

MEET SOUTH AFRICA'S YOUNG CHAMPIONS

Laura Andreas

Laura Andreas is a 16 year old physical science student at Deutsche International School in Cape Town. She has built a solar furnace that desalinates salt water and generates electricity.

She chose this particular project as she wanted to determine whether it is possible to desalinate salt water and generate electricity using only solar energy. Her furnace is a solar-powered salt water desalinating device that heats up salt water to boiling point, and then the steam drives a turbine which generates electricity. By condensing the steam water, it produces fresh drinkable water.

Laura decided to choose this topic because the world faces challenges such as pollution and the shortage of fresh water. Should the project be successful, there is a new 'green' possibility to desalinate salt water, which would help to keep our earth clean and also be an option as a source of renewable energy. The most efficient water desalination plants use 5kwh of energy to desalinate one cubic meter of water.

This project innovatively integrates the concepts of renewable energy and water purification. This holds significant potential for further development.

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