

WAKA WAKA LOW-COST LED LIGHT

By Ivan Lawrence White

Based on the Swahili word for *shine bright*, this low-cost LED light is revolutionizing life for thousands of families in the developing world. It lasts longer (up to 50 times more than a standard incandescent light), it's hugely more efficient (its light-to-heat energy ratio is 9:1, compared to about 1:9 in the case of conventional light bulbs) and it's solar-powered so free to run.

Moreover, it's a super-efficient, sustainable, lightweight, sturdy and compact solar charger. It enables you to charge virtually any type of small electronic devices (including mobile/smart phones) within just a few hours and will provide you with up to 80 hours of safe light.



The lamp is designed and built by [Off-Grid Solutions](#), a company based in the Netherlands and known to produce sustainable and efficient LED devices. Currently the Waka Waka lamp is being distributed in more than 100 countries that lack electricity and are looking for solar based energy solutions. In collaboration with other partners, the company created the [Waka Waka Foundation](#) aimed at promoting comprehensive solutions to fight energy poverty. With each unit sold at \$ 79, the company offers a product for free to people in need.

The Waka Waka Foundation operates since two years and impact achieved, with the support of many donors and private and institutional partners in the dissemination of this innovative solution, can be seen on the [website of the Foundation](#).

Waka Waka can replace kerosene lamps which are expensive and give little light, evaporate toxic fumes, are highly flammable and therefore dangerous. Replacing kerosene lamps with solar lighting can eliminate these risks, increase efficiency of productive activities, and promote the activities of health services, education and social services in general. This solution has proved also strategic in emergencies, allowing camps lighting, charging mobile phones to communicate, and increasing essential health services.

Off Grid Solutions is an example of a company with a strong commitment to social development. Its initiative to create a foundation with other partners to promote the use of solar lamp and the mechanism implemented to finance their distribution in needing communities, represents a striking example of social responsibility of private companies in terms of human development.



To know more

[Waka Waka website](#)

[Brochure Waka Waka](#)

[Waka Waka Foundation](#)

[Off Grid Solutions website](#)

[Solar for Syria website](#)

[Article in Huffington Post](#)

[Article in The Guardian](#)

[Article in Forbes](#)

[Article in Scientific American](#)

