

# Solar Lights Distribution Project in Zimbabwe

Developed by Namene Solar Lights Ltd. November 2021

## Changing Lives with Solar Lights in Zimbabwe

Our project delivers solar lights to Zimbabwean families living without electricity. This gives them truly affordable, clean light for the first time and has life-changing impacts. Currently, many families rely on dim and sooty kerosene lamps for lighting. Our project replaces these polluting lamps with ultra-affordable solar lights. This exchange alleviates poverty, promotes education, and safeguards the health of families involved. Crucially, this substitution decreases dependency on fossil fuels, contributing to climate solutions. Our lights are distributed to rural households across Zimbabwe.

In Zimbabwe, 21.4% of the population live below the international extreme poverty line. These families live on less than \$1.90 per day. One of the many implications of this reality is energy poverty: lack of access to modern electricity. These families use outdated kerosene lamps or paraffin candles to light their homes. These are dim, low-quality, and dangerous sources of light. Fossil fuel lamps emit toxic fumes that cause respiratory illnesses, create fire risks, and contribute to climate change.

## Replacing Fossil Fuels with Solar Lights

We believe in solar power. We believe it should be accessible to all. Our lights enter rural markets at significantly subsidized prices, breaking the affordability barrier for solar lighting. With this subsidy, we aim to reach rapid adoption and high market penetration. Lights are delivered by our network, as well as last-mile distribution partners. They are sold through community networks and regional clusters, such as rural schools.

Our lamps are multifunctional and portable. They can be used indoors as desk lamps or hung on the wall. They can be turned into headtorches perfect to walking, cycling, or commuting.

This project delivers a host of socio-economic benefits. They eliminate the continuous cost of fuels, facilitate studying for children, and keep families safe. They lift people out of poverty. See below for a list of their benefits.

Our lights are 100% powered by the sun. From the moment they are deployed, they provide modern lighting and clean air to breathe.



Project Details	
<b>Project Owner and Developer</b>	Namene Solar Lights Ltd
<b>Carbon Standard</b>	Gold Standard for the Global Goals
<b>Project ID</b>	GS 10875
<b>Carbon Methodology</b>	AMS-III.A.R v6 - Substituting fossil fuel-based lighting with LED/CFL lighting systems
<b>Certification Stage</b>	Listed on Gold Standard Impact Registry
<b>Development Stage</b>	Stakeholder consultation phase.
<b>Technology</b>	Renewable energy – solar lights
<b>Project Scale</b>	Small scale. Distribution of up to 652,000 solar lights
<b>Target Beneficiaries</b>	Rural households without access to electricity
<b>Project Duration</b>	5 years
<b>Crediting Period</b>	Aug 2021 – Aug 2026
<b>Average VERs per year</b>	35 000 VERs

**Certified contributions to three SDGs:**



**SDG 1: No Poverty**  
Our lights tackle poverty by saving household expenditure on lighting fuels, and batteries. They also unlock extra study hours for children, which helps break the cycle of poverty.



**SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy**  
Our project makes solar light truly affordable and accessible to over one million people in Namibia.



**SDG 13: Climate Action**  
Our project reduces greenhouse gas emissions by replacing fossil fuel-based lighting to a clean pico-solar light.

**Our technology:**  
portable, reliable, high-quality solar lights



**Additional Project Impacts**

The simplicity, quality, and affordability of our solar lights empower socio-economic development. Families report on a range of benefits:

**Light quality** - fossil fuel lamps typically produce 10 lumens of light. Our solar light produce 34 lumens.

**Education** - extra study hours for children, which supports higher grade attainment.

**Health** - better air quality in homes, protecting families' respiratory systems, and brighter lights that avoid straining eyes.

**Daily costs** - families save money by avoiding the continuous costs of refuelling kerosene lamps

**Road accidents** - visibility of pedestrians and cyclists at dusk, dawn, and night.

**Safety** - fossil fuel lamps are dangerous to ignite and pose poisoning risks to children. Solar lights can also help women be safe when outside at night

**Energy access** - access to the first rung of the clean energy ladder.

**Income generation** - we offer employment opportunities through our project. Extension of the light hours also enables new income generating activities.

**Helping school children study at night**



**About Namene Solar**

Namene Solar believes in solar power without limit. Our purpose is to bring everyone, everywhere access to clean, affordable energy. We do this by connecting people to the sun to power their lives.

As solar specialists, we provide solar solutions of all sizes. From our award-winning solar head torch, to fully financed end-to-end solar installations. For the growing number of people choosing to power their homes, lives, and businesses with solar energy, Namene Solar enables their transition.

Our first product, the popular SM100, is the world's first, super-affordable solar head torch. Our solar industry experts & creative problem solvers are tackling the challenge head-on, by understanding the needs of people. By changing the way people study, work and play we can fight climate change together with sustainable lights that work for people and the planet.

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