

**Press release**  
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## **Siemens Stiftung's "empowering people. Network" promotes the use of simple technological solutions in the area of basic needs**

The Network offers inventors, practitioners and social entrepreneurs a platform for dialogue and cooperation.

### **Contact**

#### **Press:**

**Vineeta Manglani**  
Sympra GmbH (GPRA)  
Tel. +49 / 711 / 9 47 67-0  
[vineeta.manglani@sympra.de](mailto:vineeta.manglani@sympra.de)

**Julia Rüter**  
Spokesperson / Head of  
Communications  
**Siemens Stiftung**  
Tel. +49 / 89 / 54 04 87-1 10  
[julia.rueter@siemens-stiftung.org](mailto:julia.rueter@siemens-stiftung.org)

#### **Project Management:**

**Carola Schwank**  
Siemens Stiftung  
Tel. +49 / 91 31 / 9 20 79-10  
[carola.schwank@siemens-stiftung.org](mailto:carola.schwank@siemens-stiftung.org)

**Create transparency, exchange knowledge, advance the use of simple technology in practice – these are the most important goals of the “empowering people. Network – Technologies for basic needs”. The core of this Network is the database comprising intelligent low-tech innovations, which enable a sustainable improvement in basic needs in developing regions. These solutions are the best rated innovations submitted to the international “empowering people. Award” competition. The platform also offers practitioners, inventors, experts and organizations working in developmental cooperation the opportunity to connect and create stronger and more goal-oriented ties.**

The knowledge of practicable technological solutions and the ability to deal with them are often the starting point when realizing a business idea: These entrepreneurial initiatives can counterbalance existential shortfalls in supply as well as empower people to improve the situation of their families and social environment. Appropriate innovations were identified by the “empowering people. Award” – and the best valued solutions are being added to a database that is available to the public, thereby helping to promote both the innovation and its practical application.

“The ‘empowering people. Network’ is an online and offline platform which offers practitioners, social entrepreneurs, and inventors the chance to dialogue with each other. A transfer of knowledge on the content of the internet platform is just as important as a personal exchange of experiences on successful business and financing models”, states Rolf Huber, Managing Director of Siemens Stiftung.

Together with partners, the foundation will be implementing webinars for inventors and social entrepreneurs with topics that include financing or evaluation. As from September regional workshops will take place starting with a practical workshop on marketing & communication in East Africa. An international “empowering people. Workshop” for inventors and entrepreneurs will also take place at the Research Conference of the Global Social Business Summit in Mexico City in November.

The Network also includes the social entrepreneurs of the Community Impact Development Group (CIDG), initiated by Siemens Stiftung and Ashoka. In addition, the International Research Network on Social Economic Empowerment IRENE I SEE, jointly founded by Siemens Stiftung and Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen, will also be integrated.

Further information on [www.empowering-people-network.org](http://www.empowering-people-network.org).

“empowering people. Network” on Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/EmpoweringPeopleNetwork](http://www.facebook.com/EmpoweringPeopleNetwork)  
and on Twitter [www.twitter.com/Emp\\_Ppl\\_Award](http://www.twitter.com/Emp_Ppl_Award).

**Siemens Stiftung**  
Kaiserstrasse 16  
80801 Munich  
Germany

Phone: +49 / 89 / 54 04 87-0  
Fax: +49 / 89 / 54 04 87-4 40

# SIEMENS | Stiftung

## About Siemens Stiftung

Siemens Stiftung operates in the fields of basic services, education, and culture. As a hands-on foundation, we develop our own projects and implement them with a view to the long term. Together with our partners, we aim to help people improve their living conditions. By doing so, we try to empower functioning communities in which people can have a good life. We are committed to international, impact-oriented, and transparent project work. The geographical focus of our work is on regions in Africa and Latin America as well as on Germany and other European countries.

Website of Siemens Stiftung: [www.siemens-stiftung.org](http://www.siemens-stiftung.org)



Keyvisual “empowering people. Network – Technologies for basic needs”

((Keyvisual can be downloaded on <http://www.empowering-people-network.siemens-stiftung.org/en/newsroom>))

**Siemens Stiftung**  
Kaiserstrasse 16  
80801 Munich  
Germany

Phone: +49 / 89 / 54 04 87-0  
Fax: +49 / 89 / 54 04 87-4 40