

Solar for access to water and education in a Nigerian village



In 2021, EKOenergy's Climate Fund granted 18,000 € to the Nigerian NGO Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change (CREACC-NG) to realise a solar project in Chediya, Zamfara State, Nigeria.

Text: Lucia Sardone
Photo: CREACC

Until recently, about 6000 people living in Chediya village and surroundings had no access to electricity and had to travel either to Zamfara State's capital or to the nearby city Tsafe to use electricity and to fetch water. Not only did it impact the opportunities for adults, but also seriously limited the chances of 1,200 children to get healthy drinking water and to get access to quality education.

To address this problem, EKOenergy has contributed to a solar electrification project by the Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change (CREACC-NG), a Nigerian non-governmental organisation with years of expertise in PV design and installation. The project consisted of 2 main parts.

Our grant made it possible to build a solar-powered drinking water system. CREACC-NG and the local community installed an overhead water tank with a capacity of 12,000 litres as well as 12 solar panels with a capacity of 350W each to power the pumps. The system provides water to 4 drinking stands where the inhabitants can get water, to an animal drinking trough where 50 cows can drink at a time, and to a tree nursery. The system is owned and managed by the local community.

Elsewhere in the village, our grant enabled the electrification of the local multifunctional business centre. CREACC-NG installed solar panels to bring light and electricity to eight of the rooms. One of the rooms is equipped with a charging station where the villagers can recharge small electric devices such as mobile phones and lanterns against the payment of a fee. Some of the rooms will be rented and three rooms will be used as classrooms. Each classroom can fit 50 pupils. Classes will take place both at day and evening, to fit the needs of the village culture, as children usually dedicate themselves to farms during daytime.

This project contributes to the realisation of SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 4 (quality education) and SDG 5 (gender equality): girls from the village no longer spend time searching for water and get delayed with their schooling. The project also addresses SDG 3 (good health and wellbeing). Drought can play a part in bone diseases, such as cholera and typhoid. With the steps forward taken by CREACC and thanks to the support of the local community, the incidence of those will hopefully decrease.

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 2021, the Fund granted 254,178 € for 13 new projects



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

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 <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

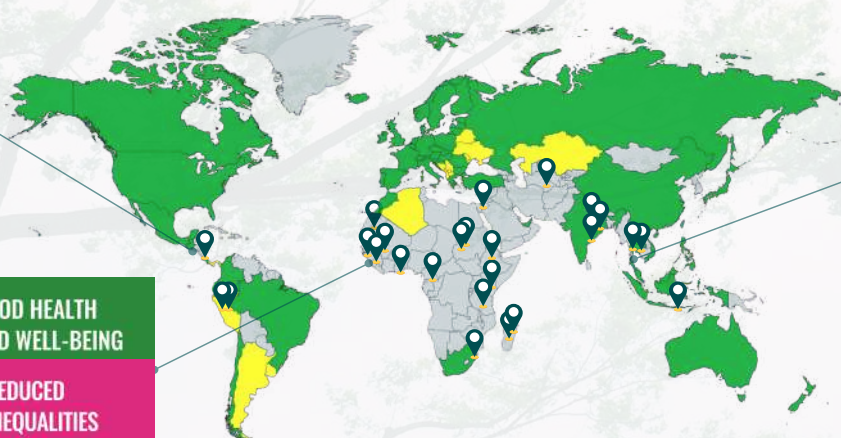
3 Leadership & Additionality
Highlighted by UN DESA, CDP, RE100, LEED and GHG Protocol as an extra step to drive the global energy transition

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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11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

Solar energy for coffee producers in Nicaragua

4 QUALITY EDUCATION

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY

Solar panels in a refugee camp in Myanmar

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES

Solar panels for health clinics in Guinea

