

## Press Release, February 5<sup>th</sup> 2014

### ENERGY GLOBE – The world award for sustainability

February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014 – Salzburg / Austria

[www.energyglobe.info](http://www.energyglobe.info)

#### **Energy Globe World Award for Nicaraguan "Solar Women" Austria is category winner with unique algae cultivation**

Salzburg - The Energy Globe World Award goes to Nicaragua! With a happy "Muchas Gracias" Martha Veronica Rocha received the 13 kg bronze statue for her organization FUPROSOMUNIC in the studio of the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation Salzburg. Salzburg Governor Wilfried Haslauer, Mayor Heinz Schaden, Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church Peter Turkson and Energy Globe Founder Wolfgang Neumann presented the award. Austria also excelled as a category winner in "Fire." Wolfgang Neumann: "These projects are a strong signal - they show the world that our environmental problems can be solved".

The Nicaraguan project, also winner in category "Air", was the favorite for the International Jury. It combines environmental protection with social commitment. The protagonists of the Solar Project Foundation for Nicaraguan Woman (FUPROSOMUNIC) build solar ovens for cooking and drying fruits and vegetables and market the products. A total of 700 "Solar Women" train other women, propagate their knowledge at trade shows, prevent health problems, deforestation, promote clean energy and create jobs, education and prosperity.

The Austrian company ecoduna Produktions AG won in the "Fire" category with a unique algae cultivation process. In photovoltaic reactors they grow algae, from which valuable oils and bio fuels are obtained. The process is extremely energy efficient and sustainable.

The U.S. company Ecovative Design LLC made it in category "Earth". In a highly energy efficient process fungi produce 100 % compostable packaging, which are even edible and - disposed of in the garden – serve as fertilizers for plants.

United Kingdom won the category "Water" prize: the British designer Francesca Mancini developed a simple construction for households to directly use gray water from showers and sinks for flushing toilets – so enormous amounts of water can be saved.

The Cyprus NGO "Cans for Kids" won the race in category "Youth". In voluntary work young people collect aluminum cans, press and sell them. The proceeds are donated to a children's hospital. 260,000 Euros have been already raised.

The ceremony was organized jointly with the Regional Government and the City of Salzburg, The Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF) Salzburg and the Federal Austrian Chamber of Commerce. The Energy Globe Award is - with over 160 participating countries and more than 1000 submissions annually – the world's largest environmental prize. More on [www.energyglobe.info](http://www.energyglobe.info). From end of March projects can be submitted again.