



People | Planet | Prosperity

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Pilot Project

IKITHELO CHILDREN'S VILLAGE

The first Energy 4 Hope pilot project was successfully launched at iKhethelo Children's Village in KwaZulu-Natal, located in Durban's Upper Highway area and the Valley of 1000 Hills.

iKhethelo Children's Village has supported vulnerable and at-risk children for more than two decades, providing a safe, stable environment focused on care, education, and long-term wellbeing. The site was selected for the pilot due to its ongoing energy challenges and its strong alignment with Energy 4 Hope's values of responsibility, care, and long-term impact.





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The project involved the deployment of 300 tested and certified second-life solar panels, delivering improved energy reliability to the village. This has strengthened operational stability at the facility, supporting uninterrupted daily activities, education, and essential services in an environment where power outages are a regular occurrence.

All solar equipment used in the pilot underwent a structured assessment and testing process to ensure safety and performance prior to installation. Equipment that did not meet the required standards was directed to responsible recycling, reinforcing the project's commitment to accountability and proper end-of-service management.

The iKhethelo pilot demonstrates how circular principles, when applied responsibly, can be translated into practical, community-level impact. It also serves as a proof-of-concept for future Energy 4 Hope projects at similar community institutions.