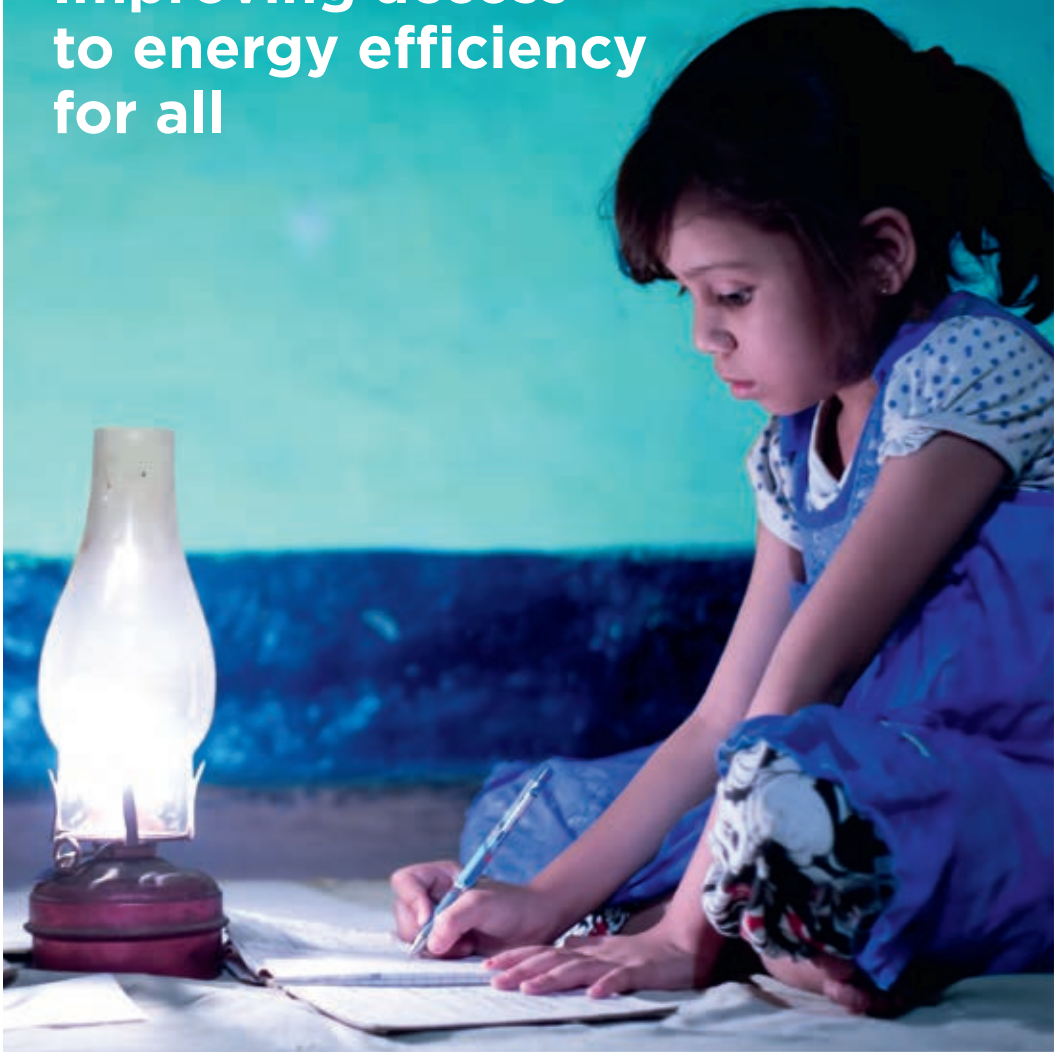

Rexel Foundation

Improving access to energy efficiency for all



Rexel
foundation 
FOR A BETTER ENERGY FUTURE



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Energy transforms the world

We are living in a time of great change. The energy world is at the center of an economic and social transition driven by unmatched innovations in technology.

The stakes are high. We need to be able to manage the use of finite natural resources effectively while reducing our carbon footprint (the environmental challenge), lower costs and improve the competitive edge of our energy intensive industrial companies as well our own industry (the economic challenge), improve comfort and quality of life and overcome fuel poverty by improving access to energy for disadvantaged populations (the social and societal challenge).

Against this backdrop, driving the energy efficiency agenda forward has never been as important as it is today. Rexel operates in 35 countries, in which we are working day-in-day-out with hundreds of thousands of our electrical contractor and installer clients to ensure that energy efficiency becomes systematic in the work they do.

As a global leader in the professional distribution of products and services for the energy world, we play a pivotal role in promoting energy efficiency.

With the creation of our Foundation in 2013, we went one step further in the fight against fuel poverty. Through our commitment and in partnership with our employees, our clients, our suppliers and with society at large, the Rexel Foundation can become a catalyst for progress. Together, we can make a better energy future a reality for everyone in the world.

Rudy Provoost

Chairman of the Rexel Foundation for a better energy future
and CEO and Chairman of the Rexel Group

The Rexel Foundation for a better energy future

Our mission is to improve access
to energy efficiency for all.

Energy efficiency, and more broadly, energy progress,
are essential solutions to today's three fundamental
challenges:

- **Economically speaking**, energy efficiency enables less dependence on fossil fuels;
- **Environmentally speaking**, it meets our need to decrease greenhouse gas emissions;
- **Socially speaking**, it improves access to energy efficiency for all and beats fuel poverty.

Consequently, the Rexel Foundation strongly believes in the importance of taking immediate action, together with all the stakeholders in the energy sector.



**Energy efficiency,
a solution to
climate change**

49%

of the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in order to limit global warming could be provided by energy efficiency solutions by 2020.

(2014 report by the International Energy Agency)



+80%

of savings potential in energy production and buildings.

(OECD/IEA 2014 "Capturing the Multiple Benefits of Energy Efficiency" report)



Rexel Foundation figures as of 31/10/2015

* IPCC Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report.

** International Energy Agency, Energy for all – Financing access for the poor, 2011.



Study on energy efficiency programs in Latin America

The Rexel Foundation financed a study conducted by Microsol in five Latin American countries (Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia). The study showed that there is a true need to bring electricity to isolated rural populations in the Andean region. Renewable energy sources remain untapped despite available technological solutions that could be implemented on a large scale. The analysis of carbon mechanisms as a means of ensuring projects' long-term sustainability, while improving their social and environmental quality, is conclusive. There is a real opportunity to use such mechanisms, provided that the value of carbon credits increases.



We are conscious that the emergence of a zero carbon economy depends on transforming the way we consume electricity. Rexel and its Foundation for a better energy future develop awareness campaigns directed at users as well as at the general public and support many initiatives linked to climate change.



Improving access to energy efficiency for all

More than one billion people around the world do not have access to electricity and many more are living in fuel poverty. The Rexel Foundation for a better energy future works day in day out to bring concrete responses to these challenges. As proven solutions for the management of energy consumption in buildings already exist, the Rexel Foundation is continuing its mission: improve access to affordable, efficient and sustainable energy for all. Energy efficiency is a major opportunity to lower energy bills, refurbish buildings, eliminate waste and rethink practices all while promoting less carbonated energies.

In order to promote energy progress, the Rexel Foundation supports associations and NGOs encouraging communities' engagement and autonomy in managing their energy consumption and improving their quality of life. It accompanies social entrepreneurs who create and implement new business models based on innovative services and funding mechanisms. It asks questions, investigates, and co-produces studies, guides and tools in order to widely disseminate knowledge in this field.

In just two and a half years, the Rexel Foundation has launched more than thirty initiatives in 15 countries with more than 40 partners. Recognized in 2015 for its dynamism and innovative approach*, the Rexel Foundation is helping to improve the everyday life of the beneficiaries of its initiatives: 100,000 so far. Proximity, pragmatism, innovation and sharing continuously guide the actions of the Rexel Foundation for a better energy future.

Pascale Giet

Rexel Group Senior Vice President Communications and Sustainable Development, and Rexel Foundation Vice Chairman

* The «Trophées Défis RSE 2015»

Our programs



Community projects

aim to improve access to energy efficiency among the most disadvantaged populations.

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Social innovation programs

facilitate the emergence of new social innovation models.

↳ Page 16



Knowledge

fosters information sharing, greater awareness of energy efficiency among the general public, and innovation.

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Our core principles

Social innovation

Drive social progress, improve quality of life and improve access to sustainable and less expensive sources of energy for society's most disadvantaged.

Repeatable and scalable

Support repeatable and scalable energy efficient solutions, enabling the large scale adoption of energy efficiency.

Environmentally friendly and providing energy savings

Reduce the environmental footprint and provide energy savings to end-users. Reducing the energy footprint is one of the keys to improving access to energy efficiency for all.

Collaborative and partnership driven

Foster a collaborative approach with all stakeholders to improve understanding and raise awareness among key players in the industry as well as among the general public.



Community projects

We are involved with local communities by supporting projects that aim to improve access to energy efficiency among the most disadvantaged populations. In order to reach this ambitious objective, we establish partnerships with NGOs, other corporate foundations, and also with Rexel's clients and suppliers in developing and emerging countries as well as in developed countries.

12 community projects launched since the creation of the Foundation.



« Through its projects, the Rexel Foundation supports the electrification of rural, remote and disaster-stricken areas, organizes vocational training for craftsmen and contractors, and raises energy efficiency awareness among youth, communities and households. »

Marion Berger
Rexel Foundation Correspondent for Asia-Pacific

Improving the learning environment in a Chinese school

Location
China

Partners
Maverlinn, Netspring, Faurecia and Rexel China

Zeng Li is Chinese, he is a third grade (8 year old) pupil in a remote and run-down elementary school located in the region of Hebei. Since September 2014, his life has changed: an autonomous solar energy plant and 25 refurbished computers with Internet access have enabled the installation of a green IT classroom.



« Computers are great. They allow us to discover things that we couldn't have seen before. »

Zeng Li, school pupil directly benefitting from the project.

227
children provided with Internet access.

47
volunteer employees involved

360
teaching hours in the new classroom



Deploying emergency lighting solutions following the Nepal earthquake

Location
Nepal

Partner
Electricians without borders

In the wake of the devastating earthquake that struck Nepal on April 25, the Rexel Foundation joined forces with the association Electricians without borders.

The disaster left over 6,500 dead and thousands more injured. The Foundation supports Electricians without borders in its efforts to provide long-term assistance to affected populations in several remote villages in the valley around Laprak.



3,000

lighting kits distributed among relocated households in target villages.

47

solar lamps installed at strategic locations in villages or refugee camps.

Location
France

Partner
Unis-Cité

Raising awareness about energy transition issues by funding the community service of 20 young volunteers

On February 24, 2015, French Minister of Ecology Ségolène Royal and French Minister of Urban Affairs, Youth and Sport Patrick Kanner joined forces for the creation of 15,000 community service opportunities for young volunteers in the environmental sector.

The Rexel Foundation has decided to support Unis-Cité, a pioneering French community service association and one of the key players in this first “major nation-wide community service program,” by funding the “ecology and environment” community service of 20 young volunteers. Their mission is to raise awareness of the many issues related to the energy transition among disadvantaged individuals and families.



- A rewarding personal and professional experience for youth: community service, a springboard to working life.
- A reduction in the environmental impact of household consumption thanks to the adoption of 5-10 daily eco-actions (sustainable consumption, energy, water, waste, indoor air quality), as well as a reduction in their energy bills.



Social innovation projects

Social innovation projects are projects developed by social entrepreneurs proposing models that break away from traditional practice. The Rexel Foundation supports them via its joint skills Platform for social entrepreneurs.



« *The Rexel Foundation's joint skills Platform for social entrepreneurs is a platform designed for identifying and promoting social innovations, which brings together associations, academic institutions and companies around projects carried out by social entrepreneurs working for energy efficiency.* »

Amélie André
Rexel Foundation General Secretary

20

members are working in the general interest.

12

social entrepreneurs are innovating for energy efficiency.

250

mentoring hours have been provided by Rexel's employees and partners.



Created in 2014, the Rexel Foundation's joint skills Platform for social entrepreneurs is a collaborative tool that:

- **identifies social innovations in the energy sector**
- **accompanies and supports social entrepreneurs' initiatives**
- **offers a forum for an exchange of information and resources between members**
- **evaluates the projects' performance and impact for sustainable investments.**

After selecting a project, the Platform brings together social entrepreneurs in the field of energy efficiency and sponsors. At the center of this Platform, the Rexel Foundation leads and coordinates the system. When an entrepreneur expresses a need, it identifies the sponsor that can help in the most appropriate form: supplies, logistics, financing or advice.

The Platform relies on its partners' technical and financial expertise in order to help social entrepreneurs to strengthen their business plans and make their projects a success.

To date, the permanent members of the Platform are the Legrand Foundation, the Deloitte Foundation, (IM)PROVE, Advise for Change, Europe Tomorrow, and Rexel's subsidiaries.



Watch the video presentation of the Platform



Key support for social entrepreneurs provided by the Rexel Foundation and its partners

Funding for the DORéMI initiative developed by Institut négaWatt to encourage training in the energy retrofit of single-family homes

Location
France

Partners
Institut négaWatt,
the Deloitte Foundation

DORéMI (Dispositif Opérationnel de Rénovation énergétique des Maisons Individuelles - an operational framework for the energy retrofit of single-family homes) was developed and tested in order to foster widespread access to efficient, comprehensive energy retrofitting. The idea is to offer homeowners and communities a simple framework that guarantees an effective, cost-efficient retrofit thanks to training and worksite assistance provided by groups of skilled tradesmen.

- The Rexel Foundation funded the creation of a toolkit containing nearly 100 files to assist the launch and implementation of the framework.
- The Deloitte Foundation is using skills sponsorship to accompany Vincent Legrand (Managing Director, négaWatt) in defining an economic model for the framework.

- Around 30 "DORéMI leaders" were trained in 20 regions of France in 2015.
- With an average of five groups of skilled tradesmen in each geographic area, the initiative aims to reach 100 such groups by 2016 in order to renovate 1,000 to 1,500 homes per year beginning in 2017 in the regions concerned.



Optimization of a communication plan for Energie Partagée PACA to facilitate a public fundraising initiative

Location
France

Partners
Energie Partagée,
the Legrand Foundation

Energie Partagée helps grassroots organizations in their interaction with public bodies so that they can develop, fund and manage their own projects for the production of renewable energy. This phase focuses on raising awareness "little but well," targeting potential project initiators (residents, associations, communities) and working with them to launch their project. Citizen awareness greatly increases once the projects reach the investment phase.

- The Rexel Foundation funded the leadership and awareness-raising initiative led by Energie Partagée in the PACA region of southeastern France.
- Luigi Caricato, External Communications Director of the Legrand Group, contributed his expertise to structuring the digital communication tools.



103 representatives and **300** citizens with increased awareness.

19 project initiators supported by Energie Partagée via training programs.



Social entrepreneurs working for social innovation

Arnaud Crétot
from the GoSol.org initiative

Location: Finland

GoSol.org is the first digital platform designed to transfer technology to the most disadvantaged communities. It develops free construction guides enabling peasants and craftsmen in developing countries to build solar concentrators so that they can access green, free and self-produced energy.



« Our objective is to create a model of solar concentrator technology and to make it available to the greatest number of people. We have developed construction guides available for free download. The Rexel Foundation enabled us to do so under proper conditions; it also enabled us to join an ecosystem of actors who believe that a new energy model is possible. »



We have recently published our first construction guide for a 1m² solar concentrator online. And, by early 2016, we will have developed a 4m² machine that will be able to supply enough energy to run a bakery stove or another business activity in developing countries, thanks to the support of the Rexel Foundation. »

Richard Watson
President of Energise Sussex Coast

Location: United-Kingdom

In October 2014, the Rexel Foundation awarded the prize for the “socially innovative community project benefiting those most in need in terms of energy and cost savings” to the social enterprise Energise Sussex Coast for its project to distribute 600 “energy packs” to low income communities in Sussex and Kent counties in southern England.



« Solving the poor state of our housing will take time, but we can do something for our more vulnerable residents immediately. Anyone who receives an energy pack will join our energy-saving community and be offered ongoing support and help with their bills and fuel debt advice from our range of partners, and be signposted to other schemes. The Rexel Prize really boosted our current plan to help our region reduce its energy footprint as well as the fuel bills of vulnerable residents. »

Jacques Berger
Director of the Enterprise and Poverty Action Tank

Location: France

The Rexel Foundation is participating in a project organized by the Enterprise and Poverty Action Tank run by HEC. This is an action-research project focused on developing new energy retrofit models for deteriorated or deteriorating jointly owned properties.



« The Rexel Foundation enabled us to fund an impact study on one of our programs. This is a key step for the forthcoming deployment of the model, as we are now able to document all the elements that a project changes in a given territory, at a jointly owned property level. »

Today, we have about ten projects involving about 15 major companies. Almost 10,000 people have already benefitted from our initiative. We are still very far from the impact we want to have, but this is already a significant result. »



Knowledge



« One of the missions of the Rexel Foundation is to develop knowledge and raise public awareness of energy efficiency in order to understand the issues at stake, identify innovative solutions, encourage information sharing and assist people in strengthening their engagement. »

Dan Esty
Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy, at Yale University,
Independent member of the Rexel Foundation
Executive Committee

We support research programs and educational projects, namely by providing grants and scholarships for students and researchers. These academic projects are an opportunity to better understand energy consumption patterns and to develop solutions to modify behaviors, as well as to develop technical solutions for the future.

We also contribute to the creation of a shared knowledge base on energy efficiency. To achieve this, we support studies whose goal is to improve understanding of the issues at stake.

Through the development of platforms, programs and events, results and knowledge will be shared with all stakeholders.

14 projects funded since the launch of the Foundation as part of Knowledge program



Development of a reference base for the success of electricity access projects

Location
International

Partners
Electricians without borders, Hager

The quality reference base, compiled with the help of 10 project leaders from Electricians without borders and outside experts, features 12 criteria:

- 4 population-based criteria aim to ensure that the projects meet actual needs, provide significant results and have a lasting impact on target communities;
- 8 project-based criteria are centered on the content, management and leadership of the projects and aim to ensure that they are responsible and implemented by an association and professional teams.

Each criterion is divided into key procedures that are both precise and practical, including steps to accomplish or precautions to take to successfully execute a project.



« This best practices guide, based on experience gathered from many projects promoting access to electricity led by Electricians without borders in developing countries, is part of a continuous improvement approach: It is not only a concrete tool at the service of different players – associations, companies and NGOs – to help them improve their community initiatives, but also a living reference base designed to be completed. A very useful and much needed initiative! »

Denis Munch
Sustainable Development Director, Hager Group

Our employees' commitment

Within the framework of its mission to support energy efficiency initiatives, the Rexel Foundation encourages Rexel employees and partners' employees to further engage in its activities.

They can support the initiatives of the Foundation in **four ways**:



1. By being the Foundation's ambassadors in their country, supporting its teams' efforts.

« I had never participated in a voluntary program before and I was thrilled, because I know what a major impact this initiative will have on these children's future, who now have a better access to education and information. »

James Cai,
Marketing Manager, Rexel China

2. By participating in a skills-based sponsorship program, putting their know-how and expertise at the service of the associations and social enterprises supported by the Foundation.

« For me, nothing is more motivating than accompanying social entrepreneurs to help them concretize their commitment! As a professional, it is also a great opportunity for me to better understand this market segment in order to anticipate the evolution of our offer. »

Jean-Yves Bouchet,
Applications solutions engineer, Rexel France

3. By sponsoring a community project in line with the Foundation's mission.

In 2015, six projects submitted by Rexel employees in Europe and Asia have been selected and voted for by employees in order to win the Rexel Foundation award. The winners of this competition gave three associations the opportunity to benefit from the support of the Rexel Foundation in the roll-out of their community project:

- The electrification of 12 villages in Laos with Electricians without borders, thanks to the support of the BizLine teams and to Arthur Desguez.
- The autonomous and sustainable electrification of a community in Cambodia with the association Partnering Against Poverty, thanks to the support of Pascal Ballon from Rexel IPG.
- The fight against the fuel poverty of 170 households in Austria each year with the NGO Caritas, thanks to the support of Walter Brandstetter from Rexel Austria.



4. By participating in initiatives aimed at raising funds, in the Foundation's awareness programs or payroll giving schemes implemented by some branches of the Group.

« Thanks to our partnership with MicroDON, the employees of two French subsidiaries of the Group, can round their wages down to the nearest euro and opt for the voluntary monthly debits of the remaining eurocents, and can also choose to make complementary donations. The two Rexel subsidiaries support this system by doubling the deposits made by their employees. As chosen by the employee and in line with the Rexel Foundation's mission, the collected funds are either transferred to the Adie or to Positive Planet. »

Laurence Galand,
VP Engagement, CSR & HQ Corporate at the Rexel Group



Governance

Under the aegis of the “Fondation de France,” the Rexel Foundation is managed by an Executive Committee in order to ensure optimal governance, efficient selection of partners and respect for Rexel’s core principles and Group’s ethics.

The Executive Committee is in charge of:

- Deciding on the strategy of the Foundation.
- Voting the budget, approving the accounts and loans and determining legal proceedings.
- Assessing and selecting the projects submitted to the Rexel Foundation, defining the allocated funds and carrying out the annual evaluation of partners according to the pre-defined criteria.

The Foundation’s Executive Committee, which meets at least once a year, is composed of eight members, including three independent experts.

Executive Committee



Rudy Provoost

Chairman of the Rexel Foundation and CEO and Chairman for the Rexel Group.

Rexel Members



Pascale Giet

Group Senior Vice President Communications and Sustainable Development of the Rexel Group, and Rexel Foundation Vice Chairman.



Sharon MacBeath

Group Senior Vice President Human Resources - Rexel Group.



Gonzalo Errejon

Marketing & Supplier Relationship Development Director - Rexel Group.



Jérémy de Brabant

Senior Vice President Customer Development - Rexel Group.

Independent Members



Brice Lalonde

Special Advisor to the United Nations Global Compact for Sustainable Development.



Ernst Worrel

Professor of “Energy, Resources & Technological Change” for the Copernicus Institute at the University of Utrecht.



Dan Esty

Hillhouse Professor of Environmental Law and Policy, at Yale University.



Amélie André

General Secretary of the Rexel Foundation.

*If you wish to promote energy efficiency
by developing a community project,
or to know more about our programs
or the Rexel Foundation, please visit our website
or contact us here:*

Website

www.rexelfoundation.com

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The Rexel Foundation thanks its partners: (IM)PROVE - ABACweb - Advise for Change - Ashoka - Bail pour Tous - Ceduc UCN (Chile) - Compagnons Bâtisseurs - Deloitte Foundation - Electricians without borders - Enercoop Aquitaine - Energie Partagée - Energise Sussex Coast - Entreprise et Poverty Action Tank - ESSEC - ESTP - Europe Tomorrow - Faurecia - Fondation TEKNIK (FACE) - Groupe SOS - Hager - HEC Paris - Institut négaWatt (Dorémi) - LATIMPACT - Les 7 Vents - Les Amis d'Enercoop - Locus Foundation - Maverlinn - Microsol - Netspring - Nova Scotia Community College (Canada) - Opinionway - Osram - Power:On - Rocky Mountain Institute - Schneider Electric - Schneider Electric Foundation - SolarFire Concentrated (GoSol) - Soleni - Stanford University (USA) - The Legrand Foundation - Ti'éole - Unis-Cité - United Nations Foundation - University of Colorado (USA) - Utrecht University (Holland).

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