

Stichting Photon Energy Foundation

Report of activities

29 September 2014

Photon Energy Foundation is an official Public Benefit Organization, a holder of the Dutch ANBI status, which pursues the aim of serving the public good and dedicate at least 90% of its resources and efforts to its socially responsible activities.

In the recent months the sentiment in the solar energy industry worldwide has been dynamically changing with such sways that no one could have even predicted. In 2010 major suppliers of solar technology were overbooked with clients' order and requests for shipments, in 2011 the demand dropped sharply as did the prices for technology, and in 2012 due to devastating governmental measures taken by European governments (in many cases retroactively) specifically against solar investors the solar industry gained purely negative connotations amongst large institutional investors, politicians and the general public.

Despite that, hoping that the image of solar energy in Europe is about to recover fast, Photon Energy Foundation was founded in late 2012 aiming to promote renewable energy and particularly solar solutions in the developing world while making use of the oversupply of solar technology and the growing tendency of producers of solar equipment to donate their products to a worthwhile cause.

In 2013 the management of Photon Energy Foundation was active in evaluating potential projects for support and implementation, familiarising themselves with the key players in the market and learning the lessons within the community of social entrepreneurs about difficulties, challenges as well as opportunities and frequently overlooked issues in this area. Throughout the year numerous projects have been examined and checked within the specific criteria of Photon Energy Foundation. As a result, a portfolio of shortlisted projects has been created which is continuously being fine-tuned and checked prior to implementation.

In 2014 Photon Energy keeps actively working on the qualifying projects worldwide. The following initiatives are currently enjoying its utmost effort:

Kindergarden in the Czech Republic

Photon Energy Foundation is working on supplying clean energy to a kindergarden in a suburb-district of Prague, Czech Republic, where a solar installation will be mounted on the building's roof to help the institution cut its electricity consumption costs. The amount saved thanks to the solar installation donated by Photon Energy Foundation will be used for improving equipment in the kindergarden and educative trips for the children.

Apart from the rooftop installation, a TV screen will be provided for educational purposes to display the amount of electricity produced by the solar power plant and to explain the concept of transforming sunlight into energy to the kids. This way Photon Energy Foundation

aims to promote the idea of clean energy as a substitute to young generations and increase their immediate exposure to and experience with it.

Hospital in rural Cambodia

Another project engaging the efforts of Photon Energy Foundation is equipping a hospital in Cambodia with solar technology on its roof. The Angkor hospital operates a facility in the Siam Reap province, which attends to the urgent needs of patients from remote neighboring provinces and last year treated over 157,000 children. The hospital is well-known for its best pediatric care in the region, nevertheless the financial support of the government is far from sufficient. In order for the hospital to continue providing 24-hour treatment to its patients, big and small, the energy needs must be addressed.

By installing solar panels on the roof of one of the hospital's wings, Photon Energy Foundation hopes to noticeably improve the facilities of the healthcare institution responsible for the entire region in Cambodia. Additional electricity produced by the donated solar installation will prolong the working hours of the hospital, ensure proper functioning of the refrigerating and cooling equipment, help the hospital save on its energy bill and consequently put these released funds to a better use for the maximum benefit of the community.

The project is currently in the process of technical examination with respect to the ability of the hospital roof to bear the additional weight of the solar installation.

Remote Pacific islands

Among other initiatives in which Photon Energy Foundation evaluates its potential engagement is a project of electrification of remote islands in the Pacific alongside the coast of Australia. The main objective of the project is to supply equipment for solar powered energy production and enable electrification of the entire island remote off the coast, which is why it is highly unlikely that the power grid will ever be extended to include the islands. Without solar technology the island's inhabitants rely on unreliable and highly dangerous and inflammable kerosene and diesel or live in the dark after sunset. According to our estimates, our solution of applying off-grid solar electrification seems to be the most viable, economic and beneficial for the local community, thus strongly impacting the people's abilities to work longer hours, study, read, cook with the light in their houses as well as stay connected through mobile networks in case of emergencies.

It can be concluded that Photon Energy Foundation is actively and continuously engaged in socially important activities worldwide by preparing and implementing its projects which benefit the society from its lowest levels upwards, introduce solar powered solutions to masses, educate children about the advantages of energy from the sunlight and aim to enhance community development and improve the well-being of millions of people globally by giving them light for a more comfortable life.

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