

2023 Annual Report

PODER Y LUZ



MAYA



During 2023, with your help we will achieve



5 New Solar
School



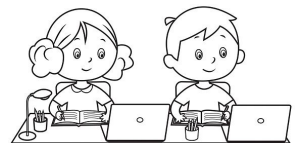
150 people with
solar lighting
kit



580 people
drink safe
water



Support to 77
Micro
Businesses



531 young people
trained in the
environment and
technologies

2023 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

At MPL.ONG we know that energy is neither created nor destroyed, we only transform it to generate sustainable changes in poor agricultural communities in the western highlands of Guatemala.



SOLAR CENTER

Thanks to financing from On The Ground Impact, Benevity/Paypal Community Impact Guatemala and Appropriate Technology collaborative, we managed to install 5 solar photovoltaic centers in the following communities: San Pedro la Esperanza benefited from a 1,500 watt system, community of Santa Ana with a 1,200 watt system, these communities belong to the Reina Quiché Zone, the community of Ocheval in the department of Huehuetenango also benefited with a 1,200 watt system, the coverage of the photovoltaic solar energy system of the HOVDE home was expanded and replaced -EDELAC located in the municipality of Quetzaltenango and a 350 watt system was installed in the Loma Grande establishment in the municipality of San Carlos Sija. **Directly benefiting 574 students at the pre-primary, primary, basic and diversified level, 47 teachers and 28 community leaders.**

Through the Installations and the use of photovoltaic solar energy, we have identified the following changes: a) With these 5 photovoltaic solar installations we contribute to reducing the carbon footprint by 0.73 metric ton of CO₂; b) The process of digital literacy for rural youth begins through the use of computer laboratories that operate with the same solar energy; c) With lighting and electrical outlets in educational centers we contribute to providing better educational quality and promoting community management so that they can request from the Ministry of Education the expansion of educational services for the community, an action that will contribute to the decrease in the early school dropout rate; d) We contribute to reducing forced migration due to lack of educational and development opportunities for their communities, e) We contribute to energy efficiency and transition in rural areas of Guatemala, f) We strengthen the leadership, participation and empowerment of women during the execution of the project, and G) Our solar centers contribute to and promote the following Sustainable Development Goals in Guatemala:



Adapting to climate change means: knowing and living from clean technologies.

2023 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



WATER FILTERS

This year we identified the municipality of San Lucas Tolimán in the department of Sololá, an agricultural Kakchiquel Mayan community with few resources, which is supplied with water that comes from the Lake Atitlán basin, which has had several studies carried out by from municipal authorities and the health center, yielding results with high contamination and not being suitable for human consumption; For this reason, we established a cooperation and coordination alliance with the Municipality of San Lucas Tolimán for 2 years, which allowed us to support 100 families, directly benefiting 500 people and 100 indirectly with a VF100 Filter and a VF200 Prefilter, which guarantee that the water they use is safe for consumption.

With the use of this technology we have identified the following findings: a) We contribute to improving the respiratory, gastrointestinal and visual health of a family unit (children, adults and the elderly); b) New daily water consumption habits are created; c) We recover 1 hectare of forests with at least 1,600 trees per hectare by avoiding using firewood to boil the water they consume, just as we conserve forest species, animals and wildlife; d) We reduce the consumption of plastic bottles and bags containing pure water which ends up in the streets and consequently in the lake basin, contaminating even more; e) We reduce the gap between the proper management of garbage such as plastic and the deficiency in policies and services of garbage collection trains in the communities, avoiding soil contamination and the emission of greenhouse gases; f) We improve the family economy by avoiding the expense of purchasing bottled water, firewood and medical visits and g) we contribute to the fulfillment of the following Sustainable Development Goals:



SOLAR KITS

Thanks to the financing of a group of Volunteers organized by Appropriate Technology Collaborative, we managed to illuminate the homes of 11 families, directly benefiting 55 people from the family nucleus, who had been living without electricity for more than 20 years in communities in the municipality of San Juan Ostuncalco and Only the. The solar kits allow families to provide lighting, cell phone charging and communications through an AM/FM radio system.

Through the use of this technology, the following changes were identified: a) The use of candles, ocote and other smoke generators is avoided, so these families now breathe cleaner air, b) The risk of fires and burns is minimized in family members, caused by the use of candles, ocote and other fuels; c) We contribute to reducing the CO2 generated by candles, ocote, firewood or fuels that are used by the beneficiaries; d) We contribute to raising the self-esteem of users who use this solar photovoltaic technology; e) Working hours and undertakings at night increase, as there is light inside the home; f) The economy of families is substantially improved by avoiding the expense of purchasing candles, which ranges between Q4.00 per day and Q115.00 per month, an expense that can now be invested in food, clothing, education, etc. and g) We contribute to achieving the following Sustainable Development Goals:



Using appropriate technologies creates new opportunities for social, cultural and economic development.

2023 PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



GREEN AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

This year we managed to support **77 Microbusinesses led by low-income indigenous agricultural women from the municipalities of Olintepeque, La Esperanza and Quetzaltenango** with mentoring through the “Micro-entrepreneurship” diploma, investing a total of 52 hours providing them with tools and knowledge in finance, basics, sales, marketing and strategies to improve your income and contribute to your family's economy.

During this process we were able to determine that: a) Through this diploma we provide the opportunity for women to create businesses that help them escape poverty or avoid falling into extreme poverty; b) The diploma promotes the circular economy of the enterprises attended; c) The Diploma turns entrepreneurship into decent jobs that improve the quality of life of entrepreneurs and reactivate the local economy; d) As educators we are able to perceive women's fear of starting up and investing in a business, feeling ashamed for being an entrepreneur and not having knowledge of entrepreneurship issues, this increases the fear of failure and the loss of their initial capital; Through the Diploma we managed to strengthen the self-esteem of these women from the perspective of a business vision and economic strengthening through their business plan and e) With this process we managed to contribute to the achievement of the following Sustainable Development Goals:



GENERATIONS OF CHANGE

This year we exceeded the impact planned in our 2023 POA by 76% for the number of young people benefiting from the project.

We invested more than 132 hours of environmental and climate education so that 531 women and men students at the basic level participated in the diploma “Appropriate Technologies for Entrepreneurship”, in educational centers in the departments of Quetzaltenango and Totonicapán, in Quetzaltenango we have had the endorsement of the Departmental Directorate of Education for two consecutive years and for the first time this year we had the endorsement of the Departmental Directorate of Totonicapán, supporting the content of the diploma.

During the implementation of the diploma we have observed the following changes and opportunities in the students: a) Skills and ingenuity to create prototypes of appropriate technologies with recycled materials; b) Reduction in the gender equity gap in the content of climate and environmental changes, design, use and exploitation of appropriate technologies; c) They acquired new knowledge about appropriate technologies, because prior to the diploma the majority of young people were unaware of these topics and d) With this training we were able to contribute to the following Sustainable Development Goals:



Using appropriate technologies creates new opportunities for social, cultural and economic development.

2023 Community Comments

Message about the Green and Social Entrepreneurship project, from Mrs. Reyna de León, entrepreneur from the municipality of Olintepeque, Quetzaltenango.

I am an entrepreneur of American clothing and cosmetics, during the diploma what I learned with Mr. Marifrance is that I have to take into account the costs of renting premises and electricity, in reality I did not take that aspect into account because my business is at home and according to me I don't have to consider the rent, however I learned that I must record that expense and that allows me to know the profitability of my venture. Also one of the important aspects that I have not taken into account and that I learned during the diploma is to use Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp to promote my business, allowing me to increase my sales. I advise other entrepreneurs to get training because it is very important to know how to use profits, identify income and expenses, etc.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Can4_B-tvqU&feature=youtu.be

Message about the Generations of Change project, from Sheila Anali López Ramos, teacher at the San José Chiquilaja Basic Education Institute, Quetzaltenango.

In my personal experience I can say that all the workshops that were given to the students were of great support, because they made young people and teachers aware of environmental education, climate change and technologies as alternative solutions and adaptation. The topics that caught my attention were the following: wind energy, solar energy and the reuse of bottles, cardboard, etc. to generate income and improve the quality of life of human beings, for example we can grow our own food, in this way we can generate a source of income, improve our quality of life. The Mayan Power and Light Institution contributed a lot to the training of the students because now they are applying the knowledge they acquired during the diploma process.



Mrs. Reyna de León.
Entrepreneur from Olintepeque



Licda. in education
Sheila Anali Ramos

Community Support

The community of Loma Grande, Estancia de la Virgen in the municipality of San Carlos Sija, impressed us with the excellent organization they have and the level of participation of women leading different projects for the development of the community, in the Solar Center project The entire process was led by mothers, who worked diligently with the staff of Poder y Luz Maya NGO. to coordinate the different activities that the project required, during the installation of the solar photovoltaic system men, women, teachers and children participated as volunteers to help install the equipment, at the end of the installation the children were happy and excited because now they have energy in their classrooms.

“It's good to know that there are organizations like Poder and Luz Maya that address issues of the environment, climate change and appropriate technologies. It should be noted that it is important to know the alternatives we have to face the incessant effects of climate change and what better way to give introduce young people to the different technologies we have to adapt to the change we are undergoing. Words from Professor José Bulux, Basic Institute for the Paqui Canton Cooperative, Totonicapán.

Join us to achieve a prosperous, inclusive and sustainable Guatemala.

www.poderluzmaya.org

2023 Collaborators



SECRETARÍA NACIONAL DE CIENCIA Y TECNOLOGÍA



USAC
TRICENTENARIA
Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala

Featured Action in 2023

Help that goes from a distance

UNESCO has invited Everilda Perez, Program Coordinator, to participate in the Change Markers for The Planet Summit, Argentina 2023, with Latin American Climate Activists, to publicize MPL.ONG projects. and the impact they have had at the local and national level.

On August 8, 2023 PODER Y LUZ MAYA NGO was awarded the Award: Protectors of the Nature of the Earth “Chajil Uwach Ulew” by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of Guatemala.

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=658781849620869&set=pcb.658788366286884>

We managed to establish an institutional collaboration agreement with the Municipality of San Lucas Tolimán, which has a 2-year effect and will be respected by the New Elected City Authorities for the period 2024-2028 and to be able to continue supporting more Water Filter projects for the families of that municipality.

Support us to serve from a distance. Donate at www.poderluzmaya.org

2023 FINANCE

STAFF

EVERILDA PÉREZ
Project Coordinator

LUIS CAHUEX
Administrator

MARIFRANCE MEJÍA
Field technician

GABRIELA RUIZ
Field technician

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CAROLINA GONON
Vocal I

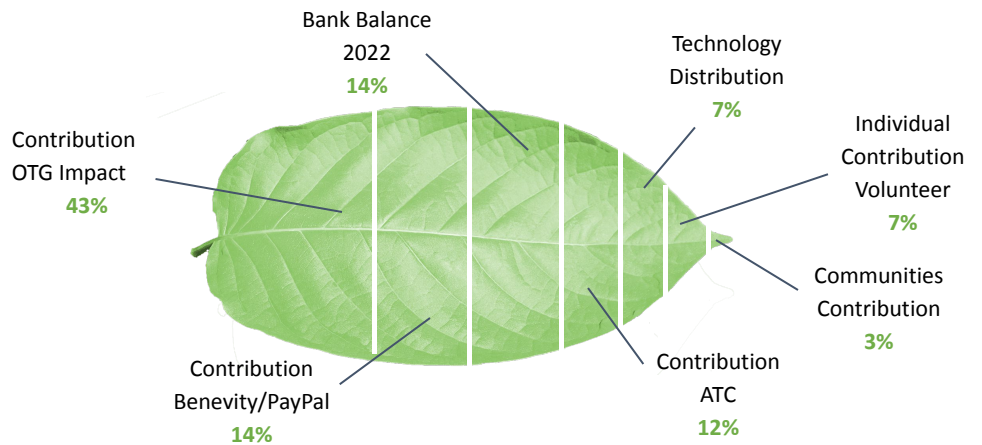
ELBA CORTEZ
Vocal II

EVERILDA PÉREZ
Vocal III

MARILENA CHOGUAJ
Vocal IV

INCOME

Bank Balance 2022	Q.116,663
ATC contribution	Q. 97,194
Benevity/PayPal Contribution	Q.117,000
OTG Impact Contribution	Q.343,562
Individual Volunteer Contribution	Q. 51,539
Technology Distribution	Q. 52,877
Communities Contribution	<u>Q. 28,500</u>
Total	Q.807,335



EXPENSES

Administration	Q. 39,202
Solar Center	Q.359,933
Generations of Change	Q. 78,891
Green Entrepreneurship	Q. 69,018
Technologies for Development	<u>Q. 84,206</u>
Total	Q.631,250

