

Solar-powered Health Care for Marginalised Communities in India



Project duration: 1 year

In 2022, EKOenergy granted 34.000€ to the NGO The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) to provide solar power to 5 health centres in Karnataka state, in southwest India.

TERI is an Indian not-for-profit organisation established since 1974. Its mission is to guide the transition to a cleaner and sustainable future through the saving and efficient use of energy and other resources. They have implemented over 100 projects around India, aiding the socio-economic development of rural communities.

In the state of Karnataka, access to basic health has been a challenge, particularly for marginalised and tribal communities, which constitute 37% of Karnataka's population. Many of them live in extreme poverty and depend on public health clinics for health care when necessary.

Access to energy is a problem in many of the rural health centres. Even if these centres have access to the electricity grid, the supply is often disrupted by frequent power outages. These interruptions create numerous challenges in delivering essential health services, including neonatal care, vaccine storage and blood sample analysis.

Thanks to our grant, TERI installed 2 kW solar systems in two health centres (Meenyam and Ponnachi) and 3 kW solar systems in three additional centres (Kudlur, Bandalli and

Lokkanahalli). These installations provide uninterrupted electricity, ensuring timely and continuous access to local health services. Eliminating disruptions caused by frequent power cuts can be life-saving, especially in emergency situations.

Five representatives from the local government health system, along with a local technician, received training in monitoring, basic troubleshooting, safety procedures, and the maintenance of the solar PV system.

Collectively, these five clinics attend to over 58 000 residents/people across 49 villages.

"Earlier, we were facing problems in storing vaccinations and medicines. Now we have overcome that problem, it has helped the patients a lot." said Mr. Mahesh, pharmacist at the PHC in Lokkanahalli.

This project directly aligns with SDG 3, which aims to provide 'Good Health and Well-being' and supports SDG 7, which strives to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy. We thank EKOenergy users and sellers for joining forces and contributing to making projects like this one possible.

Photo: TERI

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."

