

Tackling poverty through renewable energy

NEW ENERGY

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THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FROM THE KORU FOUNDATION

INTERVIEW WITH KORU'S
PARTNER BLUEENERGY IN
NICARAGUA

KORU LAUNCHES NEW NAME AND
NEW PROGRAMME APPROACH

RUNNING4RENEWABLES
SUCCESS AT THE
EDINBURGH MARATHON

...and more



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PROVES A BIG SUCCESS!



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Friends

of the
Koru Foundation



editorial

Welcome to New Energy



Neil Jeffery, CEO at the **Koru Foundation**, presents the new look organisation and explains the continued progress in developing the organisation's work to tackle poverty in the developing world.

NEIL JEFFERY

• **KORU FOUNDATION**
• **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
• **OFFICER**

The Koru Foundation will be changing its name to Renewable World on the 15th July 2010. The new name enables us to more effectively communicate our approach, impact and results of our innovative work tackling energy poverty in emerging markets.

We continue to work with local partners to develop clean reliable small scale renewable energy sources for some of the 1.6 billion people in the world without access to electricity. Our new name is another milestone for the organisation's development and paves the way for us to reach out to new types of supporters across the country and internationally, with the aim of building a truly interconnected Renewable World. I would particularly like to thank the Board, staff and corporate Friends for their active engagement and input into this process.

Turning to the centre pages, you will see a presentation of our three new regional

programmes, describing plans to work with communities across East Africa, Central America and South Asia as presented by our new Business Development Director, Jo Kelly.

The programme descriptions found here demonstrate the impact of our projects, which bring small scale renewable energy to communities living in poverty. Our expanding work builds and supports a series of projects in each of the regional hubs, enabling us to work more closely with local partners to provide a variety of renewable energy solutions to a growing number of targeted beneficiaries. Our new programmes approach also allows us to build a better understanding of the impact of our work, enabling us to assist those living in poverty more effectively.

This edition contains an interview with a partner from our Central America programme describing how Koru's support has created positive change in their lives. Such stories only strengthen our resolve to increase our impact and strengthen our ability to work more effectively alongside local partners by providing them with greater levels of support, knowledge and expertise.

OUR NEW PROGRAMMES APPROACH ALSO ALLOWS US TO BUILD A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK, ENABLING US TO ASSIST THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY MORE EFFECTIVELY.

MORE INFORMATION...



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Bringing Renewable Energy to Nicaragua



Hervé Chavagnon joined **blueEnergy, Koru Foundation's partner** in Nicaragua in 2008. He is responsible for overseeing a team of 20 international volunteers and 20 local staff as well as blueEnergy's technical projects which provide renewable energy, communications and water and sanitation to poor, isolated communities on Nicaragua's Atlantic Coast.

HERVÉ CHAVAGNON

- blueEnergy
- DIRECTOR OF PROJECTS
- & PROGRAMMES

WHAT IS THE AIM OF blueEnergy?

blueEnergy's mission is to improve the lives of marginalised communities using sustainable energy to provide basic services. Without basic infrastructure and access to energy, these communities will be unable to increase their development opportunities whilst preserving their culture and environment.

WHAT TECHNOLOGY DOES blueEnergy USE?

blueEnergy uses a wind turbine design by Hugh Piggott which is well adapted to the coast and is able to be manufactured locally using simple materials, which is in line with our vision of developing local skills in order to make renewable technologies a viable alternative for rural electrification on the Atlantic coast.

WHAT IS THE SITUATION IN COMMUNITIES YOU WORK WITH?

Half of the five million people who live in Nicaragua do not have access to electricity. The situation is particularly bad in the Atlantic coast where blueEnergy is based; nearly 80% of the inhabitants in that area do not have access to electricity and literally live in the dark. These communities are extremely poor, having struggled to recover from the revolutionary war of the 80's and survive mainly on subsistence farming and fishing. There is a lack of infrastructure in the area making grid extension very difficult and alternatives like diesel generators are prohibitively expensive so blueEnergy focuses on using renewable systems to provide a viable alternative in these areas.

CAN YOU RECOUNT A SITUATION WHICH HAS STOOD OUT DURING YOUR TIME WORKING FOR blueEnergy?

In May 2009, when the blueEnergy team arrived in Monkey Point, a community on the Atlantic Coast, to install nine solar powered in-house electrification systems, we met Zoraida, a resident with third degree burn scars covering her right arm and leg. She had been lighting her home with volatile, kerosene lamps. One night, she fell asleep with the lamp still burning and she woke up to find her entire bed on fire. With no telephone or radio to call for help and the closest medical centre 40 miles away, it was 24 hours before a boat was found to take her to a clinic for medical treatment. Despite the shocking scars she now carries, Zoraida is lucky to be alive. Hers was one of the first houses to receive electricity in Monkey Point.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF NICARAGUA FOR THE FUTURE?

I hope all communities get the same opportunity to develop and have access to basic services like health and education. blueEnergy has become a key stakeholder in rural electrification on the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua and is now starting to build connections with the Ministry of Energy so we are hopeful about expanding our work in Nicaragua and improving the lives of more communities through renewable energy.

The Koru Foundation will continue to work with organisations like blueEnergy to help them provide renewable energy sources to people like Zoraida, making a real difference to their lives.

NORTON ROSE LLP PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR THE KORU FOUNDATION

The Koru Foundation are delighted to announce backing from leading international legal practice Norton Rose LLP, which will include providing pro bono legal advice and hosting a launch event at their London offices in July to raise the profile of the organisation. Norton Rose LLP is the market leading climate change practice and is known for its profile in renewables, clean energy and the environment. The Koru Foundation is honoured to receive support from an organisation which shares our commitment to low carbon development. Caroline May a Partner of Norton Rose LLP, said: "We are delighted to support the Koru Foundation and look forward to assisting with their development projects."

IRISH SECURITIES FIRM DONATES PROFITS TO KORU

The Koru Foundation is very grateful to NCB, one of Ireland's largest independent securities firms, to receive a generous donation from the profits of their successful charity trading day on April 15th 2010 alongside two local Irish charities.

Conor O'Kelly CEO of NCB said: "We raised a staggering €55,000 as part of our fundraising initiatives on the day for the Koru Foundation. This amount was way beyond even our most optimistic expectations. We are delighted to make such a significant contribution to a very deserving and worthy charity."

KORU LAUNCHES CARBON CALCULATOR POWERED BY AMEE

The Koru Foundation is proud to launch a new web based carbon calculator powered by AMEE, who are responsible for the successful Act on CO₂ calculator and work with many companies including Google, UK National Grid and Morgan Stanley to calculate their carbon footprints.

The calculator will enable people who are concerned about their carbon emissions to take action by visiting our website and calculating how much they should donate, depending on their carbon footprint to one of Koru's renewable energy projects which tackle poverty in developing countries vulnerable to the effects of climate change. To find out more about carbon compensation visit: <http://koru.amee.com>

MORE INFORMATION...



Contact 00 1 415 552 2615
Web www.blueenergygroup.org

Jo Kelly, the new Business Development Director at the Koru Foundation, explains how Koru's new programme approach enables the organisation to maximise its effectiveness in tackling poverty through renewable energy.

Our programmes seek to increase our contribution, and that of our Friends, to promote appropriate sustainable development in communities affected by energy poverty by more effectively combining Koru's link to partners on the ground with our unique relationship with the Renewable Energy Industry in Europe.

We are developing our programmes in two distinctive ways: firstly, we are increasingly working more closely and more directly with indigenous partner organisations, providing a source of investment, skills and expertise to support partners in addressing development energy needs in the most locally relevant and sustainable way; and secondly, Koru is actively engaging in sharing good practice and knowledge between partner organisations and across geographic divides, harnessing practical learning to inform Koru's policy papers and to continuously improve our work.

Koru remains focused on working with partners who share our vision of providing sustainable, local sources of renewable energy which enable greater community access to education and health care opportunities and stimulate enterprise development, without creating dependency on carbon-based fuels.



Installing the wind turbine in Cuajinquil, Nicaragua

"WE WANT OUR COMMUNITY TO BE THE FIRST IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF SAN JOSE DE LOS REMARTES TO HARNESS THE POWER OF THE WIND. IN THE FUTURE WE IMAGINE A COMMUNITY WITH A FRUIT COMPANY THAT SELLS ITS PRODUCE TO ITS NEIGHBOURS AND THE TOWN OF SAN JOSE" – ZENAYA, RESIDENT OF THE COMMUNITY OF CUAJINQUIL, NICARAGUA.

CENTRAL AMERICA

Over a 100 million people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to electricity and like Africa and South Asia, the majority of these people live in rural areas where grid connection is difficult and prohibitively expensive for national governments.

In Central America, women are the ones most affected by energy scarcity as they head the majority of rural households and are therefore responsible for providing energy for heating, lighting and cooking. As a result, women and children in Central America suffer high incidences of health related problems associated with the collection and use of traditional fuels such as wood and kerosene for their energy needs, a situation which could be avoided with access to clean, sustainable energy.

NEW ENERGY IN NICARAGUA

Almost half the population in Nicaragua live without access to electricity which could drastically improve their quality of life, yet the cost of extending the national electric grid to disperse, rural communities is prohibitively expensive and outside the scope of electrical distribution companies.

In 2009, the Koru Foundation teamed up with local Nicaraguan NGO's blueEnergy and Asofenix to install a micro-grid combining wind and solar energy to provide power for 20 houses, and a water pump which will save women and children from spending time and energy transporting water from the nearest source to their homes. This will not only improve people's health by providing a clean water source, but will also provide an alternative to burning wood in their homes reducing the risk of accidental fires or inhaling toxic fumes.



Bosco Oryema with his solar ta

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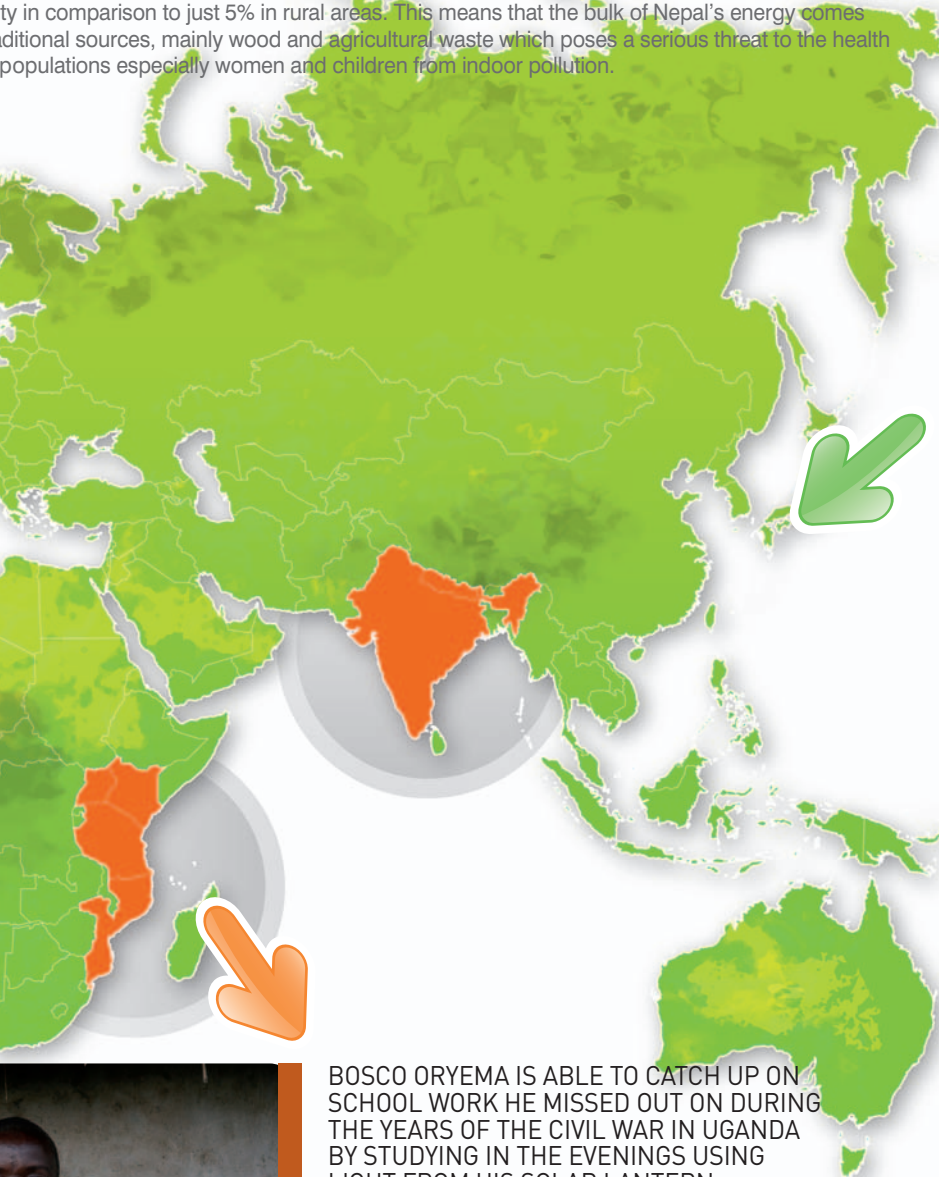
MORE INFORMATION ON KORU'S RENEWABLE ENERGY PROGRAMME...



Contact Jo Kelly
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Email jo@korufoundation.org

ASIA

has seen considerable growth in recent years but both India and Nepal suffer from disproportionate access to electricity between rural and urban areas, which has a huge impact on 70% of the population in the region that continue to live in rural areas. This situation is particularly bad in Nepal where 90% of the population in urban areas have access to electricity in comparison to just 5% in rural areas. This means that the bulk of Nepal's energy comes from traditional sources, mainly wood and agricultural waste which poses a serious threat to the health of populations especially women and children from indoor pollution.



Kamala Pakharin, with her wind turbine in Phakel, Nepal

"THE BEST THING ABOUT HAVING ELECTRICITY FROM THE WIND TURBINE IS THAT NOW THERE IS NO SMOKE FROM THE LIGHTING AND WE DON'T HAVE TO SPEND ANY MORE MONEY ON KEROSENE"
- KAMALA PAKHARIN, PHAKEL.

WINDS OF CHANGE IN NEPAL

Much of Nepal's rural population live in remote, mountainous locations which are difficult and expensive to connect to the central power grid, leaving communities reliant on kerosene, wood and agricultural waste which are not only damaging for the environment but for people's health.

In 2007 Koru funded its first ever project in Nepal involving three wind turbines in the village of Phakel in the Kathmandu Valley. These wind turbines are not only providing a sustainable source of energy for the local school so that they are able to continue lessons in the cold winter months when they would otherwise have to close because it is too dark and cold to continue teaching, but they provide several families with power for lighting and appliances, reducing the level of indoor pollution in their homes and allowing them to spend the money they would have used on fuel for other more essential items for their families.



mp, North Uganda

BOSCO ORYEMA IS ABLE TO CATCH UP ON SCHOOL WORK HE MISSED OUT ON DURING THE YEARS OF THE CIVIL WAR IN UGANDA BY STUDYING IN THE EVENINGS USING LIGHT FROM HIS SOLAR LANTERN.

EAST AFRICA

Approximately one third of the 1.6 billion people living without access to energy worldwide live in Africa. In East Africa, over 70% of the rural population have no access to electricity; people rely on wood, charcoal and agricultural waste for cooking and heating. Unfortunately, fuel-wood supplies are dwindling fast in many parts of the continent and women and children now spend more time and money to procure it.

Many African countries receive on average 325 days a year of bright sunlight, making solar power a viable alternative to bring energy to virtually any location in Africa without the need for expensive large scale grid infrastructure.

LIGHTING UP NORTHERN UGANDA

Many communities in Northern Uganda lost everything during the civil war and much of the existing infrastructure in the region was destroyed. Since peace has been restored in recent years people are returning home but with few possessions and little to return to in order to rebuild their lives.

Koru carried out a project to replace paraffin oil lamps with solar lanterns in the refugee camps of Northern Uganda. The solar lamp is left out in the sun for five hours to charge and then provides five hours of bright light. This has made a huge difference to many families in terms of not only reducing their exposure to indoor air pollution, but also saving them money and increasing the number of hours that people can be involved in extra educational or income generating activities.

KORU EVENTS CALENDAR

Catch Koru at one of these upcoming conferences or join a fundraising event.

- RenewableUK Offshore Wind 2010

29th – 30th June
ACC Liverpool – Stand 99



Visit the Koru Foundation at stand number 99 at

RenewableUK's ninth annual offshore wind event. If you are visiting Offshore why not consider compensating for your travel emissions by donation to our carbon compensation scheme? <http://koru.amee.com>

- EEEGR Summer Conference

14th July
Great Yarmouth Race Course



The Koru Foundation will be attending EEEGR's flagship event in July which is the essential all energy event for the East of England so

please come and speak to us to find out more about our work and how you can get involved if you are attending this event.

<http://www.eeegr.com/events/info.php?refnum=778&startnum=8>

- London Triathlon Renewable Energy Cup

7th August
Excel Centre, London



Prove that the renewable energy industry has got what it takes by participating in the largest triathlon in the world and

raising funds for the Koru Foundation's renewable energy projects.
<http://www.korufoundation.org/get-involved/fundraising-events/london-triathlon-renewable-energy-challenge>

Koru launches new **online** registration system for events

Participating in a Koru Foundation event has never been simpler now that you can register, pay your entrance fee and set up your fundraising page all on our website! You can even keep an eye on our new score board to see if you are one of the highest fundraisers. So what are you waiting for? There's still time to sign up for one of the great events which Koru is organising this year.

Why not take part in the London Triathlon Renewable Energy Challenge and not only compete in the largest triathlon in the world but raise funds for a good cause at the same time? You can either take on the challenge of a 750m swim, 20k cycle and 5k run as an individual or as part of a team. Registration for the event closes on 1st July so sign up now to secure your place:

<http://www.korufoundation.org/whats-new/events/2010-08-07>

The funds raised from the event will enable Koru to install hydraulic ram pump systems in several isolated, mountainous communities in Nepal in order to provide water for household and agricultural uses. This not only saves women and children from the burden of carrying water for long distances, enabling them to focus on other things like school work or income generating activities, but allows people to increase the productivity of their crops as well as carrying out other livelihoods activities such as brick making.

MORE INFORMATION...

Contact Nicola Ward
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Email triathlon@korufoundation.org



Chris Gaydon from Falck Renewables participating in the London Triathlon

WHY NOT TAKE PART IN THE LONDON TRIATHLON RENEWABLE ENERGY CHALLENGE AND NOT ONLY COMPETE IN THE LARGEST TRIATHLON IN THE WORLD BUT RAISE FUNDS FOR A GOOD CAUSE AT THE SAME TIME?



Sign up now

Running4renewables Sponsors



London Triathlon Renewable Energy Cup

The first ever **running4renewables** initiative set up by Daniel Rafferty in aid of the Koru Foundation has proved to be a great success. Over 80 runners from all over Europe took part in running events including the Copenhagen Marathon, Edinburgh Marathon and Half Marathon, Scottish Half Marathon and Hairy Haggis Team Relay.

Running4renewables beats the heat to be a great success!

Runners braved the 26 degree heat in Edinburgh on 23rd of May to take place in the final running4renewables event which saw Finnbar Coghlan beat Gero Vella by just 3 minutes, finishing in 3 hours and 46 minutes in the full marathon distance – impressive for a man who had only ever run 5k before signing up for the running4renewables challenge! In the Scottish Half marathon, Lucy Greenhill from Joint Nature Conservation Society narrowly missed out to James Townsend from Generations Power who finished in an equally impressive 1 hour and 41 minutes.

In the Hairy Haggis Team Relay, there were 17 running4renewables teams competing, including runners from Natural Power, Community Energy Scotland, WJM, Shepherd and Wedderburn, Smartest Energy and Scottish Renewables but it was GreenPower who snatched the title for fastest team from Shepherd and Wedderburn, finishing in an amazing 3 hours and 23 minutes.

Sports Therapy Scotland were on hand to provide runners with a well deserved massage to ease the aches and pains and even raised another £60 in donations for the Koru

Foundation by offering their services to other runners.

Marathon veteran Colin Bullen, from Heriot Watt University who was running his 7th marathon proved that he was not only experienced at running marathons but also at fundraising as he became the highest fundraiser from the event raising almost £1000 for the work of the Koru Foundation.

The event has raised almost £30,000 in donations so far which will go towards funding Koru's renewable energy programmes. Some of the funds will be used to complete the micro hydro project in Mozambique by paying for transmission and distribution lines and electrification of the school in the community of Ndiriri and the rest will go towards funding a project in the region of choice of the running4renewables participants.

The Koru Foundation would like to thank all the runners who carried on despite the heat, the sponsors – vento ludens, Shepherd and Wedderburn and WJM, who ensured the event was a great success and Daniel Rafferty for the inspiration behind the event.



running4renewables marathon winner Finnbar Coghlan



running4renewables participant Lorn MacDonald running in the Edinburgh Marathon



GET INVOLVED

More than 1.6 billion people in the world are living without access to energy which could dramatically improve their quality of life. With your help, we can change this and make a real difference to the lives of some of the world's poorest people.

Donate Now

Make a regular donation or one off gift to the Koru Foundation and help us to continue to bring renewable energy solutions to some of the poorest communities in the world, enabling them to cook food, pump clean water, power homes, schools and health centres and run small businesses.

Increase your impact and join the Renewable Energy Donors Club by donating £100 a month.

To donate today fill in the form below, contact Nicola on 01273 606 685 or nicola@korufoundation.org or donate online www.korufoundation.org

Corporate Support

Making a company donation to the Koru Foundation is the most effective way to support our work and to improve the lives of some of the world's poorest people through the provision of renewable energy.

In addition you have the added opportunity of offsetting your charitable giving against your company's corporation tax.

To donate today call Neil on 01273 606 685 or email: neil@korufoundation.org or donate online: www.korufoundation.org

Join a Fundraising Event

The Koru Foundation runs a number of exciting events over the year which allow you to have fun, challenge yourself and raise vital funds to help us tackle poverty through renewable energy.

So whether you like running, walking, cycling or swimming, challenging yourself to go it alone or participating as part of a team, Koru has an event for you.

For more information and to sign up for a Koru event today call Nicola on 01273 606 685 or nicola@korufoundation.org or sign up online: www.korufoundation.org

Carbon Compensate

Compensate for the damage caused by your personal or company carbon emissions by supporting a Koru Foundation renewable energy project in a country particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Unlike other carbon offsetting schemes, the funds we receive are only spent on delivering our programmes and are not spent on organisational administrative costs.

To carbon compensate today call Nicola on 01273 606 685 or email: Nicola@korufoundation.org or donate online: www.korufoundation.org



Instruction to your Bank or Building Society to pay by Direct Debit



Please fill in the whole form including official use box using a ball point pen and send it to: The Koru Foundation, 44 Grand Parade, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 9QA.

Service user number

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To: The Manager	Bank/Building Society
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Please donate the amount of £ _____ a month

Starting on 1st 15th 25th of Month Year
(should be at least four weeks from date of signing)

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Signature	Date
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