

## Advancing lives and environmental protection in Balochistan, Pakistan



**Project duration: 6 months**

Photo: HARD

In July 2025, EKOenergy contributed €35,000 from its Climate Fund to the nonprofit organisation Health And Rural Development (HARD) Balochistan. This grant facilitated the establishment of several solar energy systems, solar-powered water pumps, and electric flour mills in villages, schools, and basic health units. The project helped tackle multiple community challenges and improve the lives of more than 7,400 people.

Pakistan is one of the countries most affected by climate change. Rising temperatures, extreme precipitation patterns, and recurring droughts and floods are posing severe risks to water supplies, public health, rural infrastructure, agriculture, education, and gender equality. Balochistan remains the most vulnerable province due to its underdeveloped infrastructure and geographic location.

The project took place in a rural part of Balochistan's Khuzdar district, a mountainous area where more than 85% of villages remain off the national electricity grid. All targeted villages are located far from urban centres and paved roads, which negatively affects the most crucial areas of life and isolates communities in periods of heavy rainfall.

To alleviate the many challenges, HARD, in close cooperation with the local communities, applied for a grant from EKOenergy's Climate Fund to bring solar power and solar-powered pumps and flour mills to the area. In total, they installed solar PV systems, fans, and electric lighting in five schools and three basic health units; they built five solar-powered water pumping systems to provide clean water; and installed three solar-powered flour mills.

The project had a direct impact on over 7,400 people, predominantly women and children, with indirect benefits reaching neighbouring communities. Access to safe drinking water reduced the spread of waterborne diseases and minimised the physically demanding and time-consuming work involved in obtaining water. Electrification of schools and health centres has significantly improved education and healthcare, including emergency care and uninterrupted service at night and during emergencies. The solar-powered flour mills have reduced women's daily manual labour and secured reliable access to food while operating at zero fuel cost.

HARD's new solar project illustrates, once again, how the carefully planned and implemented introduction of renewable energy can make multifaceted and concrete life-changing impact, supporting the achievement of many Sustainable Development Goals, such as SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), SDG 5 (Gender Equality), SDG 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities).

We would like to thank everyone who was involved in implementing this initiative, with special appreciation to each EKOenergy seller and buyer.

### EKOenergy's Climate Fund



Focus on energy poverty and multiple Sustainable Development Goals



New projects annually in low- and middle-income countries



Projects run and monitored by trusted NGOs



Selected through a transparent process



In 2025, EKOenergy approved grants for 16 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 low- and middle-income 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, Pampers, Mercedes-Benz, 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."*

