

**Children study under a solar lamp. "Photo credit: Solar Sister".**

In honor of "Gender Day" at the annual United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP-19), the United States is highlighting its actions to harness the potential of women and women's networks to increase the use of clean energy technologies, which in turn helps reduce climate change. The Department of State launched the Partnership on Women's Entrepreneurship in Renewables ("wPOWER") in January 2013. wPOWER aims to empower more than 8,000 women clean energy entrepreneurs across East Africa, Nigeria and India who will deliver clean energy access to more than 3.5 million people over the next three years.

To reach this goal, the Department of State and USAID have teamed up with the MacArthur Foundation, the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, CARE International, Solar Sister, Swayam Shikshan Prayog and the **Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace & Environmental Studies**.