



upOwa green energy infrastructure project portfolio

upOwa is a Team Europe funded green energy infrastructure project developer working in Cameroon, including the Central Cameroon region.

So far, the company's project portfolio provides distributed renewable energy (DRE) through solar home systems to more than 10,000 households, impacting more than 327,000 people, mitigating 69,202 cumulative tonnes of CO₂e emissions and creating more than 440 local jobs. The projects enable improved access to education and information.

In 2017, financing received by Team Europe players was used by Gaia Impact Fund to invest in upOwa, a Franco-Cameroonian company.

upOwa designs, develops, finances, produces, installs and operates solar home systems (SHS) to facilitate access to clean energy in Cameroon, especially for populations not connected to the national grid. In addition, upOwa also offers training and employment opportunities to local communities.

In 2023, **upOwa** had a revenue of approximately EUR 3 million building on its sustainable business model. A "pay as you go" payment system makes SHS affordable to rural households, while a network of sales agents, stores and B2B sales ensure a diversified distribution.

The company was sold by its former shareholders (including Gaia Impact Fund) to EDF in December 2023 and continues to operate under the EDF banner.



Location:

Cameroon (multiple locations, incl. Central Cameroon region)



Budget:

~EUR 5,000,000



Private financing:

Gaia Impact Fund, EDF

Team Europe financing:

EDFI Electrifi, Ministère de l'Éducation Nationale of France, Ministère de la Transition Écologique of France (ADEME) and the European Union



Green energy infrastructure:

0.4 MW current capacity installed



Electricity connections:

More than

10,000 households, have been connected to a reliable source of renewable energy through solar kits.



Climate impact:

More than **69,202** cumulative tonnes of CO₂e avoided



Social impact:

The arrival of electricity to households enables children to study after dusk and improve their results at school. Clean energy avoids toxic fumes, improves home security, and enables access to information through the use of radios. The investment has had a great impact on the lives of 327,789 people by providing them with access to energy and creating more than 440 local jobs in 2021-2023. upOwa also contributes to the empowerment of women in Cameroon. 47% of the company's employees are women and 33% are women in the senior management team. 18% of clients are women.



Thank you upOwa, since I have the kit at home it has changed my daily life as well as that of my whole family. Here in the village it's not always easy to get a phone charged, but thanks to this kit I can now charge my phone and stay connected to my family living in town.

What's more, the children can study freely, and my wife can easily carry out her activities in the kitchen after dark. I also have easier access to the country's news thanks to my solar-powered TV and radio. I'm very grateful to upOwa for everything it does for people, especially for us who live here in the villages."

**Mr. Essomba, farmer from Endom village
in the Central Cameroon region.**



Rafael Zamora Riesco – Head of Analytics – upOwa

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