

100 solar cookers for Paktia/Afghanistan

For some time now there has been a lively exchange between EG-Solar, Dr. Jürgen Kanne and Azad Ghul from Afghanic e.V. (<https://afghanic.de>) who have already visited us in Altötting. Azad is in charge of the pilot project Solar Cooker in Afghanistan in the Paktia region.



Azad Ghul at EG-Solar 's, July 2020

After time consuming clearance formalities 100 sets of sheets eventually could be flown to Kabul in March 2021 which were then transported to Khost, 260 km southeast of Kabul, near the Pakistani border.



... introduction of the pilot project by Azad Ghul



...the concept of „cooking with the sun“ being introduced.

Until the end of August/beginning of September 2021, the user families were visited at approx. monthly intervals and advised how to optimize the use of the solar cookers.

The feedback from the users was thoroughly positive and therefore we had planned to fly another 100 sheets to Kabul in 2021.

However, due to the unstable situation in Afghanistan ever since August 2021, this project has turned out to be difficult or impossible for this year. On top of that air freight to Afghanistan was not possible for quite a while.



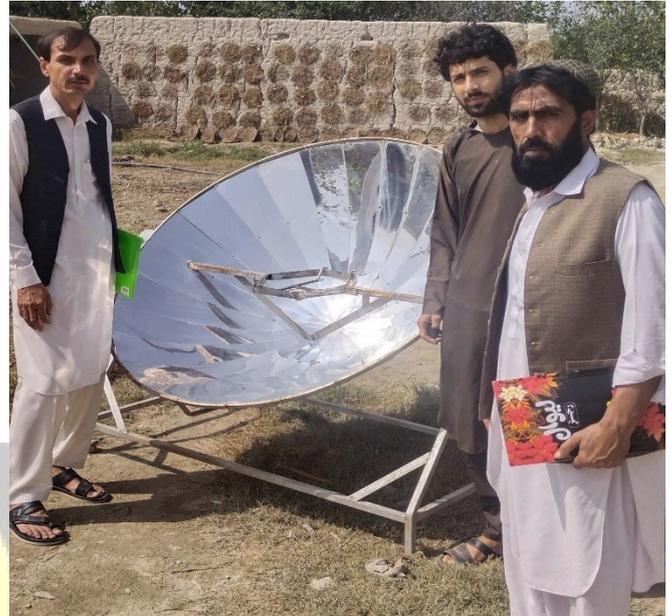
On site, 100 ready-to-use solar cookers were built and assembled in a suitably equipped workshop and thereafter distributed to 100 user families – partly locally in Khost, partly in villages in the Khost province.

EG-Solar e.V. 12.2021

100 SK14 für Paktia und Paktika

At the beginning of August 2022, we sent **another 100 sets of reflector sheets** to Afghanistan in cooperation with our partner Afghanic e.V. They were financed by your donations. The families lost their savings when the Taliban came to power and were no longer able to pay for the racks built on site. **We therefore decided to contribute € 11.000.**

This time, in addition to 50 solar cookers for the Khost/Paktia region, another 50 solar cookers were to go to the Paktika region, which was shaken by a strong earthquake on June 22, 2022 that killed over 1,000 people.



The solar cookers are used for cooking daily meals and for boiling milk and water.



Shipping was a bit more difficult than last year because there were no flights on the usual route via Istanbul available until further notice.

Eventually, the consignment reached its destination airport in Kabul on a detour route.

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Evaluation of the 100 SK14 in Khost

In autumn 2024, a team visited all 100 families who had received a solar cooker manufactured in Khost at the beginning of 2021. They wanted to get an idea of the condition of the cookers after more than 3 years of use. Of course, it is interesting for us to find out what they are used for and how often they are used for cooking. Results of the survey:

The user families are very large by our standards, with between 8 and 21 family members. Due to its high performance, our SK14 is powerful enough to supply a large family when the sun is shining.

Condition of the solar cookers

Of the 100 SK14s, 46 were in very good condition and 38 were in good condition. 5 cookers were completely destroyed in a storm and 6 were sold to other families.

The people in the region recognise the benefits of solar cooking, but are currently unable to finance the full purchase price of around €150.

State development aid is no longer provided for Afghanistan, so we ask you to support us with donations so that we can subsidise more solar cookers.

By the way: the local Taliban representatives are behind the project, but also have no means to finance it.

EG-Solar e.V. 12.2024