A solar kiosk for a school in Madagascar

In 2018, EKOenergy co-financed another solar energy project of the Swiss organisation Centre Ecologique Albert Schweitzer (CEAS). We granted 18,000 € for a solar kiosk in Amboanjobe, Madagascar.

Text: Kristell Prigent
Picture: CEAS

In Madagascar, one of the poorest countries in the world, only about 15% of the population have access to electricity. This situation of energy poverty has negative impacts on many aspects of people's life. It hampers socio-economic development, it is a burden for health care, it limits the access to information and to education, it diminishes food security (e.g. because it is more difficult to process and store food), and it usually affects women and children harder…

Centre Ecologique Albert Schweitzer has been developing renewable energy projects in Madagascar since 2000. Focusing on improving living conditions of the local population, they implement projects that take many sustainable development goals into account. Previously, in 2017, EKOenergy co-financed the installation of solar kiosks in schools three different villages. A solar kiosk consists of solar panels, batteries and a series of sockets and or electric appliances. Each project doesn't only benefit the school, but the whole community.

With this new project, the project was expanded to a school in Amboanjobe. Amboanjobe, located at about 50 kms west of the capital Antananarivo, is composed of 10 hamlets and has about 3000 inhabitants. Previously, the nearest access to electricity was seven kilometres away. Thanks to new solar kiosk many got direct access to clean and reliable energy.

The solar kiosk was installed and is managed by the social enterprise JiroVE. Power outlets are being used for computers and other electric appliances. The school has now also electrical light too, allowing for classes to continue into the evening. The solar kiosk is also used as a service centre, where villagers are able to rent solar lamps or charge their phones and batteries. This service is helping about 700 households. Renting a lamp is cheaper than buying a candle, which lasts only around 2 hours, or an oil lamp. Solar lamps also reduce the likelihood of fire and pose lower health risks.

The community further benefits from the service centre as some of the income from the service centre goes to the parents' association to improve the school's infrastructure and services.

Climate Fund Projects

- Focus on energy poverty and multiple Sustainable Development Goals
- New projects annually in developing countries
- Run and monitored by trusted NGOs
- Selected by an independent jury
- In 2019, the Fund granted 245,000 € for nine new projects
- All EKOenergy users contribute 0.10 € / MWh to the Fund

EKOenergy - the international ecolabel for renewable energy

EKOenergy is the international ecolabel for energy. We are a non-profit organisation working to fight climate change, protect biodiversity and realise the Sustainable Development Goals.

Energy sold with the EKOenergy-ecolabel fulfils strict 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-labelled energy is sold by licensed energy companies and is available in over 40 countries worldwide. Many of the 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, Tetra Pak, VMware, Workday and Genelec, as well as cities, public organisations and individual households.

Sustainability criteria: additional value for our planet

	EKOenergy	Other renewable	Grid mix
New renewable energy production via our Climate Fund	✓	?	-
Only the most climate-friendly bioenergy	✓	?	-
Wind power outside bird and nature areas	✓	?	-
Hydropower takes into account migratory fish. River restoration projects via our Environmental Fund.	✓	?	-
Renewable energy tracked by EACs, such as GOs and I-RECs. (in line with Greenhouse Gas Protocol Scope 2 Guidance)	✓	✓	-
Wind, solar, hydro, geothermal, bioenergy	✓	✓	?
Fossil fuels, nuclear, possibly renewables	-	-	✓

Endorsed by other 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."

Green Key

CDP

U.S. Green Building Council LEED USGBC

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info@ekoenergy.org | www.ekoenergy.org