



Newsletter Aug 2017

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Establishment of an off grid demonstration center in East Africa

We are currently expanding our demonstration village project, which will become a technology development center and will employ young developers on a regular basis. This development center will be part of a demonstration and sales center in East Africa, which we hope will soon be established by us together with a local partner in Tanzania or Kenya.

Between July 17 and 23, we traveled in a small delegation to Kenya and Tanzania in order to learn about the Off-Grid world and some of the organizations and companies operating in the field, and to find a local partner or two to establish the demonstration center.

The meetings with the companies and organizations were fascinating and we were exposed to a complex world of building a local market step by step in order to improve the lives of the citizens, streamline financial capabilities and build a stable and advanced local economy.

This is the moment to thank all our hosts: Amiran Kenya LTD, energy4impact, Bldewijin Slotte, Phtisia, Envirofit, Technoserve, Practical Action, Powerhive, Disdardo, Africar and Art Energy.

In the coming months, we will process all the information and proceed to selecting a strategic partner or two, and raise the required investment. We hope that in July 2018 we will begin the construction of a demonstration and training center in East Africa, which will be the basis for a joint and fruitful development between Eilat-Eilot Renewable Energy, Israeli entrepreneurs, developers, and the East Africa market.

To the [Off-Grid Village page](#) on the Eilat-Eilot site



The Israeli finals winners of the ClimateLaunchpad, by 'Eilat-Eilot Renewable Energy'

On June 26-27, we held a business training workshop at Kibbutz Lotan for entrepreneurs who underwent the initial screening process. The workshop was led by Ron Bloemers, a mentor from the Netherlands who came especially to the Arava.

On August 6, the final event of the Israeli competition was held at the Google Campus Tel-Aviv.

After the projects presentation, Mr. [Erez Livneh](#), an international expert on innovation, delivered a fascinating lecture on the futuristic world.

The three winning teams:

1st place: [BrithTap](#), Ariel Drach and Konstantin Berezin

2nd place: Eco-Log, Noa Barnea and Elad Yitzhaik

3rd place: [Residential Biogas](#), Or Averbuch and Shabtay Lulea

The three winning teams will fly to Cyprus in October, where they will represent Israel at the grand finale of the European competition. Joining them will be Noam Ilan, who was chosen to participate as a member of the competition's judging panel. We wish them and us good luck.

Read more about the [ClimateLaunchpad competition](#)



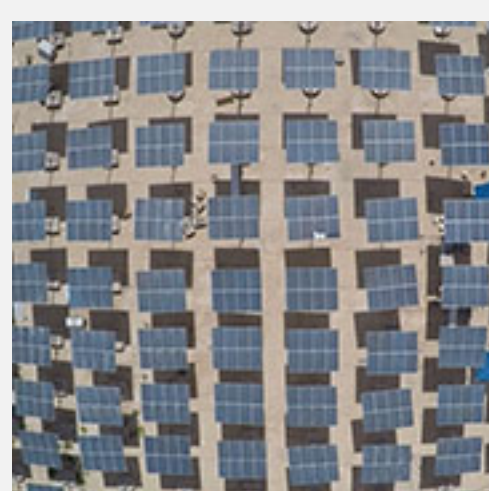
BladeRanger

[BladeRanger](#) is a start-up company of the start-up incubator '[Capital Nature](#)', that develops an independent cleaning and monitoring system for solar fields based on advanced robotics and algorithms. The company has two main solutions:

1. PLECO - Autonomous cleaning robot without the use of water, for solar panels.
2. 3P - A complete solution for cleaning and monitoring large fields (over 5 MW), which includes a number of cleaning robots, skimmers and hangers for loading and storing units during the day.

Possible future applications are security and surveillance; agriculture; Cleaning of buildings, skyscrapers and complex structures. Blade Ranger offers a solution for effectively cleaning dust and dirt from photovoltaic surfaces and mirrored surfaces, while at the same time solving the difficulty of effectively identifying defects over huge quantities of surfaces. Today, most of the work is done manually, with some of the mechanical solutions cumbersome, expensive and inefficient. The company's business model is based on the cost of the autonomous system (including installation) and annual maintenance fees including maintenance, spare parts, communications, remote management, system monitoring and analysis, as well as performance monitoring throughout the life of the facility (20-25 years). The company is currently in the process of raising additional capital for the purpose of leveraging production and sales capabilities worldwide.

[For additional details](#)



Connection of the Pioneering Facility of Solar Trackers in Yotvata - Matalon Energy Sources Ltd

On July 17, Matalon Energy Sources Ltd. completed the installation of the solar-tracking facility in the Yotvata validation field, and connection to the electricity grid, after prolonged difficulties.

The company began the development of the solar tracker in 2011 by establishing a number of units that demonstrate the operation of solar tracking on the roof of an industrial building in Yavneh. The company has now registered for the patent at the Israeli and American Patent Offices.

In 2011 the company participated in the Ministry of Energy's tender to promote and pioneer demonstration facilities. It has now signed a contract for the firm's assistance in promoting the technology and for undertaking field experiments.

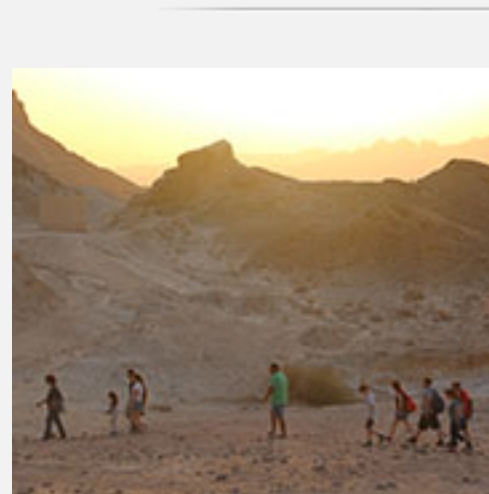
The main operation of the two-axis tracking device is simple, cheap and precise. The system is based on analog measurement and a direct feedback cycle without the need for a complex electronic system. The mechanical engineering system was designed to be cheap and reliable.

The company has received the necessary approvals from the authorities to operate a pilot facility, designed to produce and sell electricity for 20 years with an output of 300 kW through 150 independent tracking units.

Approvals were received from the Electricity Authority, Ministry of Energy, the Economy Ministry and the Israel Land Authority.

To the [Matalon website](#)

Read more about the [validation field](#)



"Sun Orbit" Route in the Arava - Tourism and Renewable Energy

Eco-tourism has become a popular product in Israel and abroad. The subject of renewable energies, its innovation, its scope and uniqueness are revealed as an attraction! We have realized that the vision for establishing the first region in Israel, **which enjoys full energy independence**, is a wonderful base for tourism.

Thus, five years ago we started to develop the "Sun Orbit" for energy tourism and sustainability in the Arava: a unique and branded product, to increase the local tourism industry and leverage it.

Today, the kibbutzim are the bearers of the flag and hold hundreds of annual trainings in the field of renewable energy. In Kibbutz Elifaz alone, about 3,500 people took part in energy tours, and that's just this year!

In July, an energy tourism event for families was held - an "**Energetic in the Arava**" weekend. The event was attended by dozens of families from the north, who visited the off-grid village in Ketura, had a nighttime swim in the pool, a sunrise tour of Timna Park, kite flying in the Samar dunes, and experiential energy activities.

The event was fascinating, the responses were enthusiastic, and the intention is to turn it into a permanent summer event, which includes a visit to renewable energy sites in the Eilat region, accommodation in various kibbutzim and a variety of events, tours, training and activities.

For further reading on the [Eilat-Eilot tourism page](#)

You are invited to save the date for the following "energetic" weekend: July 12-14, 2018!