



AWARENESS,
COMMUNICATION
AND SENSITISATION



CAPACITY
DEVELOPMENT

Solar Boost 4 a Sustainable Future

SUMMARY

Country	Namibia
Implementer	Young Africa International
Co-implementer	Young Africa Namibia
Target groups	Marginalized communities in Namibia
Duration	04/2022 – 06/2023
Type of energy use	Other

CHALLENGE

Namibia is currently in a long economic recession, which is aggravated by the negative effects of COVID-19 on the region. The most recent data on levels of poverty show that one fifth of the population in Namibia live under the poverty line. Namibia also is one of the countries with the highest social inequality and a growing level of un(der)-employment, with youth unemployment reaching 38% before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, solar energy and the renewable energy sector are seen by the Namibian Government as well as national and international donors as a sector with enormous potential for growth. With half of the 2.5 Mio inhabitants not connected to the national grid and even lower connection rates in rural areas (17%), distributed renewable, and especially solar energy, can bridge the gap towards universal electricity access.

IMPACT LOGIC

To create awareness for the potential use of solar energy, Young Africa's SB4SF project operates through three components. First, it trains 225 youths from rural areas in the installation, repair and maintenance of solar energy equipment. Second, it provides a basic training to 60 small and medium sized local companies on how solar power systems can be utilised within businesses. Both measures aim to promote the use of solar technology in remote settings, to create employment opportunities for those participating in the trainings and enable them to increase their revenues. At the core of the project lies a specially converted and equipped four-wheel drive truck which allows the Young Africa team to reach even the most underserved areas. Third, the final component of the project comprises an awareness campaign targeting the general population in the different regions. The campaign showcases different household solutions that can be powered by solar energy and sensitizes the community with regards to quality characteristics of solar products. In parallel, the campaign also invites regional stakeholders and sector representatives for exchange events.

INNOVATIVE PROJECT ELEMENTS

Many African economies have identified the need for more and better qualified and skilled professionals, but their efforts towards developing and supporting especially vocational education are still insufficient. The SB4SF project bridges the gap between the enormous potential for solar energy in Namibia and the lack of awareness and trained professionals. Through a mobile training and outreach campaign, it brings this knowledge to rural regions where it is needed most.

FURTHER INFORMATION

www.gruene-buergerenergie.org