

# Green People's Energy (GBE)

## Background

Commissioned by	BMZ
Implementation	GIZ
Region	Sub-Saharan Africa
Budget	€ 63,400,000
Period	10/2018 – 09/2023

600 million people in sub-Saharan Africa have no access to modern energy technologies and services. Energy production for them is usually expensive, inefficient and in some cases causes harmful side-effects to human health. At the same time, Africa as an economic area is experiencing high population growth and an increase in economic activities allowing for a higher standard of living. In order to meet Africa's rising energy demand in alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals the international community, too, shall:



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Renewable energies must form the basis for Africa's future energy supply. To this end Federal Minister Dr. Gerd Müller launched the initiative "Green People's Energy for Africa" in June 2017. It is part of the "Marshall Plan with Africa" and supports the development of decentralised renewable energy systems in Africa's rural regions. Citizens, communal structures, citizen cooperatives, and businesses play a key role. Special attention is paid to the promotion of local value added through the productive use of energy, energy supply for social facilities, and framework conditions for sustainable investments.

## Objectives

The GIZ project "Green People's Energy" reduces energy poverty in rural Africa. With the use of renewable energy technology local people's incomes are improved through active involvement of citizens and local enterprises in Ethiopia, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Zambia, Senegal, and Uganda. The promotion of projects and partnerships between actors in Europe and Africa anchors the measures and deepens the professional exchange.

## Special Representatives for Energy

The BMZ's Special Representatives for Energy in Africa, Bärbel Höhn and Josef Göppel, play a central role in the implementation of the initiative. They contribute their political experience and networks on a voluntary basis and represent the initiative, thereby facilitating partnerships between different groups of actors and supporting the goals of the initiative.



**Bärbel Höhn – Former Minister of State, former member of German Bundestag, Chair Global Renewable Congress**

"The initiative 'Green People's Energy for Africa' is intended to provide people in rural areas across nine African countries with access to electricity through the use of renewable energies and thus create new income, jobs, and prospects."



**Josef Göppel – Chairman German Association for Landscape Conservation, former member of German Bundestag and Bavarian Landtag**

"The initiative 'Green People's Energy for Africa' will be particularly successful in bringing modern energy services to rural areas if it draws on good approaches that already exist. The training of young Africans in renewable energy is particularly important to me because they can make an effective contribution to sustainable development as qualified specialists in their home countries."

## Current project examples

### Benin

#### 322 experts ...

... learn through the project about the advantages of solar irrigation and the possible uses of solar pumps. Together with the Ostfalia University of Applied Sciences they acquire their knowledge online through practical examples. Through self-determined study, the participants adapt their training to their own schedule and prepare themselves individually for the final examination.



### Mozambique

#### 120 female entrepreneurs ...

... are helping to contain the Corona pandemic producing face masks with solar-powered sewing machines. The project accompanies them in the development of a viable and sustainable business field.



### Ethiopia

#### 1 expert team, 1 road map, 2 frameworks ...

... support the promotion of mini-grid projects as well as the analysis of regulations of cooperatives for the formation of energy cooperatives. The project advises political decision-makers at national and regional level, so that energy cooperatives become an attractive alternative management model for the more than 200 planned mini-grids.



### Uganda

#### 8 kWp ...

... make the Daniel Comboni vocational school in Gulu, northern Uganda, independent of the unreliable national electricity grid. Through the PV system, 20 new workstations can now be created for the digital training of electricians. Additionally, the apprentices can apply their acquired knowledge in the school's own demonstration garden for solar irrigation. With this close link between teaching and practice, the vocational school is a leading training and competence centre for solar energy and use in northern Uganda.



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