



**WE
LIGHT**
Light my Village

**WE
LIGHT**
Light my Village

WeLight Africa - Impact Report 2023

Contents

• INTRODUCTION

- 3 Words from the CEO
- 4 About WeLight

• IMPACT SUMMARY

- 5 Key figures
- 6 WeLight Madagascar highlights
- 7 WeLight Mali highlights

• IMPACT REPORT

- 8 Methodology & evaluation
- 9 Economic impacts
- 11 Social impacts
- 13 Community impacts
- 14 Environmental impacts
- 15 Illustration of villages transformation

Words from the CEO



We are thrilled to reveal WeLight 2023 Impact report. This report draws attention to the remarkable transformations that energy inclusion has brought in the villages throughout the year. With a growth of 70 additional sites deployed in twelve months, we are proud to have successfully electrified 134 rural villages across Africa in 2023 and bringing positive impacts on the lives of more than 450 000 people.

These milestones would have not been possible without the unwavering commitment of WeLight team and the support of our loyal partners. Together, we have harnessed the potential of reliable, sustainable electricity to drive positive change across economic, social, and environmental landscapes: nutrition, education, health, security, clean cooking, among others.

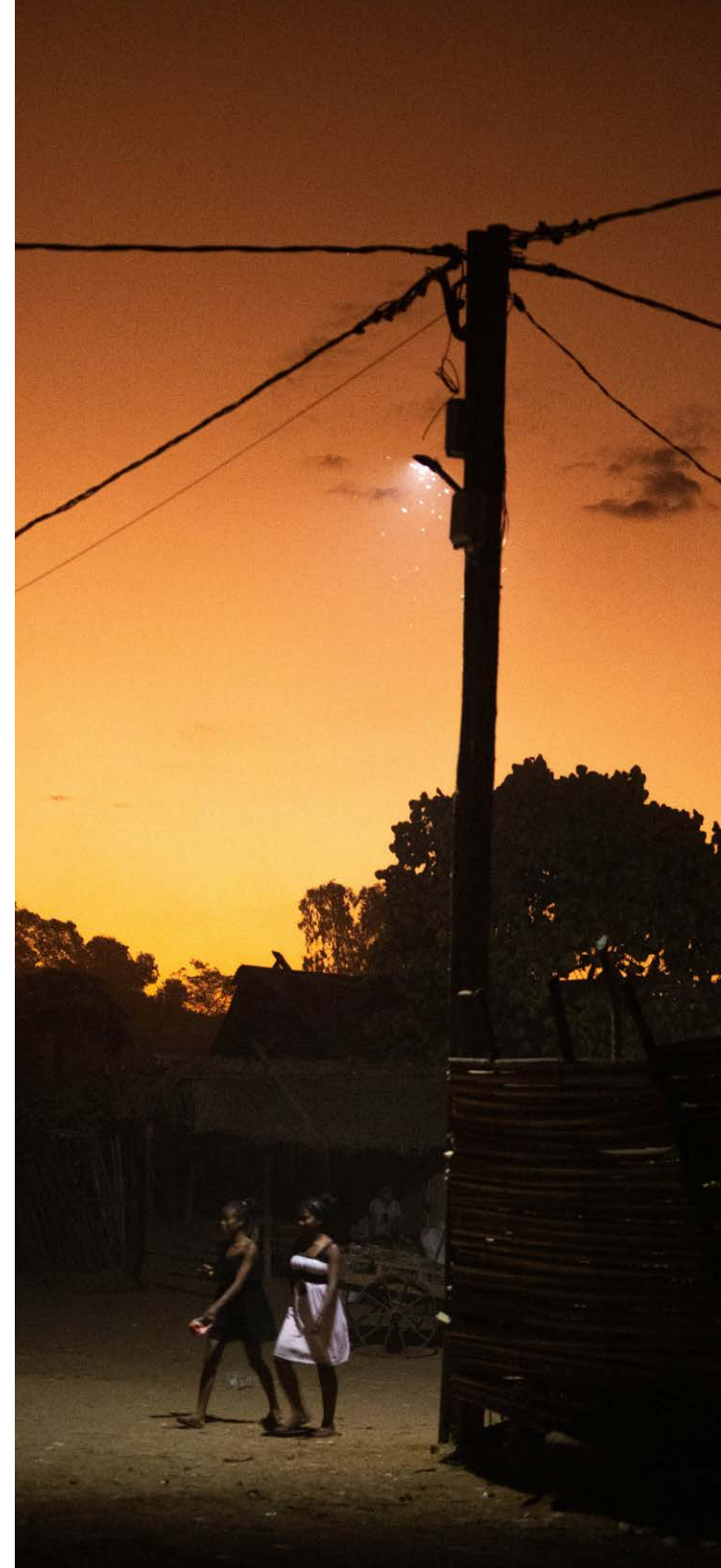
We are honored to have received the prestigious B Corp certification, which stands as a testament to our steadfast commitment to ethical business practices and creating positive impact for the communities.

As WeLight continues to grow, we are embracing opportunities to accelerate energy inclusion and meaningful impact across Africa.



Romain de Villeneuve

Chief Executive Officer
WeLight Africa



About WeLight

Founded in 2018 by Axian, Sagemcom, and Norfund, WeLight Africa has emerged as a pioneering force in rural electrification across sub-Saharan Africa.

For more information about us, please visit the following website:
<https://www.welight-africa.com/fr/>

WeLight is an impact-driven company dedicated to bringing sustainable economic and social development in the villages.

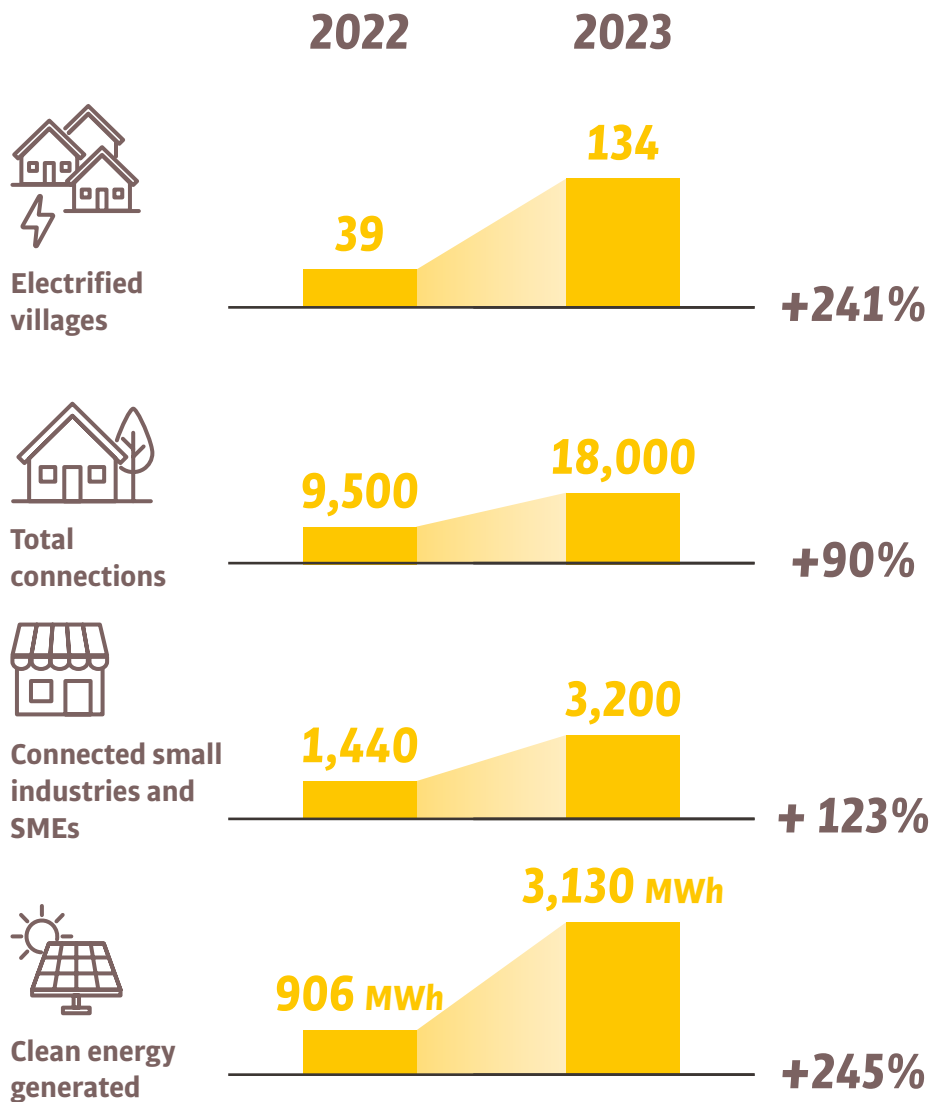
Energy inclusion has significantly transformed both individual and collective standards of living within communities.



Scheme of WeLight's production and distribution solution

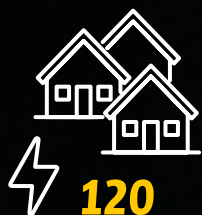


Key figures



WeLight Madagascar highlights

With **120** electrified villages in 2023, WeLight sites cover 14 regions in Madagascar.



120

Electrified villages



52

Sites under construction



16,030

Connected households



82,650

Users with daily energy access



2,525

Connected SMEs and businesses



8,000

direct and indirect employment impacted



860 tCO2

Emissions averted



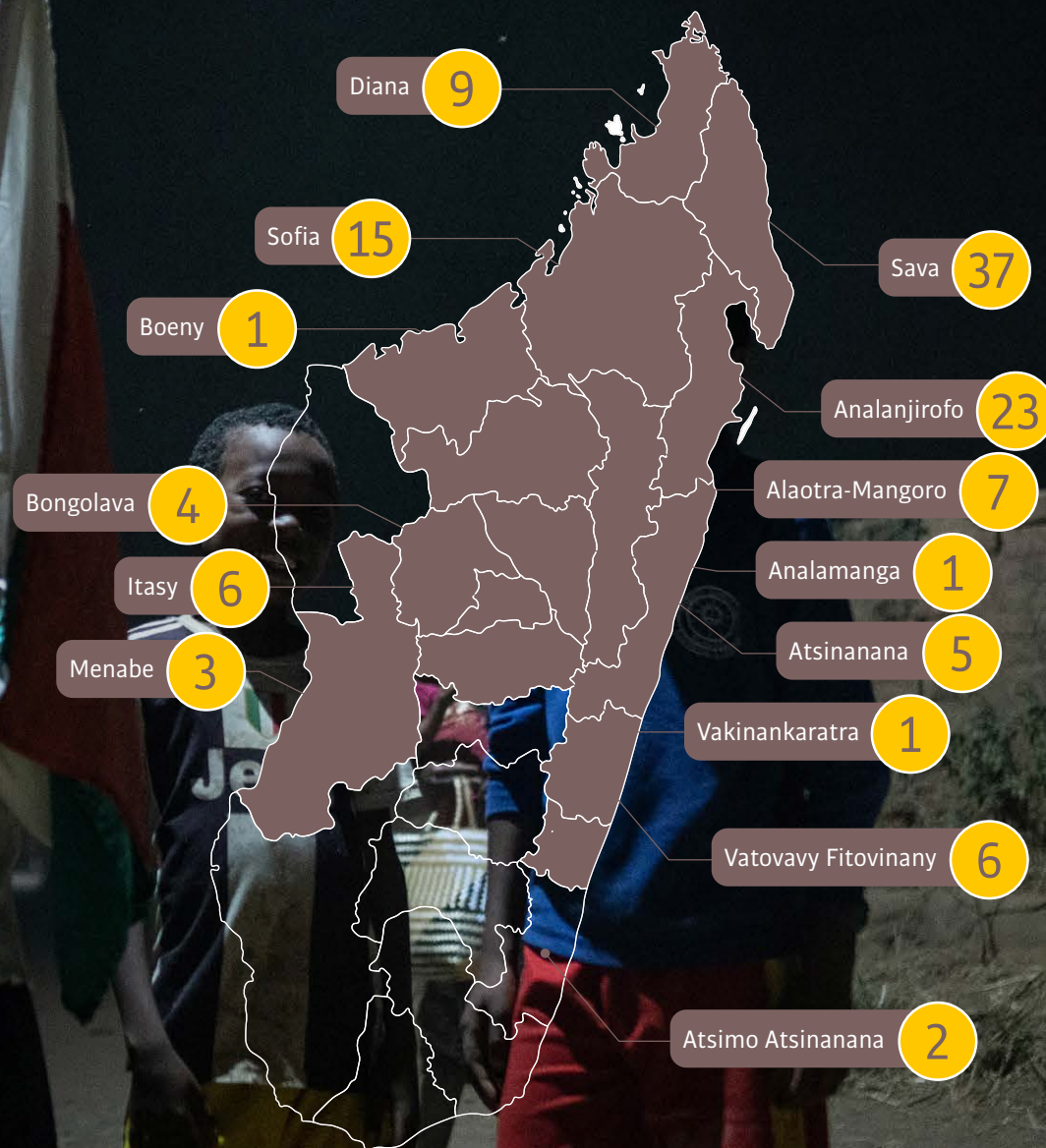
560

Public buildings connected



1,100

streetlights



WeLight Mali highlights

With **14** electrified villages, WeLight sites will cover 4 regions in Mali.



14

Electrified villages



1,550

Connected Households



18,600

Users with daily energy access



2,900

direct and indirect employment impacted



680

Connected SMEs and businesses



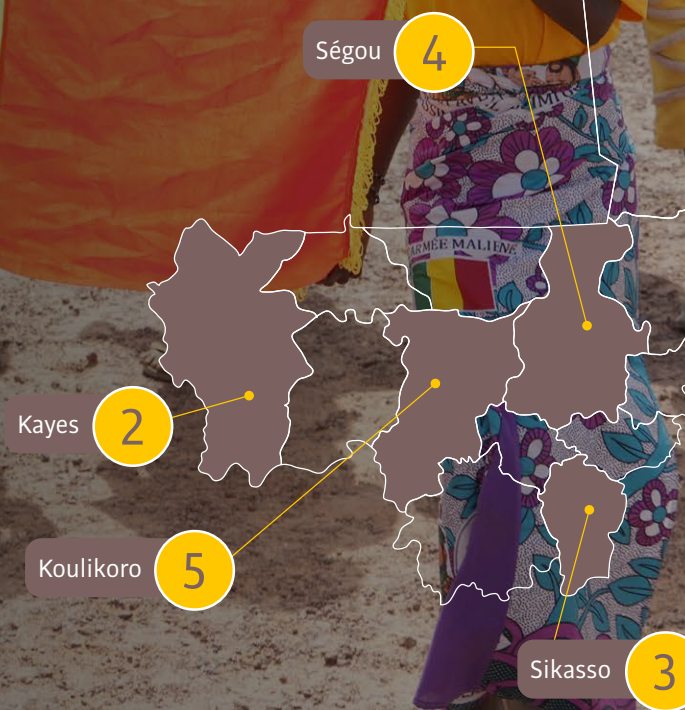
440 tCO2

Emissions averted



100

Public buildings connected



**WeLight contributes directly
to 11 out of 17 SDGs.**

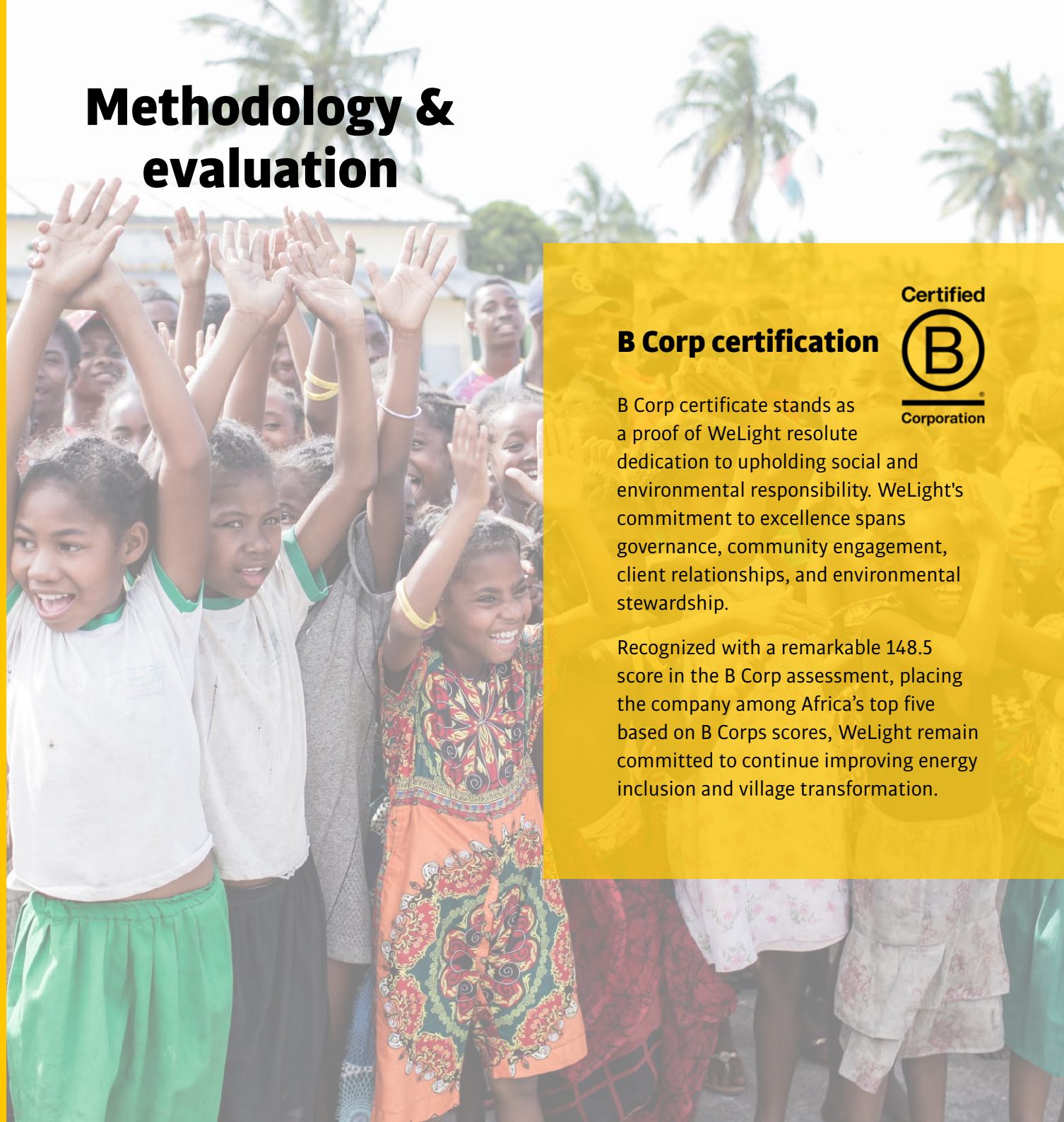


Impact assessment

In both countries Madagascar and Mali, WeLight have conducted impact assessment by interviewing Mayors, business owners, entrepreneurs, residential or simple customers, school infrastructure managers, health center managers and social facilities directors, through random sampling methods.

A total of 90 people were interviewed including 42 Mayors. These comprehensive interviews provided valuable insights into the real impacts of energy access in both countries.

Methodology & evaluation



B Corp certification



B Corp certificate stands as a proof of WeLight resolute dedication to upholding social and environmental responsibility. WeLight's commitment to excellence spans governance, community engagement, client relationships, and environmental stewardship.

Recognized with a remarkable 148.5 score in the B Corp assessment, placing the company among Africa's top five based on B Corps scores, WeLight remain committed to continue improving energy inclusion and village transformation.

Economic impacts 1/2



Entrepreneurship and small industries



570

small industries are connected with tree-phase energy.



90%

of small industries got new employees and now employ 5 people on average.



2,850

job modernized and created by the arrival of electricity.

WeLight collaborated with partners to provide training sessions for + 75 entrepreneurs and partial financing to deploy or improve economic activities.

“Thanks to electricity, I have started a printing business in our village. It is rewarding to see that my business contributes to the development of our village and my family’s well-being.”

FLORENT Jhonesse, cyberservice provider, Miarinarivo, Madagascar



Entrepreneurship and business

2,640

businesses are using WeLight electricity 24/7.



5,300

new jobs have emerged in commerce-related business.



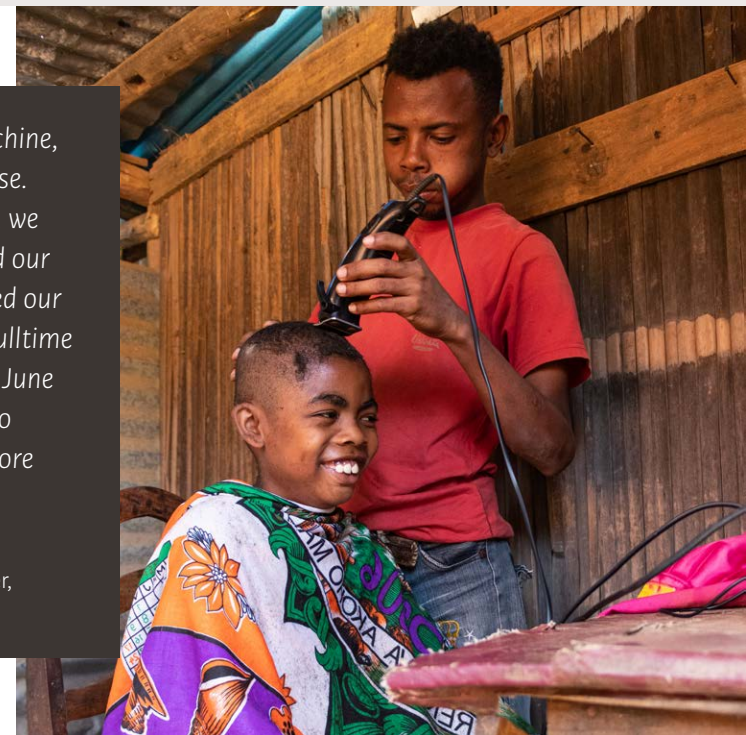
84%

of business stated a significant increase in their income.

New economic opportunities for the villages: new jobs and services appeared. This has quite improved the economic transformation of the village in all levels (productivity, incomes, job creation, professional motivation etc...)

“Thanks to our new machine, our productivity has rose. With the new machine, we have not only increased our income but also doubled our team, employing two fulltime employee. With a busy June ahead, we are excited to get more income for more savings.”

ANDRIAMAHAVITA Soga,
PUE, wood workshop owner,
Mangindrano Madagascar



Economic impacts 2/2

"The local rice supply has increased significantly thanks to rice huskers. With electric processing now available in the village, we have reduced logistical costs."

Mayor of Andilanatoby, Madagascar

Women empowerment



90%

Of mayors report that women in the village are empowered thanks to new income generating activities from productive energy.

1,050

activities are headed by women, making a huge difference in woman autonomy and empowerment.

"70% of WeLight's female beneficiaries are investing in hair salons, commerce and small restaurants. This led to increased income and economic stability for their families and impacted positively the community."

Mayor of Anivorano Est, Madagascar

Local resources

100%

of mayors have noticed a significant increase in the valorization of local resources since the arrival of electricity. This includes better circulation and consumption of products, as well as the development of local market.



Job creation & skills development



Direct promotion of youth employability through local employment was reported.

In 2023, WeLight employed:

4,700 temporary employees for sites in construction.

198 technical and sales agents also recruited regionally.

This highlights capacity building and local skills transfer in the communities.

Social impacts 1/2



Education

+110 connected private and public schools.



86% of school directors confirm the availability of devices for administrative services in their school and a positive change in student motivation, particularly during evening classes.

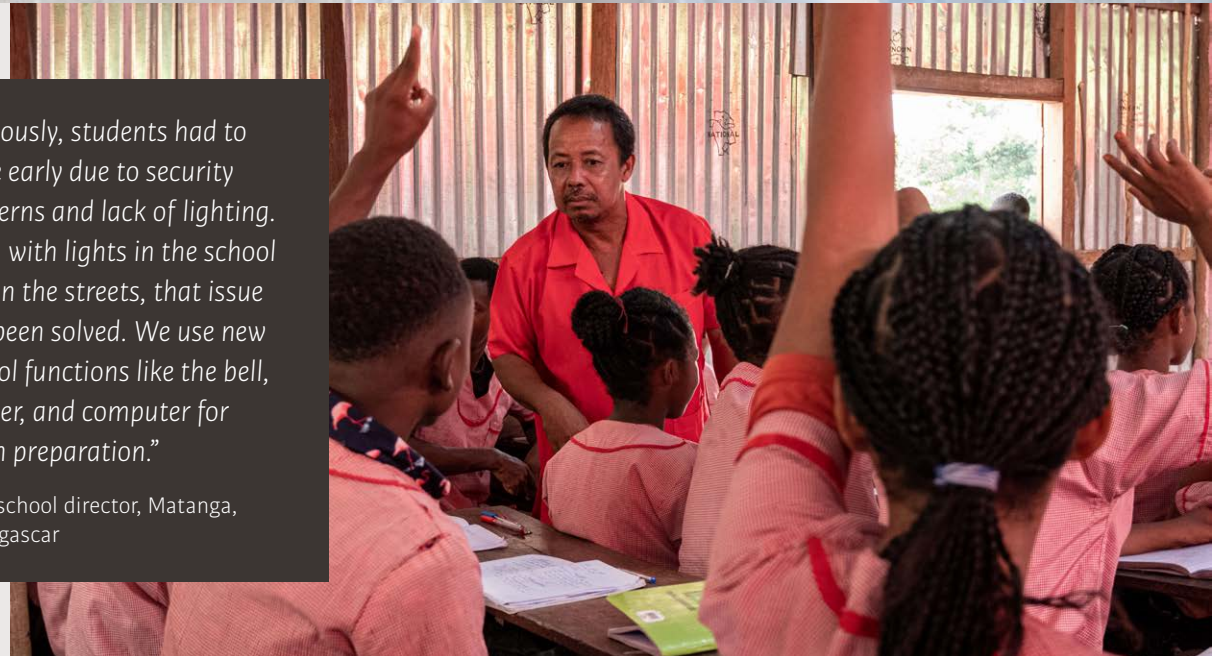


An average **+ 35%** of increase in primary and secondary official exams rate was recorded out of the 42 surveyed villages compared to pre-electrification.



Previously, students had to leave early due to security concerns and lack of lighting. Now, with lights in the school and in the streets, that issue has been solved. We use new school functions like the bell, printer, and computer for exam preparation.”

High school director, Matanga, Madagascar



Health

65 Healthcare centers



84% of healthcare directors reported a facilitation in patient treatment during the night.

10,500 night births assisted in connected health facilities.



Access to electricity has contributed to the smooth running of the healthcare center by facilitating healthcare operations. It also increases the number of patients because they are confident they will receive proper treatment. »

Healthcare center manager, Diema, Mali



Social impacts 2/2



90%

of mayors report for population improved access to information thanks to media and television.



70%

of people confirm that use of household appliances makes household chores easier (ironing, cooking, etc)



95 %

of consumers report improved nutrition thanks to the ability to store foods in freezers.



+1,320

households have freezers mainly used for business-related activities.



With better access to information and worldwide news, we are now as informed as residents of big cities. Additionally, the availability of educational channels on television provides us with unprecedented learning opportunities.”

CAMARA Nankama, Selefougou, Mali



WeLight has made our life easier. Now, ironing clothes and cooking meals are quicker and simpler. With a fridge, we can store food and waste less. It's amazing how much difference it makes.”

TELOVAVY Francine, Andovoranto, Madagascar

Community impacts

With **2,000** streetlights installed, locality experience improved safety during nighttime hours, fostering a sense of security, encouraging outdoor activities, and making the village more welcoming and open.

660 public buildings are now connected to WeLight mini-grids. This transformation not only facilitates efficient day-to-day activities but also enhances the overall functionality and reliability of essential public services.

Lighting up our streets has reduced theft

Playing football at night? Finally possible!

Now, my kids can study after sunset!

The hospital can save lives round the clock!

Our village is buzzing with activity now!

Energy access improves community atmosphere

Electricity means brighter futures for our kids

Environmental impacts

WeLight remain dedicated to pioneering innovative solutions that not only meet the energy needs but also environmentally friendly for population.



With a generation of **3,130 MWh** of clean energy produced in Mali and Madagascar in 2023, we are committed to advancing environmental sustainability.

With this clean energy production, **860 tCO2** emissions have been averted in Mali and Madagascar, contributing to fight against climate change.



4,700 trees planted during the annual reforestation program in collaboration with local collectivities.

Illustration of village transformation « Mahambo », Madagascar*

Before the electrification, the community in Mahambo navigated challenges with limited access to essential services. Residents faced inconvenience and had to travel long distances for basic needs, hampering both daily life and economic activities.

3 years after the arrival of electricity, Mahambo has undergone remarkable changes with:

5 new multi-service centers opened, improving convenience for residents

+10 garages and **+10** welding shops not available before

Arrival of new populations, the village's population has risen from

5,000 in 2021 to
6,000 in 2023

Education has flourished with the introduction of computer science, language learning, and martial arts programs, leading to notable improvements in exam results with a **77%**** success rates in 2023 vs **42%** before electrification.

5 additional hotel businesses, i.e 60% increase, reflecting increased tourism.

* Mayor's testimony

** Primary, Secondary, high school official exams.



Illustration of village transformation « Sirakorola », Mali*

Before the electrification, insecurity has caused a slowdown in income-generating activities for both men and women, compounded by difficulties in operating devices and health center, hindering learning activities.

Furthermore, the reliance on batteries to power electronic devices at the town hall has severely limited activities and led to work stoppages due to capacity restrictions.

2 years after the arrival of electricity, there has been a significant impact on communities with:

An improved security and the abandonment of individual battery and diesel generator use.

The creation of many permanent and temporary jobs for the youth such as

+15 multiservice cyber centers

+250 direct and indirect jobs created since electrification

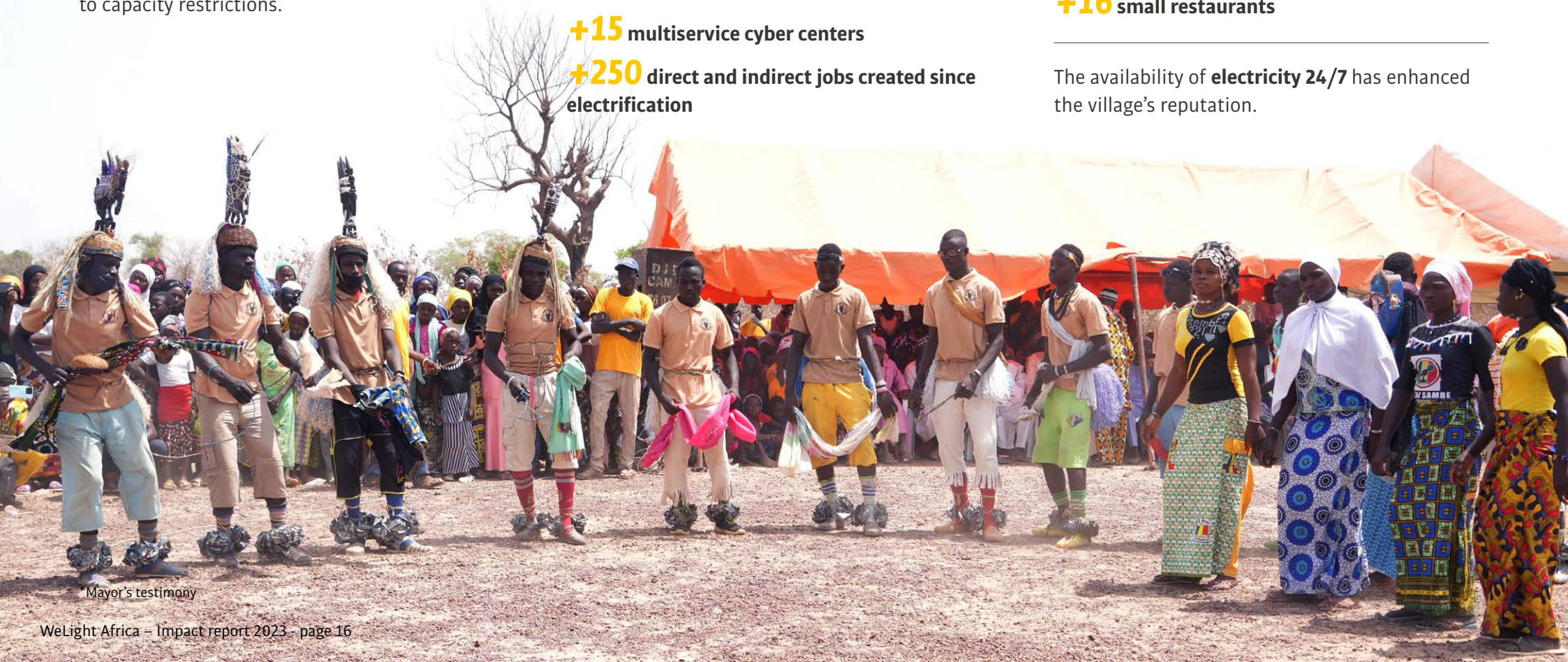
The facilitation of administrative tasks and operation of machinery at the town hall and health center.

An increase in employment opportunities for women, flourishing:

+60 businesses,

+16 small restaurants

The availability of **electricity 24/7** has enhanced the village's reputation.



Mayor's testimony



WE LIGHT Partners

Light my Village

AXIAN
LET'S GROW TOGETHER

Sagemcom

Norfund

Banque européenne d'investissement

EDFI **ElectriFI**

Triodos
Investment Management



Nea Madagascar



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH



Contact

www.welight-africa.com

contact@welight-africa.mg

WeLight Madagascar

Ariane 5B, Zone Galaxy, Andraharo
Antananarivo, Madagascar

WeLight Mali

Rue 317, porte 400 Hamdallaye, ACI
2000 Bamako, Mali

WeLight Nigeria

1b Etim Inyang Crescent – Victoria
Island, Lagos, Nigeria