

Barefoot College's Solar Mamas — Training Rural Women as Solar Engineers

Gender Equality · Good practice · India

Quality score: 89/100

Evidence strength: Descriptive / self-reported

Summary

Since 2008, Barefoot College in Tilonia, India has trained over 1,700 rural, often illiterate, women from 96 countries as solar engineers, electrifying an estimated 60,000–75,000 households worldwide.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	3/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	1/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Barefoot College](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[UN Women — Lighting up lives](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[MNRE — Barefoot College Tilonia](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Ashden Awards — Barefoot College](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

[Nature Energy \(2024\) — gendered energy care work study](#) — accessed 2026-07-05

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