

Solar energy for schools and health center in Ethiopia



In 2019, the EKOenergy Climate Fund granted 40,000 € to the NGO Solafrica for the installation of solar panels in four schools and a health centre in rural, off-grid areas of Ethiopia.

Text: Marie Valentin

Photo: Solafrica

More than half of the population still has no access to electricity in Ethiopia. In rural areas such as Amhara, households rely on highly polluting kerosene lamps for lighting and often there are power cuts due to poor electricity supply. This also makes conditions in the schools and health centres very challenging.

Since 2018, Solafrica and the Ethiopian NGO Education for Sustainable Development have developed a training programme for local technicians in the solar energy sector, to enable a sustainable and decentralised electricity supply in this area. The following year, EKOenergy's contribution enabled the purchase of solar panels and batteries, as well as the implementation and evaluation of the training. This way, the young people trained were given the opportunity to put their knowledge into practice by installing the solar energy system for one health center and four schools located 15-30km away from the electrical grid. This was carried out with the support of local experts from the Ethiopian company Lydetco.

This project has greatly improved the conditions for education and health care in these areas. Thanks to the solar energy systems, the four schools can now hold evening classes, have access to functional IT

equipment, and also provide IT training or even a radio teaching programme. These improvements benefit about 1900 pupils and 80 teachers.

The health centre can now carry out laboratory tests, use a refrigerator to store medicines and vaccines, and provide sterile medical equipment. Nearly 25,000 patients will be able to benefit from better treatment conditions each year.

The project has also raised awareness about solar energy through the facilities, which have been visited by over 50,000 people.

The results of the project are promising. In addition to the 100 future solar technicians who have already been trained, further training is planned in the future to ensure the sustainability of the project. This will guarantee the necessary skills for the maintenance of the solar systems locally. Evaluation and monitoring of the project activities are also being carried out.

EKOenergy continues to promote renewable energy and help bring solar to energy-poor rural areas such as these worldwide. Thanks to all the users of EKOenergy for making it possible for us to finance projects like these!

Our Climate Fund



A 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 2020, the Fund granted 230,000 € for 13 new projects



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

WHY CHOOSE EKOENERGY-LABELLED RENEWABLES?

 <p>A nature conservation initiative</p>	 <p>100% renewable energy</p>	 <p>A non-profit ecolabel</p>	 <p>Electricity, gas, heat & cold</p>	 <p>Available worldwide</p>	 <p>A tool for communication</p>
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1 Climate & Nature
Meets ESG and CSR requirements and guarantees a minimal impact on the local environment.

2 Communication
The logo can be used in your online communications, marketing materials, products and facilities.

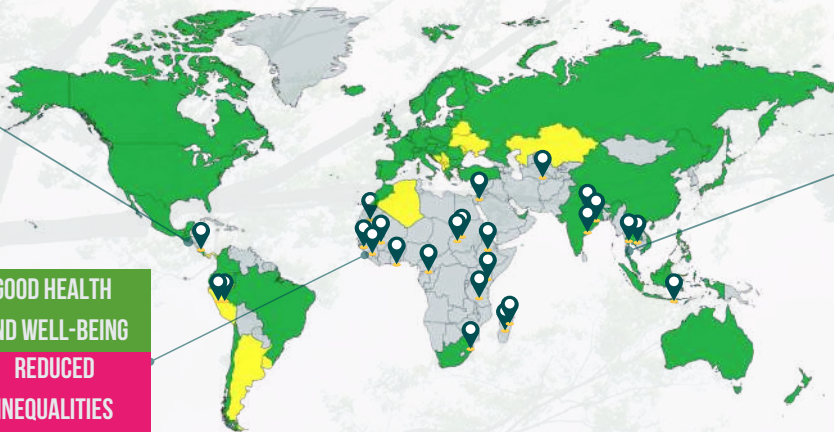
3 Leadership & Additionality
Highlighted as a good solution towards sustainability by CDP, LEED and GHG Protocol.

4 International recognition
A label with internationally recognised sustainability criteria, already available in 40+ countries.



EKOenergy's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals exceeded 1 million € between 2015-2020. For each MWh of EKOenergy sold, 0.10€ (0.20€ for hydropower) is used to **fight energy poverty** and **protect biodiversity**.

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■ Some specific conditions apply, contact us for more information



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Solar energy for coffee producers in Nicaragua

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES
Solar panels for health clinics in Guinea

4 QUALITY EDUCATION
7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
Solar panels in a refugee camp in Myanmar

