



# VeraSol

## Solar Energy Kits

# Recommendations for Development Partners and Procurement Agencies

MAY 2021

### RECOMMENDATION 1

**Specify VeraSol-certified solar energy kits in tenders and market stimulation programs. A current listing in the VeraSol Product Database is evidence that a solar energy kit conforms to quality standards and is currently certified.**

Standalone renewable energy products with solar modules up to 350 Wp can be tested and evaluated using internationally recognized test methods and quality standards. Manufacturers who design and produce good quality products have been getting their products tested and certified under this framework for many years.

The quality standards address four core aspects of product quality: truth in advertising, safety, durability, and consumer protection. You can learn more about the standards on the [VeraSol website](#).

VeraSol is the leading independent third-party certifier of products that meet these standards. The VeraSol team oversees the testing process from start to finish and carefully reviews the test results for each product to determine whether the product meets the standards. Certificates remain valid for two years unless renewed. The VeraSol team previously certified products under the name Lighting Global Quality Assurance.

All solar energy kits are tested according to the test methods described in IEC Technical Specification 62257-9-5:2018. Until recently, products were assessed for conformity with the Lighting Global Quality Standards. These standards were revised and adopted by the IEC in 2020. Products are now evaluated to the new IEC standards, IEC TS 62257-9-8:2020. Thus, some currently certified products were evaluated using the Lighting Global Quality Standards while others were evaluated using the IEC standards. The standards used during product evaluation are shown in each product's listing in the [VeraSol Product Database](#).

### RECOMMENDATION 2

**Consult the VeraSol Product Database and VeraSol team if you want to target certain types of certified products in your programs.**

VeraSol maintains the authoritative database of certified products, and the team is in close communication with manufacturers. We know what is available in the market and, thus, can be a good resource for development partners on the design of their programs.

If you want to procure or provide incentives for products that are not already certified, please note that the certification process takes several months. Thus, we recommend giving suppliers as much

advance notice as possible of your interest in VeraSol-certified products.

## RECOMMENDATION 3

**Notify VeraSol of any upcoming tenders or other solicitations for VeraSol-certified products.**

We can help you get the word out to suppliers of good-quality products. We post [sales opportunities](#) on our website and issue [email notifications](#) to keep suppliers “In the Know”.

### Additional Resources:

- [Benefits of VeraSol](#)
- [Quality Assurance for Off-Grid Solar Powered Lights: A Brief Guide for Institutional Buyers](#)
- [Market Check Testing Policy](#)
- [Summary of Requirements in IEC TS 62257-9-8:2020](#)
- [Sales opportunities for suppliers of VeraSol-certified products](#)

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## RECOMMENDATION 4

**Check a random sample of the products you procure or promote through your programs to ensure that the ultimate beneficiaries receive products that conform to the standards.**

The VeraSol team coordinates an ongoing market check-testing program to verify that certified products distributed to consumers conform to the standards. We invite the active participation of development partners and other institutions in this effort. Contact us to learn how you can take part in cost-effectively protecting consumers from sub-standard products.




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