

Project overview: Photovoltaic Systems

Situation of the Dalit families in India

The Dalits from the villages of the district Tumkur live as „Untouchables“ in the lowest status of the social hierarchy. They have suffered discrimination for hundreds of years, which is expressed by their lives in colonies separated from the main village. In these colonies, the Dalits have limited to almost no access to resources like water or electricity. Their small income is mostly generated through fieldwork. The only source of light in their huts are kerosine-lamps. These cause harmful vapours and kerosine's high prices as well as the little light rays make it almost impossible to read after sunset. The project partner REDS therefore targets to equip the Dalit's households with solar lamps. Under the project 4,183 photovoltaic-systems are installed on the Dalits' huts. Every household is equipped with one portable and three fixed LED-lamps, which replace the use of kerosene.

Benefits of the photovoltaic systems

Fossil fuels are reduced and therefore the environment is protected. Children and youngsters have better possibilities to learn after sunset, the kerosines' harmful vapours as well as fire hazards are reduced. Women's roles are strengthened by the technical education offered, for example on lamp maintenance, and by assigning significant project management tasks to them. The economic benefits are efficient and prolonged lighting and subsequent reduction of expensive kerosene use. Additionally new jobs are created, as the installation and maintenance requires qualified manpower. These new energy technologies are spread to other villages and with the help of local employers installation and maintenances of the lamps is possible at any time. This project contributes to the investment of the Dalit's small families income in their own future and the ones of their children.

Name:	photovoltaic systems
Category:	renewable energy
Location:	Tumkur District in Karnataka, India
Partner:	Rural Education for Development Society (REDS)
Standard:	Gold Standard
Savings:	13.120 t CO ₂
Duration:	10 years
Status:	certificates since 2015

Contribution of the project to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the UN:



Link to the partner organization:
<http://www.redsngo.org/>