

## Energising Healthcare in Rural Uganda



### Project duration: 1 year

In 2022, EKOenergy granted NGO Green Empowerment €30,000 to install a 9.6 kW solar and storage system in the Ayiri clinic in Western Uganda.

Photo: Green Empowerment

Bringing electricity to off-grid rural communities can significantly improve the quality of healthcare. Electricity is crucial to broaden the range of procedures that can be performed in clinics, and is particularly useful for this clinic as it serves more than 18,000 patients annually, both locals and refugees. Before the project, Ayiri had only 1 to 6 hours of electricity daily, a significant problem considering that more than two-thirds of child deliveries here occur at night. Although some delays were encountered in procurement, in February 2023 the 9.6 kW system was installed, doubling the capacity of the previously used generator. A set of batteries make the electricity available at night too, ensuring safer and more effective nighttime healthcare services. Previously, the center used to refer patients to other hospitals, which delayed access to care.

Following the completion of electrification in early 2023, healthcare improvements became evident. Births and other health-related procedures became much safer at night. Permanent lighting, ultrasound machines, reliable sterilizing devices, and vaccine refrigeration now ensure the security of both patients and staff. Electricity allows the highest quality of treatment. It proves very useful for medical staff enduring

long shifts away from home, providing them with a source of energy to reload electrical devices for communication and recreational purposes. General well-being is also increased with services like ventilation. Staff hold a central role in this project's success, as clinic employees were trained in system maintenance to ensure the system's sustainability.

Solar electrification of the Ayiri clinic is part of a broader project to electrify hospitals in the Adjumani district. Green Empowerment has streamlined the process based on their experience from past healthcare electrification projects at Nyumanzi Health Centre. The Ayiri installation was finished in just one month, even while another project was running concurrently. The Ayiri project also confirms how pre-emptive diagnoses of the energy consumption allow finding the correct scale for the installation.

Moreover, remote monitoring of the system prevents over or underloading, helping maintain long-term use of the system. It is also now an established fact that for the new systems, some space must be reserved for maintenance.

Thanks to all consumers of EKOenergy-labelled electricity. 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 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."*

