

Working With In-Country Partners to Install Renewable Energy and Water Systems in Rural Villages Around the World Since 1997



green empowerment





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Andrea Johnson

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Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

I have spent an inspiring first few months with Green Empowerment, engaging in a wide range of activities and discussions. I am honored to be a part of such a great organization and excited to share with you our 2015 updates and highlights.

Green Empowerment went through a lot of organizational change in 2015, with my recent coming onboard completing this period of leadership transition. I am very grateful to our supporters and partners – together, we were able to weather the changes smoothly.

I am also incredibly impressed by our staff and partners for delivering high quality projects throughout this time. We expanded access to renewable energy, clean water and complementary health and environmental projects, and continue to build towards a more equitable and sustainable future for the communities where we work in Latin America and Asia.

This report details outstanding highlights that demonstrate the strength of our mission and the tenacity of our approach to community development. In 2015 we continued to implement diverse projects with long-time partners in Nicaragua; improved our delivery of water systems, reaching over 12,700 people in the Philippines; and placed a Fellow in Myanmar to lay the ground work for future partnerships in a country facing significant national political changes.

While there is hard work ahead, I am confident that we will build on our solid foundation, rich history, and strong partnerships, to expand our impact and continue to grow while maintaining focus on our values and mission. As you read through this report, I encourage you to take pride in how your support has helped achieve these results and think about what you can do to help Green Empowerment continue our great work.

Please join me in celebrating our accomplishments and stay tuned for continued project updates from the field, as well as opportunities to get involved with Green Empowerment in Portland and abroad.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Johnson'.

Andrea Johnson

Executive Director

The Green Empowerment approach:



Partner with local organizations to install renewable energy and clean water projects with additional health, sanitation, environment and economic project components.

Engage local communities to ensure long term viability through community participation and system ownership.

Provide resources, technical expertise, funding and training to partners and communities to build local capacity.

Amplify our impact through regional networks, technical training and service-learning programs.

Green Empowerment projects have supported over 345,000 people since our establishment in 1997

In 2015, thanks to supporters like you...



13,320 people
gained safe access
to clean water



20,120 people
are now served by
community centers powered
by renewable energy



3,240 people
can now access
renewable energy
in their homes



3,659 people
are now being served
by new sanitation
facilities



22 communities
participated in
projects



88 participants
took part in service
learning trips



1,110 members
of local communities
received training



25 organizations
collaborated on local
projects



With your help, we can reach more people - give today!
We triple your donations with additional revenue sources.

Malaysia



Elementary students, teachers, the GE team and local officials, with the rainwater collection reservoir in the background.

©GE/2015



Sanitation and hand washing facilities at the Santo Nino Elementary School

©GE/2015



Dessie Ganoza, 22 year-old mother from Barangay San Agustin, Bato, Leyte expressed how the CREST project ensured her family's access to clean and safe water ©BGET/2015



Community leaders and GE staff from Barangay Santo Nino, Hilongos, Leyte, commission the new clean drinking water ram pump system.

©GE/2015

- Since the establishment of the Long Lawen micro-hydro project in Sarawak in 2002, GE has been working with partner organization Tonibung and communities in Borneo to demonstrate that decentralized, renewable energy technologies can serve as effective alternatives to large hydro-power and coal plants. In 2015, GE worked with community leaders and activists in influencing Sarawak's state government to reverse its decision to construct the controversial Baram Dam, which would have displaced over 10,000 indigenous residents.

- GE's work in expanding access to clean energy and water continued last year with the communities in Ulu Papar, Pensiangan and along the Baram River building micro-hydro, solar PV and water systems in their ancestral forests. The turbines for these systems are fabricated and assembled by a team of indigenous technicians at the Center for Renewable Energy and Appropriate Technology (CREATE), which GE co-founded with local partner Tonibung.

Myanmar

- GE provided solar power and training for two rural medical clinics along the Thai/Burma border. These facilities serve approximately 15,000 patients annually and can now improve and expand their medical care thanks to clean, affordable, and reliable energy access.

- GE participated in the Micro-Hydro Empowerment Network's (HPNet) "Practice to Policy Dialogue" with Burmese policy-makers, energy businesses and NGOs as part of an international delegation to advocate for the state government to adopt micro-hydro and the community-based approach as part of their national electrification strategy. The exercise set the stage for further GE involvement in Burma in 2016, beginning with a proposed pilot project that would provide micro-hydro power to over 70 households, while transferring knowledge and efficient turbine technology to Burmese micro-hydro practitioners.

Philippines

- The Building Climate Resilience in Water Stressed Communities (CREST) project has reached 32,407 people with potable water and 10,017 with access to improved sanitation facilities. GE has worked with villages to bring clean water and sanitation to rural communities on more than five islands.

- One such project from 2015 ensured access to clean and safe water for 475 people in the village of Sto Nino in Hilongos, Leyte through ram pumps and rainwater harvesting. To improve health, sanitation, and hygiene, schools now make use of the handwashing facility, new latrines, and hygiene kits.

Nicaragua



Opening a valve on a microhydro to power the community of El Bejuco, Nicaragua ©GE/2015



Nicaragua Fellow Kirsten Midura with Diana installs a solar panel in El Balsamo, Nicaragua. ©GE/2015



Biogas digester from our programs in Ecuador. ©GE/2015



Olivia Velasquez with her Onil improved cookstove. ©GE/2015

- GE continues to work with two long-time partners, AsoFenix and Association of Rural Development Workers – Benjamin Linder (ATDER-BL) to support rural communities in Nicaragua by providing access to renewable energy and clean water systems in addition to other complementary community projects.

- During 2015 ATDER-BL and GE brought electricity to 315 families in northern Nicaragua. Through access to micro-credit and a local subsidy in exchange for environmental conservation efforts, these families have electricity for the first time. Families are using their 50 or 100-Watt solar systems for household illumination to power basic electronics such as cell phones, radios and televisions; and for productive uses in small family-run stores. These efforts are an important step to bringing 100% renewable energy access to the region.

- In partnership with AsoFenix, GE projects provided over 500 people with clean cookstoves, improved sanitation facilities and sustainable agriculture training to expand the impact from past energy and water projects and continue to improve the health and livelihoods in the communities we serve.

Ecuador

- As GE expands its presence in Ecuador, working with rural communities and new partners in the northern provinces of Esmeraldas and Carchi, building local capacity continues to be a central focus of our work. With support from the WISIONS-funded CRECER project, GE and local partners have been training residents of Felfa, Esmeraldas as biogas digester (BGD) technicians who can design and install this cooking-gas and fertilizer-producing renewable energy technology not only in their own community, but across the area.

- GE continued to focus on creating sustainable, long-term impacts beyond technical training, coordinating exchange visits to other community biogas digester projects and supporting complementary environmental efforts that help strengthen the network of grassroots contacts critical to locally-driven change. By providing organizational and administrative support, GE is turning these united local efforts and growing technical expertise into a national movement. With local partner organizations, we are actively participating in the creation of the Ecuadorian Biodigester Network, following the successful examples of the networks GE has co-created and supported over the last seven years in Colombia and at the South American regional level.

Peru

- GE's model across Latin America focuses on integrated projects with partners Desarrollo Sostenible en Accion (DESEA) and Soluciones Prácticas. In 2015 Soluciones Prácticas and GE led two healthy home initiatives with integrated water, sanitation, improved cookstove and electricity projects in the high Andean communities of Chillca and San Miguel de la Pauca. The program included a large training component to establish local technicians and health promoters benefiting 575 people.

Thank You to All Our Donors!

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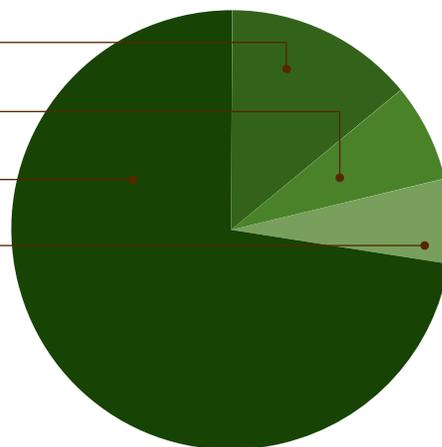
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Partners | Alternative Indigenous Development Foundation, Inc. (AIDFI) | The Appropriate Technology Collaborative (ATC) | Association of Rural Development Workers – Benjamin Linder (ATDER-BL) | AsoFenix | Border Green Energy Team (BGET) | Corporación de Desarrollo Económico Territorial de Esmeraldas (CorpoEsmeraldas) | Desarrollo Sostenible en Accion (DESEA) | Fundación para el Desarrollo de Alternativas Comunitarias para la Conservación de los Trópicos (ALTROPICO) | Nagdilaab Foundation | One Renewable Enterprise (OREEI) | Renewable Energy Association of Myanmar (REAM) | Sibol ng Agham at Teknolohiya (SIBAT, Inc.) | Soluciones Practicas-ITDG (ITDG) | TONIBUNG | USAID (United States Agency for International Development) | YAMOG

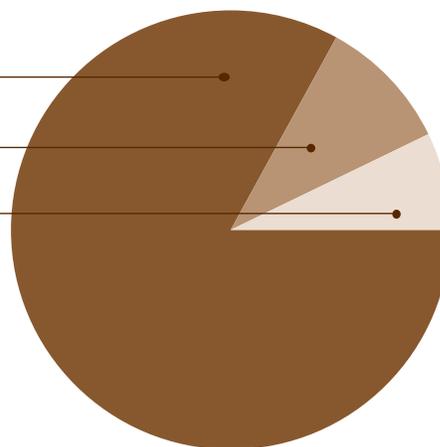
2015 Revenue

Contributions	\$183,620	14%
In-Kind Contributions	\$95,200	7%
Grants	\$956,845	73%
Service Learning	\$81,829	6%
Investment and Interest	\$(12,527)	
Total Revenue for 2015	\$1,304,966	100%



2015 Expenses

Program Services	\$1,142,438	84%
Management and General	\$158,860	12%
Fundraising	\$95,670	5%
Total Expenses for 2015	\$1,367,042	100%



Net Assets \$823,497

GE's audited financial statements are available online at www.greenempowerment.org
 2015 financial statement audit was conducted by Richard Winkel, CPA.

We greatly appreciate and depend on the many Green Empowerment volunteers who contribute their skills, time, and energy. We would like to specifically recognize the following individuals:

Ernie Brooner, Jay Moskovitz, Lee Hunt, Erin Machell, Kirsten Midura, Nick Adams, Sneha Ayyagari, Raveen Kulenthiran, Hannah Morrison, Emily Kruger

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Thank you to Erin Machell for design services!



Our Mission: Green Empowerment works with local partners around the world to strengthen communities by delivering renewable energy and safe water.

GE depends on generous individuals like you to make our life-changing work a reality.

How to give:

Mail, call, or donate via our secure website:

140 SW Yamhill Street, Portland, OR 97204

phone: 503-284-5774

www.greenempowerment.org



green empowerment

Village Solutions for Global Change

Contact us via email: info@greenempowerment.org

Please follow us on twitter: [@greenempower](https://twitter.com/greenempower) and on facebook.com/GreenEmpowerment

Ways to include GE in your estate plan:

- Is GE already in your will, trust or other estate plans? Thank you! Your gift may remain anonymous, but please let GE know.
- Don't have a will or interested in adding GE? Including GE honors your family's legacy with gifts of safe water and clean energy.

Workplace giving:



Connect to GE through workplace giving, event sponsorships or employee

GE is a partner with 1% for the Planet, www.onepercentfortheplanet.org.

Green Empowerment is a U.S. 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 1997.

Photo: The lights come on for the first time in the village of Kampung Kalangan, in Malaysian Borneo, thanks to a new GE micro-hydro system installed by local partner Tonibung. Gabe Wynn ©GE2015

503-284-5774

www.greenempowerment.org