



Beautiful. And good.

The idea of the Consol Solar Jar™ is connected from its very beginning to the people that create it, so it's no surprise that it is produced socially and sustainably. In the end, it doesn't only capture and reflect sunlight, but it also enlightens the lives of the people that proudly handcraft it.

The Consol Solar Jar™ has been produced since 2011 by a company called Suntoy in South Africa's biggest city, Johannesburg. In just a few years, over 60 jobs have been created through the production of the Consol Solar Jar™. The glass jar itself is manufactured by Consol, the country's largest glass manufacturer.

At Suntoy, unskilled workers from adjacent townships are trained in photovoltaic theory. Suntoy focuses on Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), which translate into sustainable development for the company. It also follows the principle of "Common Shared Value" resulting in a corporate culture where both women and men are paid fairly and receive insurance and pension.





And that's not all.

Fair pay alone isn't everything. Suntoy wishes to do good too, sustainably. That's why the European distributor of the Consol Solar Jar™, Sonnenglas.net, established a fund that currently finances one hour per day of instruction in Mathematics and English for employees during working time, preparing them to get a high school diploma.

The Consol Solar Jar™ thereby casts light on a brighter future through education. There are also seven employees with newborn babies, whose long-term education shall be supported by the Sonnenglas fund.

The employees have fun at work; the factory's atmosphere is like that of a family. Suntoy is transparent, meaning that their doors are open to visitors. The team is very proud to produce the best solar lamp in the world!



How it came to be.

Dangerous kerosene lamps and candles are predominantly used in informal settlements in South Africa resulting in many shack fires. In 2010, South African electrical engineer, Harald Schulz of Suntoy, was approached by Consol to design a solar light within the classic 1L preservative jar. The aim was to produce a solar powered reading lamp that could be used in areas without electricity and create a safe light source, burn free. Five years later, more than 750,000 of these solar lamps have been produced already. In South Africa, the Consol Solar Jar™ has become a cult object and is on its way to becoming as popular in Europe. Suntoy-Blog <http://suntoy.co.za/index.php/blog>