

# Beyond DiY: Open Hardware and Renewable Energy

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## 1 Content

Onawi is a non-profit organisation promoting open hardware for the development of non-domestic wind energy systems. Open hardware is becoming increasingly popular, as we can see in the recent initiative by Facebook to open up the technology behind their data-centres. However, most open hardware projects are targeted at hobbyists or those looking for custom do-it-yourself alternatives to mass market products. While this is a very positive aspect, at Onawi we believe that open licensing and collaborative development could have a far reaching impact on industrial production. In particular, Open Hardware could provide the horizontal technology transfer of renewables required to fight climate change in developing countries.

In other workshops in the Open Hardware track we would like to explore the differences between hardware and software, limits of licensing and alternatives, the need for creative and collaboration tools, open data and product lifecycle, open standards, mixed supply chain, and business models. As disclaimer, there are no easy readymade answers to any of these issues.

## 2 About the Author

Javier Ruiz is a UK based digital activist and social entrepreneur promoting open data, open standards and open licensing as the basis for a better future based on transparency, participation and collaboration. His practical work cuts across various spheres ranging from citizen journalism, archives to renewable energy. His background is in anthropology and technology management, and you can normally find him at the Open Rights Group.