

Solar power for rural households, Ethiopia

Essential facts and figures	
Project activity	Providing warranty coverage and setting up a battery replacement programme for solar lamps and solar home systems.
Project site	Ethiopia
Project owner	Development Bank of Ethiopia
Start date of operation	2016
Project duration	2016 to 2025
Quantity of emission reductions (in tonnes of CO ₂)	230'000 CERs (CCF share of around 20%)

Project description

The project covers the expected sale of 2.8 million solar lamps and 200'000 solar home systems – which next to light also supply electricity, e.g. for a television and ventilator – to rural households without grid connection over the years 2016-2020. Thanks to the solar installations, households do not need to use kerosene to produce light and can thereby reduce their CO₂ emissions.

Driven by sharply falling prices, solar lamps are experiencing a boom in Africa. However, the products being sold are often of poor quality and do not last long in everyday use. The project aims to enable high-quality solar lamps and solar home systems to break through in Ethiopia.

The project does not directly subsidise solar installations. The proceeds from the sale of certificates are used toward providing warranty coverage and a battery exchange programme.

The project aims to reduce more than 1.1 million tonnes of CO₂, of which up to 230'000 tonnes will be purchased by the World Bank's "Carbon Initiative for Development" (Ci-Dev), in which the Climate Cent Foundation holds a share. The project is further supported by advance payments amounting to over 1 million USD.

Project status (July 2023)

The project was registered by the UN in July 2016 as n° 10285.

Almost 1 million solar lamps and more than 80'000 solar home systems subsidised by the programme are currently in operation. To date, 8'084 CERs have been delivered to the CCF.

Project owner

The Development Bank of Ethiopia is a specialised financial establishment tasked to implement the national development strategy. It provides financial and technical support to selected projects of national interest – such as the solar programme for rural households.

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