



# SOLAFRICA

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



# PREFACE

A challenging year is behind us. Many projects could not be carried out as planned: Lockdown, school closures, lack of infrastructure for home-schooling and much more made the work difficult, especially in Africa. Flexibility was also required in our office in Bern: Physical distancing in the office and home office, project postponements and rescheduling galore.

Nevertheless, we can look back on a successful Solafrica year: The solar training courses could still be held, solar systems were still installed and the solar vignette 2021 was also launched. The successes are wonderful renewable energy and motivation for us to keep at it.

First and foremost to the dedicated staff of the partner organisations in Africa and the Solafrica team in Switzerland: A big thank you to you all. We would also like to thank the Board of Directors for their voluntary work. It is not a given to volunteer and commit; especially in such challenging times.

These successes were only possible thanks to our supporters. Be it through a sponsoring membership, donation, investment or vignette purchase – we thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts! This way, we were able to manage the Covid-19 crisis pretty well, in keeping with the motto "extraordinary times call for innovative measures." For example:

- In Kenya, mobile solar learning was launched, enabling solar specialists to be trained to complete their training from home via smartphone. Mobile solar learning is now being implemented in Ethiopia.
- The annual Scouts go Solar training in Kandersteg was rescheduled and carried out online. One hundred scout leaders from all over the world participated in the digital training and are now acting as solar ambassadors in their communities – a great snowball effect.
- In Burkina Faso, the first health centres were solarised and equipped with reliable light sources as part of the "Santé Solaire" project. This will improve basic medical care enormously, which is particularly important right now.

- The solar vignette, with which we directly promote Swiss solar power production, was redesigned and hit the spot: The successful launch already enabled the construction of the first solar system.

Solafrica becomes (even) more agile and democratic: We develop our organisation according to sociocratic and holocratic principles and become "solacritic." We have also invested in process optimization and improved the database, for example, to ensure that we can continue to work efficiently and cost-effectively – i.e. effectively – and are up to date in terms of technology.

Much has changed, much will continue to change – our vision remains the same: To advocate for a world where all people have access to renewable energy. We want to enable social and economic development that is not at the expense of the climate and future generations. We want to achieve this vision by spreading solar energy through education, social entrepreneurship and the construction of non-profit solar systems. For Covid-19 has impactfully shown: For a functioning health system, energy poverty must necessarily be overcome.

This is how we drive climate protection forward. Thanks to and with you. Here as there.

Happy reading!



Kuno Roth



Cédric Marty

**Co-Presidents of Solafrica**



**"IMAGINE A BIRTH  
WITHOUT A RELIABLE  
LIGHT SOURCE.**

**Without light, we could not provide appropriate care. I am very grateful for the improved treatment options we can offer people thanks to solar energy."**

**Kadi Paré, a nurse at a health centre in Burkina Faso, which was equipped with solar energy as part of our Santé Solaire project.**



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# OUR VISION AND APPROACH



*Prospective solar professionals are trained in solar technology and small business in the Solar Learning Ethiopia project.*

## WE FACE A DILEMMA

In Africa, more than half a billion people have no access to a reliable energy supply. Energy poverty is the cause of disadvantage in many areas of life. Meanwhile, in the global North, the basis for prosperity has been created by widespread, mostly fossil-fuel power generation, which is also one of the main causes of ongoing climate change. But: With the right energy supply, development does not have a negative impact on the climate.

## FOR THE BENEFIT OF HEALTH AND EDUCATION

When the sun sets in the evening, the people without access to electricity live in darkness. South of the Sahara this affects more than half of the population, in some countries it is even more than three quarters. Learning for children or the use of modern technologies such as computers is then no longer possible. And without electricity, vital drugs cannot be cooled in health centres. Without light, there can be more complications with births. Noisy diesel generators or kerosene lamps do not offer a good alternative. However, these energy sources are expensive and a burden on both human health and our planet.

## A SUNNY FUTURE FOR AFRICA

The potential of the sun is huge. But how is it possible to tap this almost limitless and freely available wealth of energy? Falling prices for solar technology make solar energy a reliable and cheap source of energy for the people of Africa. However, in many regions there is a lack of financial resources and well-trained specialists. Both are urgently needed for Africa's future to shine brightly.

## ENERGY THAT DOES NOT HARM THE CLIMATE

The way in which energy is generated in Africa in the future is crucial for our climate. On the one hand, solar systems replace the environmentally harmful diesel generators, on the other hand, they prevent future greenhouse gas emissions. This is because decentralised electricity production using solar technology makes the construction of a conventional electricity grid with fossil power plants superfluous.

## FOR GLOBAL EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

If we want to combat the climate crisis, we must counter the spread of fossil fuels. The solution is as clear as daylight: Solar energy provides affordable, reliable and sustainable energy supply for the remotest corners of Africa. This gives all people access to a functioning energy supply and creates opportunities for development. At the same time it protects the climate.



OZ THE PROJECTS

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**Switzerland**

**Burkina Faso**

**Cameroon**

**Democratic  
Republic of the  
Congo**

**Ethiopia**

**Kenya**

# SOLAR LEARNING ETHIOPIA



*Apprentices install a PV system for a primary school in Togedro outside Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.*

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**GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION OF  
the curriculum could be obtained**

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**MORE THAN 200 SOLAR SYSTEMS  
sold and installed by graduates**

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In Ethiopia, very few households are connected to the power grid. The houses and settlements are spread over long distances in remote highland regions. An expansion of the power grid is not foreseeable due to high costs and logistical problems. This is where Solar Learning Ethiopia comes in: With the training of young adults to become solar technicians. Because solar systems offer a cost-effective and sustainable energy alternative and bring improved access to electricity to the entire population.



## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

In 2020, the Solar Learning training program has received government recognition for the vocational training of solar technicians and the first young adults were able to start as solar entrepreneurs within the Hibret Business Program (Amharic for: together we can). This business initiative encompasses Solafrica's efforts to provide employment and income to young adults while improving energy supply to rural households.

Two solar companies were also established by the graduates of the 2019/2020 training course and two sales outlets were opened in the Debre Birhan and Kewot districts. The companies have already sold and installed more than 200 small solar systems, reaching around 1500 households.

Furthermore, a workshop was held with solar companies in Addis Ababa in February 2020. In the process, it was possible to establish a cooperation with three companies that will offer young adults internship opportunities and on-the-job training in the future.

### Covid-19 leads to school closures

Following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in March, various project activities had to be suspended. Vocational schools were closed until October 2020 and classes were held from home. During this time, it was ensured that the young adults had sufficient learning materials and that there were regular exchanges between the teachers and the students.

In order to be better prepared in the event of a renewed closure of the vocational schools, the development of a digital learning platform was also launched. This was implemented as a pilot project in 2020 in the Solar Learning Kenya project (see 2.2). To this end, a needs assessment was conducted for Ethiopia to ascertain the affinity of students and teachers towards digital technologies. The findings from this were used to develop an initial online course.

### Resuming classes and reaching a milestone

In October 2020, vocational schools reopened and students were able to continue the vocational training they had already begun and start the new 2020/21 school year. Through negotiations with the authorities, an important milestone was reached at the end of 2020: Several solar companies are now allowed to operate per district. In addition, the incorporated solar companies are also allowed to sell and install solar systems in several districts.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 331 692

**Implementation partners:**  
Ecole Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation Ethiopia

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## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

In May 2021, the 173 students from the 2019/2020 school year will graduate. The 180 young adults from the 2020/21 school year are scheduled to graduate in July 2021. In addition, in the 2021/22 school year, a class will use the digital learning platform developed by Solafrica for the first time as a supplement to classroom lessons.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Florian Schlegel  
florian.schlegel@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/solar-learning-aethiopiien](http://www.solafrica.ch/solar-learning-aethiopiien)

# SOLAR LEARNING KENYA

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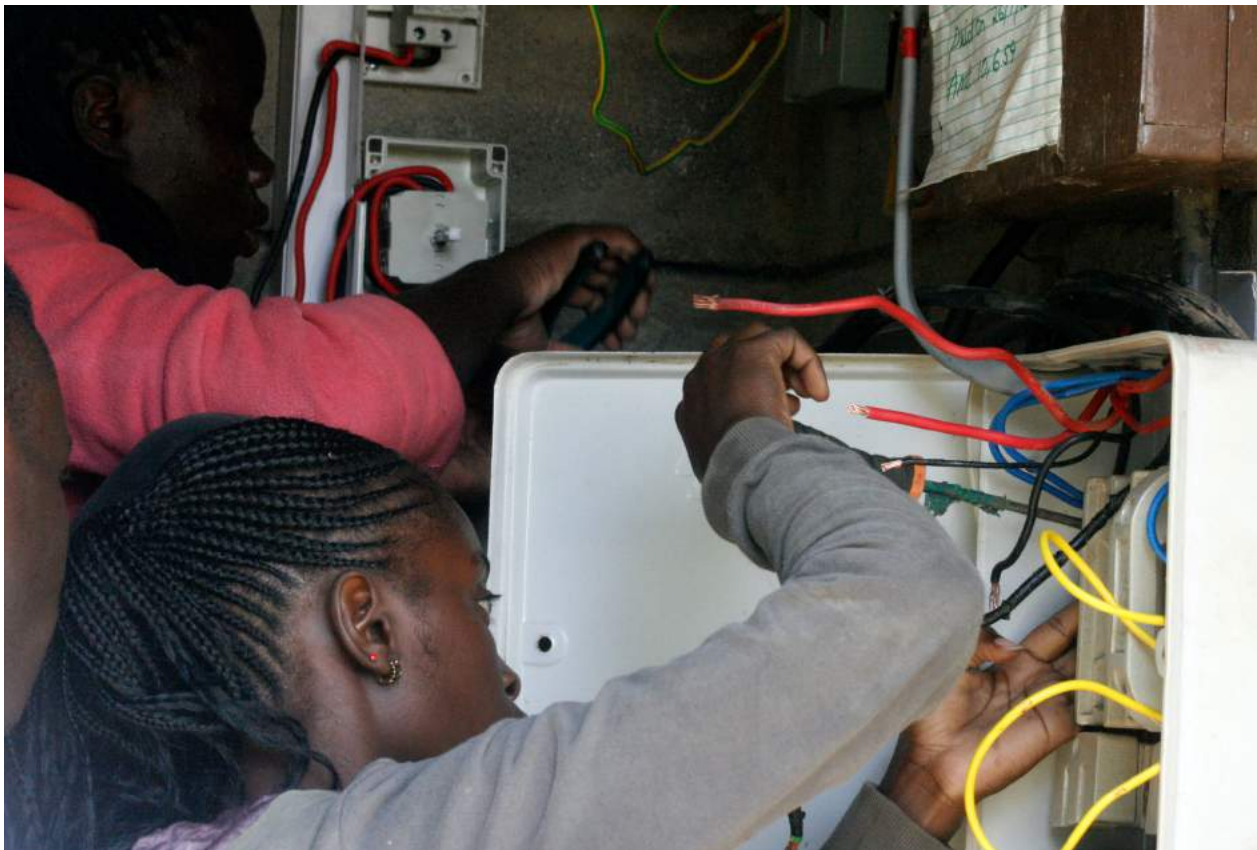
**A DIGITAL LEARNING PLATFORM**  
was created in response to the  
Covid-19 outbreak.

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**45 YOUNG ADULTS**  
could be trained in solar technology.

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In the Homa Bay district of western Kenya, very few people have access to the power grid, and unemployment among young adults is high. Through Solar Learning Kenya, young adults receive training in solar technology and thus a professional perspective. In addition, the population benefits from access to renewable energy: Households, schools and health centres receive solar power, thereby reducing the use of environmentally harmful alternatives. In addition, the trained specialists ensure that the solar systems function in the long term and sustainably.



*Apprentices install a PV system on a primary school for orphans in Ulamba near Kisumu, Kenya.*





## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

In 2020, a total of 45 young adults from western Kenya were trained in the installation, maintenance and repair of solar systems. Of these, 18 participants were female (40%) and 27 were male (60%). Participants were on average 21 years of age, with an age range of 18 to 34 years.

### Mobile solar learning launched

With the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, schools were closed nationwide in March and all educational activities of the Solar Learning Project in Kenya were suspended. In response, Solafrica worked with Kenyan partner organisations to build a digital learning platform for mobile solar learning and conducted initial pilot training. This took place with a class of 15 students from the Ramogi Resource Center near Homa Bay. It included the complete theoretical part of the solar training on Moodle, a digital learning platform.

In addition to an account, each student received a smartphone and prepaid credit for mobile data so that they can download and update the digital learning platform - which can also be used offline - and communicate with the teacher and each other. After a short training of the teacher, the eight-week training started with an introductory week for the students. The responsible teacher was available online for the students during the entire training and was in active exchange with Solafrica.

The training had a modular structure with intermediate examinations after each module and a final examination. The self-study was supplemented by practical assignments, whereby the young adults had to photograph solar systems in the neighbourhood or document the position of the sun, for example. The highlight of the training was the installation of a 1.6-kilowatt photovoltaic system at the Abura Mixed Secondary School, where the young adults were able to demonstrate what they had learned under the supervision of a solar company.

### A successful pilot project despite examination delays

One of the main challenges during the pilot training was internet availability. During the lessons this was not yet very problematic, as the students could also access the learning platform offline. However, this led to delays during the exams, as some of the apprentices were unable to go online at the same time. In general, however, the positive feedback from teachers and apprentices has far exceeded expectations and shows enormous potential in the further application of the digital platform.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 164 061

**Implementation partners:**  
Ramogi Resource Centre, Ramogi Institute of Advanced Technologies

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## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

At the beginning of January, the vocational schools were able to resume their training operations. In 2021, three training courses will be held for 20 young adults each. The majority of the theoretical part of the training will take place on the digital learning platform. This should leave more time during the lessons for practical exercises and the application of what was just learned.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Florian Schlegel  
florian.schlegel@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/solar-learning-kenia](http://www.solafrica.ch/solar-learning-kenia)

# SOLAR LEARNING DR CONGO

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## 17 SOLAR SPECIALISTS

have successfully completed the one-year course.

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## GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION OF the course and the training centre could be obtained.

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The Democratic Republic of the Congo is among the ten least electrified countries in the world. While the country has huge renewable energy potential, only about 10% of the population has access to electricity. At the same time, the unemployment rate is high. Young Congolese women and men are particularly affected. Through the Solar Learning project, young adults were given a professional perspective until the end of 2020 with a one-year training course in solar technology and an accompanying course on how to get a successful start in entrepreneurship. By preparing and building up independent teaching staff and obtaining government recognition for the course, the training can be continued on its own at the Ecole professionnelle du bâtiment (Eproba), so that the project could be completed by the end of December 2020.

## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

At the end of September 2019, Eproba officially launched the second Solar Learning course and thus the first regular training year after the successful pilot phase. Shortly before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic in January 2020, the students were able to complete the theoretical part of the training. In mid-March, the Congolese state declared a state of emergency, forcing all schools to close. This delayed the regular course for three months before practical training could resume at the beginning of June.

### Webinars and WhatsApp homework

During the interruption, contact between the teachers and the students was intensively maintained. For example, tasks were distributed and checked every two weeks via WhatsApp. In addition, four students and two teachers participated in a series of training webinars for professionals in the photovoltaic solar market organised by Victron Energy.

The school break was used to look for solutions together with Eproba on how it can be made easier for graduates to enter the solar market in Kinshasa. A concept for the sale and installation of PV home systems in poorer areas of Kinshasa was developed, which not only





*Apprentices and teachers install the in-house solar system at Eproba.*

provides for the sustainable electrification of households, but also concretises the practical aspects of the training and complements the accompanying course for a successful start in entrepreneurship. This project not only serves to reinforce practical knowledge, but also provides a structure in which the entrepreneurial aspect of advising customers and operating on the construction site can be truly experienced through the installation of a solar system.

#### **Degree with government recognition**

In the fall, despite the difficult circumstances, 17 participants were able to successfully complete the course with some delay. In 2020, the graduates celebrated their graduation for the first time with a government recognition of the course and thus a state-recognised certificate (Certificat d'aptitude professionnelle). This milestone is a great achievement for the existence and credibility of the Eproba training centre.

## **PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021**

The course is now being continued independently by Eproba with its own teaching staff. In November 2020, the project was handed over to a foundation which will continue to accompany and financially support Eproba and the training centre. In the future, the courses will be held in two classes with different levels. For the professional follow-up solution and practical experience after the training, Eproba works together with a partner solar company.



### **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

Marieline Bader  
[marieline.bader@solafrica.ch](mailto:marieline.bader@solafrica.ch)

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/solar-learning-dr-kongo](http://www.solafrica.ch/solar-learning-dr-kongo)

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**Expenses 2020:**  
 CHF 48 940

**Partner organisation:**  
 Ecole professionnelle du bâtiment (Eproba)

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# CLIMATE CARAVAN CAMEROON

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Our projects



*The health centre of the village of Meven (Centre region) will soon be equipped with a solar system and a SolarChill.*

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## 75 HEALTH CENTRES

were visited and evaluated for the installation of the solar systems.

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## 20 SOLARCHILL REFRIGERATORS

were produced for the project and are on their way to Cameroon.

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Since 2011, Solafrica has been present in southern Cameroon with the Climate Caravan program. In southern Cameroon, where the rainforest of the Congo Basin begins, many people have no access to clean water, electricity or comprehensive health care. Thanks to Solafrica's commitment, numerous homes, schools and health centres have already been equipped with solar systems. In addition, young adults received training in solar technology.



Since April 2019, Solafrica in Cameroon has been focusing on providing better medical healthcare in 60 rural health centres with the help of solar power and the climate-friendly SolarChill refrigerator. The project aims to improve the living conditions of the population in four different regions of Cameroon and to protect the climate at the same time.

## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

In 2020, a rural health centre was equipped with a solar system and a SolarChill refrigerator. Three qualified and locally represented solar companies were selected to assist us with the installation of the additional 59 refrigerators and solar systems. On the one hand, this allows flexibility to work in parallel if necessary, and on the other hand, it creates a valuable exchange between the participants.

### Extension of the program

Scaling up from six to 60 rural health centres in three years meant that the Climate Caravan program, Solafrica and their Cameroonian partners had to organise their activities on a new scale. Accordingly, the increased logistical and time requirements, the nature of the partnerships and many administrative aspects were addressed in a new way. In 2020, the partner organisation AJVC therefore focused strongly on cooperation with representatives of the technical department of the Ministry of Health, the delegate of the national immunization program and staff of the Ministry of Finance.

AJVC and representatives of the Ministry of Health jointly visited about 75 sites in several regions of Cameroon in order to select 59 centres based on criteria defined in the project. This cooperation, in addition to exempting certain import taxes, has been very helpful in sharing relevant information and experience and avoiding duplication of efforts. In addition, this will help to plan from the outset for the phase after the end of the project when the Ministry will be responsible for the solar material.

### Delivery delays due to the Covid-19 pandemic

The Covid-19 crisis slowed activities in the spring of 2020 until they could continue with appropriate protection plans. Particularly noticeable consequences of the crisis in this project are the time uncertainties in importing the material. Even after their production, the 20 SolarChills ordered waited several weeks for a container bound for Cameroon.

However, the objective of the project, namely a functioning drug and vaccine management by ensuring a cold chain as well as access to electricity in the health sector, became more relevant than ever. At the same time, access to cooling with renewable energy and ecological technologies such as SolarChill in particular is becoming an increasingly important pillar for climate and environmental protection.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 354 000

**Implementation partners:**  
Association Jeunesse Verte du Cameroun (AJVC)

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## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

At national, regional and local level, the key actors who will be dealing with the SolarChills and solar systems will receive further training. The SolarChills and solar systems are installed in the health centres.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Flora Conte  
flora.conte@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/klima-karawane](http://www.solafrica.ch/klima-karawane)

# SANTÉ SOLAIRE BURKINA FASO

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Our projects



*Nurse Kadi Paré in front of her solarised health centre in the village of Tintilou, Burkina Faso.*

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## 4 HEALTH CENTRES

in Burkina Faso were each equipped with a solar system.

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## 19,000 PEOPLE

have access to improved basic health care.

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The health system in Burkina Faso has been precarious for years. Energy poverty is one of the country's biggest obstacles and also poses a major challenge in the health sector. More than half of the health centres in sub-Saharan Africa have no or only unreliable power supply. Climate-neutral solar energy can improve the situation quickly and in the long term. With the project "Santé Solaire - Solar Energy for Better Basic Health Care," Solafrica provides a clean and reliable energy supply in six health centres in Burkina Faso by means of solar systems.

buildings are now well lit and smaller devices can be charged and used. The neighbours of the health centres are also happy about the often first reliable source of light in the whole village. The midwives were particularly relieved to hear that they do not have to use their phone and the security guard's flashlight to see the birth at night, but can give the mother and child their full attention. In addition to improvements in health care, residents and staff feel an increased sense of safety after sunset. Thanks to the lighting, for example, several snake bites were avoided. Since August, two minor repairs have been needed on the equipment so far. User training was scheduled as close as possible to the completion of the facility to avoid any mismanipulation.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 57 000

**Implementation partners:**  
Entreprise SETHI, subsidiary C'est Clair

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## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

In 2020, Solafrica was active in the health sector for the first time in Burkina Faso, having promoted solar energy in the cultural sector in previous years. Thanks to the experienced partners, who also worked as midwives or administrators of health centres, the first cooperation in rural health centres has been almost smoothly until now. Neither the Covid-19 crisis nor the presidential election noticeably delayed the project. Only the design of the information events and further training of the players involved had to be adapted to the hygiene regulations, and the selection of the health centres had to be adapted to the difficult security situation in the north of the country.

### Solar light creates safety

In the villages of Tintilou, Bavila, Douré and Lamzoudo, patients and health staff benefit from high-quality PV systems. At night, the

## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

In 2021, two more solar systems are to be built as part of the first Santé Solaire project. Lithium batteries will also be compared with lead-acid batteries in order to test the handling of both technologies in practice and for the future. In addition, contacts with the authorities will be maintained in 2021 and the many experiences from Burkina Faso, but also from Cameroon, will be used to shape the next steps.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Flora Conte  
flora.conte@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/klima-karawane](http://www.solafrica.ch/klima-karawane)





# SCOUTS GO SOLAR

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Our projects



*Scouts go Solar information booth for thousands of Latin American scouts at the 16th Scout Camporee in Brazil in January 2020.*

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**TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SCOUTS**  
participated in Scouts go Solar online  
and offline around the world.

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**34 SCOUTS GO SOLAR ACTIVITIES TOOK**  
place worldwide both online and offline.

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With 50 million members worldwide, the global scout movement has an extremely strong community – exactly what is needed for sustainable climate protection. With Scouts go Solar, scout leaders are trained to become solar ambassadors. This is intended to sustainably integrate the use of solar energy into national scout programs worldwide. Thanks to the solar projects initiated by the scouts, their communities should be able to experience a social and economic upswing.

The core of Scouts go Solar is the annual solar training for scout leaders at the Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC). During the practice-oriented training, participants learn how to use solar energy and understand solar technology. They are also drawing up a concept for raising awareness among young adults with tailor-made solar activities in their country of origin.

## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Scouts go Solar training could not take place at KISC from August 22-30, 2020 as planned. Instead, all theoretical training sessions were taught via Zoom. In addition to the 13 prospective Solar Ambassadors from Argentina, Brazil, Lesotho, Malaysia, Morocco, Portugal, Romania, Thailand, the Philippines and Zimbabwe, program officers from the respective national scout organisations also took part in the first Scouts go Solar online training for the first time. As a result, the training took place with exactly 100 participants from all regions of the world.

### Support for projects and workshops from the very top

The participation of the program leaders ensures that the trained Solar Ambassadors receive the necessary support from key figures in their scout organisation. Solar projects in communities as well as workshops for scouts and non-scouts should be organised and realised more easily. As Scouts go Solar was included in the official environmental program of the World Organization of Scout Movement (WOSM) in June 2020, Solafrica involved WOSM and particularly active solar ambassadors in the training implementation.

### Cooperation also successful online

Throughout the year, Solafrica and WOSM have already realised several joint webinars to inform scouts about the partnership and introduce Scouts go Solar to the worldwide scout movement. Through the cooperation with WOSM, Scouts go Solar will be integrated into existing scout structures and sustainably anchored in the programs of national scout organisations.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 90 250 CHF

**Implementation partners:**  
World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM)

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## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

Since the inclusion of Scouts go Solar in the global environmental program of WOSM, the demand for trained solar ambassadors has again increased noticeably. Therefore, Solafrica has decided to offer training in another region of the world in addition to the annual training at KISC. An event for group leaders in Africa is planned for 2021. Following the Scouts go Solar training from July 22-30, 2021 at KISC, a regional training will be implemented in Kenya in September. Solafrica is in contact with WOSM Africa.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Dr. Tina Hügli  
tina.huegli@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/scouts-go-solar](http://www.solafrica.ch/scouts-go-solar)

# REFUGEES GO SOLAR

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## 27 PARTICIPANTS

completed their internships with 14 partner solar companies from nine cantons as part of the program.

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## 16 OF THE GRADUATES

found employment in the primary labour market following the internship.

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## FRENCH-SPEAKING SWITZERLAND

will join the program in 2020 as a further language region.

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With the Refugees go Solar program, Solafrika, together with its partner organisations from industry and social services, wants to contribute to the promotion of labour market integration of refugees in the solar industry. Through a short training in solar technology and a subsequent internship at a Swiss solar company, participants are given the opportunity to acquire professional and social skills. At the same time, they are sensitised to environmentally friendly actions. After successful completion of training, they are accompanied and supported through the transition to gainful employment.



Participant Latif assembling a solar module.



## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

The Refugees go Solar program looks back on a successful year. With 27 participants and 14 partner solar companies from nine cantons in German- and French-speaking Switzerland, all the planned projects were successfully implemented. Following the internship, 16 young refugees found employment in the primary labour market. The networking with the solar industry and the close social support of the participants by the partner organisation Root & Branch played a central role.

### Introductory course held during the summer as planned

The Covid-19 pandemic also affected the Refugees go Solar program, albeit marginally. There were minor time and planning uncertainties and changes. For example, the first basic course on occupational safety had to be conducted online, which required creativity and flexibility on the part of all participants. In June and July, the two introductory courses took place as planned, so that all participants were able to complete the program at the end of August with both their training package and their internship. The scheduling uncertainties demanded high time and financial resources, which, however, could be mastered thanks to the great flexibility and support of all parties involved in the project.

### Recognised as a program and project of national importance

An important milestone of the program was the recognition of Refugees go Solar as a project and program of national importance (PPnB) within the framework of the specific integration support of the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM). This support, as well as the support of the Swiss Federal Office of Energy (SFOE) and the close cooperation with Swissolar, has given the program greater legitimacy.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 96 830

**Implementation partner:**  
Root & Branch

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## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

The increasing interest from solar companies, participants and social welfare agencies in 2020 has shown that the potential for successful continuation and expansion is great. Solafrika wants to use this opportunity together with its project partners to meet the requirements of the various parties in the following year as well. In addition to establishing a nationwide program, we are striving to expand and integrate the existing solar industry network into an additional inclusion network for refugees as part of the Refugees go Solar+ expansion project. The approach of return assistance is intended to integrate the professional integration of persons who are obligated or willing to leave the country.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Marieline Bader  
marieline.bader@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/refugees-go-solar](http://www.solafrica.ch/refugees-go-solar)



# JUGENDSOLAR (YOUTH SOLAR)



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## THE FIRST YEAR OF THE PROJECT

was devoted to set-up.

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## THE FIRST IMPORTANT CONTACTS

with possible participants were made.

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As part of Jugendsolar, students install a solar system during a project week. In doing so, they actively contribute to the energy transition, learn energy basics in an action-oriented way and experience a professional working day in the growing solar industry. The young adults are enabled to assess the potential of solar energy. In this way, the energy transition is addressed and advanced in a local, solution-oriented and holistic manner.

The focus is on school projects for the secondary school level, because this is the age at which the choice of career is made. The young adults assemble solar modules, learn about solar energy from

different perspectives in workshops and meet professionals from the education and energy sectors. This practical environmental education consciously aims at solution-oriented action.

## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

Jugendsolar is a project week offer in formation. From 1997 to 2018, the predecessor project - a Greenpeace Switzerland project - implemented various solar installations with school classes or youth groups. For example, around 13,000 Swiss young adults helped to install almost 300 solar systems on public buildings, farms or private buildings. Many employees in today's solar companies also had their first experiences with solar energy at Jugendsolar. After Greenpeace shut down the project in 2018, it was relaunched by former employees and volunteers under the Solafrica umbrella. The impetus for this came from schools in the city of Bern, which wanted to carry out a corresponding project and were looking for a provider.





*During the project week in Bern, young adults are instructed in professional assembly.*

### The new project is launched

The project was launched in early 2020. In the spring, documentation was prepared and fundraising for the project set-up was carried out. Thus, the 3FO Foundation could be won to support the project set-up. Later, a larger individual donation was added.

Starting in the summer, the focus was on getting the word out and finding opportunities for project weeks. In the fall, know-how was built up through participation in a project run by the partner organisation Youth on the Roof.

Due to the turbulent development and because of the Covid-19 pandemic, there were no Jugendsolar project weeks for 2020.

## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

Jugendsolar plans to hold ten project weeks in two years. It will be crucial to bring together enough interested schools and projects despite Covid-19-related restrictions in everyday school life. The growing solar market and the importance of the energy transition in the public debate speak for this. Feedback from teachers and school administrators, as well as many solar companies, has been very positive, and the first Jugendsolar project weeks are expected to start in April 2021. In 2021, the team of workshop leaders, including training, the exchange of know-how, the further development of the workshops and the further promotion of the offer are also to be driven forward.

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**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 28 950

**Implementation partners:**  
Youth on the Roof

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### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Amadeus Thiemann  
amadeus.thiemann@solafrica.ch

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/projekte/jugendsolar](http://www.solafrica.ch/projekte/jugendsolar)



# SOLAR VIGNETTE

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## THE NEW MECHANISM

**promotes solar power even more directly and effectively.**

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**282 840 KWH**

**of solar energy was supported in 2020. This is more than ever before.**

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The purchase of a solar vignette finances a piece of a new solar installation in Switzerland. The piece of solar system produces as much solar power as an appliance consumes on average in a year. The more solar vignettes are sold, the larger the solar system becomes.

Proceeds from the sale of the vignettes will flow into Solafrica's projects. Thus, solar energy is not only promoted in Switzerland, but also in the other project countries of Solafrica.

## ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS 2020

In 2020, Solafrica has decided to no longer stimulate the demand for solar power as before, but to become active in the construction of solar systems itself. In this way, solar energy is promoted even more effectively with the solar vignette.

Therefore, the previous mechanism was replaced. Now, for every solar vignette ordered, a piece of a new solar installation is built. This will give the general public the opportunity to finance a mini solar system to power household electrical appliances. In this way, everyone can make a more direct contribution to the energy transition. The solar vignette range continues to include vignettes for mobile phones, laptops, e-bikes, refrigerators and electric cars.

### Re-design and construction of the first system

A re-design of the solar vignette and the associated flyer as well as the website also took place for the 2020 season. The solar vignette is now better recognizable as a Solafrica product. This was important because it makes it easier to build a bridge to the organisation behind the solar vignette and other Solafrica projects. The start of the campaign in the fall of 2020 was extremely successful. With the new solar vignette and the accompanying solar chocolate, which were gifted in large numbers during Christmas, Solafrica was able to get even more people interested in solar power than in previous years. Therefore, the first solar system, which was co-financed by the sale of the solar vignette, could already be installed.



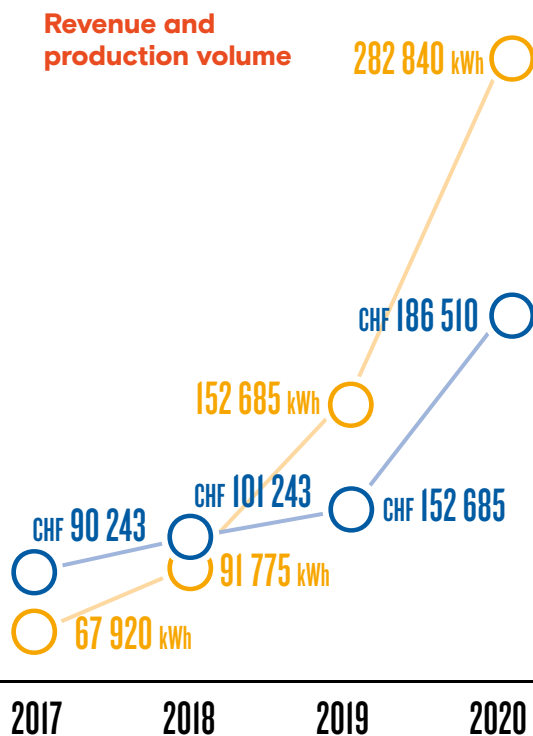


**Expenses 2020:**  
CHF 105 531

**Implementation partners:**  
Energy Association Switzerland; Solarify

## PLANNING AND OUTLOOK 2021

Every year, the solar vignette inspires more and more people who would like to contribute to the energy transition and climate protection. The customer base is growing steadily. Solafrica would like to continue this trend with targeted marketing measures in 2021. The aim is to increase sales opportunities with various partners in order to reach even more potential customers.



### PROJECT MANAGEMENT

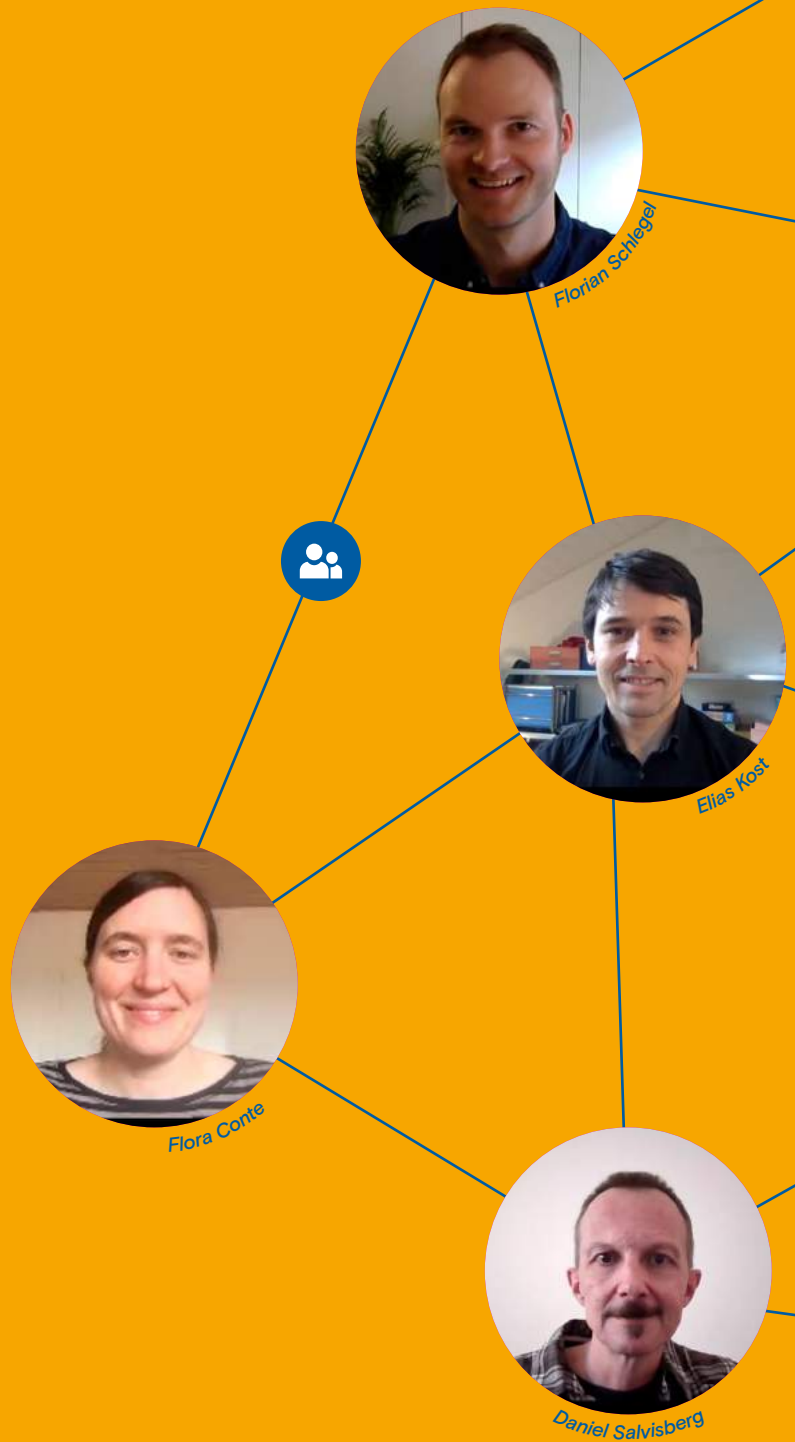
Pirmin Bütler  
pirmin.buetler@solafrica.ch

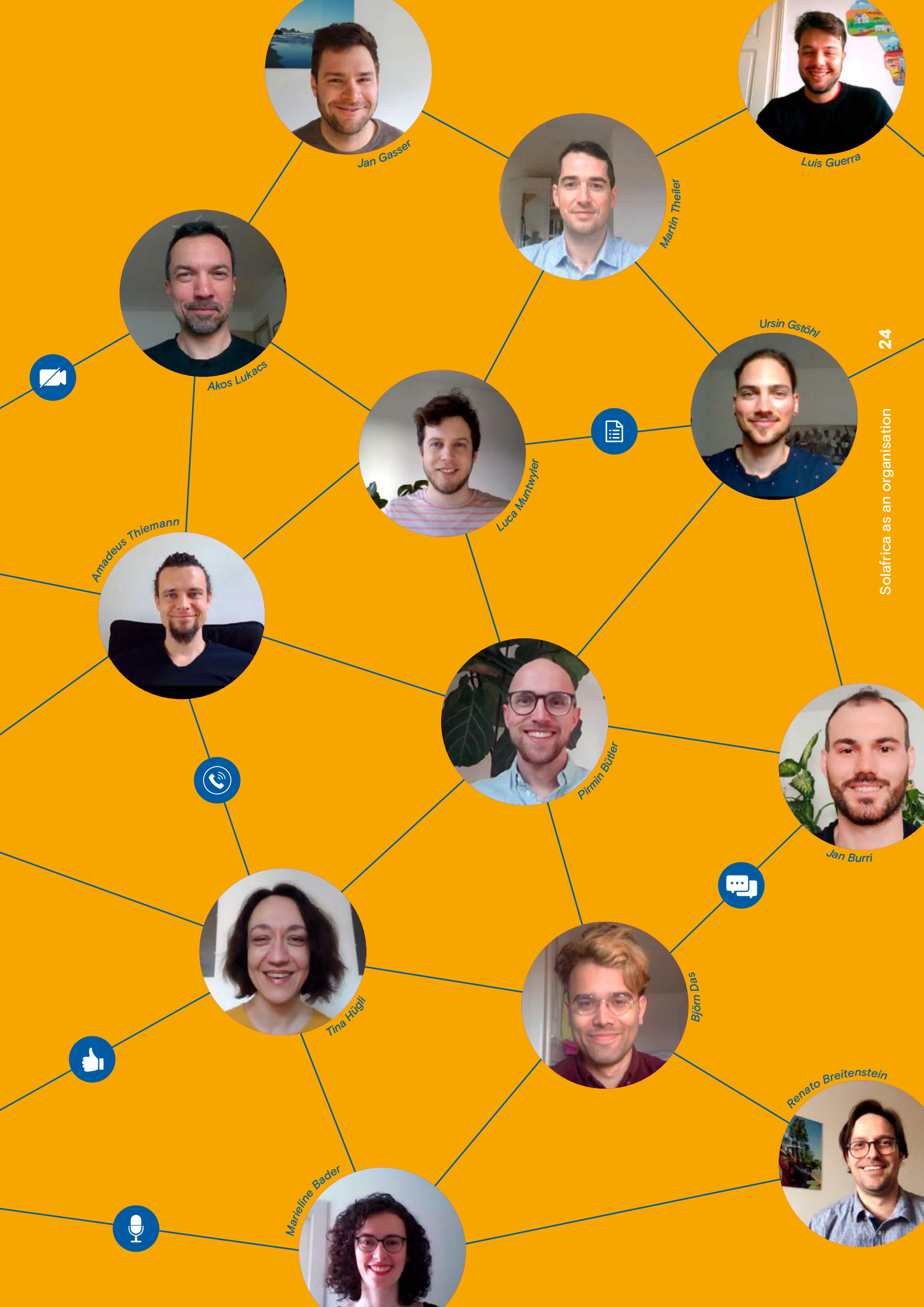
➤ [www.solarvignette.ch](http://www.solarvignette.ch)

# CO3 SOLAFRICA AS AN ORGANISATION

Solafrica promotes the use of solar energy to create development opportunities for people and to protect the climate.

During the year 2020, a total of 20 people were involved in Solafrica, mostly part-time, mainly from home.





# BRANCH OFFICE AND STRUCTURE



Solafrica is organised as an association, its members are the Board of Directors and its permanent employees. It is not possible for private or legal persons to hold shares in Solafrica.

The management of Solafrica is executed by Elias Kost, M. Sc. Environmental Sciences ETH and M. A. Public and Non-Profit Management. In 2020, 10 salaried individuals shared a total of 610 work percentages (as of 12/31/2020). 2019: ten individuals, 590 work percentages), and 2 individuals in internships shared 180 work percentages. Almost 40 percent of employees are women, and all employees work part-time. Solafrica also regularly engages people doing civilian service who are compensated by the Swiss Confederation for their efforts. In 2020, the employees of Solafrica worked 1361 hours on a voluntary basis.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The executive body of Solafrica is the Board of Directors. In 2020, the following persons were members of the Board of Directors:

- Cédric Marty, M.Sc. Management Technology and Economics ETH,
- Co-President Kuno Roth, Dr. rer. nat. Chemistry, Human Ecologist, Environmental Educator, Journalist, Co-President
- Carmen Carfora, lic. phil. UZH, MAS Communication Management and Leadership, Communication Flora Conte, M. Sc. Environmental Sciences ETH, Project Performance (until August 2020)
- Raphael Engler, M. Sc. Management Technology and Economics ETH, Governance and Risk Management
- Joël Jeanloz, M. A. International Affairs & Governance, Business and Technology (until May 2020)
- Daniel Wyniger, lic. rer. pol., dipl. Auditor, Finances

The Board of Directors works on an honorary basis and is in constant contact with the management. Four meetings of the Board of Directors were held during the reporting period. Members of the Board of Directors are recruited through official application procedures by the management and the chair(s) of the Board of Directors and elected by the members of the association (the Board of Directors and the permanent employees) for a term of three years. The responsibilities and competences are governed by items VI and VII of the Articles of Association (see [www.solafrica.ch/ueberuns/jahresberichte](http://www.solafrica.ch/ueberuns/jahresberichte)). Resolutions of the Board of Directors are passed by simple majority and recorded in written minutes. The Board of Directors has a quorum if at least two members are present.

## ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board is a body of experts who may be included in the work of Solafrica for specific topics and tasks. They supplement our office and the Board of Directors with their expertise.

- Barbara Kumler, Graduate Media Economist, Head of Major Communication, Lecturer and Project Manager Lucerne School of Business, Marketing and Communication
- Claudio Clematide, M. Sc. in Business Administration, Finance
- Fabienne Biedermann, M. A. German Studies, Editor
- Jolanda Fritschi, M. A. Development Studies, Projects
- Marc Lombard, Sports Management VMI University of Freiburg, Database Management

## SUPERVISORY BODY AND CONTROL

Solafrica has been Zewo-certified since 2015. With its 21 standards, this seal of approval distinguishes reputable organisations that use donations in a purposeful, efficient and impact-oriented way. Zewo regularly checks the compliance of aid organisations with quality seals with the strict requirements.

## MEMBERSHIPS IN OTHER ORGANISATIONS

Solafrica is a member of Swissolar and the Climate Alliance. Swissolar is the Swiss Association for Solar Energy and promotes the use of solar energy in Switzerland. The Climate Alliance is an alliance of more than 80 civil society organisations throughout Switzerland which advocates for an ambitious climate policy.

# ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Climate protection is Solafrica's declared goal, so it goes without saying that it is also required and promoted within the organisation. In addition, value is placed on a good quality of life. Fair and progressive working conditions for employees are a prerequisite for this.

## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Solafrica attaches great importance to the use of high quality and durable solar material. Within the Solar Learning project in Kenya a training module in recycling and e-waste management has been developed, which will be taught starting in 2020. We also have a recycling strategy whereby batteries and electronic waste are collected and sent to recycling companies.

## SOCIAL AFFAIRS

Solafrica attaches great importance to progressive and fair working conditions for its employees. In the team meetings, which take place every two weeks, decisions concerning the development of the organisation are discussed together. Working hours can be flexibly arranged and home office is and was possible even before the pandemic.

A pay system was developed in 2020 and will be implemented by mid-year. This is to ensure that wages are fair, comprehensible and transparent.

Last year, Solafrica decided to gradually introduce a non-hierarchical and collegial form of organisation called "Solacracy." Earmarked roles were defined, decision-making processes optimised and the meeting structure adapted. In this way, we want to promote dynamism and equality in our processes. A definitive changeover is then planned for the beginning of 2022.

Communication at eye level and close cooperation is also maintained with the partner organisations. Strategic decisions are prepared and made together. Solafrica attaches great importance to growing and developing together with its partners.



## CONTACT

Elias Kost  
[elias.kost@solafrica.ch](mailto:elias.kost@solafrica.ch)



# 04 FINANCES AND ACCOUNTING

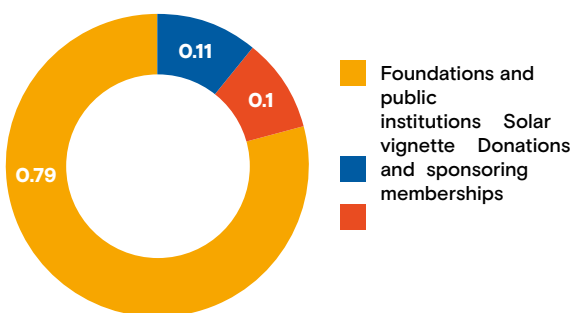


# FINANCIAL SITUATION AND PLANNING

Financially, Solafrica continued to perform well in 2020. Both project contributions and free donations increased, resulting in total income of approximately CHF 1.7 million. This development allows Solafrica to take another step in building its organisational capital.

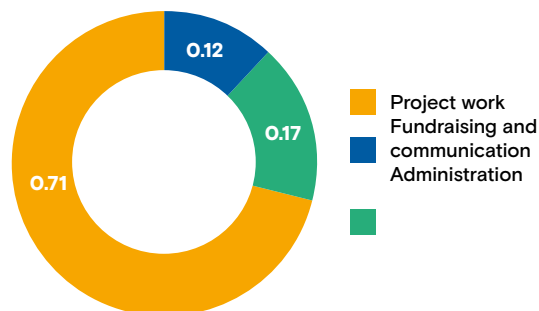
## SITUATION IN 2020

### Origin of funds



Solafrica continues to be largely financed by contributions from institutional donors such as foundations, cantons and municipalities (79%). The share of free amounts from donations, sponsoring memberships and the solar vignette was 21%.

### Use of funds



The increase in funds for administration can be attributed, on the one hand, to reduced or deferred project expenses as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. At the same time, in 2020, we reorganised the accounting department and greatly expanded the donor database. This represents an important investment to ensure that we can continue to manage our growing organisation well and efficiently in the future.

## PLANNING 2021

In 2021, Solafrica aims to continue to achieve healthy growth through targeted communication measures and the launch of new projects. In addition, we want to continue to make the necessary investments in administrative infrastructure so that we can secure and support our growing project work in the long term.



## CONTACT

Daniel Salvisberg  
[daniel.salvisberg@solafrica.ch](mailto:daniel.salvisberg@solafrica.ch)

➤ [www.solafrica.ch/ueber-uns/finanzierung](http://www.solafrica.ch/ueber-uns/finanzierung)

# P/L STATEMENT

OPERATING STATEMENT	2020	2019
Donations and legacies	363.033	301.910
Program-related contributions	1.157.441	1.144.645
Contributions from programs	197.889	-
Supplies and services	156	818
Other revenues	-	-
<b>Operating income</b>	<b>1.718.519</b>	<b>1.447.373</b>
Cost of goods and materials	-1.875	-
Direct program services	-769.205	-497.419
Personnel	-537.039	-387.359
Real estate, furniture and vehicles	-25.695	-15.332
Other operating expenses	-156.275	-145.723
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	-478	-197
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<b>-1.490.567</b>	<b>-1.046.030</b>
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>227.952</b>	<b>401.343</b>
<i>Financial result</i>	45	100
<i>Financial expense</i>	-1.076	-
<i>Secondary income</i>	-	900
<i>Non-operating and extraordinary expenses and income</i>	-55.715	-3.458
Other success	-56.746	-2.448
<b>Result before change in fund capital</b>	<b>171.206</b>	<b>398.895</b>
Allocation of fund capital	1.157.441	1.144.645
Use of fund capital	-1.055.489	-839.847
Change in fund capital	101.952	304.798
<b>Result before change in organisational capital</b>	<b>69.254</b>	<b>94.097</b>
Allocation of organisational capital	247.424	94.097
Use of organisational capital	-178.170	-
Change in organisational capital	69.254	94.097
<b>Result</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

# BALANCE SHEET



BALANCE SHEET	2020	2019
Cash and cash equivalents	685.144	465.419
Accounts receivable supplies and services	50.000	124.518
Other receivables	1.399	25.639
Inventories and unbilled services	-	-
Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	10.559	-
<b>Current assets</b>	<b>747.102</b>	<b>615.576</b>
Financial assets	-	-
Mobile property, plant and equipment	19.887	622
<b>Fixed assets</b>	<b>19.887</b>	<b>622</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>766.989</b>	<b>616.198</b>
Accounts payable supplies and services	7.240	-
Current interest-bearing liabilities	-	-
Other current liabilities	-	-
Accrued expenses and deferred income	18.907	46.561
<b>Short-term liabilities</b>	<b>26.147</b>	<b>46.561</b>
Long-term interest-bearing liabilities	-	-
Other long-term liabilities	-	-
Provisions and similar items	-	-
<b>Long-term liabilities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Fund capital</b>	<b>572.133</b>	<b>470.181</b>
<b>FREE CAPITAL</b>	<b>168.709</b>	<b>99.456</b>
<b>Organisational capital</b>	<b>168.709</b>	<b>99.456</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>766.989</b>	<b>616.198</b>



# FUNDING SOURCES

Solafrica is financed through donations, contributions from the public sector and proceeds from the sale of its own products.

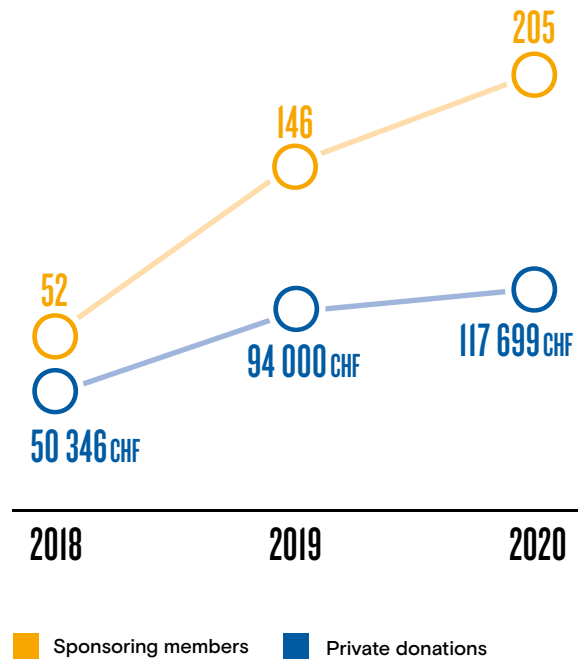
## INSTITUTIONAL DONORS

Many thanks to the following foundations, cantons, municipalities and parishes, which made Solafrica's projects possible in 2020:

- Anne Frank Fonds
- atDta - Stiftung Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe
- Bundesamt für Energie (BfE)
- Claire Sturzenegger-Jeanfavre Stiftung
- EKOenergy Klimafonds
- Evangelisch-reformierte Kirchgemeinde Gsteig-Interlaken
- Evangelisch-reformierte Kirchgemeinde
- 
- Steffisburg
- Evangelisch-reformierte Landeskirche beider Appenzell
- Finanzverwaltung Kanton Basel-Stadt
- Gamil-Stiftung
- Gemeinde Herrliberg
- Gemeinde Kandersteg
- Gemeinde Lyss Gemeinde Meilen
- Gemeinde Riehen
- Gesundheits-, Sozial- und Integrationsdirektion Bern
- Julius Bär Stiftung
- Kanton Basel-Stadt
- Katholische Kirchgemeinde Rapperswil-Jona
- Leopold Bachmann Stiftung
- Lotteriefonds Kanton Bern
- Medicor Foundation
- Reformierte Kirchgemeinde Spiez
- Römisch-katholische Gesamtkirchgemeinde Bern und Umgebung
- Schweizerische Flüchtlingshilfe
- Solarspar
- Staatssekretariat für Migration (SEM)
- Stadt Schlieren
- Stiftung Drittes Millennium
- Stiftung für Gegenwart und Zukunft
- Stiftung für praktische Berufsbildung in Schwarzafrika
- Stiftung Pro Evolution
- Swisslos Kanton Aargau
- Umweltstiftung Greenpeace
- U.W. Linsi-Stiftung
- Vengo Solar
- Vivi Kola
- Vontobel-Stiftung
- 3FO Stiftung
  
- And more

## PRIVATE PERSONS

Donation income increased significantly last year to around CHF 118,000. There was also slight growth in the number of sponsoring memberships. With targeted investments, healthy growth will also be targeted in 2020.



**MANUELA BALETT**

Managing Director, Leopold  
Bachmann Foundation

"We appreciate Solafrika as an agile and innovative partner for a practice-oriented education of young people in the field of solar energy. We would particularly like to highlight Solafrika's strength in looking beyond technical education to create improved framework conditions at the political and social level. Through the open, creative exchange, we as a foundation have already been able to learn a lot from the experiences of Solafrika."



Solafrica  
Bollwerk 35  
3011 Bern  
Switzerland

Phone +41 31 312 83 31  
[info@solafrica.ch](mailto:info@solafrica.ch)  
[www.solafrica.ch](http://www.solafrica.ch)

