

## **Solar Electric Light Fund teams up with Village Health Works and Partners in Health to power rural clinics in Burundi**

Washington D. C. - March 2008 - A country of both great beauty and great tragedy, Burundi is a landlocked East African nation of over 8 million people that shares borders with the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda and Tanzania. By all measures, Burundi has a public health crisis. Even with the violence of the 1990s largely over, Burundi's mortality figures still remain among the worst in the world.

Working in tandem with **Partners In Health**, Burundi-based **Village Health Works** is striving to address this crisis in Kigutu, in extreme southern Burundi, through the construction of a modern health center that will ultimately serve 60,000 people who face endemic diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. The center's electricity will be provided by a long-lasting solar power system powered by the **Solar Electric Light Fund**, at a total project cost of \$400,000 — **money still to be raised**.

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