



Newsletter notre soleil suisse Summer 2025

Zürich, August 2025

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 also thanks you: Ouédui Asso, CEO of the solar company (www.solafrique.org), Josias Ouattara of Solafrique in Bobo-Dioulasso, and Fatoumata Traoré, president of our partner association "Notre Soleil."

1. The political situation in Burkina Faso

The political situation remains very dire, except in the major cities. People are afraid to go out in the evenings. There are still attacks by armed gangs of the Islamic State. As a white person, I can unfortunately no longer visit the country. However, our solar projects are continuing well thanks to telephone and email support.

2. The seven women's community gardens

Meanwhile, all seven women's gardens will soon be equipped with two basins each. The missing pipes in the gardens of Bana1, Bana2, and Bona will be installed by Solafrique in the coming weeks. This will make the women's work considerably easier. Thanks to the rainy season, planting is in full swing.



In the garden of Borodougou

Fatoumata has also equipped all of her gardens with two improved wood-burning stoves (Foyers Améliorés) each. This allows for up to 60% savings on firewood.



„Foyers Améliorés“ for the community gardens

Two solar ovens are also planned for each garden. Josias Ouattara from the Solafrique team plans to produce them. The future gardeners at the Bama Center hope that the wall surrounding the property will be completed soon.



The new team of the garden in Bama

The literacy courses in the gardens have been held since the beginning of the year and have been very popular.



Literacy course with Soré Kourago Christine

3. Solafrique

Thanks to the Solafrique team in Bobo, Fatoumata's school again enjoys the benefits of solar lighting.

Solafrique operates throughout the country and, among other projects, has equipped five training centers for Compassion International, each with a solar system for lighting in classrooms, accommodations, a church, and offices, as well as computers, printers, and refrigerators. In the south of the country, in Namogo, Solafrique has installed a mini-power station, supplying electricity to 100 rural households.



Solafrique at work

4. Solafrique – Solar Center in Bama

Preparations for the solar center construction are ongoing. Cost estimates and technical drawings are in preparation:



5. News of the association

We are convinced that infrastructure projects such as community gardens for women with solar-powered irrigation and lighting are an important contribution to combating climate change. Once launched with our support, such community gardens quickly become self-sustaining.

Unfortunately, we lack the resources to expand them nationwide. Therefore, we would like to establish a long-term partnership with Helvetas.

Your support is infinitely valuable to us; I am grateful for every new donor and every contribution.

With sunny greetings -

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