



PHILIPPINES

A LITER OF LIGHT

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MANILA, PINAGLABANAN NEIGHBORHOOD.
A MAN ON THE ROOF OF HIS SHACK DECIDES
THE BEST LOCATION TO FIX HIS NEW LIGHT BOTTLE.

IT ALL STARTED IN THE SHANTYTOWNS, WHERE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE FORCED TO LIVE IN DARKNESS EVEN IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. THE SHACKS ARE OFTEN WINDOWLESS, OR SO CRAMMED THAT NO LIGHT CAN GET THROUGH, WHILE ELECTRIC POWER IS TOO EXPENSIVE OR SIMPLY NONEXISTENT.

IN 2011, A FILIPINO NGO CALLED LITER OF LIGHT FIGURED OUT A WAY OF TURNING A PLASTIC BOTTLE, WITH A FEW SIMPLE COMPONENTS, INTO A LAMP WHICH, BY DAY OR ON A FULL MOON NIGHT, CASTS A LIGHT EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF A 55-WATTS BULB. THEY STARTED DISTRIBUTING THE BOTTLES IN MANILA'S SLUMS, BRINGING LIGHT INTO THE LIFE OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE. THEN THE NGO ADDED TO THE BOTTLE A BASIC ELECTRONIC CIRCUIT, A SOLAR PANEL AND A BATTERY, THUS ENABLING IT TO STORE ENERGY AND TO WORK AT NIGHT. THEN THE BOTTLE BECAME A MODIFIED PORTABLE SOLAR LANTERN, AND EVENTUALLY EVEN A LAMP POST, PROVIDING PUBLIC LIGHTING TO COMMUNITIES WHICH HAD NEVER EXPERIENCED IT BEFORE.

NOW, LITER OF LIGHT HAS CONCEIVED A FORMULA BASED ON MICRO CREDIT AND CRASH COURSES WHICH TURN FARMERS AND SLUM DWELLERS INTO SOLAR ENGINEERS, SO THAT THEY CAN SERVICE THE LAMPS WHEN THEY BREAK OR BUILD THEM FROM SCRATCH AND BECOME COMPLETELY SELF SUFFICIENT. AND IT IS SPREADING THIS FORMULA ALL OVER THE WORLD, EFFECTIVELY FUELING A SOLAR REVOLUTION.

MALIGCONG, BANAUE VALLEY, PHILIPPINES.
VILLAGERS HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE SOLAR
LANTERNS DEVELOPED BY THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT.





MANILA. FILIPINO ARMY SOLDIERS UNLOAD BOTTLES FROM AN ARMY TRUCK FOR AN EVENT IN WHICH A FEW HUNDRED VOLUNTEERS DELIVERED BY BICYCLE HUNDREDS OF LIGHT BOTTLES TO THE CAPITAL CITY'S SLUMS.

PATYAY, IFUGAO PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES. ASSISTED BY THE LOCALS, MEMBERS OF THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT ASSEMBLE THE SOLAR LAMP POSTS WHICH THEY BROUGHT TO THE VILLAGE DURING A 5-HOUR WALK ALONG A MOUNTAIN PATH THROUGH THE RICE TERRACES.





MALIGCONG, BANAUE VALLEY, PHILIPPINES.
VILLAGERS WHO HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE SOLAR LANTERNS
DEVELOPED BY THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT WALK TO THE RICE TERRACES.
THE LANTERNS ARE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR WORKING CONDITIONS,
AS MOST FIELD WORK TAKES PLACE AT NIGHT, WHEN WATER FLOW FROM THE MOUNTAINS
TO THE TERRACES IS ABUNDANT. FARMERS HAVE ALWAYS WORKED IN COMPLETE DARKNESS.



MALIGCONG, BANAUE VALLEY, PHILIPPINES. VILLAGERS HAVE JUST RECEIVED THE SOLAR LANTERNS DEVELOPED BY THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT WALK TO THE RICE TERRACES. THE LANTERNS ARE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR WORKING CONDITIONS, AS MOST FIELD WORK TAKES PLACE AT NIGHT, WHEN WATER FLOW FROM THE MOUNTAINS TO THE TERRACES IS ABUNDANT. FARMERS HAVE ALWAYS WORKED IN COMPLETE DARKNESS.



MANILA, SAN PEDRO LAGUNA NEIGHBORHOOD.
THE OWNER OF A SHACK SHOWS ONE OF HIS NEW LIGHT BOTTLES.



MANILA. A MANILA ROTARY CLUB SPOKESPERSON TALKS TO THE PRESS BEFORE AN EVENT IN WHICH A FEW HUNDRED VOLUNTEERS DELIVERED BY BICYCLE HUNDREDS OF LIGHT BOTTLES TO THE CAPITAL CITY'S SLUMS.



MALIGCONG, BANAUE VALLEY, PHILIPPINES.
A VILLAGER WHO HAS JUST RECEIVED THE SOLAR LANTERN DEVELOPED BY THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT
WALKS TO THE RICE TERRACES. THE LANTERNS ARE A SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR
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MANILA, SAN PEDRO LAGUNA NEIGHBORHOOD.
A WOMAN IN HER SHACK WITH THE LIGHT BOTTLE LIGHTING UP THE ROOM.

PATYAY, IFUGAO PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES.
THE SOLAR LANTERNS BROUGHT TO THE VILLAGE BY MEMBERS OF THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT
DURING A 5-HOUR WALK ALONG A MOUNTAIN PATH ARE READY FOR DELIVERY.





MALIGCONG, BANAUE VALLEY, PHILIPPINES.
ILLAC DIAZ, FOUNDER OF NGO LITER OF LIGHT, EXPLAINS
TO VILLAGERS HOW THE SOLAR LANTERN THE NGO DEVELOPED WORKS.



MANILA, PINAGLABANAN NEIGHBORHOOD.
A KID IN HER SHACK WITH THE LIGHT BOTTLE LIGHTING UP THE ROOM.

PATYAY, IFUGAO PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES.
ONE OF THE FRESHLY INSTALLED SOLAR LAMP POSTS.
IT WILL AUTOMATICALLY TURN ON AFTER SUNSET, GIVING
THE VILLAGE THE PUBLIC LIGHTING IT HAS NEVER EXPERIENCED.





MANILA, SAN PEDRO LAGUNA NEIGHBORHOOD.
A WOMAN IN HER SHACK WITH THE LIGHT BOTTLE LIGHTING UP THE ROOM.

PATYAY, IFUGAO PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES.
ASSISTED BY THE LOCALS, MEMBERS OF THE NGO LITER OF LIGHT
ASSEMBLE THE SOLAR LAMP POSTS WHICH THEY BROUGHT TO THE VILLAGE
DURING A 5-HOUR WALK ALONG A MOUNTAIN PATH THROUGH THE RICE TERRACES.





PATYAY, IFUGAO PROVINCE, PHILIPPINES.
THE SOLAR LANTERNS BROUGHT TO THE VILLAGE BY MEMBERS OF THE NGO LITER
OF LIGHT DURING A 5-HOUR WALK ALONG A MOUNTAIN PATH ARE READY FOR DELIVERY.

AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS. ILLAC DIAZ, FOUNDER OF NGO LITER OF LIGHT, EXPLAINS HIS WORK TO PEOPLE ATTENDING THE GRI GLOBAL CONFERENCE, WHERE HE IS HOSTED BY ENEL, THE ITALIAN ENERGY GIANT WITH WHICH HE HAS SIGNED A PARTNERSHIP.





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