

Newsletter notre soleil suisse Summer 2021



Zurich, mid-July 2021

Dear sponsors, dear friends of the sun,
Half a year has passed since my last newsletter. The Rehobot schoolhouse in Borodougou is now complete and, thanks to your support, has a roof and solar light - a big thank you to everyone.
Now we would like to introduce you to other current and important projects in the hope of encouraging you to make a donation again.

1. Three women's gardens

At the end of June, through private financing, a well was drilled successfully at the Rehobot school building. Now the school finally has access to its own water for the students all year round (see photo above, with the school in the background). **Ms. Fatoumata Traoré**, President of **notre soleil Borodougou**, would like to create a large organic school garden, also open to the parents of the school children. A solar-powered pump with a polytank is still missing - we need CHF 6,000 for this.

In the last six months, two more sections of "notre soleil" have been founded in Burkina Faso, in Koumi and Nasso.

Ms. Elisabeth Bado, as director of "**notre soleil Koumi**", would like to create a community garden where some 30 women can plant vegetables, fruit and tree seedlings and then sell them on the local market.

This gives them some money to buy food and pay their children's school fees. The terrain for it (about 1 hectare) is available, and also has water all year round, so that only a fence has to be financed. Elisabeth Bado takes care of internally displaced people – that is, families who have fled an attack by the Islamic State. The garden helps them regain independence from external support; for this she needs 1'000.- CHF.

Ms. Emilie Bagré, director of "**notre soleil Nasso**", would also like to create a community garden for around 30 women. In Nasso, also, 1 hectare of land is available, but there was no access to water.

Thanks to your donations, a well has been successfully drilled in the past few days. As with the Rehobot school building, a solar pump and pump house with a solar system are required; the total amount of money required is 7'000 CHF.



2. An energy kiosk for Songo 2

Notre Soleil Suisse supports a joint project with the FEM (Fonds Environnemental Mondial - UNDP) for energy kiosks. There really does seem to be a great need in the villages for local bistros equipped with mobile phone charging stations and televisions. Each kiosk is operated by a "Grand-Mère solaire" who has received training in managing the restaurant activities and the solar services.

The kiosk in Songo2 has made very good progress. It was built on the initiative of the Conseiller Communal Mr. Luc Kasagabou.



The kiosks are important meeting places for the village community, including the women. Unfortunately, part of the financing for the solar lighting and the operation of the mobile phone charging station, freezer and television (cost 3'000 CHF) is still missing.

The 2021 General Assembly will take place on Saturday afternoon, August 28, 3 p.m.; please save the date! I was again able to reserve the "Lokal" neighborhood meeting point at Voltastr 65 in Zurich Fluntern. An invitation with all necessary documents will be sent separately in good time.

We are urgently looking for 1-2 members for the board of notre soleil suisse. Who would like to help with these valuable projects?

I hope that you will continue to remain loyal to us. Any donation is welcome.

With sunny greetings



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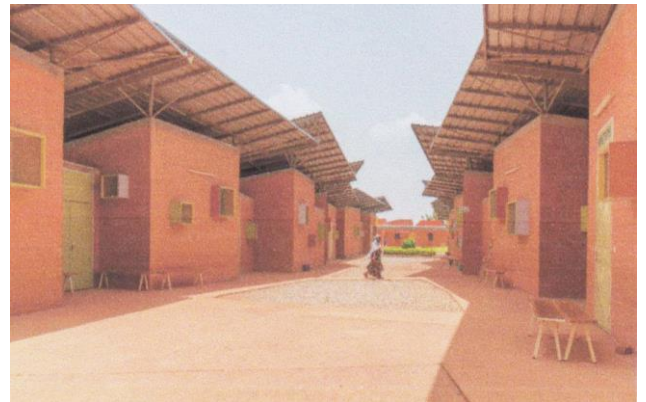
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In addition, there is a plan to install 4 solar-powered lightposts for large-scale floodlights after sunset - for safety reasons, but also to allow a «marché de nuit» (market operation after sunset). The additional effort for this is 500 CHF per lightpost.

3. Solar center for training and production

Preparation for the construction of a solar center near Bama near Bobo-Dioulasso is progressing. 5 hectares of land have already been bought and the solar pump including tower and polytank on the site are in operation. We are very happy that the renowned Swiss architecture firm "kampfen zinke +partner" has agreed to contribute to the project.

Four people are currently working on the construction plans (here is a picture from the current draft). A big thank you also goes to them and their company.



We hope that we will soon be able to find the financing for the actual construction phase of this important project. We are very grateful for suggestions.