

## Solar-powered irrigation system in Jiffarong



**Project duration: 1 year**

Photo: Dodo

In 2022, EKOenergy granted 15,000 € to the Finnish NGO Dodo, enabling them and their Gambian partner to build a solar-powered drip irrigation system to help women farmers in the Gambian village of Jiffarong.

Livelihoods in the Gambia are mostly driven by agriculture. Crops are often threatened by drought when it is outside of the rainy season (July-September). Since irrigation systems are mostly unavailable to the public, many people in rural areas suffer from malnutrition.

With the grant from EKOenergy's Climate Fund, Dodo and their local NGO partner Freedom from Hunger Campaign installed 10 PV panels of 250 watts each, refurbished a borehole in the Jiffarong garden area and installed a pump with a drip irrigation system. The pump and the irrigation system are fully powered with solar energy and can pump up to 50,000 liters of water in a day.

By helping to increase resilience against droughts, this project alleviates the community's dependence on natural rainfall and thus allows them to better manage the effects of climate change. The irrigation system also ensures a higher crop yield year-round, not just during the rainy season. As a result, the farmers are expected to have increased profits. This will enhance food security for families and enriches their diet in general.

The solar-powered irrigation system funded

by EKOenergy is part of a larger project of Dodo, aiming to protect forests and improve food security and adaptation to climate change in rural Gambia. The drip irrigation system also covers the Jiffarong tree nursery, where seedlings are grown and later planted in the Jiffarong community forest. Last year, fruit trees were also planted in the garden area to promote food security.

90 women farmers from the community of Jiffarong and their families are the direct beneficiaries of the installation. Giving these women the means to irrigate a shared vegetable garden (which they solely operate) empowers these women and promotes gender equality. The solar-powered irrigation system also gives them more time to focus on domestic family life outside of their work in the vegetable garden, since automatic drip irrigation saves a lot of time compared to manual irrigation.

Thanks to the users and sellers of EKOenergy-labelled energy, we provide financing for renewable energy projects that bring social benefits through climate action. EKOenergy is proud to empower rural women and contribute to the betterment of farming in developing countries.

### Our Climate Fund



Focus on energy poverty and multiple Sustainable Development Goals



New projects annually in developing countries



Projects run and monitored by trusted NGOs



Selected by an independent jury



In 2022, the Fund granted 425,728 € for 15 new projects



All EKOenergy users contribute 0.10 € / MWh to the Climate Fund

# EKOenergy - the global ecolabel for renewable energy

EKOenergy is [the global ecolabel](#) for energy (electricity, gas, heat and cold). We are a non-profit initiative working to fight climate change, protect biodiversity and realise the Sustainable Development Goals.

Energy with the EKOenergy ecolabel fulfils additional [sustainability criteria](#). Through our ecolabel we also raise money for our Climate Fund, which is used to finance [new renewable energy](#) projects in developing countries.

EKOenergy's network of authorised sellers makes EKOenergy-labelled energy easily [available in over 65 countries worldwide](#). Many consumers of EKOenergy-labelled energy choose to use our ecolabel on their website or products to demonstrate their commitment to a 100% renewable and sustainable world.

EKOenergy users include large international businesses such as SAP, VMware, Tetra Pak, Pampers, Workday, SCHOTT and the Iliad Group, as well as cities, public organisations and individual households.



## Sustainability criteria: additional value for our planet

	EKOenergy	Other renewable energy	Grid mix
Recommended by environmental organisations	✓	?	-
Extra criteria to minimise the impact of energy production on nature. For example, hydropower installations with fish passes and wind turbines outside important bird areas	✓	?	-
Renewable energy tracked by EACs, such as GOs and I-RECs (In line with Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance)	✓	✓	-
Contributes to renewable energy projects in developing countries, advancing the realisation of multiple Sustainable development goals	✓	-	-
Available and recognised worldwide	✓	-	-
Supports the promotion of a transition to renewable energy worldwide	✓	-	-

## Endorsed by global standards

EKOenergy is recommended by many international environmental standards such as CDP, the Greenhouse Gas Protocol, Greenkey for hotels and LEED-certification for buildings.

*"A growing number of hotels in Europe have already switched to EKOenergy and include the EKOenergy logo in their communication with their guests. Follow their lead and [go the extra mile](#)."*

*"Ecolabels are a way for companies to do more with their purchases. EKOenergy, mentioned by the GHG Protocol Scope 2 Guidance, is such an option: it is [a mark of quality](#) which comes on top of tracking certificates."*

*"EKOenergy represents the [best available option](#) for the sustainable and additional consumption of renewable electricity within Europe."*



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