

namene



Solar Lights Distribution Project in Namibia

Carbon credits



certified by Gold Standard

Harnessing solar energy to transform lives

Our project in Namibia gives modern energy access to people living in informal settlements in peri-urban areas and in rural households. Currently these families rely on kerosene and other fossil fuels 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. Crucially, this substitution decreases dependency on fossil fuels, eliminating ongoing fuel costs for low-income households and helping to address climate change.

In Namibia 54% of the population overall have no electricity access. In rural households, this proportion is even higher, at 65%. Kerosene or paraffin lamps and candles provide dim, low-quality light that is dangerous, and sometimes deadly. They emit toxic fumes that cause respiratory illnesses, create fire risks, and contribute to climate change.

Combining quality with affordability

Our portable solar lights are built to last and have won awards for their quality and accessibility. Thanks to the issuance of Gold Standard certified Verified Emissions Reductions or VERs, our lights are priced with a 60 to 70% discount on the retail value – making them affordable to all.

Our lights have gained a 90% market share in the pico lights market¹ in Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe, where our first carbon projects have been rolled out – showing that trust in the durability of the product, as well as affordability made possible through our carbon subsidy model, are key to unlocking clean technology for those who need it the most.

In Namibia, we have distributed over 340,000 lights in less than two years – reaching over a million people out of a population of 2.5 million.

This means we are helping most of those without electricity, and rapidly helping Namibia as a whole eradicate fossil fuels based lighting.

As a vertically-integrated company, we are able to control quality at every stage of our carbon projects: from the design and production of our products to their distribution, monitoring and after-sales service. Through our model we are also incentivised to keep our lights functioning to secure their associated credit, and to earn the trust and loyalty of the families who buy our products. Through our discounted lights which replace expensive kerosene lamps and candles, they are able to save money to purchase further clean technology products.

Empowering every community

Our lights are delivered by our in-country teams, as well as last-mile distribution partners. They are sold through community networks and regional clusters, such as rural schools.

Namene designs products to last as long as possible, and we provide maintenance support and tailored after-sales care to our buyers, including those living in the most remote locations. In doing so, we build long-term relationships with each of our customers based on trust and mutual benefits.

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, with specific impacts measured against three UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Namene products are affordable and of high quality and very useful especially in the rural areas. They have solved my problems of lighting as before I would walk long distance to places with electricity.

Elina Kasita Oshaango in the Ohangwena region, Namibia

The Namene light has helped my family, they use it when cooking and it has helped me with my studies. It is affordable even for us as we are from a low-income family.

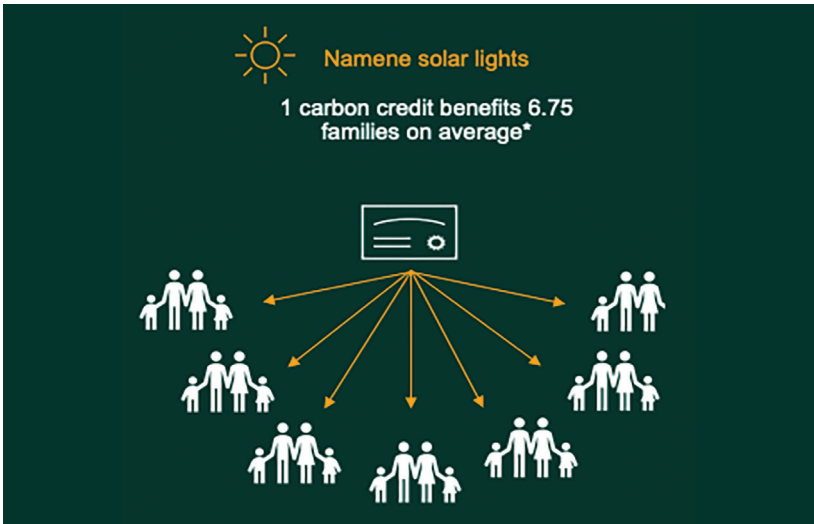
Debra Kwedhi Khomas region Windhoek, Namibia

¹ 0 to 1.5w category for GOGLA affiliated products

Maximising social impact

Our solar light carbon projects generate a significantly higher social impact per carbon credit than other community project types or alternative PAYGO models.

This is what sets Namene’s carbon credits apart.



* Each carbon credit requires 11 solar lights operating for 1 year, with 1.6 lights per family on average. (@92 Kg CO2 light /yr as per the CDM carbon methodology).

Solar lanterns currently provide the most “bang-for-your-buck.” [...] The impact they create is often greater than that of higher-capacity systems. This is because [...] these small but mighty products are the first step up the modern energy staircase.

Why off-grid energy matters – report by 60 Decibels, Feb 2020
www.60decibels.com

High-integrity carbon credits

Namene is committed to making a measurable, transparent and positive impact with our carbon credits.

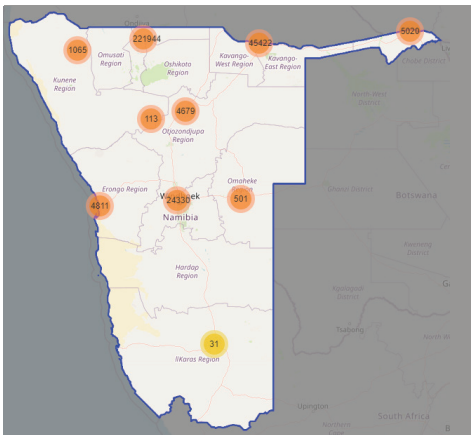
In addition to Gold Standard’s requirements, we apply a stringent internal audit process which goes beyond these requirements – with higher frequency monitoring and surveys, increased product warranty periods, and ongoing customer engagement campaigns to guarantee the emissions reductions created by our projects.

We use a customised digital tool that captures customer data at the point of sale, collects automated statistics into a central database and monitors the ongoing performance of our projects. We also conduct regular customer surveys.

Our focus is on tracking the impact of all Namene devices, including where and how they are used, and when they should be serviced for maximum efficiency.

We are also constantly improving the design of our products, with a usage reporting functionality built into models launched in 2023.

Namene partners with committed organisations who buy our VERs to complement, not replace, actual reductions in GHG emissions from their operations and value chain.



Visualisation of units deployed under the carbon project using Namene’s bespoke monitoring systems.

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. Each light saves a family \$75 USD per year.



SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
Our project has made solar light truly affordable and provided access to over one million people (90% of the population in Namibia is without access to electricity).



SDG 13: Climate Action
Our project reduces greenhouse gas emissions by replacing fossil fuel-based lighting by clean pico solar lights. The project reduces on average 24,000 tonnes of CO2e annually.

Additional project impacts

Light quality – Fossil fuel lamps typically produce 10 lumens of light. Our solar lights 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.

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.

Income generation – We offer employment opportunities through our project. Extension of the light hours also enables new income generating activities. The project has generated 48 jobs locally.

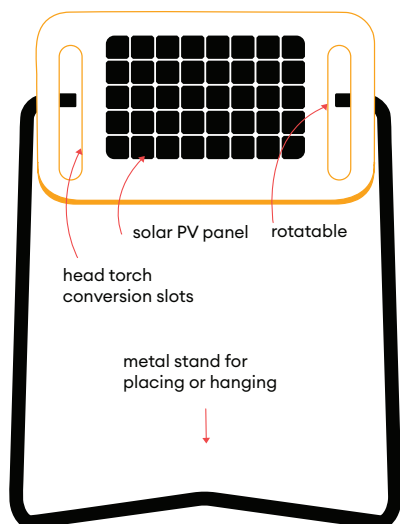
Project Details



Project owner	Namene
Carbon Standard	Gold Standard for the Global Goals
Project ID	GS 7784
Carbon methodology	AMS-III.A.R v6 – Substituting fossil fuel-based lighting with LED/CFL lighting systems
Certification stage	GS Design Certified since December 2020
Development stage	Distribution completed. 344,000 solar lights.
Technology	Renewable energy – solar lights
Project scale	Small scale.
Target beneficiaries	Rural households without access to electricity
Project duration	10 years
Crediting period	31/12/2021 – 31/12/2026
Average VERs per year	24,000 VERs

Our technology

Portable, reliable, high-quality solar lights



- Meets VeraSol IEC 62257-9-8 standard, CE, PVoC
- 2-year warranty
- Resists solid objects over 1.0 mm and water splashes from any direction



About Namene

Our purpose is to empower every community through clean technology.

Namene is a business that believes people and planet should come first. We provide affordable, highly reliable, everyday devices to those who need them the most – harnessing clean technology to transform lives and livelihoods.

Without ever compromising on quality, we make sure our products are always affordable and accessible to all by using their carbon-saving value to subsidise prices through the sale of high-integrity carbon credits, and enabling our customers to buy what they need when they are able to.

Our ‘Buy As You Can’ approach offers a much needed alternative to traditional utilities packages, which are most often not affordable to low-income families, or when they are, commit households to purchasing bundles of overspecified products through expensive, long-term loans. By offering single, modular and affordable products, we enable our customers to free up income to buy other clean devices when they need and can afford them.

All devices distributed by Namene are designed to help people and families thrive, wherever they live, by meeting their daily utility needs while eliminating sources of combustion – starting with eradicating harmful kerosene lamps.

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