

Energy Services



Sector Challenges

Access to reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy services is essential to improving livelihoods and quality of life (QoL). A well-established energy system helps support positive growth for small and growing businesses across all sectors including agriculture, education, health, information services, as well as improve QoL at the household level. Conversely, lack of connection to a grid or other means of reliable energy hampers equitable economic and social development, especially the growth of small and medium-sized businesses. The formal provision of grid electricity, to and within urban slums, remote tribal settlements, as well as rural agricultural communities, encounters significant challenges. Even when villages are electrified, the quantity, quality, and reliability of the energy supply are often inadequate, and rarely achieve universal access. Hybrid and renewable forms of energy have a significant potential to address the challenges around energy accessibility, but relatively high upfront equipment costs combined with lack of ability to secure financing often impedes local entrepreneurs from obtaining the technology they need to provide their communities with basic services.

Outcomes Catalyzed



HIGHER QoL

Rentable lanterns for lighting, mobile phone charging, TVs, internet access, etc.



EDUCATION RESOURCES

Learning technology including computers, projectors, lanterns, DVD players, etc.



HEALTH SERVICES

Charging points for ultrasound devices, refrigeration for vaccines & medicines



FINANCIAL INCLUSION

Making pro-poor services available including access to business financing



JOB CREATION

Building up capacity through training (e.g. computers, sewing machines, etc.)



ASSET OWNERSHIP

Supporting wealth creation through facilitating asset ownership



SUSTAINABILITY

Positive global impact through increased use of renewable energies



INCLUSIVITY

New policies from banks to promote equitable economic development



NEW MARKETS

Banks gain access to new segments once considered to be "un-bankable"

Market Level

System Level

Our Approach

S3IDF works with entrepreneurs and MSMEs from under-served communities to build up their capacity to provide dependable, affordable access to energy. S3IDF enables entrepreneurs to obtain financing and provide hands-on mentorship to develop and operate effective businesses. When the grid is reliable, S3IDF helps entrepreneurs connect to it, but, when the grid is unreliable, as is often the case in rural areas in developing countries, S3IDF helps create hybrid solutions combining grid power with energy from renewable sources to power critical equipment including grain grinders, milk chillers, lighting, and village-level water services.