



From Papua New Guinea's island communities to Indonesia's remote villages, November captures the persistence required to reach communities living without electricity—and the partnerships making it possible!

We're sharing photos from distributions to the coastal communities of Pobuma in Manus Province, Papua New Guinea, to remote schools in East Sumba, Indonesia, and reflecting on the transformative outcomes already visible in Tingloy, the Philippines.

Happy reading!

Navigating Pobuma LLG's Coastal Geography



The Wantaim PNG team boarding the boat for distributions

In Papua New Guinea, 81% of the population lacks access to grid electricity. Our local partner, [Wantaim PNG](#), is distributing JuniorBuddy lights across Pobuma Local Level Government area, a vast region on Papua New Guinea's south coast that is mostly coastal and islands.

The region's geography means boat travel for most distributions. Heavy rain has made roads to one inland school completely impassable, so the school community is walking down to the coast to collect their lights.

These images show the distribution in action: the journeys required to reach remote schools and communities gathering to receive solar solutions that will enable students to study safely after dark, helping families move away from dangerous, inefficient and unaffordable fuel-based lighting.



Whal Island Primary student with their new JuniorBuddy solar light

From Distribution Readiness to Community Impact



Students in East Sumba holding up their illuminated JuniorBuddy solar lights

You may remember from [October](#) how [Fair Future Foundation](#) and [Kawan Baik Indonesia](#) were getting 2,224 JuniorBuddy lights ready for distribution. We're now sharing photos of those devices reaching students and families across East Sumba, Indonesia.

The distribution is underway, with teams navigating East Sumba's remote villages to deliver solar solutions to communities experiencing energy poverty. The distribution teams bring both technical knowledge and community understanding, ensuring each device reaches communities who need it most.

Students and families will be gifted [solar solutions](#) that enable studying after dark, safer navigation at night, and healthier home environments.



Students charging their JuniorBuddies in the sun

Illuminating Tingloy, Philippines



Young students smiling with their JuniorBuddy lights

Faced with limited access to electricity and infrastructure, Tingloy is a remote coastal town on Maricaban Island in Batangas, Philippines.

Through our partnership with [Good Neighbours Australia](#), 3,000 [JuniorBuddy](#) and 200 [StudentBuddy](#) devices were distributed across schools, daycare centres, and community centres.

The impact was immediate.

”

Within two weeks, we saw a difference in how our students prepared for class. They became more active, more confident. For them, it wasn't just about receiving a light—it was about being seen, being supported.

- Ms. Luzon, School Principal

Students now report studying an extra 1.5 to 2 hours extra each evening on average.

”

Before, I had to wait until morning to do my assignments. My father uses our flashlight for fishing at night, so I couldn't use it. Now I can study anytime.

- Student, Grade 5

Use of hazardous kerosene lamps and candles has dropped significantly. Students received hands-on demonstrations and learned about renewable energy.

For communities across Tingloy, light now means opportunity.

We wish to extend our gratitude to [TechnologyOne](#) for supporting the distribution of 192 StudentBuddies to Tingloy 🤝

See our Southeast Asia Program



Group of students holding up their illuminated JuniorBuddies

Distribution Updates

Across October,

- 3,000 solar solutions left the United States for South Sudan
- 465 solar solutions left Saudi Arabia for Nepal

Corporate Partners Creating Global Impact

We're delighted that SMBC and MetLife have partnered with **SolarBuddy LIVE** again, bringing their global teams together to volunteer and assemble solar solutions that take action on energy poverty.

These repeat partnerships show what's possible when organisations weave social impact into their culture. Teams connect, learn, and create tangible change.

The solar devices assembled in these sessions are distributed through our programs, reaching communities who need them most.

By integrating meaningful volunteering into their culture year after year, these partners show how sustained engagement can build stronger teams, brighter futures and lasting global impact.

[Explore SolarBuddy LIVE for 2026!](#)



Inspired by these Stories?

Your support keeps the momentum going. With your help, we can end energy poverty and illuminate futures for more communities around the world.

[Donate Here](#)

I'm endlessly inspired by the incredible support from our community. Together, we're not just lighting the way for children around the world—we're empowering them to dream, learn, and build brighter futures.

Thank you for being such an essential part of this journey.

Elly Harris

In-Country Impact Manager



SOLAR  **BUDDY**



Australia
3/11 Breene Place, Morningside Queensland Australia
4170

United States
3610 S 17th Suite 200
Tacoma, WA, 98402

SolarBuddy.org is a registered DGR Type 1 charity with tax-deductible status in Australia.
SolarBuddy Inc is a registered 501(c)(3) public charity in the USA.

You are receiving this impact newsletter as you are a supporter of SolarBuddy and our mission to illuminate the lives of all children.

If you no longer wish to receive the Stories from the Field newsletter, unsubscribe below:

[Unsubscribe](#)