



**LEG-UP:** A local NGO, Grootbos Foundation, which wants to reduce its carbon footprint received a solar electricity system from SolarWorld.

PICTURE: GROOTBOS FOUNDATION

# NGO receives solar electricity donation

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A LOCAL NGO looking to reduce their carbon footprint and costs received a boost in the form of a solar electricity system.

Julie Cheetham, Grootbos Foundation managing director said they appreciated the system donation by SolarWorld.

“This donation assists the Grootbos Foundation in its continued work towards our vision and brings us closer to living our commitment to sustainability and conservation.”

The project includes a 5kWp solar system, which will generate sufficient energy ensuring the NGO has a fixed monthly electricity cost.

Apart from assisting the Grootbos Foundation in saving on their electricity bill, the project contributes to conserving the environment, which forms part of their vision.

Ruth Crichton of Grootbos said that they

also focus on conserving the fynbos in the area and the solar system will assist them in their work.

“It will help us live out our ethos of being green and it is extremely environmentally friendly. Right now our entire office is running off grid.”

Gregor Kuepper, managing director of SolarWorld Africa, said the company’s commitment was to sustainability.

“It starts with how we manufacture our products, choose our materials and treat our employees, then it extends to the communities we serve. Our commitment encompasses both economic and social sustainability which includes our factories, suppliers and employees.”

The Grootbos Foundation solar system is operative and will generate clean renewable energy for the training centre for 25 years and more.

“We are proud of our new environmentally friendly, energy-efficient office and training facility which is complete with a brand new solar system and we are extremely grateful to SolarWorld and Solek Innovations” Cheetham said.