

Bring the Solar C³ITIES solution to your community

- Most of the energy and water consumption and waste generation in a household or community occur in the kitchen and the bathroom.
- Kitchens and bathrooms are traditionally female managed domains so most health risks associated with energy, water and waste are incurred by 'voiceless' women and children.
- The technologies associated with energy production, water supply and waste disposal are traditionally for-profit male domains that occur outside the household without consideration for the well being of women and children in poor communities.
- Solar CITIES brings these domains together by bringing sensibly scaled technologies and design information for creating household level industrial ecology solutions to families around the world.



Founders: T.H. and Sybille Culhane

GET INVOLVED!

YOUR HELP OR DONATION CAN PROVIDE A FAMILY WITH SAFE AND CLEAN, CLIMATE-FRIENDLY AND INFLATION-RESISTANT COOKING FUEL, HOT WATER, LIGHT, SANITATION AND MICROECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES.

- Industrial Ecology Approach to Sustainable Development
- Asset-based Approach to Poverty Reduction
- Stake-holder Participation Approach to Urban Planning
- "Green Collar" Job Training Approach to Education
- Gender Equity Approach to Community Empowerment
- Collective Intelligence Approach to Problem Solving

Solar C³ITIES e.V. is a not-for-profit organization based in Germany. We work all over the world, particularly Africa and the Middle East, developing home-scale sustainable development solutions with, by, and for families and communities.



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Solar C³ITIES

Connecting
Community

Catalysts Integrating Technologies
for Industrial Ecology Solutions



WASTE-TO-ENERGY • BIOGAS
SOLAR HOT WATER
PHOTOVOLTAICS • WIND

Solar CITIES e.V. is a German registered non-profit organization working around the world.



Solar CITIES works on small infrastructure issues with an expertise in renewable energy.

Solar CITIES is principally involved with 'watergy' issues that can be solved using appropriate technology.



Solar CITIES trains communities to build small biogas, wind and solar systems.

Solar CITIES conducts outreach and education workshops using holistic learning, multimedia and edutainment.



design: www.arcdigitalmedia.com

Started by a husband and wife team while they were living in the slums of historic Cairo, Solar CITIES was conceived as a way of working with collective intelligence at the household level to solve the daily challenges of securing basic amenities like clean water, hot water, energy, food and hygienic waste management. We take a neighborly 'barn-raising' approach to solving global issues and making the world a better place.

The Solar CITIES approach is to work at the level of the family, building capacity through building relationships.

THINKING LOCALLY, ACTING GLOBALLY

At Solar CITIES we turn the normal development equation on its head. We choose to think locally -- i.e. we think of how to solve problems in our own homes, in our own back yards, within our own communities -- with the faith that by coming up with solutions that are good for you, are affordable and can be created at home using available materials, the best ideas will by themselves diffuse and spread through personal social networks until they have reached the entire world. The key is to build a network of families and friends and acquaintances that is blind to nations, cultures, races, religions, and borders.

With today's social networking technologies, people now share information without great effort and news travels very fast. Solar CITIES takes advantage of this by working only with people we have gotten to know, and then expanding the network each time, so that we know ever more and ever more different people. Many people talk about the downsides of globalization and urbanization, but Solar CITIES, co-founded by a multicultural couple holding doctorates and specializing in urban planning and education, sees these two trends as potential solution generators.

HONORING DIVERSITY & CROWD SOURCING

Due to the vast migrations of people around the planet, and our interconnectedness through constant travel and telecommunications, awareness of each others needs and mutual problem solving can be vastly accelerated. Multiple perspectives can be brought to bear that vastly reduce redundancy and wasted resources through needless trial and error. Through site visits and multimedia internet communications we have been able to bring technologies and ideas from India to Egypt and from Egypt to California, from Alaska to East Africa and from Central America to South East Asia.

CLOUD COMPUTING & CITIZEN SCIENCE

By tapping into the spirit of community cooperation and extending it to a global scale, experiments in more sustainable living can be run on a huge scale at a very low cost and in a way that invites community and stake-holder participation. By using only off-the-shelf, locally purchased or manufactured, recycled and 'found' materials we strive to give everyone a chance to take control of their own destiny as they pursue a dignified and comfortable path to fully sustainable development.

It takes many mothers around the world hours of dangerous and dirty work just to heat water for cooking and bathing children; Solar CITIES offers safer, better ways.



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