



**Key project information – GS6282**

**Gold Standard Project: Solar Lights and Solar Home Systems for Lesotho**

The focus of the project is to make solar lamps and Solar Home Systems available to the rural population in Lesotho that is not connected to the power grid. The disseminated efficient LED based lights will replace fossil fuel based lights such as candles and paraffin lamps. Families and the communities they live in will be the major beneficiaries of the technologies. The realization of the project will be supported by carbon funding for which a registration under the Gold Standard is in progress. Start of the project is planned for the first quarter of 2018.

The Stakeholder Consultation Meeting is an essential part of the project registration process. We would like to inform you about the planned activities, answer your questions and consider your valuable feedback.

In Lesotho, only 8% of the rural population has access to electricity. Although the country has good renewable energy sources, they are used very scarcely. Instead, people living in rural Lesotho usually use candles and paraffin lamps for lighting. These traditional lighting methods imply health and safety risks for their users and are very inefficient.



Solar Lights and Solar Home Systems are a much safer solution which additionally contribute to sustainable development in the region. The technologies which are planned to be distributed range from portable single lamps to Solar Home Systems, which provide lighting for all the rooms in the house and additionally allow to use the solar energy for charging cell phones or connecting electronic devices like TVs. Through the provided powerful and reliable lighting, the security of the households is increased. Also, educational and social activities in the evening hours are enabled through efficient lighting and access to internet and media. Digital communication is made possible through charging possibilities for cell phones and power provision for computers. Solar devices can also be used by small businesses like shops which can then offer battery charging, photo-copying, cooling of foods and drinks, internet etc.



Apart from improving the livelihood of the families, the project contributes to job and income generation for local people in Lesotho. The introduction of solar technologies furthermore helps to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and thereby limit the magnitude of the ongoing climate change.