

ELECTRICIENS SANS FRONTIÈRES (ELECTRICIANS WITHOUT BORDERS) WINS THE ZAYED SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE !

The French NGO Electriciens sans frontières is the **happy winner of the Zayed Sustainability Prize, for the « Energy » category with an award of 600 000 \$**. Our NGO was selected for its actions at the heart of the Rohingya refugees' camps in Bangladesh.

After being selected as one of the three finalists among more than 2 300 candidates, **the international jury presided by the former President of Iceland Ólafur Grímsson, awarded the prize to our French NGO! An international acknowledgement of our humanitarian activity which accommodates both energy needs in crisis situations as in the longer term.**



The prize has been awarded today by the crown prince and the President of Indonesia, during the opening ceremony of the Sustainable Development in Abu Dhabi.

OUR PROJECT: MEETING THE ESSENTIAL NEEDS OF ROHINGYAS' REFUGEES

Persecuted in Burma, Rohingyas had to flee their country: today there are almost one million refugees in a camp, close to Cox's Bazar in the South of Bangladesh. Electriciens sans frontières was asked by the NGO Friendship to help improve alarming health and social conditions of Rohingyas refugees: a high **level of insecurity at night to go to the well to fetch water or go to the latrines, especially for women and children**. Numerous lightning equipment had been installed but were not working any more, **due to lack of local skills to maintain or repair them**.

TRAINING TO RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Electriciens sans frontières, in close collaboration with the Schneider Electric Group and the NGO Friendship, organized a training program to renewable electricity. Twenty Rohingyas and Bangladeshi apprentices were trained to install lightning or power supply equipment, as well as to maintain and repair with an immediate practical application. This traineeship is an opportunity for apprentices to **acquire** skills in the field of renewable energies, but also to improve their autonomy: apprentices were trained to the **bases of entrepreneurship** to be able to launch their own business.



A SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL INNOVATION, THAT CAN BE REPLICATED IN OTHER CAMPS

Today, **more than 8000 people benefit from improved living conditions** thanks to this project. Today, with still 600 000 Rohingyas remaining in Burma, the exodus towards Bangladesh could go on.

The needs for light and energy should increase, confirming the necessity of the empowerment of the population. Furthermore the approach adopted by Electriciens sans frontières in this project could be replicated in other refugees or displaced persons camps, wherever light must be kept on enduringly.

This project has been carried out with the support of: Ville de Paris, Ministère des Affaires Étrangères (Centre de crise et de soutien), Fondation Schneider Electric, Fondation de France, Fondation Bruneau et Sunna Design.

PRESS CONTACT: Solène Vergerolle, +33 (0)1 84 21 10 49, solene.vergerolle@electriciens-sans-frontieres.org

Electriciens sans frontières, international solidarity NGO, fighting, since 1986, against all forms of inequality across the world that affects access to electricity and water. Thanks to the support of our 1,300 volunteers and our partnerships with local actors, we promote economic and human development through the use of renewable energies.

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