



# **OFF-GRID**

## Expo + Conference

### **Press Release**

November 24, 2021

### **Re-launch in Augsburg: the international off-grid community is meeting for the OFF-GRID Expo + Conference**

**The trade conference and trade fair for off-grid solar, wind and hydropower systems and self-sufficient power supply OFF-GRID Expo + Conference is opening its gates at the trade fair grounds in Augsburg on December 2 and 3, 2021. This year, the event and the TechDay on December 1 are taking place in person and online. Alongside the conference with international experts, more than 50 exhibitors will be presenting their off-grid solutions and innovations at the accompanying trade fair. Tickets are now available from the online ticket shop.**

Augsburg. Messe Augsburg and the international exhibitors from the off-grid community are looking forward to the personal interaction that was not possible last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. "In accordance with the requirements of the Coronavirus Protection Ordinance of the Free State of Bavaria, and in close cooperation with the authorities, Messe Augsburg has designed a series of seamlessly interlocking measures to regulate all the activities at the OFF-GRID Expo + Conference. With the implementation of the 2G+ regulations on-site (only people who have been vaccinated or have recovered from the virus, both with an official negative test result, are admitted) and digital access for all, the congress trade fair provides flexible, and above all safe, participation and contact options," reports Lorenz A. Rau, CEO of Messe Augsburg, with regard to the far-reaching hygiene and protective measures for the re-launch. Alongside well-known faces, around 25 % of the exhibitors will be represented at the trade fair for the first time. "We are delighted to be able to participate in this year's OFF-GRID Expo in Augsburg as an exhibitor for the first time. After many months of uncertainty and isolation, we believe that this will be a brilliant

opportunity to meet with other specialists, such as project developers, manufacturers and financiers, from the off-grid industry and at the same time to present our battery products that are suitable for off-grid solar applications,” says Daniel Rosas, Sales Manager at BAE Batterien.

At the OFF-GRID Conference, which is divided into five sessions, the participants will discuss, among other things, how water and energy can be combined and how the mining industry and local communities can be supplied with electricity with the help of sustainable and off-grid solutions. Further topics will be the power supply for the agricultural sector and energy storage systems in rural regions. Online participants can follow the conference via the livestream.

### **Special guest gives a talk on Zanzibar’s water supply**

As a special guest, a delegation from the Zanzibar Archipelago in Tanzania awaits the conference visitors. The Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA) will present its vision of how it will supply the around 1,7 million inhabitants of the group of islands with hygienic drinking water by means of self-sufficient power generation. Demand for clean drinking water on Zanzibar is growing. This is because climate change is causing sources of fresh water to run out and salt is intruding into the groundwater. Power failures and rising electricity costs also hinder the operation of water pumps. Due to their tropical location with more than ten hours of sunlight every day, however, it is easy to generate solar power on the islands. “That is why we are now endeavoring to ensure that Zanzibar becomes the first island state in the world to rely 100 % on solar water extraction, treatment and distribution,” explains ZAWA Director Dr. Salha Mohammed Kassim. To accompany its attendance at the trade fair, the Afrika-Verein der Deutschen Wirtschaft (German-African Business Association) from Berlin and Messe Augsburg will enable the delegation to hold further meetings with political representatives and sponsors in Bavaria and Berlin.

### **The alliance presents itself**

Another highlight is the Augsburg premiere of the newly founded Off Grid Water Alliance (OGWA). The initiator Dr. Hamed Beheshti and the alliance’s members and supporters want to work together to promote the drinking water supply in East Africa. “The organization establishes a basis for the introduction of technologies among the communities that are in need and among the decision-makers and developers. OGWA identifies the needs, and then builds synergies between members and companies who

are tackling the growing global water challenges in off-grid regions of the world,” says Dr. Hamed Beheshti, CEO of Boreal Light GmbH / WaterKiosk.

### **Safe attendance of the trade fair**

Messe Augsburg attaches a lot of importance to the safety of all the participants and guests. That is why the in-person event is taking place in accordance with the 2G+ rules. Visitors can only enter the trade fair center with a personalized admission ticket. Tickets to visit the trade fair and the conference on site and for digital participation are available exclusively in the online shop at <https://www.off-grid-expo.de/besucher/ticketshop>.

### **About the OFF-GRID Expo + Conference**

The OFF-GRID Expo + Conference is considered the most important off-grid event in the sector and is aimed at individuals and companies who are interested in self-sufficient power supply and standalone solutions, including commercial companies, aid organizations, installers, agricultural and forestry companies, mobility equipment suppliers, public administration bodies and universities. Over 500 experts from Africa, America, Asia and Europe took part in the event last time, which was held online due to Covid-19. The high-caliber, English-language trade congress with a trade fair focuses on all the themes relating to off-grid solar, wind and hydropower systems and a self-sufficient power supply, which are particularly important in rural areas and in aid to developing regions. The official conference partner of the event is the Alliance for Rural Electrification (ARE). The other partners are the company Phaesun, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO ITPO Germany) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Agency for International Cooperation – GIZ).

The trade conference will take place at the Messe Augsburg on December 2, 10:00 – 17:00 and on December 3, 9:00 – 16:00. The TechDay will take place on December 1, 2021, 12:00 – 17:30. Tickets are now available in the online shop.

Messe Augsburg’s trade fair grounds are conveniently located in the heart of southern Germany and have good links to Munich and Stuttgart airports.

For more information, please visit: [www.off-grid-expo.com](http://www.off-grid-expo.com)