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**Panasonic Launches Off-grid Solutions Project
to Mark Its Centenary**

Osaka, Japan - Panasonic Corporation today announced it has kicked off a project for people living in off-grid areas that combines educational activities to promote understanding of electricity and provision of the company's related products. The Off-grid Solutions Project is part of Panasonic's corporate social responsibility initiatives, celebrating the centennial of the company's founding this year.

This new initiative aims to support the creation of a sustainable society where each individual living without access to the power grid can lead an independent life. Panasonic will donate its products such as solar generation and storage systems, provide education and technical training to cultivate human resources, and help develop local business models taking advantage of electricity. Through these activities, Panasonic wants to help establish a solid educational foundation, increase local income and support independence for these communities. These activities will also contribute to the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The new project is intended for communities in Asia and Africa with a large off-grid population, where Panasonic will work with NGOs and NPOs that are making efforts to resolve societal issues these communities face. Starting in Indonesia (January 2018–December 2019), Myanmar (April 2018–March 2020) and Kenya (currently being coordinated), the activities will be gradually expanded into other regions and countries.

Specific Activities in the Project**1. Education for sustainable development for local citizens**

In order to promote voluntary use of the donated products, Panasonic will provide education to raise awareness among local citizens regarding electricity-use and offer fundamental training on solar panels and storage systems.

2. Donation of solar generation and storage systems to promote the use of renewable energy

Panasonic will donate its stand-alone photovoltaic power package called Power Supply Station, compact energy storage systems with LED lighting known as Eneloop Solar Storage, and solar lanterns, among others. They will be used in schools and community assembly halls, as well as in homes.

3. Development of electricity-based local industry models to increase income

Panasonic will attempt to create small-scale industrial models, such as agricultural and fish-processing businesses, that make use of energy generated by solar panels and storage systems. The aim includes securing the funds necessary for continuing these businesses, including systems maintenance and battery replacements, to bring about a positive socioeconomic impact in the community.

Through its corporate citizenship activities focusing on helping developing nations resolve their societal issues, Panasonic will strive to achieve the creation of “A Better Life, A Better World.”

Sustainable Development Goals Addressed by the Off-grid Solutions Project

Affordable and clean energy
Good health and well-being
Gender equality

Partnerships for the goals
Quality education
No poverty



Panasonic’s Activities to Support Emerging and Developing Nations

With the creation of an inclusive society without poverty as the central theme, Panasonic is proceeding with corporate citizenship activities based on its philosophy of contributing to the development of society through its business by using its technology and products. With regard to activities to support off-grid communities, Panasonic has carried out the 100 Thousand Solar Lanterns Project, in which the company donated 100,000 solar lanterns to developing nations around the world. Its next initiative, started in March this year, is the Bringing Light to People project that aims to bring light to off-grid communities through crowd-funding and the donation of second-hand books with the help of the general public.



Power Supply Station installed in Indonesia as part of the project (West Kalimantan)



Elementary school students in Myanmar are delighted with bright light of Panasonic’s Solar Lanterns

About Sustainable Development Goals

The SDGs are a set of global goals, to be achieved between the years 2016 and 2030, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015 in order to create a sustainable world. They consist of 17 goals and 169 specific targets.

For more information on Panasonic's corporate citizenship activities

▼ Corporate citizenship activities website:

<https://www.panasonic.com/global/corporate/sustainability/citizenship/solution.html>

▼ Off-grid solutions activities website (scheduled for launch in May):

<https://panasonic.net/sustainability/en/power/solution>

▼ Bringing Light to People website:

<https://www.panasonic.com/global/corporate/sustainability/citizenship/solution/akari.html>

▼ 100 Thousand Solar Lanterns Project website:

<https://panasonic.net/sustainability/en/lantern/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PanasonicSolarLantern>

About Panasonic

Panasonic Corporation is a worldwide leader in the development of diverse electronics technologies and solutions for customers in the consumer electronics, housing, automotive, and B2B businesses. Celebrating its 100th anniversary in 2018, the company has expanded globally and now operates 495 subsidiaries and 91 associated companies worldwide, recording consolidated net sales of 7.343 trillion yen for the year ended March 31, 2017. Committed to pursuing new value through innovation across divisional lines, the company uses its technologies to create a better life and a better world for its customers. To learn more about Panasonic: <http://www.panasonic.com/global>.

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