



CARBON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

KEY INFORMATION

Carbon Community Foundation is a not-for-profit organisation with a **mission** to facilitate the supply of affordable micro solar lighting technologies to replace kerosene usage in poor communities in developing countries.

Our Vision

We envision a world where the poorest communities can gain access to the transforming benefits of clean affordable solar lighting through innovative and financially sustainable initiatives. By end 2012, Carbon Community plans to bring solar lighting to 200,000 households.

Background

We believe that access to clean, affordable lighting is crucial to breaking the cycle of poverty in the developing world. 1.6 billion people (300 million households) do not have reliable or any access to electricity, and spend a combined USD38 billion per annum on fossil fuel (mainly kerosene) for poor quality light. Kerosene is expensive and dangerous and contributes to climate change. Poor households spend up to 30% of their disposable incomes on kerosene for lighting, and the light from kerosene lamps is insufficient for study and work at night. Energy poor households suffer from impaired health, a degraded environment, economic stagnation, low quality of life and gender inequity. Enabling the switch from kerosene to solar will transform the lives and well being of households, providing deep and enduring, social, economic, educational, health and environmental impacts.

Our Services and Programmes

We facilitate the supply of ultra-efficient solar lights to poor households in developing countries. We operate as a social enterprise with lights being provided to households for purchase (in many cases with the assistance of microfinance initiatives) at the lowest possible cost. Extreme affordability is our goal. The core services and strategic initiatives to execute our mission include;

- global sourcing directly from manufacturers of the highest quality/lowest cost solar lights
- establishing and supporting in country distribution mechanisms, channels and partners

FAST FACTS

- *Founded in 2008*
- *DGR tax deductible status*
- *Member organisation (Company limited by Guarantee)*

The problem:

- *1.6 billion people in 300 million households rely on kerosene for lighting*
- *Households globally spend USD38 billion per year on kerosene*
- *15,000 people die each year from burns injuries*
- *Indoor air pollution 3rd biggest killer and children under 5 are particularly susceptible*
- *Earning & learning stop after sunset*
- *Over 100kg of CO₂ emitted each year from each kerosene lamp*
- *Gender inequality perpetuated by 'slavery' to kerosene*

With the switch to solar from kerosene:

- *Households avoid \$400 of kerosene expenditure over the life of the solar light (4 years+)*
- *Burn & pollution health hazards are eliminated*
- *Research indicates that students can study an extra 1 hour per day*
- *CO₂ emissions are reduced by 400 kg over the life of the solar light*
- *Household well being is transformed*

Solar lights projects:

- *Lights are sourced directly from the manufacturer – supply capacity over 100,000 lights per month*
- *Distributors available in Vanuatu, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya*
- *Capability to train young people to become micro solar entrepreneurs*

- shipping, importation and logistical arrangements
- funding and support of in country micro-finance organisations
- support and/or establishment of in country micro solar entrepreneurs and distributors
- Establishment of a Clean Energy Fund with funding provided by donors, supporters, business partners, capital providers and commercial activities
- developing methodologies and opportunities to monetise the carbon revenue from our kerosene replacement programmes

Our Accomplishments and Progress

- DGR (tax-deductibility status achieved)
- Sourcing of world-leading (World Bank Prize winning) micro solar products enabling large volumes to be shipped and distributed
- 1000 lights sent to Tanzania
- 400 lights sent to Samoa for tsunami relief
- Key partnerships established in Australia and overseas
- Lights have been shipped to Thailand, Burma, Cambodia, E Timor & PNG to support numerous NGO's

Our Partnerships and Affiliations

- Barefoot Power (lights manufacturer)
- Mutunga Partnership- micro credit supplier
- Anglican Church of Tanzania
- Various Australian business partners.

Contact Details:

Andrew Flint Co-Founder and Executive Director
aflint@carboncommunity.org.au
 0419 313 047

Chris Trafford Co-Founder and Executive Director
ctrafford@carboncommunity.org.au
 0413 837 451

www.carboncommunity.org.au

May 2010



