

Sun Power



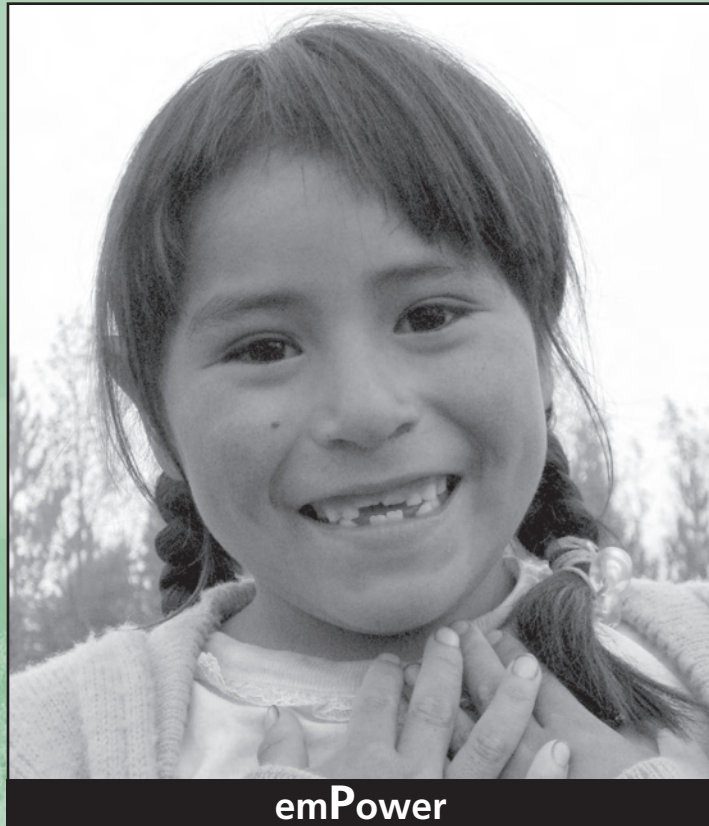
Wind Power



Water Power



Earth Power



GREEN EMPOWERMENT
Village Solutions for Global Change
2009 ANNUAL REPORT



Green Empowerment provides technical, organizational, media, public relations, and financial support to local partner organizations. Together, we successfully construct community-based renewable energy systems associated with home lighting, health, education, economic development, potable water, and watershed protection.

OUR PARTNERS

COSTA RICA

EARTH University, Guácimo de Limón: Provides a rigorous education in the agricultural sciences and natural resources for the sustainable development of Latin America.

ECUADOR

Ecuadorian Foundation for Appropriate Technology (FEDETA), Quito: works for a world that is “socially more just, ecologically more healthy and technologically more humane.”

CARE Ecuador, Quito: Takes a community-based, multi-disciplinary approach to improving basic education, increasing access to clean water and sanitation, and building local economies.

MEXICO

International Renewable Resources Institute (IRRI-Mexico), Mexico City: Trains residents to use natural resources sustainably with rainwater harvesting, solar pv, and biogas systems in Chiapas, Yucatan, San Miguel Allende, and Mexico City.

NICARAGUA

The Association of Rural Development Workers— Benjamin Linder (ATDER-BL), Matagalpa: Provides electricity to thousands with micro-hydro projects, creates community-owned forest reserves and delivers water.

AsoFenix, Managua: Works closely with communities and local officials to build solar water pumps and electricity systems, solar ovens, micro-hydro projects and biodigestors.

blueEnergy, Bluefields: Implements hybrid wind-solar systems that improve access to education, water, and communication in isolated communities on the eastern coast of Nicaragua.

PERU

Practical Action (formerly ITDG), Lima: committed to poverty reduction, environmental conservation and technology choice.

Desarrollo Sostenible En Accion (DESEA), Calca: Supports comprehensive programs for household water treatment, community health, and economic development in Southern Peru.

THE PHILIPPINES

Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation, Inc. (AIDFI), Negros: promotes organic agriculture, micro-enterprise, sustainable technologies, children’s education and self-reliant community organizations.

Wellspring of Science and Technology (SIBAT), Luzon: pioneered development of community-based appropriate technology applications in Philippine rural areas.

Yamog, Mindanao: Trains locally and enhances capabilities of the community to own, manage and run micro-hydro systems. Peru.

THAILAND/BURMA

Border Green Energy Team (BGET), Mae Sot, Thailand: works to improve sustainability of Thai solar home systems and solar electricity construction and maintenance trainings for medical clinics on the Thai/Burmese border.



As the recently appointed Executive Director, I look forward to the challenge of my new role in a familiar organization. Having worked at Green Empowerment since 2001, and spending the last two years working in Peru, I am well prepared and excited to take on the next phase of Green Empowerment's growth to improve the lives of thousands of men, women, and children by giving them the tools to build healthy, thriving communities. In this report, we share how we tap the power of the Sun, Wind, Earth and Water to improve life in rural communities around the world. Most importantly, we want to underscore our commitment to EmPower. We promote local leadership working side by side with our growing list of in-country partner organizations on energy, water and environmental restoration projects. We believe that families are best able to define their needs, organize and undertake new projects, and create their own distinct structures to sustain them in the long term. The powers of energy and light are transformative, but none is more essential than empowerment.

Perhaps the most important recognition of our success came just this year at the 2009 Energy Globe Awards, presented in Prague. Out of 800 submissions from 110 different countries Green Empowerment earned top three in the world for our water pumping projects in Nicaragua with Asofenix. The solar-powered clinic project of our partner, the Border Green Energy Team (BGET), in Burma was awarded the Grand Prize as well as first place in the Fire (Solar) category. Our partner in Peru, Soluciones Practicas, won the National Prize for work in rural energy projects. This is an affirmation that our model is truly effective.

We are thankful for recognition of our accomplishments; yet it is not awards we crave, but solutions to dropping water levels, climate change, and chronic poverty. We recognize that new creative solutions are needed—that is why we bring our partners together at design exchanges and technology transfers to discuss best practices, materials, and community management models.

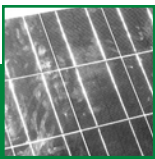
Recognizing the range of needs in communities where we work, in 2009 we expanded our appropriate technologies to include biosand filters, biogas digesters and wind-solar hybrid systems. We have rededicated ourselves to integrating ecological restoration alongside renewable energy projects to ensure abundant future water resources. This comprehensive approach gets results.

The accomplishments in this report are your accomplishments too. On behalf of the people we serve, we extend our sincere appreciation to volunteers, donors, funding partners, and our friends for your kind-hearted generosity. We invite you to come with us as we begin 2010 with exciting plans to continue using village solutions for global change.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Anna Garwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Anna Garwood
Executive Director



Sun Power

Ra, Liza, Helios, Surya—The sun has been worshiped throughout the ages by many names. Its radiant energy has powered life for billions of years. We devote ourselves to the sun by using photovoltaic panels to capture sunlight and change it into electricity. Energy derived from the sun powers water pumps that deliver fresh water to the doorsteps of the communities we serve. Sun power charges batteries that light medical clinics, schoolrooms, and dormitories. The truth is, the power of the sun gives life and changes lives.



The simple truth is often the most shocking—"It is difficult to perform amputations by flashlight."

—Kalu Shwe Oo, Director of the Karen Department of Health and Welfare (KDHW), Burma.

2009

- ▶ Initiated technology-transfer of solar water pumping and small wind systems with blueEnergy and Asofenix; hosted a hands-on workshop in Nicaragua; together we will install a hybrid wind-solar system to pump water, illuminate homes, and power a small business in the community of Cuajiniquil.
- ▶ Powered a refugee clinic in Lay Tong Khu, Thailand with Border Green Energy Team, serving 13 surrounding villages and 1200 people. Nearly 300 additional patients a month come from Burma for diagnosis, malaria medication, or war related injuries.
- ▶ Supported a solar power installation at an orphanage for severely abused children in Jinotega, Nicaragua called Hogar Amuguitos; DC Power donated expertise and equipment to construct a solar energy system that saves \$350 a month (the cost of nearly 1200 pounds of rice per month)!
- ▶ Provided electricity to a public school in El Pedegral, Nicaragua for 50 kids and 15 adults in collaboration with Power to the People and DC Power.



"We're happy about the wind project. Now we have lights, a cell phone, TV and radio. Kids can study at night. People from neighboring villages even come to charge their phones. Maybe we'll even start a restaurant in the future."

—Agusto Chuquin, Alto Peru

2009

- ▶ Integrated four locally made wind turbines in an innovative micro-grid to deliver power to thirteen households and one church 12,000ft up in the awe-inspiring Peruvian Andes with Soluciones Prácticas-ITDG.
- ▶ Completed wind power installations in El Alumbre with Soluciones Prácticas-ITDG; thirty-seven turbines now light the homes of 140 people, a highschool with computers, and a clinic with a vaccine refrigerator and medical equipment.

Beyond the charge for solar panels, the sun also gives the gift of wind power. As the sun warms the earth, heat rises and is displaced by cooler air, creating wind. Harnessing the power of wind with small turbines delivers light, communication and opportunity to rural families. The miracle of wind power lies in the phone call that brings help high into the Peruvian Andes for a sick child; it exists in the refrigerator now available to store polio vaccine in a remote village; it is the orange juice machine that enables families to collect oranges in peak season, package the juice and sell it throughout the year. A few cents doesn't buy much in America—but in the communities where we work, the average income is less than one dollar per day. For some, a few pennies from selling orange juice means their income doubles. Our wind systems do more than transmit energy to the communities we serve. They provide solutions to poverty and the foundation for a spirit of cooperation towards an abundant future.

Wind Power



Green Empowerment has brought lighting to over 23,000 people!



Earth Power

Mother Earth has forever been a gentle and generous teacher. At Green Empowerment, we strive to return the favor. Water and electricity projects provide an opportunity to educate communities on local hydrology, ecology, and climate. Having documented dropping water tables in local wells during the last several years, it is imperative that our partner communities preserve their watersheds and forests. Our projects increasingly focus on watershed restoration and preservation as an integral component to sustainable projects.

In 2009 we initiated use of biogas digesters as an additional low-cost technology to preserve forests and healthy soils. Biogas digesters convert organic waste, like manure, into gas. Biogas is 60-70% methane and this high concentration makes it an excellent source of renewable energy. When ignited, methane generates heat that can be used for heating, lighting, or cooking. The digester also creates organic fertilizer. The process is clean and provides the triple dividend of health, ecology, and income—otherwise known as people, planet, profit.



"My biodigester will improve cooking and health. Also, the conditions of life. It will help with our income and savings because now we won't have to buy chemicals for the fields, and maybe we can even sell the fertilizer"

—Segundo Ramos, from Yanachancha, Cajamarca, Peru

2009

- ▶ Hosted the Biogas Digester Design Exchange in Peru last May bringing together representatives from 11 countries to exchange design ideas, discuss improved social integration and form a network for communication (RedBioLAC); after building two model digesters, representatives from Nicaragua, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Peru, and Mexico installed 8-12 digesters in each of their home countries.
- ▶ Supported our partner, ATDER-BL to plant trees and stabilize the riverbanks near a micro-hydro plant in El Bote, Nicaragua; partnered with students from the regenerative studies program at Cal Poly, Pomona for expertise with bank erosion control.



"The Water Committee is the only time the village gets together as a community to talk about common problems. It is where we talk about how we will run our water system but also about fish ponds, a revolving fund for piglets and other dreams for the future."

—Robert Barganio, Water Secretary in Amagu-o/Anangué.

2009

- ▶ Built a spring box with our partner Practical Action-ITDG, taps, and delivery system for 187 people, 37 households and a school in Suro Antivo, Peru; brought fresh water directly to homes so that people do not have to drink from open pools contaminated by cattle.
- ▶ Assembled and installed 75 bio-sand filters in Calca, Peru with our new partner Desarrollo Sostenible En Accion (DESEA).
- ▶ Completed installation of a hydraulic ram pump in Herminal, Philippines with AIDFI bringing fresh water to 330 villagers; funded three more pumps that bring water to 750 people in the Philippines.
- ▶ Constructed 2 micro-hydro projects in La Libertad and Chorro Blanco, Peru generating enough electricity for 275 people and 3 schools with 26 laptops.
- ▶ Completed a solar water pump project with Asofenix in Sonzapote, Nicaragua providing clean water for 375 people.

Fresh water is crucial to almost all living organisms; dirty water is deadly. Diarrhea resulting from drinking pathogenic water kills more children in developing countries than AIDS, malaria, and measles combined. We are committed to delivery of clean water to rural households using gravity-fed systems, solar power, ram pumps and biosand filters. The underlying principle for each unique approach is the same: fresh water saves lives. It's as simple as that.

In addition to basic water delivery, we harness the energy of falling water to generate power. Our micro-hydro systems provide an abundant source of energy and are remarkably effective in enabling the creation of small industry. Surplus energy is channeled to hull coffee, mill rice, and to power machine shops, roadside general stores, and community centers.



Water Power

Green Empowerment has brought clean water to over 11,000 people!



EmPower

The most crucial of all the powers we provide is EmPower. We recognize the interconnectedness of life and believe that the same collaboration among diverse species that creates essential ecosystems gives rise to healthy, long-lasting communities. Green Empowerment provides technical, organizational and financial assistance to catalyze local leaders to be more effective. Communities build, operate, and financially sustain their own projects. Within our network, we connect community members and local partners with university programs, international interns, energy professionals, like-minded NGOs, and government officials. From these interconnected relationships emerge healthier, self-sufficient communities.

Service Learning

- ▶ Lewis and Clark College Education and Counseling Graduate Program: evaluated well-being and sustainability in two rural communities in Nicaragua and demonstrated better evaluation techniques.
- ▶ Cal Poly Pomona Landscape Architecture: students assessed environmental status of springs being tapped for household water delivery systems with Soluciones Prácticas-ITDG. Also partnering with CPP's Lyle Center for Regenerative Studies.
- ▶ Portland State University Environmental Sciences program: completed two watershed assessments in Nicaragua and installed weather stations to track changing conditions while Presidio Sustainable MBA students researched financing options for solar powered drip irrigation and helped install household solar systems.
- ▶ City of Blacksburg, VA Sister City to San Jose de Bocay, Nicaragua: toured Ben Linder Micro-Hydro facility and set-up groundwork for scholarship program for teacher training.
- ▶ Northwestern University Engineers for a Sustainable World chapter: helped install three different types of family-scale biogas digesters for testing and monitoring with AsoFenix in Nicaragua
- ▶ Partnerships with Linfield College Environmental Studies/ Anthropology; Humboldt State University Master's in Environmental Engineering; Presidio School of Management Sustainable MBA; University of Michigan BlueLAB—College of Engineering.



"Suffice to say, it's nice working with you at GE and we have already made concrete results. The cooperation hinged on mutual respect and openness and what we have built will be of very big help to the poor communities we served."

—Shen Maglante, SIBAT, Philippines

Technical Trainings

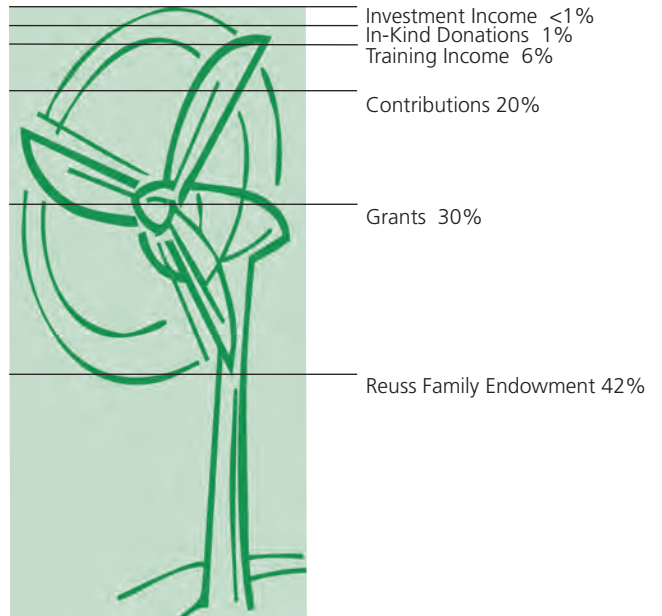
- ▶ Technical Training on Renewable Energy in the Developing World. Portland, OR
- ▶ International Course: Workshop on Evaluation of Resources, Design, Installation and Management of Small-scale Wind Turbines and Micro-hydro systems attended by 40 participants from 10 countries. Cajamarca, Peru
- ▶ Renewable Energy Evaluation and Overview Course, Manu Learning Centre, Amazonian jungle of Peru.
- ▶ Workshop on Ram Pump Design and Installation. Cajamarca, Peru



Financials

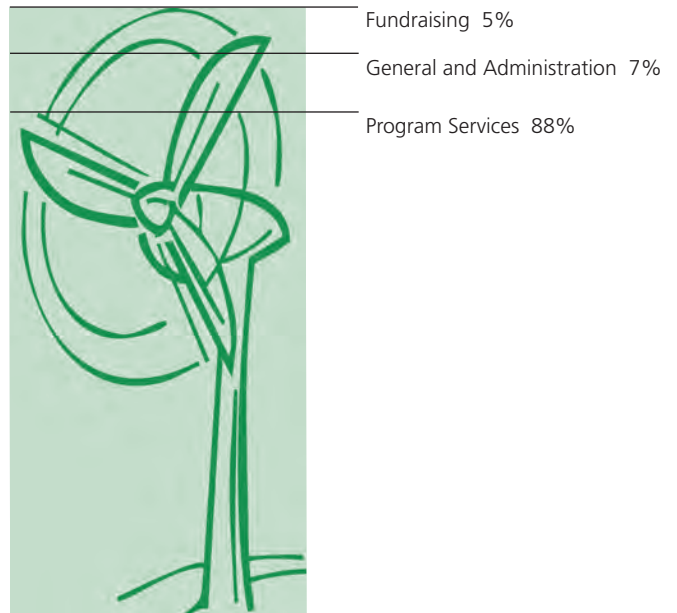
REVENUE

Contributions	\$ 236,071
Grants	358,528
Training Income	79,800
In-Kind Donations	15,000
Investment Income	3,042
Reuss Family Endowment	500,000
Total Revenue	\$ 1,192,450



EXPENSE

Program Services	\$ 508,043
General Administrative	39,445
Fundraising	26,413
Total Expenses	\$ 573,901



Our Supporters

\$20,000+

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