

## Olafur Eliasson's Little Sun shines a light on Climate Change at COP22 opening in Marrakesh

Marrakesh, November 7, 2016 – COP22 officially launched in Marrakesh today. At the opening ceremony, COP21 President Ségolène Royal and all COP22 delegates shared a solar-powered sunrise: Thousands of Little Sun solar lamps lit the room as a symbol for the right to sustainable energy access for all.

COP reminds us that we are all a part of our planet's problems, but that we can also find solutions to climate challenges. Every choice we make, every day can be a 'little solution' that combats climate change. We can all be climate activists, and we need to take action!

Little Sun's solutions are for everyone: They benefit communities living off the electricity grid by working with local entrepreneurs, creating local jobs, and generating local profits. The Little Sun social business was officially launched by artist Olafur Eliasson in July 2012 at London's Tate Modern. Since then, more than 450,000 Little Sun lamps have been distributed worldwide, with almost half going to off-grid areas. Purchasing Little Suns in areas of the world with electricity makes the products available in off-grid areas at reduced, locally affordable prices, where they provide a clean alternative to toxic and expensive fuel-based lighting and a steadfast and clean alternative to relying on the electrical grid.

This event has been made possible thanks to the personal support of COP21 President Ségolène Royal. The symbolic purchase of 2,000 Little Sun for the 2,000 UN delegates allows the financing of the first step of the « Children solar alliance »: make children of the world, North and South, power the future ! In the coming weeks, a few groups of children from Morocco, Ethiopia and France will discover what Little Sun is changing in their everyday life, sharing their experiences both sides of the Mediterranean Sea.

This project is part of the Artists4Climate initiative launched for COP21 in Paris: how leading contemporary artists can mobilize for climate action with United Nations and organizations committed to a more sustainable world.

## www.littlesun.com

## www.artists4climate.com

## Download of visual material: <u>http://bit.ly/2fwaCo4</u>

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To download this press release and Little Sun info material, visit the Little Sun media page.

