



GmbH
HRB 151500

PRESS RELEASE
1 March 2019

The Chairman - Eurlng Professor Colin Roberts, and the Board of Salternas GmbH takes great pleasure to report on the progress of the world's largest solar-salt project, which will provide much needed export income and food security to those impacted by drought in Somaliland.

Since the historic signing of the Agreement between Salternas GmbH and the Government of the Republic of Somaliland in October 2018, a number of key developments have been achieved or are underway.

To-date, Salternas has spent in excess of US\$1.8 million (AUD\$ 2.5 million) of an estimated US\$10 million, on planning and engineering design.

This design work mainly consists of civil and chemical engineering design to produce a range of salts including Sodium Chloride (NaCl), Magnesium Sulphate ($MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$), Potassium Chloride (KCl or MOP), Sulphate of Potash (K_2SO_4 or SOP) – a valuable fertilizer, Gypsum and Bromine (Br_2) among others.

Salternas' studies have estimated the project will support up to 10 million tonnes a year of salt exports for Somaliland over an initial 20-year operating life.

The Somaliland project will produce a renewable product, combining clean renewable energy and industrial technology with food security, using leading edge science utilising greenhouse technology to capture usually lost water evaporated from the salt ponds and direct it down-wind to oasis-like greenhouses.

These self-sustaining mini-climates will produce enough food and fodder to exceed the requirements of Somaliland, as well as drinkable water, animal fodder, aquaculture and mariculture. It is estimated by our experts, that this technology will produce about 150,000 tonnes of vegetables and fodder per year and employ up to 3,000 people.

In times of drought, food production will be diverted to those affected at no cost.

“This project will turn the desert into an oasis”, said Prof Roberts, who has been appointed Executive Chairman of Salternas and is directing the feasibility study”.

The founders of this project have had long careers in Africa, which is why we are committed to this project to ensure an excellent outcome for both Salternas and the peoples of Somaliland.

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As is normally the case in such a world-class engineering undertaking, much preliminary work and expenditure is required.

Design is expected to be completed in late 2019, or by the first quarter of 2020, with construction commencing shortly afterwards. The first production is scheduled for 2023.

An estimated CAPEX of US\$10 million a year from the first 5-years of production will be reinvested into the food production element; thus, creating economic wellbeing and subsequently, the elimination of conflict in the Region.

“If we can save just one life it will be worthwhile,” said Prof Roberts, “but this has the potential to save many thousands.”

To find out more or to invest go to www.salternas.org

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