

Implementation Report

Rural Women’s Renewable Energy Enterprises January 2024 – December 2024

1. Project Overview

- **Title:** Rural Women’s Renewable Energy Enterprises
- **Location:** Kalabo & Kaoma Districts, Zambia
- **Duration:** January – December 2024
- **Objective:** Empower rural women through renewable energy microenterprises, improving household incomes and expanding access to clean energy solutions such as solar lamps and clean cookstoves.

2. Background & Rationale

- Rural households in Zambia rely heavily on kerosene and firewood, increasing health risks, deforestation, and carbon emissions.
- Women bear the brunt of fuel collection and household energy insecurity.
- Supporting women-led renewable energy businesses promotes both gender equality (SDG 5) and affordable, clean energy access (SDG 7).
- Cooperative marketing helps women reach broader markets and sustain their ventures.

3. Activity Components

- Training women in entrepreneurship, financial literacy, and renewable energy product use.
- Distribution of solar lamps and clean cookstoves as startup stock.

- Establishment of cooperative marketing channels for women entrepreneurs.
 - Awareness campaigns on the benefits of clean energy.
 - Monitoring of sales, income, and adoption rates at household level.
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4. Execution Phases

Phase 1 – Mobilisation & Training (Jan – Mar 2024)

- 120 women recruited; trained in enterprise management, bookkeeping, and marketing.

Phase 2 – Startup Capital & Stock Distribution (Apr – Jun 2024)

- Distributed 400 solar lamps and 200 cookstoves to women groups as seed stock.

Phase 3 – Cooperative Marketing & Sales (Jul – Oct 2024)

- Women's groups organized into 4 cooperatives; 3 district-level market fairs held; products marketed to households and schools.

Phase 4 – Monitoring & Knowledge Sharing (Nov – Dec 2024)

- Sales and household adoption tracked; lessons documented; sustainability plan created for cooperative-led restocking.
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5. Implementation Timeline

- **Jan – Mar 2024:** Mobilisation & training
 - **Apr – Jun 2024:** Distribution of renewable energy stock
 - **Jul – Oct 2024:** Cooperative marketing & sales
 - **Nov – Dec 2024:** Monitoring & sustainability planning
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6. Outcomes & Impact

- **Enterprise Creation:** 80 women-led renewable energy businesses launched.
- **Clean Energy Access:** 2,000 households gained access to solar lamps and clean cookstoves.
- **Income Growth:** Average women’s monthly income increased by \$60.
- **Environmental Impact:** Reduced firewood use in participating households, lowering carbon emissions and deforestation.

7. Key Partners

- **Zambia Cooperative Federation:** Cooperative formation and governance.
- **Renewable Energy NGO (partner):** Technical guidance on products and supply chain.
- **District Councils (Kalabo & Kaoma):** Market facilitation and local support.
- **Funding Partner:** Women & Energy Empowerment Grant.

8. Beneficiary Testimonial

“Selling solar lamps not only brings income, but it also reduces smoke in our homes. I feel empowered to support my family and lead in my community.” — **Mutinta Namakando, Women Entrepreneur, Kalabo**

9. Financial Report – Women & Energy Empowerment Grant (\$100,000)

Budget Item	Amount (USD)	Description
Training & Mobilisation	\$15,000	Entrepreneurship training, materials, facilitators
Renewable Energy Stock Distribution	\$35,000	400 solar lamps, 200 clean cookstoves, transport

Cooperative Formation & Marketing	\$20,000	Market fairs, branding, cooperative setup
Awareness Campaigns	\$10,000	Community sensitization, IEC materials, radio
Monitoring & Evaluation	\$8,000	Sales tracking, adoption studies, reporting
Reporting & Dissemination	\$5,000	Reports, success stories, media outreach
Administration & Contingency	\$7,000	Coordination, overhead, buffer
Total	\$100,000	Funded by Women & Energy Empowerment Grant

Summary

The Rural Women's Renewable Energy Enterprises project empowered 120 women in Kalabo and Kaoma to lead clean energy enterprises. By combining entrepreneurship training, product distribution, and cooperative marketing, the initiative boosted women's incomes while expanding renewable energy access to 2,000 households. The project strengthened gender equality and sustainability in rural communities.

Approved by:



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