

RESULTS SUMMARY

Green Economic Opportunities for Young People

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PROJECT	<i>Title:</i> Solar Technology TVET
	<i>Partner:</i> National Education Coalition of Niger (ASO-EPT Niger) and The Nigerien Youth Network on Climate Change (RJNCC)
	<i>Country:</i> Niger
	<i>Period:</i> 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2025

CHANGE



Trained young people in Niger now have greater economic integration in their communities, generating income by using their green skills to meet local needs for sustainable energy. A majority of the young people trained are engaged in the sale of solar equipment, solar installation, repair, and maintenance of public and private devices, and solar irrigation systems for community gardens. The change is institutionalised through the introduction of a solar technology module in all vocational and technical training centres (CFMs) in Niger.

CONTEXT

Access to sustainable energy in rural Niger is severely limited, impacting all areas of life including economic opportunities and food security. The lack of vocational training opportunities and skilled workforce in solar technology pose severe obstacles to a green transition, where rural communities in particular struggle to benefit from or maintain solar energy systems. By equipping young people with green skills, the project also enables rural communities to benefit from renewable energy and supports an inclusive green transition.

CONTRIBUTION

Oxfam Denmark supported partners to ensure technical skills strengthening of young people in solar systems, thereby promoting their employability in the communities. Oxfam also connected the young people to solar distribution companies to further their economic integration. Capacity strengthening of trainers improved teaching quality. Following advocacy efforts by ASO-EPT with support from Oxfam, a Professional Qualification Certificate module in Photovoltaic Solar Energy was validated and introduced in all CFMs in Niger.

IMAGES	 <p>Credit: Oxfam Niger</p>	 <p>Credit: Oxfam Niger</p>
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACTIVITIES

The project has trained a total of 80 young people from vocational training centres in the four municipalities involved, namely Abalak, Malbaza, Guidan Roundji, and Kornaka. The young people received training in the installation, repair, and maintenance of solar systems and were provided with kits enabling them to start collective or individual businesses in the field of solar technology. The RJNCC organised awareness-raising in communities on the importance of green skills for a just transition. The ASO-EPT partner held several advocacy meetings with various key players in the technical and vocational education and training sector, including government ministries. These strategic discussions made it possible to draw up a clear agenda for the development of a training module on solar energy for young people in CFMs.

LESSONS

While most of the young people trained were able to engage in income-generating activities post training, more support is needed for solar micro-enterprises to become formalised and sustainable. As a complementary strategy, collaborating with another project to link trained graduates with solar energy companies has helped boost project outcomes and harmonise interventions in the same areas. More work needs to be done to continue challenging gender norms and increase the rate of young women's participation in technical and vocational training for the green energy sector. Another important lesson is on advocacy timing and being prepared to use political windows of opportunity. In this case, such a window opened when a political reshuffle resulted in the re-establishment of the Ministry of Technical and Vocational Education and Training, facilitating advocacy for the inclusion of a solar energy training module in CFMs.

EVIDENCE

Evidence of change is documented in Oxfam reporting and an external project evaluation. The external evaluation showed that 85% of participants are employed, in internships, or active in entrepreneurship after the project, out of which 33% are employed by solar equipment companies and 25% are entrepreneurs. This indicates that the training has met real market needs and promotes relatively rapid integration into the job market. According to the evaluation, 69% of young people report an increase in their income after the training. Both Oxfam in Niger and the partner organisation ASO-EPT worked to produce the new training module on photovoltaic solar energy technology, which was validated by the Secretary General of the Ministry of Technical and Vocational Education and Training at a workshop held in November 2025.

DOMAINS

<i>Development strategy priorities:</i>	Democracy and Human Rights
<i>Changes in the lives of people facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability</i>	X
<i>Changes in laws, policies and practices that affect people's rights</i>	-
<i>Changes in the capacity of organisations and communities to support rights</i>	-
<i>Changes in partnerships and collaborations that support people's rights</i>	-
<i>Changes in participation of groups facing poverty, marginalisation or vulnerability</i>	-
<i>Changes in local leadership of development and humanitarian work</i>	-