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GRÜNE BÜRGERENERGIE
(GREEN PEOPLE'S ENERGY)
SMALL PROJECTS FUND (SPF)

AWARENESS, COMMUNICATION AND SENSITISATION

INSTALLATION

Maa Green Energy Project

SUMMARY

Country	Kenya
Implementer	LRC Foundation
Target groups	Farmers in Kajiado County
Duration	04/2022 – 06/2023
Type of energy use	Other

CHALLENGE

Kajiado County is a rural and semi-arid county in the south of Kenia. The inhabitants mostly rely on agriculture and livestock herding to provide for their livings. Limited access to water poses one of the major problems for the region. Petrol and diesel-powered pumps are normally used to access water from basins and wells, however the pumps are prone to regular breakdowns. In addition, they cause high operation and maintenance costs while also polluting the environment. Another problem for the region is the poorly developed electricity grid within the sparsely populated parts of the country. As a result, many necessary tasks, like powering agricultural equipment or charging phones, cannot be carried out. Instead, people often need to travel to far away urban centres to access electricity.

IMPACT LOGIC

The project combines a large range of different measures with the overall goal to promote the usage of solar PV systems to up to ten community groups in the Isinya and Ilbisil areas in Kajiado County. One solar-powered water pump is installed for community use as part of the project. The water directly supports a local school and pharmacy, and provides water access to the community and their livestock. Apart from this, 21 solar-powered demonstration units, which raise awareness of the new technologies, are provided. Of these units seven each are irrigation units, solar-powered charging stations for different devices, and poultry incubators. These stations are owned and maintained by groups of local women which have already worked together with the LRC Foundation on previous projects. Finally, LRC sets up and equips a training centre for these technologies at Latia Agripreneurship Institute in Kajiado. This includes the development of tailor-made training content on irrigation, use of solar-powered incubators and agribusiness. The training centre initially trains 20 people from the two areas. This ensures the sustainability of the project as the trained technicians are able to provide long-term support and maintenance for the installations. Furthermore, they can also continue to generate attention through grass-root awareness campaigns using the solar-powered installations as training and demonstration sites. All these measures strengthen the understanding and use of solar PV installations and therefore increase the water supply and electrification rate in the county.

INNOVATIVE PROJECT ELEMENTS

The project aims at creating market stimulus so that members of the targeted communities expand the use of solar PV technologies on their own. The project measures create demand for solar-powered products and solar PV systems. The project generates further interest for the adaption of the systems by providing 55 vouchers covering 20 % of the costs to low-income households which act as early adopters of the new technologies.

FURTHER INFORMATION

www.gruene-buergerenergie.org

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Green People's Energy
Dag-Hammarskjöld-Weg 1 – 5, 65760 Eschborn
T +49 6196 79-0
https://www.giz.de/de/weltweit/77417.html

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