

Solar Energy for Four Rural Health Units in Cameroon



Project duration: 3 months

Photo: CCREAD

In 2023, EKOenergy granted €35,000 to the Cameroonian NGO Centre for Community Regeneration and Development (CCREAD-Cameroon) to electrify four health units in southwestern Cameroon. Thanks to solar systems with a total capacity of 27 kW, over 40 rainforest communities are now served with improved healthcare.

Access to a functional, affordable healthcare is crucial for human well-being. However, this human right is not assured for many people in low- and middle-income countries. This has also been the case in the rural rainforest communities living around Bakossi National Park (BNP) in the Kupe Muanenguba Division, Cameroon.

Frequent power outages made the local health centers very dependent on harmful generators, further reducing the lifespan of medical equipment.

The lack of reliable clean energy sources also contributed to environmental issues due to complex socio-economic connections. With limited access to affordable local healthcare, widespread poverty, and a shortage of sustainable income, there has been an increase in the exploitation of the nearby forest.

With the support of EKOenergy's Climate Fund, CCREAD-Cameroon installed solar systems in four spatially located health units to overcome these adverse conditions. In the Bangem District Hospital, 18 solar panels of 450 Wp each were installed, while the other three health centres were each equipped with 14 panels of 450 Wp each.

With the clean, affordable, and reliable source of energy, electric devices such as microscopes

can now be used to detect malaria and typhoid fevers, and nurses have the capacity to meet the needs of an expanded number of patients.

Patients are no longer exposed to polluting generators and lamps, and the use of fossil fuels decreases significantly through electric lighting. Additionally, there has been a decline in bushfires since there's no need to raise funds for expensive healthcare in the cities anymore.

Local teams were trained to take care of the maintenance of the installations to ensure a lasting benefit. The active involvement of the communities also improved residents' awareness of environmental protection and clean energy.

With its holistic approach, the project facilitates effective health service delivery and benefits for climate and the environment simultaneously. Thus, the project's impact aligns with multiple Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including Goal 1 (No Poverty), Goal 3 (Good Health and Wellbeing), Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), and Goal 13 (Climate Action).

Thanks to all consumers of EKOenergy-labelled energy. Projects such as this one are only possible with you.

Our Climate Fund



Focus on energy poverty and multiple Sustainable Development Goals



New projects annually in lower-income countries



Projects run and monitored by trusted NGOs



Selected through a transparent process



In 2023, EKOenergy approved grants for 20 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 80 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 Microsoft, SAP, VMware, 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."

