This project will provide affordable, renewable electricity and light to the most marginalised, rural population in Malawi. More than 15 million people in the country live in areas without access to stable electricity and a large proportion cannot afford solar home systems. Through Kumudzi Kuwale’s solar charging stations, villagers can rent rechargeable lamps for just over USD 1 per month. The solar charging stations are established in a centrally-located house and operated by the homeowner on a commission basis. Kumudzi Kuwale currently operates 34 stations serving 17,000 people in the Central District. With EEP Africa financing, this successful business model will be scaled up and expanded to new regions across Malawi.

Outcome and Impact

The project aims to build 295 new solar charging stations that will provide affordable light to 107,000 Malawians who live outside the national electricity grid. The service will enable customers to switch from kerosene light (Tier 0) to electrical light (Tier 1), leading to numerous benefits, including increased health and productivity. Since the charging stations are operated by local residents, the project will create over 300 direct jobs and significantly contribute to local productivity and empowerment through stable incomes.