



D.light Celebrates International Women's Day with 65 million Lives Empowered Through Solar Lighting

March 8, 2017, San Francisco, CA; Nairobi, Kenya; New Delhi, India –Today is International Women's Day, a day to celebrate women and commemorate the struggle for women's rights. D.light joins the international community to celebrate women who have been empowerment and lives transformed by its solar products worldwide. International Women's Day is a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.

Women are very important to the d.light family and form majority of our customers and valued workforce. Today, women in developing countries are taking back power through access to solar energy, from managing successful small businesses, lighting classrooms and dormitories, cooking for their families and lighting their homes; women are able to transform their lives.

Across the world, women and children are also disproportionately affected by the toxic smoke from fuel-based lamps and replacing them with solar products significantly reduces indoor pollution, helps save money, and allows people to operate small enterprises with reliable, clean, and affordable lighting. It is clear that women are not only important consumers and entrepreneurs, but also key catalysts of the modern off-grid lighting revolution.

"My life has really changed since my husband I bought d.light D30 home system. I can now cook for my family without worrying about running out of kerosene. My family is now safe" said Penina Ndinda Mutuku, mother of three from Machakos County, Kenya. Penina who is also a pastor's wife often hosts bible study meetings in her house and has noticed that the number of bible study attendees has increased since she and her husband installed the D30 home system. "My status has been elevated by this light. When we used the kerosene lamp, our visitors would leave my house smelling of kerosene fumes and I was ashamed. The solar lights are a status symbol for my family".

In humanitarian crisis situations, women and girls are often vulnerable and experience heightened insecurity and fear for their wellbeing. For refugees and internally displaced women and girls, being able to access solar lamps to light up temporary shelter, cook, light their way to toilets, charge mobile phones and study provides a sense of respite. From Africa to India, solar lighting has helped improve women and girls quality of life, helped them save money and made them feel safe. The lack of efficient energy connections places increased burdens on women's time by adding to their household responsibilities, which in turn reduces their opportunities to earn income. Women are also more exposed to health risks from kerosene oil and other fuel-based lighting sources.

"We are celebrating this important day and all the women who have been empowered by d.light. You help make d.light a great company" said Ned Tozun, d.light co-founder and CEO.