



## Media release

Zürich 16.10.2018 – for immediate release

### **LEND successfully closes Series A financing round of CHF 6 million.**

**Zurich-based FinTech LEND powers ahead and closes its CHF 6 Million Series A financing round. The funding round was backed by Alpana Ventures and angel investors.**

Florian Kübler, CEO and co-founder of LEND: "Our successful track record remains convincing. In addition to existing investors, who have supported us since the beginning, we were able to attract new investors. "

„LEND has rapidly developed into a household name for borrowers and investors," says Pascal H. Widmer, Managing Partner at Alpana Ventures. "The LEND team is impressive and delivers an excellent performance. LEND will continue to shape the market in Switzerland and we are excited to help the company grow further and secure its leadership.

#### **New verticals**

Boosted by its strong track record in private and student loans, LEND now offers financing solutions for SMEs and transacts 2<sup>nd</sup> lien mortgages. The new business areas have taken off exceptionally well and LEND is driving the expansion through existing partnerships and direct channels.

#### **Careful Risk selection**

Control of creditworthiness remains a top priority for LEND, which applies a stringent lending policy. Companies that apply for a loan at LEND must provide solid collateral before funding. This discipline translates into an exceptionally low default rate (below 0.5%). Good news for investors who generate an average return of 5.5% per annum.

#### **Institutional investors**

Already mainstream in the UK, marketplace lending has now arrived in Switzerland. LEND cooperates with several pension funds, family offices and banks, which are increasingly funding credit projects. Retail investors remain an important component however, and LEND will continue to be open for them in the future.



### **Experienced new team members**

New to LEND are Roman Mebert (Head KMU) and Christian Huber (Head Sales), both of whom can draw from 25+ years of experience in their fields. Risk management is therefore more than a theoretical term for them.

### **Use of proceeds**

With the newly raised funds, LEND will further advance the digitisation of its platform, professionalise new business areas and secure institutional credit facilities to finance loan projects.

### **About LEND**

LEND is a Swiss-based marketplace lending platform that empowers borrowers to obtain loans at better rates while enabling lenders to direct their own loan investment opportunities. Thanks to its high operational efficiency and low fees, lenders garner attractive returns. Lenders have access to all risk-relevant information from prospective borrowers and can allocate funding across different projects with different risk profiles and maturities. Minimum investment denominations per credit project are small, allowing diversification to be easily achieved. Most of the credit projects are protected by Helvetia insurance against unemployment, disability, and death. LEND conducts a stringent underwriting process for borrowers, handles all contractual issues and financial movement on the platform.

LEND is run by Switzerland AG and is a regulated financial intermediary by FINMA. [www.lend.ch](http://www.lend.ch)

### **About Alpina Ventures SCSp**

ALPANA provides early stage venture capital to Swiss and European tech startups. ALPANA's unique investment model is to bridge them to Silicon Valley and Asia while facilitating market access and support to solve growth challenges.

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