Most of the program participants (8.1%) decide not to print the sticker on the label







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• Customers get more used to the sticker over time but still a large share of program participants prefer not to add the sticker to their parcel



• Decision behavior varies across different type of services







## Next steps

□ Follow-up survey among Quriers customers to explore the reasons for the behavioral patterns

Dissemination activities (scientific articles, conferences)

□ Further implementation of the carbon neutral compay strategy by Quriers



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# Lessons learnt

### Scientific

- ✓ City services are more carbon intense than national ones, despite the lower distance
- ✓ Strong competition on a courier market need to provide non-standard and tailored services
- ✓ Eco services as a market niche
- A mandatory sticker to signal pro-environmental behaviour does not necessarily increase participation rates in the carbon offsetting program
- ✓ Keeping the choice between showing and hiding program participation

### Administrative

- Previous successful collaboration between German and Polish partners as one of major success factors for the project
- Project objectives meet needs and ambitions of all partners involved
- Complementary expertise of all partners involved

# Thank you for your attention

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