

# Funding announcement

## Electrification of rural areas

atmosfair gGmbH is a climate protection organisation, which actively protects the climate by offsetting greenhouse gases through the use of renewable energies. In this context atmosfair is looking for rural electrification projects using mainly solar energy in developing countries, thus avoiding the use of fossil fuels e.g. diesel generators. The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions saved through the avoidance of fossil fuels can be transferred to carbon certificates, which are having an economic value. Therefore, the project needs to be registered under the Gold Standard ([www.goldstandard.org](http://www.goldstandard.org)) or under the Clean Development Mechanism ([www.cdm.unfccc.int](http://www.cdm.unfccc.int)).

atmosfair offers funding for this kind of rural electrification projects in the global South. Interested project developers are requested to submit their project description by 11.05.2018 via email to Nele Erdmann ([Erdmann@atmosfair.de](mailto:Erdmann@atmosfair.de)). Project developers may submit more than one project.

atmosfair offers two different types of funding:

1. Finance: atmosfair offers a total finance of up to 700,000 Euro apportion among the maximum of three different projects. atmosfair would charge an interest rate between 0% and 2% depending on the project. Payback time of the loan shall be no more than 7 years. Small parts of the investment can be turned into a non-refundable grant. atmosfair encourages proponents to offer projects that use the atmosfair funding as a base for financial leveraging, effectively increasing the project volume.  
However, the project has to demonstrate in the financial concept that the atmosfair funding enables the project participant to kickstart the project (i.e. the atmosfair funding is not used to only apply for further funding of third parties). atmosfair will register the project as a Gold Standard project and will own all generated carbon certificates out of the project.
2. Purchase of certificates: The project developer has or will register the project as a Gold Standard project and earns all generated certificates. atmosfair purchases the generated certificates at a favourable price above market level for a time period of at least 5 years.

Please state in your proposal which kind of funding you would like to apply for. The criteria for a suitable solar Gold Standard project are defined in the attachment.

Following information shall be part of the project description:

- Introduction of organisation/company including registration date, offices, organizational set up, core team, core business, financial statement etc.
- References of projects and business partners
- 2 pager about the project including current status, a short due diligence analysis and project development opportunities
- Finance plan of the project

- Explanation how your project addresses the suitability as a Gold Standard project (see requirements attached)

# Criteria for solar Gold Standard projects

## Project type

- Energy production (electricity, heat or cooling) with main focus of the use of solar
- A project can be a single installation or consist of several installations of the same kind (combination of technologies possible) in one region (country or comparable countries)

## CO<sub>2</sub> savings

- The project shall demonstrate that emission reductions and carbon savings are above business as usual. If there has been no energy access so far, a conventional energy source such as a diesel generator might be used for the calculation.

## Host countries

- Project activities must be located in a non-Annex I country, as defined by the UNFCCC.
- Least Development Country (LDC) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are from special interest for atmosfair

## Social benefits

- The project shall contribute to social benefits for the local communities in the project area.

Examples:

- Enable access to energy for the poorest people, e.g. through payment by instalments.
- Empowerment of minorities through the project.
- Improvement of health conditions.

## Economic benefits

- The project shall contribute to economic benefits for the local communities in the project area.

Examples:

- Employment/income: training people on site, so the plant could be installed and maintained by residents; new job opportunities through energy access
- Savings: Financial savings through change of energy source

## Additionality

- The project has to be additional: It should only be feasible through the extra finance by atmosfair or partners. (This can also be the case for a part of the project, e.g. that the access to the energy for the poorest is enabled through the funding)

## Transparency

- The project shall involve the civil society in decision processes
- A stakeholder consultation process is required during which the community evaluates the sustainability of the project regarding social, economic and environmental indicators (This will be part of the registration process and can be organized by atmosfair)
- A grievance mechanism enables stakeholders to provide continuous feedback on the project.

## No adverse effects

- Project activities shall not harm any Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). For instance project activities must not cause resettlements or influence ecosystems adversely.