

Solar power for off-grid villages



Project duration: 6 months

In 2022, EKOenergy granted 25,000 € to the NGO Health and Rural Development Balochistan (HARD Balochistan) to bring solar power to 100 households, 4 schools and 4 health centres in hard-to-reach villages in Khuzdar District, Pakistan.

Photo: Health and Rural Development Balochistan

As many as 50 million people in Pakistan live without grid connection. Despite being often the only source of light, kerosene oil is expensive and toxic, therefore many avoid using it. This makes activities after sunset extremely difficult and exposes people to dangers such as thieves and venomous animals such as snakes or scorpions.

This also poses a problem for children: Many have to help their families during the daytime and the lack of lighting makes it impossible to catch up with schoolwork in the evening.

Our grant enabled HARD Balochistan to install solar panels in 4 villages in the Khuzdar area and to better integrate solar energy into their regular fields of activity such as health care, education, nutrition and the promotion of human rights.

100 families got solar panels, batteries, electric lights and electric fans. Access to electricity changes the lives of these families in many ways. "The solar energy system assisted me to do embroidery and shisha work (traditional tailoring work with various coloured threads and mirrors) till midnight to earn money and send all my 4 kids to

school with other children." says Ayesha, a beneficiary of the project.

The electric fans will help alleviate another big problem in Pakistan: heat. Summers are extremely hot in Khuzdar, and climate change is making the problem even worse year after year.

HARD also installed solar energy systems and lights in 4 schools, local health centres and places of worship. In addition, they organised 10 information sessions about solar PV systems, climate change and environmental protection for the villagers.

To ensure the follow-up and success of the project, the locals were involved at all stages. They also raised 500 € for the maintenance and management of the installed systems. 20 local young men were trained in the maintenance and repair of the solar energy systems and received a toolkit after the training. This also provides them with a career prospect and a potential additional income.

Thanks to all sellers and consumers of EKOenergy-labelled energy for helping us realise projects such as this one.

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."

