



<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20151222005255/en/UNESCO-Panasonic-Launch-Educational-Support-Programs-Generation>

UNESCO and Panasonic Launch Educational Support Programs for the Next Generation in Off-Grid Communities in Myanmar

YANGON, Myanmar & OSAKA, Japan--(BUSINESS WIRE)--UNESCO and Panasonic Corporation signed a project agreement for Myanmar in November 2015 to promote educational support aimed at sustainable development for the next generation of young people living in the vicinity of the Ancient City of Bagan*¹ in Myanmar, which is currently a nominee for UNESCO World Heritage listing. The signing marks the launch of the following joint projects today.

Panasonic will donate 500 units of “eneloop solar storage” to around 40 schools in off-grid communities in Myanmar.

[Video] UNESCO & Panasonic to Donate 500 Units of “Eneloop Solar Storage” in Bagan, Myanmar
<http://channel.panasonic.com/contents/16822/>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRqqIodt0Po>

Donation of 500 units of “eneloop solar storage” to schools around the Ancient City of Bagan
Panasonic will donate a total of 500 units of its “eneloop solar storage” to around 40 schools located in off-grid communities in the vicinity of the Ancient City of Bagan in Myanmar. At present, 1.2 billion people*², or about 17% of the world’s population, live in areas without electricity. In Myanmar, 68% of its population*² is said to have no access to electricity. Young people who live in off-grid communities around the Ancient City of Bagan are suffering from an educational disadvantage as they have no other choice but to study in a poorly-lit classroom, with limited daylight hours.

Panasonic’s “eneloop solar storage” is a compact power storage system with LED lights, which stores power generated by solar cells during the day and provides lighting at night or for classrooms. Through this donation, Panasonic will support the development of a school environment where young people can study anytime of the day under safe and bright lights.

Educational support project for sustainable development of communities around the Ancient City of Bagan
In partnership with Myanmar’s Ministry of Education, local government and communities, Panasonic will provide support for this educational initiative over the course of two years. Specifically, with a view to developing future leaders of the country, an education curriculum covering the areas of “sustainable growth,” “science” and “society” will be created in conjunction with the Ministry of Education. The program will be offered to young people and teachers/instructors living in off-grid communities near the Ancient City of Bagan, who are responsible for the next generation.

Further, in coordination with Panasonic’s ongoing Eco Learning Program*³, an environmental education program will be conducted to raise environmental awareness of the next generation of children and to

motivate them to take concrete action.

Based on this project agreement on the educational support, UNESCO and Panasonic will contribute to sustainable development for young people in Myanmar to gain academic knowledge and fulfill their social responsibility.

Notes:

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- *1 The Ancient City of Bagan is considered to be one of the three major Buddhist temple ruins of the world, together with Angkor Wat in Cambodia and Borobudur in Indonesia. Myanmar is aiming to inscribe it on the World Heritage list in 2017.

 - *2 Source: "World Energy Outlook 2015" by International Energy Agency

 - *3 Eco Learning Program: Panasonic program which helps to heighten children's awareness and understanding to the environmental changes and importance of biodiversity. Also it aims to promote children's participation in activities to improve or maintain environmental quality
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Related links:

Video: UNESCO & Panasonic to Donate 500 Units of "Eneloop Solar Storage" in Bagan, Myanmar

<http://channel.panasonic.com/contents/16822/>

Video: UNESCO and Panasonic Partnership Activity Report & Myanmar New Project

<http://channel.panasonic.com/contents/16849/>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_vxwQB3wQ1Q

Press release: Panasonic to Release "eneloop solar storage" with LED Lighting

<http://news.panasonic.com/press/news/data/2015/10/en151027-3/en151027-3.html>

"Panasonic × World Heritage" website:

<http://www.panasonic.com/global/corporate/profile/ad/worldheritage.html>

Facebook fan page:

<http://www.facebook.com/worldheritage.with.panasonic>

About the UNESCO World Heritage Convention

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) seeks to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. This is embodied in an international treaty called the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 1972. For more information about the Convention, the World Heritage sites and UNESCO's efforts to preserve them, please visit the website of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre at <http://whc.unesco.org>.

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, enterprise solutions and device industries. Since its founding in 1918, the company has expanded globally and now operates 468 subsidiaries and 94 associated companies worldwide, recording consolidated net sales of 7.715 trillion yen for the year ended March 31, 2015. 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>