Solar Energy Project in Ghana

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The majority of homes in rural Ghana are poorly ventilated, leaving the occupants exposed to harmful particles emitted by the lamps. The health of household occupants, mainly women and children whom are home bound with domestic duties suffer prolonged exposure to smoke and spent fuel. The burning of kerosene in unvented situations - indoors - is a major atmospheric pollutant that results in illness (acute respiratory infections: influenza and pneumonia) and in extreme cases death. Accidents are common, and in Ghana 2.5 million people (350,000 children) suffer severe burns each year primarily from upturned lamps. Furthermore, many homes are raised to the ground when a lamp is toppled.

In this background WCS in association with local organization, helped United Nations in setting up solar energy program for a village benefitting 200 households, public places including hospitals, schools etc.

The main components of the project included the use of renewable energy for solar cooking, solar well pumps for domestic and agricultural purposes and solar lights for rural households and rural clinics in five different rural communities in the Afram Plains district of Ghana.

