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D.LIGHT AND FEMINA HIP DONATE 300 SOLAR LAMPS TO SCHOOLS IN TANZANIA
Donation is Kick-Off to Nationwide "Right to Safe Light" Campaign for Schoolchildren

Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, 4 December 2009 – D.light Design and Femina HIP today announced the donation of 300 solar study lamps to unelectrified schools throughout Tanzania. The donation marks the official kick-off of their joint nationwide "Right to Safe Light" campaign, which has the stated goal of replacing every kerosene lamp or candle used for studying with a solar study lamp.

"The mission of D.light is to give our customers a high quality of life, regardless of their access to electricity," said D.light Managing Director Pepijn Steemers, who oversees the D.light East Africa office in Tanzania. "The children of Tanzania deserve bright light that will keep them safe and facilitate effective learning. We are honored to partner with Femina HIP in this important campaign."

Recent fires accidentally started by unsafe lighting sources have claimed the lives of several young Tanzanian schoolchildren. The campaign, which will raise public awareness on the issue and engage in solar lamp distribution, will ensure that such accidents never happen again. It is also in support of government policy, which states that kerosene lanterns and candles should not be used in schools any longer.

The 300 solar study lamps have been donated to schools selected through a needs assessment conducted by Solar Aid, in close partnership with members of TAHOSSA (Tanzania Heads of Secondary Schools Association). This is seen as a first step in the movement to introduce solar lighting in every school across the country.

In addition to the clear public safety benefits, studies have also shown that improved lighting during the night leads to improved study results (Agoramoorthy & Hsu, 2009; Madan & Singh, 2007). Households that switch from kerosene-based lighting to solar lamps can also experience significant savings. The Household Budget Survey (2007) illustrates that, on average, Tanzanian households spend 44% of their household income on kerosene, and spend up to 63% for the poorest quartile of the population. Because solar lamps are charged by sunlight, there are no recurring costs for families.

About D.light Design

D.light Design is an international consumer products company providing high quality solutions for people without access to reliable electricity. Our mission is to enable households without reliable electricity to attain the same quality of life as those with electricity. We will begin by replacing every kerosene lantern with clean, safe and bright light. By 2020, we aim to have improved the lives of 100 million individuals. To learn more, please visit www.dlightdesign.com.

About Femina HIP

Femina HIP is a Popular Multimedia Platform in Tanzania that aims to educate and empower youth throughout the country on various social subjects. This is done through Fema magazine, Si

Mchezo! magazine, Fema TV Talk Show, Pilika Pilika radio, and outreach activities. To learn more, please visit www.feminahip.or.tz

About Solar Aid

Solar Aid aims to enable the world's poorest people to have clean renewable power. Main focus is on secondary schools and health facilities in rural Tanzania. At present their goal is to install over 200 systems over the next years. To learn more, please visit www.solar-aid.org.

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