



We Are Helping to Make a Difference

A Quick Primer

Solar energy is the cleanest and most abundant renewable energy source in the world. Morningstar, teaming with many worthwhile / socially responsible organizations, is helping to bring Solar Electric Power to the four corners of the world—making a difference & changing many lives, all while protecting our planet.

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Did you know that the United Nations has identified 40 countries around the world as areas of energy need? And that there are currently, 1.3 billion people (1 in 5) worldwide without access to electricity and another 1 billion who only have intermittent access as well as 2.8 billion people lack access to clean cooking solutions. In fact, nearly 40% of the world's population rely on wood, coal, charcoal or animal waste to cook their food—breathing in the toxic smoke known for causing lung disease and killing nearly 2 million people a year, most of them women and children. (Source: United Nations, Sept 2012) Many people in these parts of the world also have less than ideal educational & medical facilities as well as living conditions. The challenges to bringing electricity to these countries include difficult regional topography, high connection costs with low consumption and limited resources. *In many of these countries Solar Power is a big part of the Solution and [Morningstar](#) is happy to be an integral part of helping make that a reality!*

For almost 20 years, [Morningstar](#) has been designing & delivering innovative [solar charge controller & inverter products](#) to help provide reliable, clean power to the four corners of the globe—with over 2 million units installed, in over 67 countries around the world. We take pride in delivering new and exciting solutions for the renewable energy market and are renowned for delivering the industry's best overall customer value and for setting new standards in performance, innovative features, quality & reliability.



Since the beginning of Morningstar's history, we have chosen to do our part in helping to make a difference. We have partnered and supported many groundbreaking solar-electrification programs that have helped bring power to many of the world's remote rural citizens—helping change the lives of many! Here are just a few examples of the impact we are helping to make around the world:

“VIDA thanks Morningstar for their generous donation and continued support of our programs and projects,” said Kathryn Sonnie, VIDA's Chairperson of the Board. “The donation of Morningstar TriStar MPPT Controllers and SureSine Inverters enable us to carry out the impactful, life-changing projects we complete around the world every year—we couldn't do it without Morningstar!”



1) Africa, Various Countries (2010+) – Recently we partnered with the [Volunteers for International Development and Aid](#) (VIDA), supplying them with Morningstar’s [TriStar MPPT™ Charge Controllers](#) & [SureSine™ DC-to-AC Pure Sine Wave Inverters](#) to help ‘Solarize’ the Remote Parts of Ghana’s Volta Region. This program is a continuation of our [2011 VIDA](#) partnership, where we supplied the same Morningstar controllers & inverters to help provide solar-electric power to several schools in Malawi, Sierra Leone and Liberia. Our [TriStar MPPT Controllers](#) & [SureSine Inverters](#) are helping to power basic infrastructure in schools and medical clinics inside many African states; enabling the solar-electric powering of communication systems, security systems and lighting installations as well as helping to save lives and improve overall healthcare conditions.



2) Latin America, Peru (2011 & 2012) – When [Peru’s Peace Corps](#) team needed help putting together an off-grid rural electrification project to improve the living conditions of their dedicated environmental volunteers at the Calipuy National Sanctuary, a remote wilderness in the Andes, they called upon Morningstar to help. We donated our [ProStar™ Solar Charge Controllers](#)— which are equipped with the Extensive Electronics’ Protection & Tropicalization features known to extend overall PV system life, especially in harsh weather climates like the Andes Mountains. The Peruvian-based Peace Corp volunteers are subjected to less-than-optimal living conditions. Our [ProStar](#) donation helped the team install a 400 watt solar electric system in the Sanctuary’s guard station; providing the facility with electricity and greatly improving the quality of life of the park guards. "Thank you Morningstar for your partnership with Peace Corps in making this project possible, and helping protect this important area from its constant threat of invasion from illegal farming and grazing," said Kail Zuschlag, Peace Corps Peru, Santiago de Chuco. Kail told us that the Peace Corp team chose the ProStar Controller because of "Morningstar’s long-standing history of producing high-quality products known for their long-lasting reliability."



3) WE CARE Solar Suitcase (2009+) – Morningstar is happy to be an integral part of the '[We CARE Solar Suitcase](#),' which helps to bring lights, power & hope to health facilities in regions without reliable electricity. ([WE CARE SOLAR](#) is a non-profit organization promoting safe motherhood and reduces maternal mortality in developing regions by providing health workers with reliable lighting, blood bank refrigeration and mobile communication using solar electricity).



4) Fukushima, Japan (2011) – Post the devastation & destruction of the Fukushima earthquake & tsunami; when the local residents began rebuilding—they began by building small solar powered dwellings for the disaster areas and those shelters were powered by Morningstar's [SunSaver MPPT™ Controllers](#). Our friends at Denna told us, "that many people were delighted with Morningstar's generosity and products" They were especially pleased with knowing that Morningstar's products encourage the use of natural (renewable) energy (not nuclear energy) for making electricity.



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5) New York (2012) – [Mobile Solar Power](#) was helping to bring electricity to many New York communities severely affected by Hurricane Sandy. [Power Rockaways Resilience](#) set up solar powered generators [with [Morningstar's ProStar-30M charge controllers](#) on-board] to help create sustainable power for local residents. [As in the case of many recent natural disasters (hurricane / blizzard prone areas)—solar panels, deep cycle batteries & solar charge controllers are being added to many household emergency power kits.]



Morningstar takes pride in delivering new and exciting solutions for the renewable energy market through dedication, superior design and business integrity; and we are happy to support so many worthwhile / life-changing organizations and purposes. Seeing our products make a difference in so many ways, from supporting renewable / clean energy solutions; to benefitting so many people, in so many parts of the world; to changing so many lives—is why we all do what we do.

“I’ve been lucky enough to travel to areas of Western Africa to install that equipment on schools and medical clinics and I always leave places with confidence knowing I’m leaving behind trusted and tested Morningstar equipment,” said Dave Lettero, VIDA’s Solar Project Manager. “I’m thankful for the support Morningstar Corporation has provided VIDA over the last few years and I look forward

[Morningstar Corporation](#) strongly believes in continuing to do its part for our planet and we are happy to proudly support the global efforts of so many socially responsible organizations.

