



# EEP AFRICA NEW PORTFOLIO 2020

Advancing Women in Leadership  
in Clean Energy



EEP Africa is hosted and managed by the Nordic Development Fund (NDF) with funding from Austria, Finland and NDF.



Ministry for Foreign  
Affairs of Finland



NORDIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
FUND



Solar Sister's women  
entrepreneurs are bringing  
clean energy productive  
use equipment to last-mile  
communities in Tanzania.

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## About the New Portfolio

The Energy and Environment Partnership Trust Fund (EEP Africa) is a multi-donor fund providing early stage grant and catalytic financing to innovative clean energy projects, technologies and business models in 15 countries across Southern and East Africa. It is hosted and managed by the Nordic Development Fund (NDF) with funding from **Austria, Finland and NDF**.

Since 2010, EEP Africa has invested close to EUR 50 million in 250 pioneering projects, creating over 8,700 jobs, improving energy access for more than 5 million people, and reducing or avoiding more than 1.4 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e.

EEP Africa supports private sector-led clean energy projects with early stage finance, business development support and market knowledge in Botswana, Burundi, Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Rwanda, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

This booklet profiles the newest cohort of companies in the EEP Africa portfolio.

These stem from a competitive call for proposals in 2019 aimed at **advancing women in leadership in clean energy**. The call attracted 285 applications, over 60% of which were submitted by women-led companies.

The **18 projects** featured here encompass 8 different technologies and 10 countries, with a total financing commitment of almost EUR 6.5 million. The projects began implementation in 2020.

The projected results from this new part of the portfolio are presented to the right, representing key impact indicators from the EEP Africa results framework.

The goal of EEP Africa is to contribute to sustainable and inclusive green growth and support achievement of the Paris Climate Agreement and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

## Projected Results for the New Portfolio

Annual savings on energy-related expenditure

€4M



0.5M

People with enhanced energy access



2,000 / 65%

Direct jobs created

for Women



160,000 tonnes



CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions reduced or avoided per year



40,000 MWh

Clean energy generated per year



Women in leadership

55%





**Project Developer**  
Wundersight Investments

Wundersight Investments is part of the global engineering firm Wundersight Group (WSG), which has designed and developed more than 150MW solar, biomass and wind energy plants globally.



# SOLARWOOD: HYBRID ENERGY FOR A HOSPITAL

This project will secure thermal and electric energy for a hospital in Eswatini through a hybrid solar and biomass technology. Solarwood is a containerized plug and play system that provides 0.4 MW (Tier 5) energy. The system will be installed at the 225-bed Good Shepherd Hospital in Siteki, ensuring affordable and uninterrupted access to electricity and enabling the hospital to better serve its community. The system's biomass plant will utilise wood residue from local, sustainable timber plantations and Sikel bush, an invasive species, supplied by a local conservancy. EEP Africa financing will demonstrate this innovative technology and business model, thereby lowering the risk and helping attract commercial investors.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 950 000

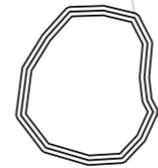
**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 500 000

**Project Partners**  
Winno Solutions  
Planeta Austero

**Type**  
Demonstration project  
Mini-grid connected

**Project Code**  
SWA15110

**Location**  
Eswatini



## Outcome and Impact

The project will support 2,117 MWh of clean energy per year and reduce or avoid 1,251 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions. The project has high potential for scale-up at other hospitals

by demonstrating an innovative containerized hybrid solar/biomass solution that provides reliable and affordable energy.



mukuru  
CLEAN  
stoves

**Project Developer**  
Mukuru Clean Stoves

Mukuru is a local women-led social enterprise that designs, produces and distributes reliable and affordable improved cookstoves for low-income households.



**Technology**  
Cookstoves

# SCALING UP A WOMEN-LED CLEAN COOKSTOVE VALUE CHAIN IN KENYA

This project will scale up Mukuru's women-led production and distribution of improved cookstoves, reducing the cost and sales price and reaching more households. Mukuru employs local women artisans and technicians to manufacture the cookstoves from recycled materials. The company distributes to low-income communities through female entrepreneurs and partnerships with women's groups and local micro-finance institutions. EEP Africa financing will expand Mukuru's production capacity in terms of machinery and personnel and will enable the company to extend distribution to four new counties in Kenya.

## Outcome and Impact

The project will enhance clean energy access for low-income households and offer income opportunities to women entrepreneurs. Mukuru expects to produce 40,000 improved cookstoves and enhance access for 150,000 people. This will improve household health, reduce 65,357 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions, and result in EUR 300,000 in annual savings on energy-related expenditures.

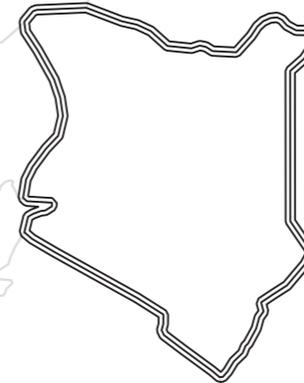
**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 309 996

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 216 997

**Type**  
Scale-up project  
Cookstove

**Project Code**  
KEN15161

**Location**  
Kenya



# PAWA TO THE SHAMBA MAMAS

**Project Developer**  
Pawame Kenya

Pawame is an off-grid home solar start-up company operating in Kenya.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

This project will pilot a model for tracking credit worthiness in solar home system (SHS) sales and unlocking access to financing and school loans. Pawame sells bundles of solar-enabled products on an affordable PAYG basis and monitors repayment through proprietary software. Positive creditworthiness unlocks increasing levels of access to financing for life-enhancing products up to Tier 4 (refrigeration, irrigation pumps, smartphones, health screening devices). Customers also receive capacity-building and mobile agricultural data services. When repayments rates are above 90% on the Shamba Starter Bundle, financing for school loans is unlocked, creating a viable pathway from subsistence agriculture to smallholder farming and educational achievement. EEP Africa financing will enable Pawame to expand its operations and product offerings.

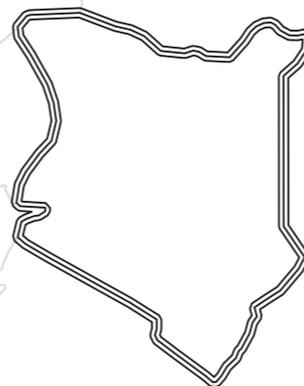
**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 292 805

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 204 035

**Type**  
Pilot project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
KEN15243

**Location**  
Kenya



## Outcome and Impact

The project will offer products designed to enhance quality of life and increase income for women and their children. Pawame will target

women-led households and expects to provide over 500 people with access to clean energy products and financing during the pilot stage.



**Project Developer**  
Sistema.bio

Sistema.bio offers a biogas package that produces thermal and mechanical energy and biofertilizer. It is the largest pre-fabricated biogas company in East Africa.



**Technology**  
Biogas

# BIOGAS BY WOMEN FOR WOMEN

This project will enable farmers in Kenya to turn animal waste into clean energy and increase their agricultural productivity. The project aims to install 10,000 biogas plants at smallholder farms with a focus on women sales agents and beneficiaries. Sistema.bio will strengthen last mile distribution and service capacity through the recruitment and training of new sales agents and technicians. The modular biogas plants will be sold with productive use appliances, offering customers economic savings, increased productivity and income opportunities. With EEP Africa financing, the Sistema.bio will expand into new regions and develop a gender-inclusive approach to recruitment and training.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 9 667 610

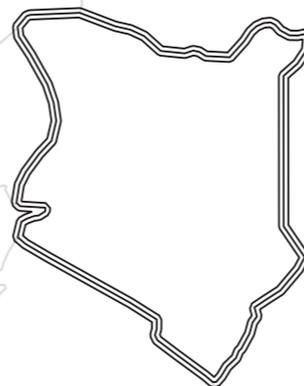
**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 387 411

**Project Partners**  
Value for Women

**Type**  
Scale-up project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
KEN15050

**Location**  
Kenya



## Outcome and Impact

The project aims to sell 10,000 biogas plants and create jobs for more than 80 women. The systems will generate 17,700 MWh of clean energy per year, save EUR 2.7M annually in energy-related expenditure, and reduce 18,400

tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions by replacing wood, charcoal and other non-renewable energy sources. With a 10-year warranty for each biogas plant, the long-term impact of the project is significant.



Live Better

**Project Developer**  
Yellow Solar Power

Yellow Solar Power is a local start-up, co-founded by a woman, that focuses on last mile distribution of affordable PAYG solar home systems to rural, low-income households in Malawi.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

# KHUMBO: EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH DIGITAL INCLUSION

Project Khumbo is designed to improve digital inclusion among women, building skills and job opportunities through awareness, education, access and opportunity. Yellow Solar Power will provide smartphones and training in digital technologies to 400 promising female entrepreneurs and aims to distribute 11,000 Tier 1 solar home systems (SHS) in Malawi. The company's female agents will be promoted as examples of economic leadership by women in rural Malawi. EEP Africa financing will support the development and roll out of technology training for women and the scale up of SHS sales.

## Outcome and Impact

The project will reach over 48,000 people and help meet the growing demand for affordable access to clean energy in Malawi. The project expects to reduce 4,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions annually and to mobilise over EUR 3.6M in climate finance to further expand operations. Yellow will promote women's empowerment through the digital inclusion of 400 female entrepreneurs and employment for 70 women.

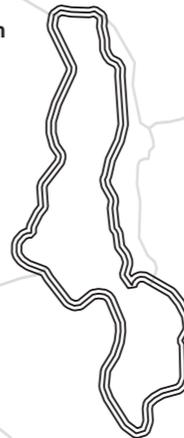
**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 852 292

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 500 000

**Type**  
Scale-up  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
MWI15039

**Location**  
Malawi





**Project Developer**  
Wala

Wala Ltd is a women-owned, local start-up specializing in distributing solar-powered productive use equipment in the agricultural sector.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

## HARNESSING THE SUN FOR INCREASED AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY

This project will provide solar irrigation technology and technical training to farmers in Malawi, enabling them to move from subsistence agriculture to commercial agribusiness. Farmers will purchase solar water pumps with soft loans from FINCOOP, a member-based finance cooperative. Wala and its partners will provide each customer with training on: the use and maintenance of solar irrigation technology; agribusiness techniques to maximize land productivity and crop diversification; climate change adaptation, mitigation and water conservation; and business and financial management. With EEP Africa financing, Wala will pilot the solar pump technology and the lease-to-own business model for low-income farmers.

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**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 285 715

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 200 000

**Project Partners**  
FINCOOP, FC Engineers Consulting, Sustainable Infrastructure and technology in Energy (SITE) Engineering

**Type**  
Pilot project  
Mini-grid

**Project Code**  
MWI15173

**Location**  
Malawi



### Outcome and Impact

The project will offer enhanced access to clean energy and water to 660 people in rural, low-income farming communities. The project expects to distribute 150 pumps and create 156

new jobs, predominantly for women. Wala will especially target local farmer clubs with a high proportion of women members.

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**Project Developer**  
iDeal-x

iDeal-x is a women-led start-up conducting applied research and development in the fields of natural and water resources management, biomass-based renewable energy, energy efficiency and risk management.



**Technology**  
Solid biomass

# PELL-COOK: CREATING A LOCAL BIOMASS PELLET FUEL VALUE CHAIN

This project will demonstrate the market for clean cooking in Namibia by producing biomass fuel pellets from encroacher bush. iDeal-x will set up a local factory and sell the pellets together with Tier 4 cookstoves and accessories as an efficient and cost-effective fuel for cooking and space heating. The bush-based biomass will be sourced from a wood chip producer located at the same site as the factory, securing supply with minimal logistical costs. The project will train a network of women entrepreneurs to sell the pellets and cookstoves to poor households in rural and peri-urban areas using PAYG and mobile money. EEP Africa financing will enable iDeal-x to test a business model that has not been proven yet in Namibia but has high potential for transformative development.

## Total Project Budget

EUR 562 800

## EEP Africa Financing

EUR 391 600

## Type

Demonstration project  
Cookstove

## Project Code

NAM15175

## Location

Namibia



## Outcome and Impact

The project aims to provide close to 2,000 people with enhanced access to clean energy, resulting in savings of over EUR 250,000 in energy-related expenditures. The project will

produce 1,400 MWh per year of clean energy and reduce 1,345 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions annually. The project will also create local jobs, over half of which will be for women.

# VILLAGEBOOM

A Social Enterprise

**Project Developer**  
Villageboom

Villageboom GmbH is a German manufacturer and distributor of solar lamps that works with partners in rural areas of developing countries to pilot last-mile distribution strategies in hard-to-reach locations.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

## SOLAR LIGHT WOMEN'S GROUP CAMPAIGN

The project will provide Tier 1 solar lamps to members of established women's groups in off-grid areas. The members receive the lamp free of charge for one month, at the end of which they can purchase it through weekly instalments collected by the local women's group. A female agent visits the groups regularly to ensure that all lamps are working and to collect payment. Villageboom piloted this model in other countries with an impressive 95% purchase rate. EEP Africa financing will enable the company to replicate this model in Tanzania and Uganda.

### Outcome and Impact

The project aims to sell close to 50,000 units and enhance clean energy access for over 235,000 people. The project is expected to reduce 17,760 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions annually and create over 100 jobs.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 409 000

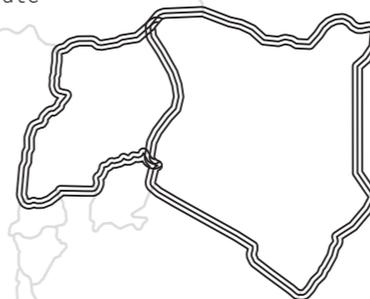
**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 286 000

**Project Partners**  
Luk Solar Ltd,  
Jane Goodall Institute

**Type**  
Replication project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
REG15191

**Location**  
Tanzania, Uganda





**Project Developer**  
Empowering Villages

Empowering Villages is a non-profit that supports sustainable community development by designing environmentally and socially conscious infrastructure in connection to renewable energy projects.



**Technology**  
Cookstoves

# ELECTROCOOK: BYE BYE MAKARA

This project will locally produce electric cookstoves that offer rural on-grid customers an affordable alternative to charcoal and biomass cooking. The manufacturing workshop will be set up as a women's cooperative at a micro industrial park connected to the Rubagabaga hydropower plant. The highly efficient electric cookstoves will be sold through PAYG. EEP Africa financing will enable Empowering Villages to establish the local manufacturing workshop and women's cooperative.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 700 000

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 395 000

**Project Partners**  
East African Power

**Type**  
Demonstration project  
Cookstove

**Project Code**  
RWA15288

**Location**  
Rwanda



## Outcome and Impact

The project aims to sell 5,000 electric cookstoves (Tier 5) and create jobs for 200 women. By replacing biomass and charcoal, the cookstoves will reduce 21,200 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions and have a positive impact on

the health of 22,500 people. If the technology and business model is proven to be viable, this project could be a game changer for the cookstove sector.



**Project Developer**  
Zola Electric

Zola Electric is a leading home solar company powering over 200,000 households and small businesses in Africa. The company is expanding into smart mini-grids.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

# GATEBE: THE LIVING GRID

This project will deploy 6 solar mini-grids in community clusters that generate 230 kWp and support 2,100 connections with Tier 5 service. The project utilises an innovative “infinity grid” technology, a highly modular and scalable decentralized (peer-to-peer) AC power system that provides sufficient power for productive use by connecting very small mini-grids together. The system enables local entrepreneurs to own and retail a portion of the energy supply. The project will provide access to productive use appliances and establish community networks to develop the skills and opportunities of local women entrepreneurs. With EEP Africa financing, Zola will pilot the “infinity grid” technology and transaction energy software.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 1 007 898

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 389 362

**Project Partners**  
Equatorial Power  
AVSI

**Type**  
Pilot project  
Mini-grid

**Project Code**  
RWA15263

**Location**  
Rwanda



## Outcome and Impact

The project will generate 320 MWh of clean energy per year and contribute to annual reductions of 223 tonnes of CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions. The mini-grids will provide improved energy access to 8,300 people and create 50 direct jobs,

in addition to entrepreneurial jobs created by the business incubation program. The project envisions considerable scale-up potential for this new technology.



**Project Developer**  
iLive Sustainable Development

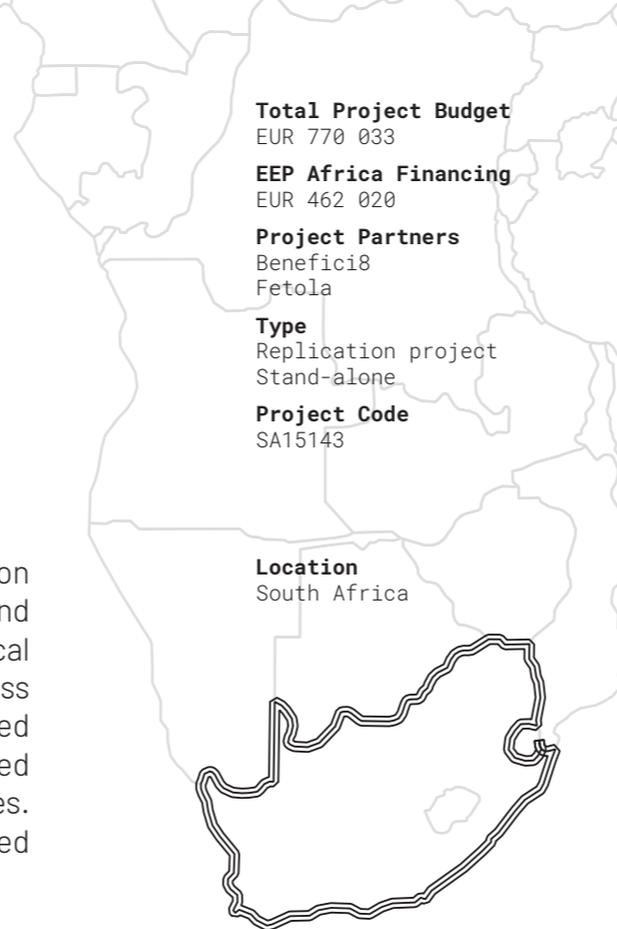
iLive is a project and technology development company that aims to realize "life-giving" initiatives within the renewable energy and circular economy sector in South Africa.



**Technology**  
Biofuels Liquid

# WOMEN IN BIODIESEL: EMPOWERING A GREEN FUTURE FOR ALL

This project will pilot decentralised biodiesel production and distribution by establishing 10 women-owned enterprises that will produce and sell biodiesel made from used cooking oil (UCO) collected from local restaurants. iLive and its partners will provide the technology, business acceleration support and market access, as well as offering guaranteed off-take of excess biodiesel. The production facilities will be established in 10 cities across South Africa to supply impoverished communities. EEP Africa financing will enable iLive to test the viability of decentralised production and distribution in the biodiesel supply chain.



**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 770 033

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 462 020

**Project Partners**  
Benefici8  
Fetola

**Type**  
Replication project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
SA15143

**Location**  
South Africa



## Outcome and Impact

The 10 women-owned businesses are expected to scale up to producing and distributing 3 million litres of biodiesel per annum. This will support 30,000 MWh per year and annually reduce an estimated 7,900 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e

emissions. The project will create 75 jobs (70% for women) and enhance access to clean energy for over 3,000 people, resulting in annual energy savings of EUR 370,000.



# SOLAR ENERGY HUBS FOR LAST-MILE ACCESS

**Project Developer**  
Jaza Energy

Jaza Energy provides affordable electricity to bottom-of-the-pyramid customers through solar energy hubs in remote villages across East Africa.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

This project will scale up access to clean electricity in rural villages in Tanzania through 60 solar energy hubs. Each hub is operated by local women and offers customers home electrification kits and rental battery packs. Jaza has developed a country-wide network of regional offices and rural community hubs, which allows the company to maintain close relationships with customers and offer operational and technological solutions that are adapted to the local market. EEP Africa financing will enable the company's expansion and help attract additional growth financing for its business model.

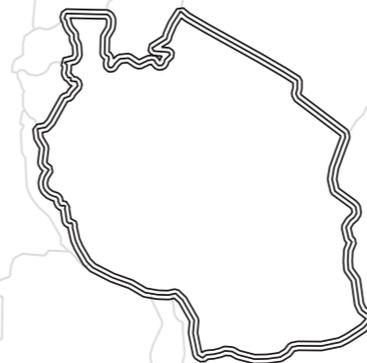
**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 770 000

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 320 000

**Type**  
Scale-up project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
TAN15088

**Location**  
Tanzania



## Outcome and Impact

The project will enhance energy access for over 15,000 people in remote villages and create operational and management jobs for 200

local women. Jaza Energy expects to raise an additional EUR 4.75M to further expand its operations in Tanzania within the next 5 years.



**Project Developer**  
Solar Sister

Solar Sister is a women-led social enterprise based in the US that has 10 years of experience in enhancing access to clean energy for poor households in Tanzania through women-led distribution networks.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

# UNLOCKING PRODUCTIVE POWER THROUGH WOMEN-LED DISTRIBUTION

This project will test an innovative approach to reaching last-mile communities with clean energy productive use equipment (PUE) by leveraging Solar Sister's network of local women entrepreneurs. Solar Sister and its partners will identify the highest priority needs in the target areas, select technology options best suited to meet those needs, and develop business models to distribute the selected productive use technologies. The project will scale up the existing distribution network from 50 to 150 women entrepreneurs, with the aim of distributing 4,000 Tier 3-4 PUE. EEP Africa financing will support the acquisition of PUE and business development training for the women entrepreneurs.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 635 405

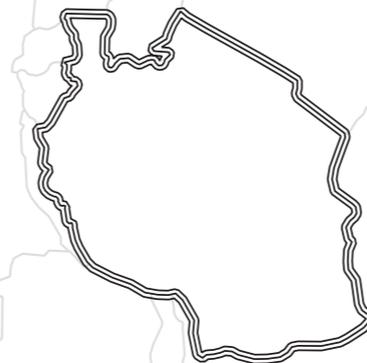
**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 435 405

**Project Partners**  
Global Distribution  
Coalition (GDC), Energy  
Savings Trust, CLASP

**Type**  
Demonstration project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
TAN15164

**Location**  
Tanzania



## Outcome and Impact

The project aims to create 200 jobs and to enhance clean energy access for more than 30,000 people. The project expects to distribute

4,000 units of clean energy productive use equipment and reduce 1,800 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions annually.



**Project Developer**  
EnerGrow

EnerGrow is an asset financing company providing productive energy assets and training to rural and peri-urban businesses in Uganda.



**Technology**  
Energy Efficiency

# PRODUCTIVE USE ASSET FINANCING FOR WOMEN-OWNED MSMEs

This project will pilot an innovative productive use asset financing model for 150 women-owned micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs). EnerGrow will provide financing up to USD 1,000 for energy efficient equipment through a platform that develops a comprehensive credit profile tailored for energy access needs. During the project, the company will expand its credit scoring platform by testing a range of energy efficient productive use equipment in various rural and peri-urban settings in Uganda. EEP Africa financing will enable acquisition of the productive use assets and training of new personnel.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 402 000

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 260 000

**Project Partners**  
Umeme Ltd

**Type**  
Pilot project

**Project Code**  
UGA15182

**Location**  
Uganda



## Outcome and Impact

The project will provide access to energy for productive use, increase financial inclusion, reduce costs for decentralised and grid operators, and train small businesses about

energy efficient equipment. The project is expected to generate EUR 3M in leveraged investments and support over 27 MWh per year.



**Project Developer**  
Engie-Equatorial

Engie-Equatorial is a joint venture providing sustainable energy services and inclusive development to rural populations in Uganda through smart mini-grids and internet of things (IoT) industrial parks.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

# RURAL ECONOMIC AGRO LABS THROUGH MINI-GRIDS (REALM)

This project will deploy 4 solar-hybrid mini-grids to bring Tier 5 energy access to a group of islands in Lake Victoria. The innovative business model centers on the project owning the anchor client, an industrial park providing products and services for local value chains. The project includes a business incubation program for local women entrepreneurs, coupled with asset financing for productive use appliances. EEP Africa financing will enable the establishment of the industrial park and the development of inclusive value chains.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 1 836 749  
**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 435 007  
**Project Partners**  
UN Women  
**Type**  
Pilot project  
Mini-grids  
**Project Code**  
UGA15239

**Location**  
Uganda



## Outcome and Impact

The project will generate 670 MWh of clean energy per year and contribute to annual reductions of 538 tonnes CO<sub>2e</sub> emissions. The 400 kWp mini-grids will bring energy access to 8,600 people,

create 140 jobs and offer skills training to over 500 local entrepreneurs. Engie-Equatorial envisions considerable scale-up potential for the business model.



**Project Developer**  
Mphepo Power

Mphepo Power is a local, woman-led renewable energy company focused on the development of wind power in Zambia.



**Technology**  
Windpower

# UNIKA 1 WIND PROJECT

This project will conduct a feasibility study for UNIKA 1, the first large-scale grid-connected wind project in Zambia. The proposed power plant will generate 150 MW and provide renewable energy to 500,000 people. Mphepo Power intends to sign a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Zesco, the Zambian power utility. This would significantly increase the country's renewable energy capacity. EEP Africa financing will support the feasibility studies, including geotechnical investigation, grid, hydrology, transport & bird migration path studies, site design, and civil and electrical planning.

## Outcome and Impact

While being constructed, the EUR 270M UNIKA.1 project will create over 800 jobs and when operational it will provide renewable energy to 500,000 people. The project has high potential for replication as it is the first of three UNIKA wind projects planned in Zambia.

## Total Project Budget

EUR 734 045

## EEP Africa Financing

EUR 500 000

## Project Partners

Buffalo Energy, Chew Development Trust, Oswald and Kapata, Western Renewable Power

## Type

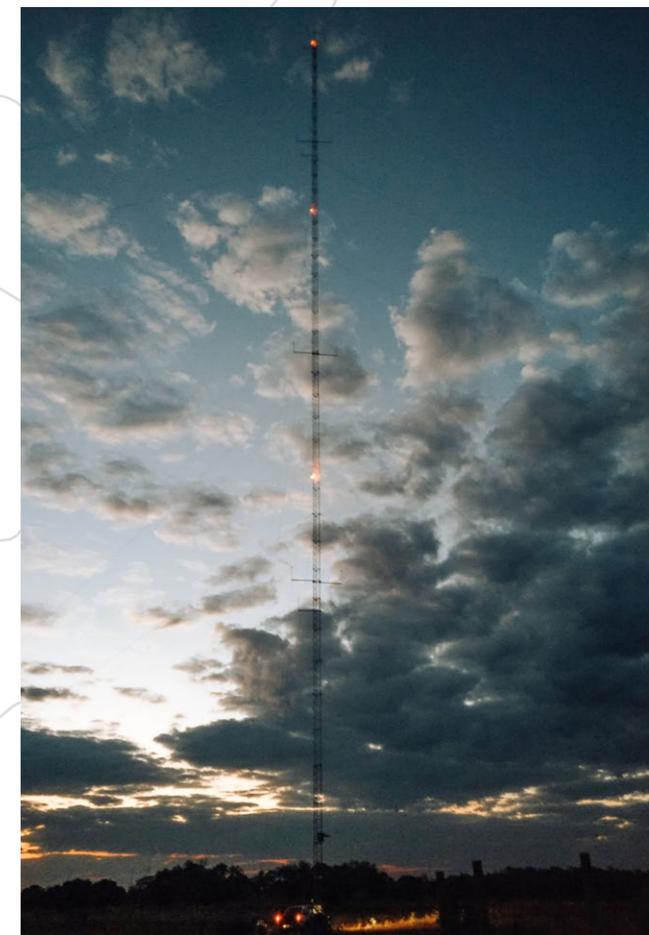
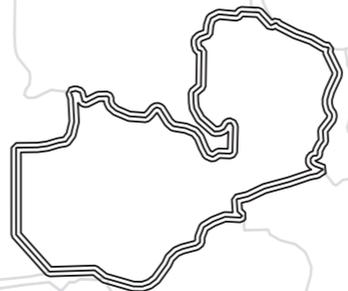
Feasibility study

## Project Code

ZAM15180

## Location

Zambia





# WEHUBS: EMPOWERING LAST MILE WOMEN SOLAR ENERGY ENTREPRENEURS

**Project Developer**  
Widenergy Africa

Women's Initiative for Delivering Clean Energy to Africa (Widenergy) is a Zambian, women-led social enterprise dedicated to the last mile distribution of clean energy solutions.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

This project will establish Women in Energy Hubs (WeHubs) to serve as last mile distribution centers. WeHubs are solar-powered containers with a generation capacity of 0.48 kW that will be operated by women entrepreneurs. These service centers will distribute clean energy and related products and services to meet community needs, including household solutions (SHS, solar lanterns, cooking systems), productive use equipment, energy driven services (money transfer, phone charging, internet access), and basic products for bottom of the pyramid customers. Excess energy will power small businesses around the hubs with a PAYG model. EEP Africa financing will enable acquisition of a diverse range of products and expansion of the business model at scale.

**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 351 200

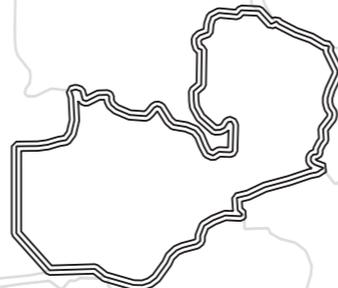
**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 226 200

**Project Partners**  
Bizisol  
Green Tec Capital

**Type**  
Pilot project  
Mini-grids

**Project Code**  
ZAM15193

**Location**  
Zambia



## Outcome and Impact

The project will provide clean energy for household and productive use in rural areas. The project aims to sell over 30,000 products and

enhance energy access for more than 45,000 people. This will reduce 11,329 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions annually.



**Project Developer**  
Powerlive Zimbabwe

Powerlive Zimbabwe is a local, woman-led company that approaches energy access projects with a gender lens.



**Technology**  
Solar PV

# EMPOWERMENT THROUGH FEMINIST ELECTRIFICATION

This project will provide clean, safe and affordable solar energy solutions to women and their communities in Zimbabwe. Powerlive aims to distribute over 4,000 solar home systems (SHS) through PAYG to rural off-grid households. The modular systems generate 50-80W and can be scaled up to Tier 5 service. Half of the systems will be sold with productive use assets, such as solar pumps and food processing machines, and Powerlive will provide mentoring support for women micro entrepreneurs. EEP Africa financing will enable Powerlive to rapidly scale-up its business and attract private investments.

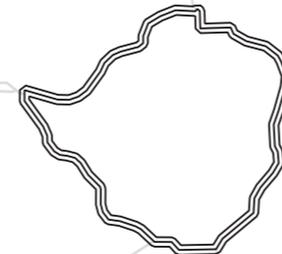
**Total Project Budget**  
EUR 1 000 000

**EEP Africa Financing**  
EUR 350 000

**Type**  
Scale-up project  
Stand-alone

**Project Code**  
ZWE15023

**Location**  
Zimbabwe



## Outcome and Impact

The project will provide energy access to over 4,000 rural households and generate annual savings of EUR 240 000 in energy-related expenditure. The systems will generate 300 MWh of clean energy per year and reduce

greenhouse gas emissions by replacing kerosene, candles and other non-renewable energy sources. The project will create jobs for 550 women in Zimbabwe.



Sistema.bio's women sales agents show smallholder farmers in Kenya how biodigesters turn animal waste into clean energy and increase agricultural productivity.

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Widenergy's Women in Energy Hubs (WeHubs) offer rural communities in Zambia access to clean energy and a range of household and productive use appliances.



## Host Institution

The Nordic Development Fund (NDF) is both Fund Manager and funding partner for EEP Africa.

NDF is a multilateral development finance institution established by the governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden and focusing exclusively on climate change and development, primarily in low and middle-income countries. Headquartered in Helsinki, NDF deploys flexible, catalytic financing for climate change mitigation and climate adaptation in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

## Funding Partners

The Austrian Development Agency (ADA) is the operational unit of Austrian Development Cooperation and has supported EEP Africa since 2010. ADA's goals prioritise reducing poverty, ensuring peace and contributing towards conservation of the environment with particular emphasis on gender equality and climate protection. ADA's focus themes, such as the water-energy-food security nexus and private sector development, are strongly supported by EEP Africa.

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland administers Finland's ODA budget and led EEP Africa until 2018. Finland's development policy supports eradication of poverty and inequality and the promotion of sustainable development, with particular focus on strengthening the rights of the most vulnerable, promoting gender equality and improving climate change preparedness and mitigation. Enhancing energy access is a key component in reaching these goals.



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