



# Newsletter notre soleil suisse Winter 2026

Zürich, February 2026

Dear sponsors, dear friends of the sun,  
A heartfelt thank you for your loyal and generous support of our solar projects. Our team in Africa joins in our thanks: Ouédui Asso, head of the solar company Solafrique ([www.solafrique.org](http://www.solafrique.org)), Josias Ouattara, its technical director in Bobo-Dioulasso, and Fatoumata Traoré, president of our partner organization "Notre Soleil." Africa must enter the solar age directly and bypass the carbon age.

## 1. The political situation in Burkina Faso

The political situation in the country remains catastrophic. People are afraid to go out at night. There are still attacks by armed groups affiliated with the Islamic State. Fortunately, our projects are unaffected. They are running smoothly. Because of the scandalous worldwide cuts in development aid, our projects have become all the more crucial.

## 2. The seven women's community gardens

All seven women's gardens now have high fences, solar lighting in the garden shed, and a deep well with a solar-powered water pump. They have each been equipped with two bicycles (from Vélafrica) to make it easier for the women to transport their produce to market.



3 happy garden managers and 20 new bicycles



A solar oven for one of the community gardens



In recent months, they also each received **two improved wood-burning stoves and two solar ovens**, along with recipe booklets.

In January, Fatoumata resumed her **literacy courses** in the community gardens. The courses last five months. The cost of instructors' fees and materials amounts to €3,320 and has already been transferred.

Improved Wood-Burning Stoves

## 3. Some new projects

Fatoumata would like a **pump** for the well in her yard, which also serves the needs of her neighbors, so they will no longer have to draw up every liter of water. We would like to give her the luxury of an easier access to drinking water. She is contributing €305, and Notre Soleil Suisse is covering €458.

The pastor of the Protestant church in Nasso (his wife, Emelie Son, manages garden number 2) needs **solar lighting** for his church. The project is in its early stages, and the exact costs have not yet been determined.



The church in Nasso

The training center of the small Swiss association "**Samigne Laben**" in Banzon (offering training in organic farming and horticulture, as well as other professions) for young people aged 12-20 needs **solar lighting** for three buildings. Solafrique was contacted for the installation.



The day-care center of Samigne Laden

We want to equip the women's community gardens with **composting toilets** based on the Swiss "Kompotoi classic" system. Josias Ouattara is currently working on building a brick prototype adapted for Africa.

#### 4. Solafrique

Thanks to the efforts of the Solafrique team, the community garden in the Bama center now has an installation supplying **enough water all year round**.



Plentiful water for the Bama community garden



Last year we procured and shipped **120 Solkits** for Solafrique. After a long journey and complicated customs formalities, they have finally arrived at Solafrique and are working perfectly.

Right:  
A Solkit with 2 lamps.



#### 4. Solafrique – Solar Center in Bama

The plans for our solar training center are now on their way to Africa for cost estimation by the construction company. A separate donation account for the center's construction will be opened soon. We are also looking for foundations/donors who could finance this large and important project.

#### 5. News of the association

We are convinced that infrastructure projects such as community gardens, as well as training and production projects for solar energy, make an important contribution to sustainable economic development.

**Please note:** The 2026 Annual General Meeting will take place on Friday, August 28th, starting at 6:00 PM, at the "Lokal" community center, Voltastrasse 65 in Zurich Fluntern. An invitation will follow in the summer.

We are happy and grateful for every new donor, every member and every contribution.

With sunny greetings -

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